



SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL ILLUSTRATION

A Summer Postcard shot from Alicante by Neil Poppleton



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## From The High Chair

I notice from my ramblings in the last Newsletter I wrote that the new web site was nearly ready for launching.

I can now confirm that it has, indeed, been pushed stern first into the muddy waters of the World Wide Web accompanied by much flag waving and trumpeting from this office. I'm happy to say that, judging from the feedback, it has been very well received. We've had a few hiccups in the system and I expect that we will continue to have them but hope that with your support these may become less as time goes by.

The SAI Forums are now in a similar development stage that the web site was in July, the date of the last Newsletter. By the time we meet at Derby in October I hope to be able to go live and show you how it works and how to become a Forum user. These Forums will be accessible from the SAI web site proper and vis-a-versa.

Pre-Meeting Supper.

Elsewhere in this newsletter President David Birkett has extended an invitation for you to join the Management Team at Supper on the Friday evening, 30th October.

Please see details inside this Newsletter.

I look forward to meeting you there.

**Don Coe**, Chairman SAI.

## WANTED ALIVE A Press Officer & A Publicity Officer

With both the Newsletter and the website reestablished the SAI now requires 2 members to promote the Society, using these tools, one to the media, (press, TV and radio) and the other to the professional bodies such as the RIBA, RICS and indeed to the world. They will become part of the "middle Layer" of the SAI management cake but better than just the Jam.

The management team is now overstretched and needs this additional support to put us in the public eye both to encourage new members and business at all levels to revert to us for our skills. We have already made a start with our sponsorship of the Big Draw 2010 and other contacts upon which we need to build.

Whilst the jobs will need dedication, slavery to the cause is not essential.

Please contact Heather, our administrator, with your offer of help.

**David Birkett**

### DERBY COUNTS TOWARDS CPD

A 5 hour CPD certificate will be available for the event. Please mention when booking. See details inside

# New Fellows & New Members



## New/Returning Member Gillian Ross

I belonged to SAI once before, when I was returning to work in architecture after a break having children. I qualified as an architect in the early eighties and worked with an architect/perspective artist for a few months, learning how to compose and construct images. Over the years I have been employed in several architectural practices, often involved in the early stages of projects, when a 3D sketch can help everyone with the design process. Many of my perspectives have accompanied planning applications. Although I have done watercolours in the past, I now favour a method which combines freehand line drawing with digital colouring. The images may not have the same quality but they are much easier to reproduce and edit.



## New Member Andrew Goodeve

Andrew has been involved in Architectural Imaging since 1997 where he set up BUJ Architects in house 3D Visualisation department. This was then at the cutting edge of new 3D modelling and visualisation techniques at Foster and Partners for three years and worked on a wide range of prestigious international

Andrew formed Glass Canvas in 2001, based in London, managing a team of 10 artists producing 3D image and film creators for the Architecture, property and design industries

With our project management experience we have successfully produced visually rewarding animations for many overseas projects and clients.

**Other New Members** We also welcome **Richard Macara** as an Allied Member and Returning Member **Graham Madigan**, their work and their background will be printed in the next issue.

## OUTSTANDING SUBSCRIPTIONS – to those whom it may concern

This is a gentle reminder that this will be the last Newsletter that you will receive if your subscription remains unpaid after 31st October 2009. In the last issue of this publication we offered a form of amnesty for those in difficult fiscal straits; no one I am pleased to report has made use of the offer. It is therefore assumed memory lapse or just being overworked are the only remaining reasons for the non-payment.

Therefore Heather Coe looks forward to receiving your outstanding payment as soon as possible. We are still looking into easier ways for paying the Annual subscription due on 1st March 2010.

**PLEASE MAKE SURE THIS IS NOT THE LAST NEWSLETTER THAT YOU WILL RECEIVE -- NOW!**

The SAI Management Team

## EDIT YOUR WEB PAGE - PAINLESSLY. A VERY SHORT COURSE

We've had phone calls to the office from members who, although they have edited their web page and have clicked on the "update details" button, could not see the changes they had made when returning to the page. On investigation it was found that their PC was loading the page from the cache, the computer's storage area which allows for quick display. To ensure that you are looking at latest version be sure to refresh the page by entering Ctl+F5 from the keyboard. A more permanent method of making certain that the page you are looking at is up-to-date is to change the setting within Internet Explorer which will ensure that it looks for newer versions of stored pages.

