

Newsletter September 2023

Edited by Annie, Shaz and David

FORTHCOMING CLUB NIGHTS

Friday 1st September – Indoor Painting Day, Walton

Friday 8th September Demo by Hazel Money – Derbyshire Landscapes in Acrylic

Saturday 16th September – Outdoor Painting Day, Cromford (Shaz and Annie)

Friday 22nd September Worknight – Farm-scape. Bring your own subject matter.

Jane's Studio (instead of Alpacas)

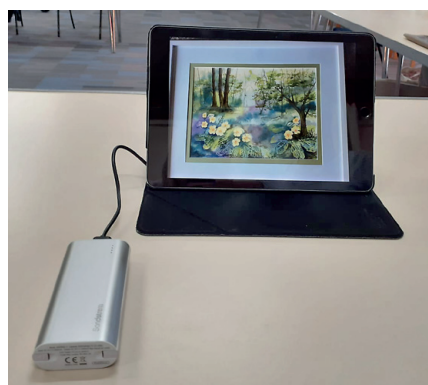
Jane came to the rescue when the weather was too bad for our outdoor painting day so some of us went to her studio instead. Although it was raining outside it was certainly 'sunny inside' as we all experimented with watercolours and Brusho. Sabina and Jane also providing delicious home baking.



Sabina's watercolour is a delightful example

WHAT ART EQUIPMENT WOULDN'T YOU BE WITHOUT?

Mary – Battery pack!



Welcome back!

We hope you have all had a good summer despite the rain. Unfortunately, the bad weather effected our two outdoor painting days which was a real shame. Last year Sue's Garden and Jane's Alpacas farm were bathed in sunshine but let us hope Cromford fares better.

Around The Galleries

Ian Geary visited the Millennium Galleries in Sheffield a few weeks ago for two very different exhibitions.

'Dutch Flower Paintings' is in the main gallery and features some of the finest examples of this genre from the National Gallery. The sumptuous detail of these paintings seemed to be matched by that of the names of the artists eg. Paulus Theodorus van Brussel; Ambrosius Bosschaert the Elder; Jan van Huysum etc. Through the 17th and 18th centuries these artists created fantastical compositions of increasing complexity often including fictional arrangements of flowers that did not bloom at the same time.

The exhibition includes modern non-Dutch floral works by artists such as Duncan Grant, Cedric Morris and Anne Redpath. The difference between these and the Dutch masters can be seen by the two examples here!

Exhibition continues to 17th September.

In the gallery next door is 'Donkey Nonsense' an exhibition of work by local printmaker James Green. Most of the prints do feature donkeys and it soon becomes clear that this artist obviously has an interest in these animals that borders on an obsession, he says: "...I was not only celebrating donkeys and their personalities, but the concept of freedom, for them, myself and the viewer". The settings become more adventurous, revealing surreal locations and dream worlds inspired by Green's imagination.

The Guild of Railway Artists

Their Railart exhibition runs until 24 September at the Kidderminster Railway Museum. Art Club Chairman, David, has been a full member for over 40 years and is showing three small watercolours depicting Barrow Hill.

Serving a dual purpose, they will be released as cards to aid fun-raising in the round-house Shop at Barrow Hill



FORTHCOMING EVENTS/WORKSHOPS

Straight Curves Art and Crafts

Sunday 17 September 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!)

Autumn Art Fair

Whitworth Centre 14th – 15th October
10.00am – 4.30 pm – Free Entry
Whitworth Centre Darley Dale DE4 2EQ

Duffield Art Gallery Exhibition

7 Bridge Street, Belper, Derby
Exhibition runs throughout August and September. www.duffieldartgallery.co.uk
Wednesday and Thursday 10 am to 4.00 pm.
Friday and Saturday 10 am to 4.30 pm

Field Breaks Art

fieldbreaksart.co.uk There are some exciting workshops coming up.

The Art Room

Wilkin Hill. Barlow S18 7TE

West Studios

West Studios, Sheffield Road, Chesterfield S41 7LL. Annual Open Exhibition running throughout September, showcasing artists from across England. Monday 4th – Friday 22nd September, 10.00am – 4.00pm
Celebration event – Friday 15th September 6pm – 8pm

Members' Corner



My encaustic practice by Ian Geary. Encaustic is an ancient painting method in which wax and pigment are fused onto a surface with heat.

On a visit to Elsecar Heritage Centre I came across Encaustic Art Plus. I was keen to have a go. There are several ways to go about heating the pieces of coloured wax that were provided. The one I used involved allowing the wax block to melt on a warm to hot iron (- only takes seconds) then transferring this using the edge or the tip of the iron to the support, in this case a piece of white card. As beeswax is impermeable, the artwork will not deteriorate and the technique is environmentally friendly.

Brian Nelson runs workshops at the Centre, contact details: www.encausticartplus.com
mail@encausticartplus.co.uk
Tel: 07824 813003

Around the Members Spotlight on Linda Allinson

Looking back on 70 plus years, art has always been important to me. When I trained as a teacher, art was my main subject; I taught it for a year and then not for another 30 years! although I always doodled when I should have been taking notes just to keep my hand in. At the end of my career I ended up teaching art to excluded children in a special school. Despite having to dodge flying scissors and thrown paint, I and they, realised how therapeutic art can be. I got some qualifications in using art as therapy and used them to teach adults in a community setting.

Once I retired I was free to do some kind of art every day. I've worked in oils, acrylics, wax, watercolours, charcoal, pastels, Brusho, inks and collage, plus a lot of crafty type things like pergamano, decopatch and pyrography.

I like dramatic so I've never really got to grips with watercolours, I'm not very keen on collage but I really enjoy the flow of oils and wax, big chunky graphite and charcoals. With fading sight, contrast is important to me so I handle big and bold better than delicate and subtle. Digital art on the iPad is also very useful.

I've done a few commissions for dog charities, the NHS and Diabetes UK and also foisted quite a few of my attempts on my family! I do like portrait and life drawing and also semi abstract landscapes. I use a loose style of painting and I really don't like perspective!

I am also a member of a couple of U3a art groups, the house is full of art stuff and when we lived on a boat my husband always said it was a miracle it didn't sink under the weight. But you can't have too many art supplies can you? Neither can you spend too much time in your art studio aka known as the lean-to out the back.



Of course, when the weather is bad, you paint indoors using photographs and your imagination as Jane did during her studio day with Sabina, Annie and Shaz – her delightful watercolour shows how exciting the medium can be. The scene is full of interest created by the flow of the colour, not by overworked detail and the results are infinitely more exciting to the viewer.

Indoor Painting Day Friday 7th July – Walton Evangelical Church

The last session on Friday 7th July was well attended once again. It is a lovely informal session where you have time to really work on your painting and get to know other group members.



