

Back to the artist's drawing board - Re-opening of BAS Wednesday Studio Sessions.

Our members that participate in our Wednesday drop-in have been waiting patiently for the reopening of Ripley Arts Centre. So with Covid 19 safety measures in place we finally e-opened our drop-in as "Studio sessions" giving priority to existing participants. **All of our places for our studio sessions in Ripley have now been taken and oversubscribed up but please read on..**

Throughout the lock-down your committee have been searching for alternative venues and developing our online events. If we have enough interest we could take on an additional drop-in venue at the Assembly Halls at 18 Gates Green Road, Coney Hall, West Wickham, BR4 9JW. 18 on Mondays between 10am and 4pm. This is a larger airy and light small hall with greater capacity with parking, kitchen and garden located in a quiet spot in West Wickham that some of you may know already.

We already have a few interested in attending the Assembly Halls, Coney Hall but we want to open the opportunity to the wider BAS membership. If you are interested let us know by contacting your membership secretary Paul Stringfellow at membership@bromleyartsociety.org.uk or give me a call on 07732 408 554. The Covid 19 measures below are those that we have already implemented in Ripley but are likely to be the same for the Assembly Halls Coney Hall.

With both locations we will need to introduce the following new but necessary Covid 19 measures to ensure the safety of our members and ensure we are in compliance with current regulations. We hope they will only be temporary but at least they will enable us to meet up safely again and continue the drop-in groups for the time being.

Our friendly studio sessions are a great way to connect and form friendships, meet supportive like minded people and to find out how Bromley Art Society supports artists from all walks of life.

Covid 19 measures introduced at Ripley – Those introduced for the Assembly Hall will be similar.

1. We need to balance the need to continue include existing participants of the drop-in with limiting the number of people meeting at any one time and cover increased costs to BAS.

We are therefore offering 3 "Studio sessions" with a maximum of 6 people throughout the day in the Studio at Ripley

10 am – 12 noon

12 noon – 2pm

2 pm – 4 pm

Ripley have increased their prices and so offering three Studio sessions will help us cover the additional cost's but keep your £5 sub the same for now.

2. To manage numbers we will need to introduce a booking system. We don't know what the demand will be yet for each session so we may need to limit people block booking. We will let you know the mechanism for booking in due course as we consider a fair approach but it is likely initially be a simple phone call or email to myself. We need to ensure we have the maximum of six at each session to make it financially viable to BAS, so if you have booked but unable to attend please let us know immediately as we could offer the slot to someone

else waiting.

3. We need to consider a cashless environment so we have provided a card machine to collect the £5 sub. Ultimately if neither of the two options are available to you will need to bring the exact amount in cash as to protect yourselves we will not be carrying a float to offer change.
4. Please bring your own refreshments (no food please), cups and mugs etc and take them home after each session. We understand there will be no access to the kitchen for our group. Toilets will be restricted (please see attachments from Ripley)
5. We will need to sanitize the room between each session so please arrive no earlier than your booked session.
6. **Ripley requires us sign-in and leave contact details for each session. They will also require to collect a declaration from all participants that they have not had Covid symptoms in the last 14 days.** I have attached a copy of the declaration that they are requesting. We would like to do this electronically where we can to keep paperwork down. We will maintain an updated copy electronically for each person so a simple manual sign-in will be all that's needed on the day. Obviously please let us know immediately if you are unable to make the declaration.
7. Ripley require us to provide guidance to all participating members of our group prior to our sessions about the procedures they will be operating regarding social distancing, use of wash rooms and the one- way system in place for people moving around the building. Please familiarise yourself with their attached suite of documents.
8. Please bring a mask currently you will need to wear one when moving around the building. At Coney Hall they are now asking people to wear masks at all times.

Get involved, let your friends know about BAS and see our growing drop-in gallery at <https://www.bromleyartsociety.org.uk/weekly-art-classes/>

BAS have a great growing offering for All Artists.

Keep safe,

Paul Stringfellow