



## Paisley Art Institute Newsletter Winter 2018

### COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

It's a year of change for the Paisley Art Institute predicated by the retirement of David Sutton as President, after the constitutionally recommended three years in office. There were other retirements from the committee declared through the official channel of the September committee meeting where nominations for new and replacement members and office bearers were received and proposed formally. All changes were tabled at the AGM of 25th October in Paisley Town Hall and members elected formally.

The current constitution of the active committee of the Paisley Art Institute following the October AGM is:

President: Jean Cameron (Lay)  
Vice-President: Alastair Strachan (Artist)  
Vice-President: Caroline Gormley (Artist)  
Secretary: Nancy Docherty (Lay)  
Membership Secretary: Nicola Carberry (Artist)  
Treasurer: Graham Maloney

#### Committee Members:

Elise V Allan (Artist)  
Richard Burgess (Lay)  
Rowena Comrie (Artist)  
Eòghann MacColl (Artist)  
Lindsey McLachlan LL.B (Hons) (Lay)  
Stuart Miller (Lay)  
Dominic Snyder (Artist)  
Steven Thomson (Lay)  
Victoria Irvine (Ex Officio, Renfrewshire Leisure)  
Susan Jeffrey (Ex Officio, Renfrewshire Leisure)



The outgoing Committee is delighted to introduce Jean Cameron as, we believe to be, only the fourth female President in office since 1876. She was born in Paisley and was the former director of the Paisley 2021 City of Culture bid. As such, she was an independent judge for the Paisley Art Institute Annual Open Exhibitions in 2016 and 2017, during which she sponsored four 'Paisley 2021' awards for artists. Jean is an independent creative producer and cultural consultant with a 30-year career in the arts. She produced the Glasgow International Festival of Visual Art – working with key venues including Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum, Gallery of Modern Art (GoMA) and working with Turner Prize-winning artists on site specific projects. Jean was the lead for the international strand of Glasgow's 2014 Commonwealth Games Cultural Programme and produced Scotland's national presentation at the Venice Biennale in 2005. Since becoming freelance in Spring 2018, her portfolio includes working many cultural projects around the UK. She joined the Board of Directors at National Theatre of Scotland in September 2018.

Secretary Lesley Hinde is also retiring after serving 3 years supporting the President. Special thanks to Lesley for her work with the artists on the lead up to and at Exhibitions, and for her work curating the Schools' competitions.



Eslyn Barr, the longest serving member of the committee, is retiring as Vice President. Eslyn has been part of PAI for 15 years, 11 as a Vice President, and has played a key role in the organisation. PAI has utilised the service of a second Vice President for many years; Joe Broadley HPAI, who is also retiring after a long service as Vice President and Committee Member.



With the new Presidency comes a new Management Committee. Two artists – Caroline Gormley and Alastair Strachan – have been elected as the two incoming Vice Presidents. Both have served on the Committee of Management for 3 years (Alastair) and 1 year (Caroline). In addition to both being exhibiting artists, Alastair lectures in art at Glasgow Kelvin College and Caroline has recently established 'Made in Paisley' a new art studio on the town's High Street. Artist Member Nicola Carberry continues to serve as Membership Secretary and our new Secretary is Nancy Docherty, who has had many years' experience in administration.

The PAI Committee blends expertise from the previous committee, including our Treasurer, Graham Maloney: Legal Advisor, Lindsey McLachlan: Artist Member Rowena Comrie: Lay Member Stuart Miller, together with new Committee Members: Artist Members Elise V Allan, Eòghann MacColl and Dominic Snyder together with Lay Members Richard Burgess (previous Treasurer) and Steven Thomson, Director of Outspoken Arts Scotland.

#### **Communication with the PAI**

Contact information remains as follows:

Secretary: [secretary@paisleyartinstitute.com](mailto:secretary@paisleyartinstitute.com) Tel: 07968 292895  
Membership Secretary: [membership@paisleyartinstitute.com](mailto:membership@paisleyartinstitute.com) Tel: 07549 949165

The email address for President Jean Cameron is: [presidentpaisleyartinstitute@gmail.com](mailto:presidentpaisleyartinstitute@gmail.com).

