

Newsletter October 2023

Edited by Annie, Shaz and David

FORTHCOMING CLUB NIGHTS

Friday 6th October Indoor Painting, Walton Church

Friday 13th October Design a card for Christmas – Bring your own subject matter.

There is an opportunity for Members to have their own A5 sized cards produced and printed professionally. David can produce the artwork for you, all that is needed is a good scan of your painting or design and a Word doc or text on email of your caption and any personal message. To keep it as simple as possible, David proposes this should be in blocks of 25, including envelopes, as few people send more than that. The cost including VAT would be £29.

Friday 27th October Sunset/Moonlight/ Night Sky – Bring your subject matter.

Thursday 2nd November Exhibition Grace Chapel Chesterfield. **Please bring your completed forms and entry payments to the meeting on Friday 27th October, so that Andrew can complete the paperwork.** Thank you.



That's it for Outdoor Painting this year with Cromford Canal, but we will be back – with hopefully more Members, it is a most enjoyable day. If you have any ideas, let us know.

WHAT ART EQUIPMENT WOULDN'T YOU BE WITHOUT?

Silicon Disc – Ideal for taking the tops off paint tubes when they are difficult to remove due to a buildup of paint.

Kevin (AKA Gadget Man).



Around The Galleries

With the temporary closure of the Buxton Museum and Art Gallery I ventured a little further this time to a gallery I haven't visited before and was very pleasantly surprised. The Potteries Museum and Art Gallery in Stoke-on-Trent (<https://www.stokemuseums.org.uk/pmag/>) is a gem and an easy hour and half drive from Chesterfield.

The web site will give you all the details of its collections e.g., the world famous Staffordshire ceramics and the Anglo-Saxon gold 'Staffordshire Hoard'. But there are lots more including paintings from the key artistic movements of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. These are nicely displayed and on view when I visited were examples by Duncan Grant, Lamorna Birch, Alfred Munnings, Robert Bevan, L.S. Lowry and two paintings by artists I particularly admire George Leslie Hunter (top right) and Samuel John Peplow (right). These two along with 'Bunty' Cadell and J.D. Fergusson made up the group that would eventually become known as the Scottish Colourists.



Confidence over ability!

I, David, found a book on friend's bookshelf in Wales a few weeks ago. It was about a revered Welsh "portrait artist", and I use quotes intentionally. I was not at all impressed but it was the captions that astounded me - I will leave you to judge!

"I saw her in an old folks home when I went there to visit another old lady. When I started the drawing I had intended to get a likeness but, as so often happens, the drawing took control and another face appeared on the paper. I named her 'Mrs Francis' so that I should remember the drawing." (Illustrated on the right)

"I intended that this was to be a picture of John Williams of Caeau Gwynion but as often happens when trying to paint a portrait in watercolour, the medium ran away with me and the gentle and thoughtful face on my paper was very unlike the old tanner who sat in his small living-room wondering, I am sure, why I bothered to record his old face."



DEMONSTRATOR

Hazel Money – Friday 8th September Derbyshire Landscape in acrylics

Hazel demonstrated her loose style of painting, giving tips and techniques as she progressed. The scene she chose was from her local area near Ogston Reservoir. She started off with a canvas painted in burnt umber and

used a reduced palette of colours. Her demonstrating style was one of natural wit and humour. One of her tubes of white acrylic narrowly missing the front row!

The painting she completed on the night and was well received. Her informal style made for a relaxing atmosphere, despite the very warm temperatures on the evening!



FORTHCOMING EVENTS/WORKSHOPS

Straight Curves Art and Crafts

Sunday 15 October so book now. At just £25 untutored Life Drawing is unbeatable. Five artists per class only. Session runs 10am – 12.30pm with a tea break and parking is easy on a Sunday. **104 Saltergate, Chesterfield.** (01246) 807575 or 07976 845662 See www.straightcurves.co.uk for their full range of Art & Craft Classes for adults and children. Look for the “untutored life drawing” icon. (If we don't support them we'll lose it and it is a particular favourite of the Chairman!)

