

## Press Release

6 December 2016

Grab a unique gift at the Reading Guild of Artists' exhibition

With Christmas less than three weeks away, now is the perfect time to pop along to the Reading Guild of Artists' Christmas Art Sale, taking place from now until Saturday 17 December, to pick up a unique gift for a friend or family member.

The exhibition, based at Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading, corridor 23, features artwork from the Guild and is an ideal opportunity to showcase the range and breadth of styles of local artists, with 25% of the proceeds going to the Hospital's 'Art and Garden' charity.

One of the artist's exhibiting is Belinda Garner, who has worked in the health profession and is local to the area, says: "I joined the Reading Guild of Artists in January this year and have really enjoyed being part of a network of artists and particularly having the opportunity to exhibit my work. "As a teenager, I studied art and graphic design at college but then later chose a career in mental health. Recently, due to a bereavement, I had more free time and returned to painting after many years and it has been an exciting and rewarding process."

Anthony Wilder, Chairman, Reading Guild of Artists, said he was delighted that such a new member was exhibiting, saying: "I am very pleased to that such a new member is exhibiting this year. Belinda brings a lot to the Guild."

He went on to say: "We are thrilled to once again be working with the Royal Berkshire Hospital. It is a great venue for our exhibition. "There are many great examples of our artists' work available to buy – and I am confident that there is really something for everyone. Please come along during hospital opening hours and get that special someone a unique gift of art that will be treasured for many years to come."

He added: "As chairman and exhibitor, I was delighted when my painting 'Brighton Roundabout' sold recently from the exhibition. My wife and I visit Brighton every two years and I have been fascinated by this roundabout which you can find at the end of Brighton Pier. At night, it seems as if the roundabout offers another world of colour, light, music and happiness in a dark and chilly time – like a beacon of hope! It also brings back happy childhood memories of similar things elsewhere. I have made a number of drawings and paintings of it over the years and this is the latest in the series and the one I am most pleased with. It was bought by a member of the hospital staff to celebrate an anniversary."