In Internet Explorer go:

Tools / Internet Options / On the General tab under Browsing history, click settings / check the "Every time I visit the webpage" radio button.

That's it. Now your page will look as you intended it to look - to you and the rest of the World.

DON COE

# Members Profile

No 5

A Letter From  
The Edge of Europe  
Llandeilo

For each newsletter a member will be chosen at random to give a resume of their work and life with samples of work. Our fifth is from Simon Jones, you may be the next!

By Simon Jones



Here we are at the tail end of another recession, thankfully we seem to be getting more job enquiries, and the occasional job. If this is the beginning of the end, this downturn appears to be mercifully short, considering some of us were predicting the end of capitalism. Well I considered the shift in values that would precipitate, and my thoughtful response amounted to growing my own veg. A new staple pub conversation is born, most people are happy to discuss veg, and get surprisingly animated about it.

Other "opportunities" the recession has thrown up for me, are the chance to get more acquainted with sketchup, and the time to get more embroiled with my fine art ambitions. Like many SAI members who mess about with paint for a living, I have often been sidetracked by the quality of reflected light, the sombre darkness of a shadow, and the way watercolour seems to have its own poetry when left alone, when I really should have been meeting a deadline. The last recession for me was around 1999, again I contemplated what could be done with paint, for months on end, I bore myself silly, I ended up building an attic extension instead. My current stab at fulfilling my pretensions in paint has been greatly enhanced by making an online blog <http://www.simonjonespainter.blogspot.com/> and I do feel I am finally getting somewhere. The advantage of a blog is that after a while other painters comment very astutely on the work. I have put a bunch of obtuse paintings up for consideration and am very struck by how deeply, similarly strange, we all are. The themes that recur are a mile away from the biological and financial necessities that drive us in our daily lives.

A recurring preconception of mine, and others, is representing the absence of an object or activity, say a deserted formerly busy industrial scene. A windswept garage would say more about the many years of life its experienced, than say a graphic snapshot of happy mechanics. Another common theme is to highlight inconsequential moments or objects, again a singularly useless thing to do, but something apparently a lot of us find important, its a gut feeling, sort of painting the sound of one hand clapping, painting nothing.

To Quote Frankie Boyle "he was so boring that he managed to break space-time"; aim to paint so quietly and inconsequently that the paintings transcend the moment. I had a previous incarnation as a jobbing painter for galleries. Just after my spell at that very expensive asylum (the AA). I was heavily in debt and a couple of London galleries were selling my paintings well. The galleries were, firstly, businesses so were only interested in picturesque views of well known scenes, hence maybe my fascination now with painting non-events.

Accompanying illustrations are by fellow blog painters.

Simon Jones SAI

# Winsor & Newton Featured Artist Keith Bloweth his Horn

Using his initiative Keith Hornblower approached Winsor & Newton asking if they might consider him as a featured artist. He sent them a few sample pictures and blurb saying how wonderful Winsor & Newton are - and he was up on the web site within a day.

With a thank you to him for both a plug for the SAI and the Campaign for Drawing we say **Congratulations!**

Read it on: <http://winsornewton.com/community/featured-artists/keith-hornblower>

Born in the market town of Hitchin, Hertfordshire in 1952, Keith Hornblower always had a passion for art, but at school his art teacher was the only person who actively encouraged it. In those days art was considered a pleasant hobby with no relevance in the workplace. As a result, his studies culminated in a career in civil/structural engineering – a conventional job – and painting was left behind.

He later moved into an architectural practice where he was able to develop his skills as an illustrator. His illustrations proved successful and he was able to make the leap into freelance architectural illustration.

Today, over 20 years later, he is now established as a popular traditional illustrator in watercolour and is an active Fellow of the Society of Architectural Illustration.