At the time of this Newsletter edition, we have been notified that our mailbox address (Box114) in the High Street, Paisley, is no longer valid due to 'Mailboxes Etc.' closing business. This is unfortunate as the mail box arrangement has been very successful as a contact point over the last three years. All forms, cheques and other postal communication to the Membership Secretary, PAI Secretary, Treasurer or President, as appropriate, can now be sent to:

Paisley Art Institute  
c/o Unit 33, Sir James Clark Building  
Abbeymill Business Centre  
Paisley PA1 1TJ

Artist Member promotions, exhibition promotions and marketing news continue to be posted on the PAI web site. The 'old' Committee had discussed plans to refresh the web site, with PAI management being a criterion, and it is likely that the 'new' Committee will take this forward. The PAI Facebook page is also used for such promotions and news. Posts are copied onto the Twitter account. It is likely that both will have new, proactive PAI management.

Website: [paisleyartinstitute.com](http://paisleyartinstitute.com)

Twitter: [@ArtPaisley](https://twitter.com/ArtPaisley)

Facebook: [Paisley-Art-Institute](https://www.facebook.com/Paisley-Art-Institute)

## Subscriptions 2018/19

All Members are reminded that annual subscriptions are due from 31st October 2018, Life Members excluded. Relevant subscription forms are available for download from the web site or can be requested from the Membership Secretary, or simply sent by post. A Standing Order is an economic and efficient format for subscription renewals and is easy on the memory. Standing Order mandates, detailing the Institute's bank account, are available from the Membership Secretary or the Treasurer. Standing Orders, Online Bank Payments (FPI) and Cheques (made out to 'Paisley Art Institute' not 'PAI') should be £15 for Lay Members and £25 for Artist Members.

Name:	Paisley Art Institute
Sort Code:	80-07-74
Account No:	00701385

## EXHIBITIONS

**The 130th PAI Annual Exhibition:** 19th May 2018 - 24th June 2018

Over 600 artworks of paintings and sculptures were submitted and 534 were hung or shown including 29 sculptures or 3-D work, another significant number following on from the 129th. We hosted Corporate and Private View evenings for artists, purchasers and interested members of the public. There was a total of 3,325 visitors to the exhibition including 247 guests to the Corporate Evening and 362 to the Private View. This represents similar high numbers for the preview evenings in 2017. 587 exhibition catalogues were sold throughout the span of the exhibition including the preview evenings. Catalogues were also distributed to sponsors, advertisers and special guests.

42 works of art were sold providing welcome revenue from commissions. Artist Member postcards, produced by invite from members for the 130th, were on sale on the Friday preview evening and those re-donated from previous years were brought out for sale on the Thursday preview evening. Thereafter there was a proactive sales campaign in the galleries at the weekends throughout the exhibition. All sales were enhanced by the purchase acquisition of two postcard carousels designed to showcase the size of these works. The commission from the sale of postcards more than compensated for the carousel outlay. A total of 30 postcards were thus sold.

The Guest Painter was **Bet Low** DLitt ARSA RSW RGI (1924-2007) with seven works loaned from The Bet Low Trust. The Guest Sculptor was **Charles Poulsen**. For the exhibition Charles loaned five works in a mixture of wax, paper and lead.

**Bet Low** was an influential artist who studied at Glasgow School of Art and listed many well-known contemporaries as friends and collaborators from the art, music and theatre world in Glasgow. She trained as an art teacher before being involved in designing theatre sets. After World War II, she was part of the eminent Clyde Group of Writers and Artists and exhibited with the renowned art institutions of the day. Her works are in many public and private collections.

**Charles Poulsen** is based in a converted mill steading in the Scottish Borders and works from there in the media of sculpture, drawing and 'growing sculpture' (design gardening). There is a strong analogy of his translucent wax sculptures with a layered effect, similar to that in drawing. His steading is a house, studio, art room with a distinctive garden and hosts an annual Open Studio event.

The catalogue was supported by 13 advertisers, with some new to supporting the PAI and replacing previous sponsors. All exhibited works were eligible for 23 awards from a mix of repeat and new sponsors, the latter replacing withdrawn givers. We welcomed new awards from: The Bet Low Trust, Paisley Is, KN Network Services, Independent Financial Advice Centre and Glasgow Gallery.

The exhibition was promoted by the production of full colour posters using a striking image from the late Artist and Committee Member, Karen Scopa. The image was also used for the front cover of the 130th catalogue. Publicity and promotion of the exhibition were further advertised through art media organisations, the PAI web site, Facebook and Twitter accounts. Guest Assessor Giles Sutherland provided wide publicity for the exhibition by delivering an excellent art review for The Times newspaper. The 2018 annual exhibition catalogue was printed by Print Studio Scotland, based in Paisley, for repeat and discounted business.

The combined sales of catalogues, works of art, artist postcards, and the input from advertising sponsors, represented a healthy total revenue to the Institute, offsetting exhibition costs (as reported in the financial accounts).

