

Newsletter February 2024

Edited by Annie, Shaz and David

FORTHCOMING CLUB NIGHTS

Friday 9th February – Mountains/Hills/Edges – Bring your own subject matter. Maybe you have been inspired by DJ's work?

Friday 23rd February – *This year's work review*, including work produced from Outdoor/Worknight/Friday morning's pictures. Prize award for best picture decided by members vote. This is a very relaxed and positive evening.

INDOOR PAINTING

Friday 2nd February – Indoor painting 9.30am at Walton Evangelical Church (by Walton Shops). A nice, relaxed morning for painting and a natter.

BIOGRAPHIES!

Getting Club members to participate in the autobiographies is like pulling teeth! Although it is on a voluntary basis, I was surprised that I didn't receive more replies especially as the standard of Artwork in the club is amazing. I have now returned the albums back to Andrew but if anyone gets the urge, please email me on ann.johnson32@btinternet.com. I just need an A4 document in Word, with a photo of yourself, your name, a paragraph about your art, preferred medium etc and a few samples of your work. Thank you.

WHAT ART EQUIPMENT WOULDN'T YOU BE WITHOUT?

Yes, Kevin strikes again!

Water Reservoir Brush

If you are out and about you do not need to take water or brushes with you. Comes in assorted sizes. Can be used with paint or watercolour pencils or pens.



The AGM

Terry Pashley, Vice Chair, opened the AGM as the President Anna-Louise had sent her apologies. Terry remarked how disappointing it was that the meeting was not well attended, and that members should feel it a duty to support their Club. Committee members are volunteers, some of whom have been on the Committee for many years, and others should take their turn. The constitution is already laid out, but participation from the group is needed. Even suggestion forms regarding what the members would like to do or what demonstrators they would like to have, were lacking and it is a shame as it is for the Club members benefit.

Four committee members have stepped down, Andrew, Hilary, Shaz, and Annie. Andrew and Hilary have been very loyal and committed members of the club and were thanked for all they have done. They will be missed. A big thank you to Terry and Sue Pashley, Phyl O'Reardon (as treasurer), Ian Geary and Sharon Maycock who have all volunteered to step up, despite Terry and Sue having both served on the committee before.

After the tea break, there was an open forum to discuss moving forward. Everyone felt that the venue is popular and more suitable.

There was agreement that the annual subscriptions would go up from £25.00 per annum **to £27.00 per annum, due this month (February)**. The subscriptions have not risen for 10 years, and due to the rising costs of Insurance, hire of venues, demonstrators etc, it is a reasonable ask.

Hopefully with the extra revenue we will have more choice of demonstrators, as some of the more popular ones are obviously more expensive.

New venues for exhibitions are to be investigated. The best ones are where other activities are going on producing a larger footfall. Please contact the committee if you have any suggestions.

Digital art is still a contentious subject, especially surrounding original work. It is an ongoing discussion that needs to be reviewed. Again, if you have any ideas or views on this please contact the committee, especially if you are a younger member who paints digitally.

The next definite date for an exhibition is in Ashover on Monday 6th May 2024. Other venues are still in discussion but will need to be decided on soon to confirm bookings.

There was concern that the Friday morning monthly painting sessions were sometimes short on members causing a shortfall in monies collected to pay for the venue. The committee said that the club was happy to cover these costs. Friday morning is a lovely time to start or finish your paintings and is an effective way of getting to know other club members, and to relax and be provided with a cup of coffee/tea and a biscuit.

The Club will continue to have a break during the month of August.

The AGM was concluded - date of next meeting to be arranged.

The new committee



Ian Geary and Phyl O'Reardon (as treasurer)



Terry and Sue Pashley with David



Lynda Brown and Helen Varney (Sharon Maycock was unable to attend this meeting but sent her apologies)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS/WORKSHOPS

Straight Curves Art and Crafts

Untutored Life Drawing Sunday 18th February so book now. At just £25 it 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 icons.