Keith Hornblower is also an ardent supporter of the Campaign for Drawing and can usually be found encouraging the public to pick up pencil and paper at the Big Draw opening events yearly in October. See the web site for details [www.thebigdraw.org.uk](http://www.thebigdraw.org.uk)

**The Illustrations published are only a small sample of his “Gallery”.**



## THE BIG DRAW 2009 Please Support Their 10th Year

Whilst The Campaign for Drawing are not in their usual expansive mode this year, they are linking their Now We Are Ten show and workshops on 11th October to the Paper City event in the architecture space at the RA ( see opposite for details of competition, where the SAI will be presenting a prize of an honorary membership for one year.)

An Exhibition at the RA entitled **Paper City: Urban Utopias** runs in conjunction with these events from 31 July - 27 October 2009. If not in London there are other exciting Big Draw activities around the UK throughout October check the Campaign for Drawings website. The Campaign is also launching their new book, **Drawing: A Tool for Design**, on 29 September at the Architecture Foundation. This is intended for secondary teachers interested in the built environment, as well as students considering a career in the design or construction industries.

Check the RA website at [www.royalacademy.org.uk/architecture](http://www.royalacademy.org.uk/architecture) for more details

## An Aussie Accolade

This unsolicited response was received immediately after the launch of the new website. It came from Jane Grealy past member of the SAI and past President of both the Australian SAI and the American SAI

*"I think your website is excellent. It highlights your members work - the water colour work in particular made me want to look at more of the illustrators' work - quite inspirational. The site was easy to navigate and clearly set out, and I very much liked the graphic style. Congratulations to the site designers and whoever chose them!"*

# Bungay High School Awards – 2009



Donna Scott and Don Coe with the Award Winners. Clinton Gillett, director of Art & Technology, far right.

Following their success at Starpak, the National Packaging Competition, at which they won 21 certificates and 2 major prizes (the highest success rate of the competition) the students of Bungay High School presented their annual exhibition of work.

The SAI once again sent a team for the two-day event, to assess the work and to present cash awards to the winners. David Birkett, Donna Scott and I were welcomed by Clinton Gillett, Director of Design & Technology who asked us to judge two separate projects. One was the design for a local shop and the other a design for a building for a specific function. Each was to be illustrated by a design portfolio and a model.

Three students were awarded £150 each and two students Highly Commended awards of £50 each.

Donna Scott and Don Coe with the Award Winners.

Clinton Gillett, director of Art & Technology, is on the right.

One of the winners with her design for "The Diner"

The following morning our team demonstrated to the students in the classroom, the various techniques employed by SAI members in their profession.

David screened a case history of a scheme for a double-height office space using rough sketches to illustrate his design, together with photographs of the finished project. I chose to do a couple of line and wash sketches of the students' own work and Donna talked about the route she's taken through education to self-employment and showed examples of her work and how she uses SketchUp

## Paper City Competition

Paper City: Urban Utopias Invites you to submit your own 'Paper City'.

### How To Enter...

**What could or should the city of the future be like?**

Create your own Paper City which illustrates your ideas on the city.

Post or deliver your Paper City to:

**Architecture Programme,  
Royal Academy of Arts,  
Burlington House, Piccadilly,  
London W1J 0BD**

Or email files (no larger than 2MB) to:  
**[papercity@royalacademy.org.uk](mailto:papercity@royalacademy.org.uk)**

**Deadline:** Monday 2 November 2009

Write your email, postal address and phone number on the back of your sheet.

**Entries will be judged by:**

Peter Cook RA, architect  
Sara Fanelli, illustrator  
Kate Goodwin, RA architecture curator  
and Vicky Richardson, editor, Blueprint

**Prizes:** Crevasse vase designed by Zaha Hadid for Alessi (as sold in the RA shop) and art materials by Daler-Rowney.

A selection of the entries will be added to the RA exhibition and published on Blueprint's website.



Crevasse vase

# Derby Day With The SAI

## Autumn Meeting and Mock Summer School



Our Autumn venue is Derby on Saturday 31st October 2009 at the Hallmark Hotel which is opposite the railway station.

The venue will be open from 9am for early birds and even earlier birds can stay overnight Friday and book in for the SAI supper.

A flat rate of £25 per head for the day will be charged covering tea and coffee on arrival, lunch and tea again in the afternoon.