## **The PAI 2018 Schools' Competition: 9th June 2018 - 18th August 2018**

The Schools' Competition for Primary and Secondary Schools in Renfrewshire shows an exhibition of selected work during the run of the Annual Exhibition. As ever, the purpose is 'to encourage budding talent' and the exhibition was shown in the mezzanine area of Paisley Museum and Art Galleries. This encouragement is made possible by the continuing, generous sponsorship of the Macfarlane Group and allows the PAI to award cash prizes to winners and runners up in three age categories, as well as a handsome trophy to the overall winner. John Love, Financial Director of the Macfarlane Group, is a great friend of the PAI and ensures that all support, materials and financials are facilitated. John also ensures that requested packing material is delivered to the PAI in time for the annual exhibition. This year's work was submitted by Secondary Schools in the categories S1-S3 and S4-S6. Slide-in wooden frames were again kindly loaned to us by the Museum Education Group and allowed us to show a good exhibition of around 100 works. The overall winner was selected from one of the category winners. The Guest Assessor was PAI Artist and Committee Member Hugh McKay. Hugh was so impressed by the standard and quality that we agreed to add some 'commended' awards to the list of winners and runners up. Hugh spoke at the opening and said "as a one-time examiner with the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) for artwork submitted for national qualifications at National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher levels, I am very impressed with the quality of all the work and the accomplished use of media, style and originality in the presentations. It was a pleasure to assess these works and I haven't seen any better when working with the SQA".

It was a pleasure to welcome John Love, Financial Director to the award and opening day of Friday 8th June. John presented the awards and the trophy to the overall winner. The list of winners and commended is on the Schools' Competition page of the web site.

## **MEMBER and ARTIST NEWS**

### **Diplomates 2018**

It is with pleasure that we welcome another two new Diplomates (PAIs) elected by the Credentials Committee in April 2018: Marion Drummond, PAI and Simon Manby, PAI. The Diplomas were presented on the Friday Preview Night of the 130th Exhibition. Only Artist Members qualified by listed criteria are eligible to be nominated, proposed and seconded by PAI Diplomates before being invited to present selected work before the Credentials Committee; the latter is formed from a quorum of Diplomates. The total number of living Diplomates is now 32 as of October 2018.

### **Artist Members**

Congratulations to the new Artist Members elected in October 2018. In alphabetical order:

Julie Eleanor Barnes, Elspeth Bennie, Alison Brewster, Virginia Colley, Donna Fleureau, Marion Gardyne, Alistair Hackston, Ian Leyden, Marlene Lochhead, Eoghann MacColl, Frank McNab, Gillian Greer Park, Sheena F Phillips, Alexander Ramsay, Gregory Rankine, Susan Reid, Maureen Rocks Moore, Connie Simmers, Yvonne Taylor, Nancy Turnbull, Simone Whiteford, Aileen Wrennall

22 successful applicants for artist membership, from a large application, shows that the reputation of the PAI remains intact as an exhibiting art institution. There has been a sharp, almost linear, increase in applications, resulting in new membership, over the last three years; 8 new members in 2016 and 15 new members in 2017. The exhibition Secretary and Membership Secretary should be commended for their proactivity in encouraging and promoting applications during exhibitions and through our Facebook route.

The Artist Member list and representative picture Gallery is continually being updated on the web site but there remain listed artists with no indicative picture of work and/or no short biography. Therefore, we remind all artist members, old and new, to send a high-res image of a piece of representative work and a short biography, if so wished, that will be linked to the Artist Member list. We can also have links to an artist's personal web site, Facebook page or even Twitter, if provided. As stated, we have noted that a lot of existing Artist Members do not have a pic in the Gallery or a short biog, so if they want to send in this information, or even replace their current picture, please provide. For new and existing members, please send information to: [secretary@paisleyartinstitute.com](mailto:secretary@paisleyartinstitute.com)

### Artist Member News

Due to the changes to the Committee, and the resulting handover of duties, it should be noted that this is a relatively late edition of the 'Winter' newsletter. Therefore, the list of artist news and exhibitions may be out of date and activities might be current or have passed. However, it can be regarded as a snap-shot of some of our members' activities.

Some of the activities recorded here may have been already promoted on the PAI Web, Facebook and Twitter sites and are listed here for those who might not have access to these media or do not embrace them. Please continue to send exhibition, gallery or other pertinent news to the PAI Secretary for promotion on all our available media.



Artist and filmmaker, **Falconer Houston (DA HPAI)** has been elected as the Honorary Vice President due to the retirement of **Dr Alastair Ross**, (RSA RGI FRBS DA HFRIAS D Arts PAI) as Honorary Vice President. The Honorary President remains as **James Wardrop**, OBE DL FCIBS Funiv FSA (SCOT) HPAI.