Chatsworth

Wednesday 18th October Autumnal Colours. Painting the harvest
10.00am – 4.00pm. £125 per person Includes Garden entry and a farm shop lunch. Artist Pam Smart education@chatsworth.org

Field Breaks

The Art Room Barlow
Email: info@fieldbreaksart.co.uk

Autumn Botanicals

Painting and Drawing Workshop. Monday 30th October £79.00

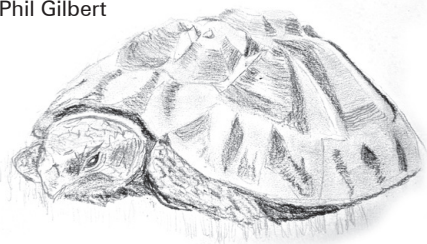
Matlock Art Group

Portrait Group – Open to all at £5.00 per session. Meets first Friday of each month. 9.30am – 12 noon. Starkholmes Village Hall, 105 Starkholmes Road, Matlock DE4 3DE
Secretary Chrisholt964@btinternet.com

Members' Corner

Phoebe is 12 years old, and we have had her since she was very small (6 months old). She lives in a Tortoise Table in our conservatory, and she eats all sorts of greens she particularly likes tomatoes and sedum.

Phil Gilbert



Ian Geary's tribute (below) to the Staffordshire ceramic designer Clarice Cliff. "I have placed her 'Age of Jazz' figures of the 1930s in an imaginary Jazz Club setting with Art Deco inspired surround."



Around the Members Spotlight on Mary Mohamed

How long have you been in the art club?

About 18 months.

How did you hear about the club?

Through a friend, Elena Fear, who had gone to the club for years. The club was always held at Whitecotes School and the Friday evening was not an option. Once it moved to Newbold it was better. It was the location that changed my mind.

How did you get interested in art?

I went on a cruise who had a resident artist who did lessons on sea days. I did not do art at school. Watercolour is my preferred medium, but I will have a go at anything, landscapes, nature etc.

What do you like about the club?

It is a welcoming group, and I have not found it difficult to fit in. The club have different subjects and it is nice to be pushed out of your comfort zone sometimes. It is a nice, organised group and there are a good variety of things to go to.



700 miles to see a Gallery! (by the Chairman)

Almost two years ago I promised faithfully to return to East Scotland to visit Lynette Grey's studio – it's in a railway signal box so how could I resist. Some 2,500 historic buildings were demolished by British Railways in the 1960 and 70s, most in England, but Scotland fared a little better as they just became derelict. Under ScotRail's "Adopt a Station" Scheme some 12 years ago they agreed to let suitable station buildings at a nominal rent to artists and for community use if you restored and maintained them.

The stations are still in use so trains are stopping every 20 to 30 minutes. I thought this was a great idea with passing trade constantly arriving, unfortunately the reality is not quite like that – the trade is just local commuters! However, the space is superb for shows and teaching. Lynette has her pottery studio on Aberdour station and her art studio and gallery on Kinghorn Station just up the line overlooking the River Forth - she uses the train to travel between them.



You can see the gallery's on www.kinghorngallery.co.uk and www.theartline.co.uk/venues/aberdour-lynette-gray-signal-box-studio/

Please may I remind anyone who has not yet done so, that the last date to present your autobiography is on Monday 9th October. Please send/queries to ann.johnson32@btinternet.com

Outdoor Painting Day Saturday 16th September - Cromford Canal

Tim Jones braved the Heritage Day at Cromford and produced a wonderful painting. "It wasn't particularly busy and plenty of nice people to chat with. One family started picnicking just behind me which was entertaining (and made me very hungry when the smoked salmon sandwiches came out!) Here's what I ended up with which I'm pretty pleased with. Wasn't planning to paint the trip boat but when they plonked it in the middle of my composition it seemed rude not to have a go."

Wednesday 27th September Round Two

In the wake of Storm Agnes, our intrepid painters assembled at Cromford Canal, Mary, Sabina, Andrew, Annie, Shaz, and Bertie the dog. The weather was a bit downcast, but spirits were high! The lovely narrow boat was waiting for customers to take along the canal and those of us who tried to sketch it were disappointed when it set off! The rain held off for a little while and it wasn't too cold. We all managed to do some sketching which was great!