To finalise catering arrangements a deadline of 15th October is set for you to let us know if you are attending and to send your £25 cheque for the Saturday meeting.

An exciting agenda is in prospect including the official launch of the new website and Forums, with detailed description of their features. John Purnfrey with the support of a strong team will provide a day of demonstrations of techniques and artistry to satisfy all tastes.

Come and learn.

If this is successful a weekend event will be arranged in summer 2010 for an expanded day school.

ALL VERY EXCITING

Guests are welcome.

Bring your latest and perhaps oldest work for others to see.

**Contact Heather Coe SAI administrator for further information 01892 852578 • [info@sai.org.uk](mailto:info@sai.org.uk)**

## Joe on Show at the Sorbonne

### The Centre for Advanced Studies in Architecture and Alberti Group Exhibition – October 2009

Along with Professors Alan Day, Vaughan Hart and Paul Richens from the University of Bath I'm currently putting together an exhibition on the work of this country's leading groups researching computer generated historic reconstructions. The Alberti Group and Centre for Advance Studies in Architecture (CASA) were established almost twenty years ago and based in Edinburgh and Bath - where I was a principal investigator between 1992 and 1999. Our remit was to reconstruct lost or unbuilt works by Leon Battista Alberti, Inigo Jones and Sebastiano Serlio amongst other, and to study the emerging use of 3D computer aided design as a means of visualising architecture. CASA's primary research objective was to build a three dimensional model of the city of Bath and to investigate how this could be used to aid the planning process or as a data set for interactive information or virtual reality navigation. This October sees the opening of a retrospective exhibition at the Sorbonne in Paris looking at the work of CASA and the Alberti Group. The exhibition runs for two weeks in The Réfectoire des Cordeliers, 15 rue de l'Ecole de Médecine, Paris from the middle of October and will be based around three large projection screens showing a collection of computer generated reconstructions, historic images as well as a 4 metre tall physical model of Serlio's Comic Scene with its false perspective reconstructed. The exact details of the exhibition are yet to be fixed so if anyone is likely to be in Paris around the middle to end of October then please get in touch and I can give you more information.

**Joseph Robson FSAI**



# The Presidents Progress



David Birkett SAI President

It is now 1 year since the first restyled Newsletter reached your studio/office/garret. Some of my aspirations expressed in that letter have come to fruition but one that was not and, at the time thought to be out of reach, has been the launch of the new website. During the Year, this is where it was decided that our effort should be concentrated as an essential tool for any promotion. We now have it and apart from the occasional teething problem it functions well. It has already received a big cheer from both the Australian and American SAIs and became headline news on the CGarchitect website home page.

With this achievement the SAI now needs a "front man" ( old fashion nomenclature with no apology) to promote the Society through the National and Design Press, liaise with the RIBA, RICS, ACA, IHBC and other professional bodies and seek out our equivalent societies in Europe and worldwide, with Australia and the USA already in tow. An advert appears elsewhere asking for this support as the current management team is overstretched running the website, the newsletter and other services essential to keep the society growing. Optimistically I am hoping we can reach for a membership again of 300.

We are also now supporting the Big Draw with a big prize, details elsewhere, so please support any local initiatives or promote your own. Big Draw day is Saturday October 10th.

Lastly please support the SAI Derby Day. We chose Derby as, for the majority of the membership, we believe that it can be reached within a 2 hour train ride. As our venue is outside Derby station (The Old Midland Hotel) this should be easy.

Derby Day is a dry run for our proposed Summer School 2010 so please turn up and expect to learn something. John Pumfrey is the energy behind this event. Over the last three years we have had an informal supper for those arriving on the Friday night and staying over; this will happen again this year and details are published elsewhere.

Due to outlay on the website we have to make a charge this year.

SEE YOU AT DERBY The hotel is a stones throw away from Platform 1; parking is available.

**David Birkett** FSAI President

## SAI Helps Bradford NHS Trust.

The single image was produced to support the new development design team meetings. The Architects HDP, of Bradford worked closely with 3dcom to produce the visual. This close relationship enabled the team to make the various design changes and meet the deadlines that arose during the modeling process.