### Rowena Comrie

Congratulations to Rowena on being short-listed for the Scottish Portrait Awards 2018 for her portrait of Dr Duncan Comrie, 'Minted Kidology'. The exhibition ran from 3rd November - 1st December at the Scottish Arts Club, Rutland Square, Edinburgh. It moves to Glasgow Art Club, Bath Street, from 21st January 2019 - 9th February 2019.

Artist Member **Janet Tod** was one of 70 artists who opened their studios at Propeller Foundry Open Studios, London, for the weekend of September 22nd/23rd. One of her works was selected for the 157th Annual Exhibition of the Society of Women Artists, Mall Galleries, London. Janet also took part in the 'RCA Secret 2018' fundraising postcard exhibition 30th November - 2nd December. She will be showing at the 'Mixed Winter Show' of the Russell Gallery, London, in December to January.

**Emma S Davis RSW PAI, Irene McCann, Ed Hunter, Amaryllis Johnston, Morag Muir, Marion Drummond, PAI and Michael Clark, PAI RSW** will be showing at the Christmas Exhibition of the Lime Tree Gallery, Long Melford, 10th November - 29th December.

### Recent Exhibitions or Past Events

Artist Member **David Smith RSW** exhibited a solo exhibition at Lime Tree Gallery, Long Melford, Bristol, of 27 new paintings from his travels around France and Scotland. The exhibition ran from 13th October - 6th November. This was David's 8th solo show with the gallery. [www.davidsmithart.org](http://www.davidsmithart.org)

**John Kingsley, PAI** had a two person show with Drysdale Scott at the Lemond Gallery, Bearsden, from 13th - 20th October; also shared a two person show with **Charles Jamieson, PAI** at the Red Rag Gallery, Bath, from 8th September - 23rd September.

**Joe Hargan DA PPAI PAI** exhibited at the Lemond Gallery, Bearsden, 29th September - 7th October.  
[www.joeharganartist.com](http://www.joeharganartist.com)

**Simon Manby, PAI** exhibited 'Love Matters', sculptures in bronze, in the Church of the Saint Mary the Virgin, Nottingham. Sunday 30th September - 22nd October 2018. His first ever exhibition in Nottingham, a city with a distinguished artistic reputation.

**Tom Allan, MA ARBS PAI** attended the city of Nashua's Sculpture Symposium for 2018. ASHA is in New England, USA. Tom completed a large granite piece over three weeks. Amongst other events Tom showed once again at the Pittenweem Arts Festival in August. Artist Member **Morag Muir** is also a regular exhibitor at this event.

**Robert Kelsey, DA PAI FRSA** is currently showing in 4 galleries around the country. Thompson's Galleries in London and Aldeburgh, Red Rag Gallery in Stow on the Wold, and Annan Art Gallery, in Glasgow

## Artists' Payback

DACS is a not-for-profit visual artists' rights management organisation. Basically, any artist who has had work reproduced in a UK published book, or magazine, may be eligible to a 'share of the pot' - but they have to make a claim each year. It does not matter when the book or magazine was published. 'Payback' details are on the website <https://www.dacs.org.uk/for-artists/payback>. Contact [payback@dacs.org.uk](mailto:payback@dacs.org.uk) or phone 20 7553 9099 for further information.

