

## **Press Release**

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### **Reading Guild of Artists' host its annual charity art sale**

Now in its 24<sup>th</sup> year, Reading Guild of Artists' (RGA) annual charity art sale kicks off on Monday 6 November, Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading. It runs until Saturday 16 December. Entrance is free and 25% of the proceeds go to the Hospital's 'Art and Garden Fund' charity.

Always popular with hospital visitors and staff, it features a wide-range of styles and media, from water colours, acrylics and pastels and much more, produced by members of the RGA.

Anthony Wilder, chairman of the Reading Guild of Artists, said: "It is staggering to think that this the 24<sup>th</sup> arts sale we have held and it just gets bigger and even better!

"I am delighted that once again our partners at the Royal Berkshire Hospital are hosting it and that we will give 25% of the proceeds to their charity, 'Art and Garden Fund'.

"The range and styles on display really means there is something for everyone and an ideal way to get that unique Christmas gift or to mark another special event. I would urge people to pop in and see what's on offer – and with less than two months to Christmas, now is the perfect time!"

Carole Stephens, RGA member, said: "I love flowers and gardens and the very 'Englishness' of Reading, where I live. I really appreciate the opportunity to show my work in this special RGA exhibition and have done so for the last seven years. It's really nice to think that our work gives

pleasure to patients, visitors and staff in the run up to Christmas. I hope my paintings will add a splash of colour to the lives of the people who see them.”

Ian Thomson, charity director of the Royal Berks Charity said “It is a privilege to be associated with the Reading Guild of Artists. I am delighted that the Reading Guild of Artists has nominated the Art and Garden Fund as a recipient for funds raised at the art sale. I welcome the on-going relationship which reflects the passion that people have for the Royal Berks Hospital and the care provided by staff in the Trust – a true partnership. With your support we can change the lives of thousands of people and enhance patient care in the community. To everyone involved, a big thank you. You are our local heroes.”

The charity arts sale starts on Monday 6 November and runs until Saturday 16 December. It can be found at RBH Level 2 Link Corridors, Craven Road, Reading.

Further information on the Reading Guild of Artists, can be found by visiting <http://www.rga-artists.org.uk/> or <https://www.facebook.com/ReadingGuildofArtists/>

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**Photo attached**

Attached is a photo of Carole Stephens, with her painting ‘Yorkshire Rose’.

**Note to Editors:**

The Reading Guild of Artists was founded in 1930. It has a membership of over 150 artists and plays an active role in the development of artists in Reading.