**Neil Poppleton** SAI



## Booking Arrangements for the Autumn Meeting at Derby

### AUTUMN MEETING DAY ONLY

£25 each only inclusive of tea/coffee morning and afternoon and lunch.

**Book with Heather Coe administrator before October 14th: telephone 01892 852578 or email [info@sai.org.uk](mailto:info@sai.org.uk)  
Cheques in advance please to: SAI, Rosemary Cottage, Bletchinglye Lane, Rotherfield, East Sussex, UK TN6 3NN**

### THE SAI SUPPER FRIDAY 30th OCTOBER

£27 per head. The President will be buying wine.

Book with David Birkett: telephone **01491 825457** or email [dba@birkettarchitecture.co.uk](mailto:dba@birkettarchitecture.co.uk) mentioning any dietary requirements.  
Cheques in advance please to: SAI, Rosemary Cottage, Bletchinglye Lane, Rotherfield, East Sussex, UK TN6 3NN  
These may be combined with the day fee when paying.

### OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATION AT THE HALLMARK HOTEL FOR FRIDAY 30th OCTOBER

£71 Single Room B&B • £77 Double Room B&B

Call Samantha Allsop on **01332 299992** at the HALLMARK HOTEL and mention the SAI  
Pay Hotel Direct at time of booking out.

For cheaper accommodation try THE JURYS INN 01332 621000; a new hotel in centre of city just off the inner ring road. Highly recommended.

# & Finally...

## Not Quite Illustration FIRE ENGINE HOUSES

Illustrated are a variety of buildings used nationwide as Fire Engine Houses some purpose built some part of another Town / village function.

They seem to be an architecturally neglected range of buildings which have lost their origins under a blanket of another use or removed altogether.

From about the time of the Great Fire of London of 1666, these buildings were erected in most villages and towns to assist in fighting fires- some of which had destroyed entire towns, even after the buildings' introduction. Some were funded by insurance companies, hence fire insurance plaques on the buildings, whilst others were paid for by public subscription and manned by volunteers. This volunteer-led service was sometimes operated as an off shoot of the Parish Churches' duties, hence the odd old fire appliances still found parked in the back of churches. Occasionally the local pub would run the fire brigade.

Through various Acts of Parliament, fire regulations have developed, as indeed have fire fighting equipment - causing the demise of what were often quite small buildings. As late as 1990 they still built fire engines to fit these buildings, but with the standardization of fire appliances new buildings have replaced most of them. A few still exist- maybe your town has at least a Victorian fire station into which they squeeze their fire engine, but perhaps not for long.

The illustrations show the variety of building that were used from very elaborate whimsical buildings down to the corrugated iron clad shed.



## THANKS A BUNDLE

A personal thanks to Sophie and Noel at Cyan Commerce Ltd of Holt, North Norfolk, for their input, firstly into the newsletter design, and secondly, and perhaps more importantly, into the website design. The first item of their work I saw was for the Sailing School at Blakeney. It was, to say the least, superb for such an embryo business as it was at that time. I have no doubts that your imaging helped immensely to promote their progress. That was a few years ago, and what I saw I remembered so vividly that when I started to consider looking for an "outside" graphic designer for the SAI publications I had no need to look further; I just hoped that you were still around.

I hope our relationship brings prosperity to both our causes.

**David Birkett President SAI**

## The Year Ahead...

**October 10th 2009**  
**BIG DRAW DAY**

**October 31st 2009**  
SAI Derby Day Autumn Meeting

**November 21st**  
2009 Winter Newsletter Deadline

**December 2009**  
Winter Newsletter

**February 14th 2010**  
Valentines Day /  
Spring Newsletter Deadline

**March 2010**  
Spring Newsletter

**April 2010**  
AGM and Spring Meeting London

**May 21st 2010**  
Deadline for Summer Newsletter

**July 2010**  
Summer Newsletter

**Mid summer 2010**  
Summer School

**August 21st 2010**  
Autumn Newsletter Deadline

**STOP PRESS!**

Our Autumn venue is Derby  
Saturday 31st October 2009  
At the Hallmark Hotel

**NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE:**  
**November 14th 2009**

All material to be submitted to:  
**davidbirkett@btconnect.com**