## USEFUL LINKS

**Mark Greer Art Hire:** [www.arthireframing.co.uk](http://www.arthireframing.co.uk)

**Cass Art:** [www.cassart.co.uk](http://www.cassart.co.uk)

**Millers Art Shop:** <http://www.greyfriarsart.co.uk/>

**Derwent Online Store:** [www.pencils.co.uk](http://www.pencils.co.uk)

**Macfarlane Group Packaging:** [www.macfarlanegroup.com](http://www.macfarlanegroup.com)

**Aardvark Art Services:** [www.aardvarkartservices.com](http://www.aardvarkartservices.com)

**Artmag:** [publisher@artmag.co.uk](mailto:publisher@artmag.co.uk) (Christie Dessie) <http://www.artmag.co.uk/>

**Artwork:** [a.d.gordon@outlook.com](mailto:a.d.gordon@outlook.com) (Andrew Gordon) <http://www.artwork.co.uk/>

**ABC Couriers:** [abc123glasgow@gmail.com](mailto:abc123glasgow@gmail.com) 07967119298

**VanGoGo2:** (Stuart Horsburgh) [vangogo2@gmail.com](mailto:vangogo2@gmail.com) 07867 501778

**Ali McAuley:** [mccauley67@btopenworld.com](mailto:mccauley67@btopenworld.com) 07740 941715

## GALLERY/EXHIBITION NEWS

**The Glasgow Gallery:** 182 Bath Street, Glasgow, G2 4HG

Current Winter Exhibition and Winter Mixed Exhibition from November 24th 2018

<https://glasgowgallery.co.uk/exhibitions/upcoming-exhibitions/>

**Scottish Sculpture Park at Caol Ruadh** is now closed but will reopen in June 2019 with an entirely new exhibition.

<http://www.scottishsculpturepark.com/index.php>

**House for an Art Lover**, Bellahouston Park: Studio Pavilion

'Inside Out: Ronald Forbes, Paintings and Films.

Until 16th December 2018

[www.houseforanartlover.co.uk/arts/exhibitions-projects/](http://www.houseforanartlover.co.uk/arts/exhibitions-projects/)

**Fidra Fine Art**, 7-8 Stanley Road (Main Street), Gullane, East Lothian, EH31 2AD

'Allusion III' 10th November - 2nd December 2018

Featuring June Carey RSW RGI PAI, Jimmy Cosgrove RSW RGI PAI, Neil Macdonald RSW RGI PAI, Alice McMurrough RSW RGI PAI, Helen Wilson RSW RGI PAI.

**The Roger Billcliffe Gallery**, 134 Blythswood Street, Glasgow.

The Winter Exhibition 24th November - 22nd December 2018 <http://www.billcliffegallery.com/exhibitions/>

**Glasgow Art Club**, 185 Bath Street, Glasgow. The Glasgow Art Club Winter Exhibition 2018 Exhibition runs: 17th November to 18th December 2018. <http://glasgowartclub.co.uk>

**MEMORIALS:** It is with regret that we have to report the passing of:

### Sheila Macmillan, PAI

As well as being an Artist Member, Sheila was an elected Diplomate (PAI) with the Paisley Art Institute and exhibited at the Annual Exhibitions. One of her works 'White Quarry' was used as the cover feature on the catalogue for the 129th Annual Exhibition and for all the 129th promotional material. A full memorial, written by Catherine Grilli (The Grilli Gallery), is posted on the 'Memorial' page of the PAI web site, but her history with the PAI seems to have been omitted. Sheila passed on the 9th July 2018.

### Gerry McMonagle

Gerry McMonagle life Artist Member died suddenly in September 2018. Gerry was a memorable character and will be missed by people he knew through his teaching, his music and especially his humour.

## **Spring Newsletter 2019**

If you have any news/events/projects you wish to promote via the PAI, please send to [secretary@paisleyartinstitute.com](mailto:secretary@paisleyartinstitute.com) at any time, bearing in mind that with advance notice it can be promoted on our Facebook page. We continue to promote the work of our Artist Members on the PAI web pages, the PAI Facebook page and in Twitter feeds as well as in the biannual newsletters so we welcome any promotional material including images, invites etc. We also use other media for promotional purposes.

### **Bon Adieu**

I think new President Jean promised some you some anecdotes from my term with the Paisley Art Institute, but instead here are some words. I repeat that it has been a privilege and a pleasure to have been part of the Institute over the 7 years or so. What started as encouragement to get involved from neighbour, friend and PPAI Joe Hargan, resulted in being a willing, if not able, volunteer in the galleries at exhibition times. After serving my apprenticeship with 'humphing' works to and around the galleries, I was soon promoted to making the tea before 'humphing' the works back downstairs again. My skills with a bradawl and a set of pliers did not go unnoticed however and further promotion ensued to allow me to apply hooks to frames, and not anywhere else (like through the painting) and then been told where to put them (sic). As an assistant 'hanger upper', I could soon lay out works, without standing on them, for a mentor (at least I think that's what I called them) to pontificate on a potential hanging layout before someone nicked them for another gallery. Soon I was able to nick them to order by myself and became adept at filling spaces with the correct balance of frame shape, size and colour. Sometimes even the subject matter was taken into consideration. It was good to be invited onto the committee in 2014, or thereabouts, and it has been a pleasure to work with all the committee members over these years as both a lay member and as President.

I think my overall enjoyment has been communicating, meeting and talking with artist and open entrants to our exhibitions: guest artists: guest assessors: sponsors and prize-givers: local politicians, councillors and PAI supporters: visitors to the exhibitions and purchasers of work. In general, being part of the art community. It has been a particular pleasure to witness visitors, encouraged locally to attend the exhibitions, becoming first time purchasers of art work and making repeat visits to the exhibitions. David