(If we don't support them we'll lose it and it is a particular favourite of the Chairman!)

Art for Wellbeing challenge starting in February.

EVENT DETAILS

Which art style has a more positive impact on wellbeing: figurative art, (drawing or painting a real-life subject) or abstract art (experimenting with non-realistic colours or forms)? Which makes you feel more absorbed or relaxed, calmer, or more cheerful? Which raises your spirits more or boosts mood? The new art for wellbeing challenge aims to answer these questions, and more! *Take part from your own home, in your own time, and have your say!*

Starting on 1 February, All Change will run throughout the month. Every other day you will receive an art idea by email with example image – alternating between figurative and abstract styles. There will also be a private Facebook group where you can share how you get on with other participants (optional). At the end of the month participants will be asked which style and which ideas proved most positive.

This will help the Arts Council England-funded project Paint Your Mind: Art as Tool, which is running from January to June 2024. Discovering which art styles most benefit wellbeing and mental health is one of the project's aims.

To sign up go to <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/all-change-art-for-wellbeing-challenge-tickets-784434834707>

Please note that no live/Zoom sessions are planned. The start day and time refer to when you will receive your first email prompt.

Start date: 12/02/2024. Cost: £3.50

Phone number: +441790763603

Email address: medleymusicartnature@outlook.com

Members' Corner

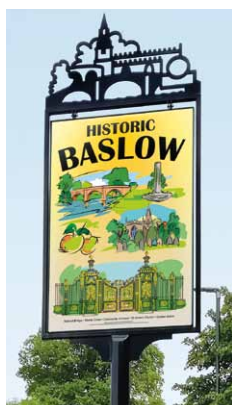
David Charlesworth

When passing Baslow green on the main road take a look at the sign I created in 2022.

There are different illustrations on each side and the design had to be approved by the Duke.

The brief included the design and construction of the post and graphic on top.

At no time was paper used; it was all on a Tablet. Is it Art? The debate on Digital art is going to be interesting!



Around the Members Spotlight on Wendy Else

How long have you been in the Art Club?

I have been a member of Chesterfield Art Club for approximately six years.

Why did you join/how did you hear about us?

In the 1980s I was originally a member of the Art Group in Castleton, but moved around the Country living in Scotland for eleven years. When we came to Chesterfield, I went to the Tourist Information Centre in Town where I picked up a pamphlet on local Art Groups. In the meantime, I went to an Art Exhibition held by Chesterfield Art Club at St. Thomas's Church on Chatsworth Road, where I met Sabina. The rest they say is history.

What do you like about the Art Club?

It is friendly and I enjoy the challenges and the opportunity to see demonstrations by different artists.



DEMONSTRATION EVENING

D J (David Johnson) – Landscape in Oils

DJ made a returning visit to our art club on 12 January, after demonstrating his painting techniques before the onset of Covid, at our location at Whitecotes School. He was pleased to be back and was impressed by our new location.

Some of us remembered his last demonstration when he shared his passion for painting outside, not just at sea level but at the top of mountains! Not a task for the faint hearted!

DJ showed us how he approached painting with oils from a photograph taken of Snowden, quickly sketching out with paint the outlines before starting the detail. He gave tips on how to approach painting and was keen on making mixing the right colour for the painting. Using his pallet knife, he applied the paint and textures which looked highly effective.

The overall result was an impressive oil painting of Snowden, with extra detail taken to ensure the ridge lines were correct, as he confessed to being a mountain climber too! We finished off with a group photo with his painting in the foreground. A good night was had by all!

David Johnson with his painting of Snowden



Your newsletter

I hope you are all enjoying the Newsletter, which we cannot do without your help and support. If you have attended or seen anything that you think would be of interest to the group, such as Galleries, exhibitions, workshops etc, or even if you would like to share a project you are working on then we would love to hear about it. It is a way of learning about each other and our passions for art. Thank you. Email ann.johnson32@btinternet.com.