

## Newsletter September 2025

*Edited and produced by David*

### FORTHCOMING CLUB EVENTS

**Friday 12 September – De-stash night and Sketching practice.** Please bring along anything you no longer need to swap, sell or give away. For sketching, bring your own materials, or just come along and do your own thing.

Peter Gray will be giving a short talk about his book *"A walk around Chesterfields hidden town centre"* which he has written and illustrated. (This will be available to buy on the night.)

**Friday 26 September – Nominated Subject: Rugged Coastline** (bring a piece of work that fits the brief).

### Teversal Art Group Exhibition

**September 26/27/28th 10am-4pm**

The Teversal Art Group would like to show to you some of their original artwork. The exhibition will be held in St Katherine's Church and inside the Manor room. During your tour around the village, we will be offering refreshments and the opportunity to purchase tombola and raffle tickets. Draw prizes will include original art works made by their art group.

There will be no charge made for admission to the exhibition. All proceedings will benefit the restoration of our church roof.

### CLUB NOTES

A new Constitution and Members Guide has been circulated via email. If you need a hard copy ask Helen or David.

#### Presentation evening

The presentation evening held at Beeley, has had a very poor attendance in recent years. There is a thought that this could be moved to the review night at Chesterfield.

There are implications of course, such as the Polyanna Prize and food and drink celebration so we are seeking opinions.

#### Committee members needed

Terry, Sue and Lynda are stepping down at the AGM, so we need you to put your name forward. If you would like to join the Committee we would be delighted to hear from you. So don't wait until next year, please let Helen know now! (It will take the pressure off.)

### The Tibshelf Exhibition

Taking part in the Tibshelf Open Gardens weekend was suggested quite early in the year. However, enthusiasm for this following so closely after Ashover and Beeley, was quite lacking. As a result the final decision to go-ahead left us with a bit of a scramble as we then had far more paintings than expected and a little short of tables – but we got it together. Footfall was very low but it was out first time there and it was a wet. 26 pictures were sold and we took £1077 over the weekend. So well done.

Most notable was how the Members who came along enjoyed the opportunity to talk. The general view is that we should do Tibshelf again, though more promotion is needed if we do, with a little more time for planning and advertising.



### Outdoor painting at Hardwick

It was a lovely but very hot day says Helen, so it might be nice to go again in autumn as it was very 'green'. A day in September is being considered.





## FORTHCOMING EVENTS/EXHIBITIONS

### Straight Curves Art and Crafts

**Untutored Life Drawing Sunday 21 September so book now.** At just £27.50 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.straight-curves.co.uk](http://www.straight-curves.co.uk) and look through the icons.

### Study drawing and painting for FREE in Mansfield!

West Notts College Adult Education have just announced this new event at their Derby Road Campus, Mansfield NG18 5BH

**Wednesday 10 September 2025 to Wednesday 24 June 2026**

35 weeks but there is no obligation to attend every session. Course is only available to students aged 19+.

A small, adult-only group, to introduce you to popular contemporary artists and their techniques while giving you the chance to experiment with various painting and multimedia applications. Whether you're a beginner or looking to refine your skills, it will help you develop your own artistic style.

Experiment with different media and applications through short exercises and create your own 2D artwork using the skills you've developed. Perfect for those looking to build confidence in drawing and painting while exploring different creative approaches.

You'll also have the opportunity to showcase and sell any products you create through a brand-new pop-up shop, developed in partnership with our full-time business students. It's a chance to share your work with the community, gain real selling experience, and support a student-led enterprise.

Although many of our courses start in September, we offer flexible start dates and you may be able to join at different times throughout the year.

**Cost: FREE (Subject to eligibility) or £10 per session. There may also be a small fee to pay for material costs.**

**Contact 01623 413602 for more information.**

### Outdoor Painting at Helen's

On 23 July, Lynda, Shaz, Annie, Tim, Phyl and of course Helen, shared a wonderful day in her garden which is full of interest.

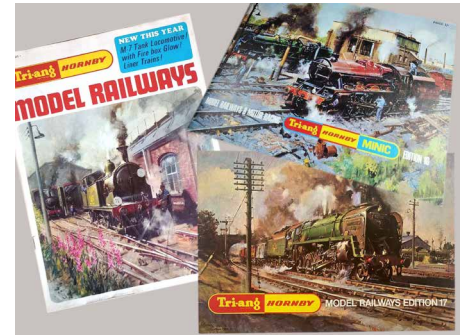


## A living from Art by David Charlesworth

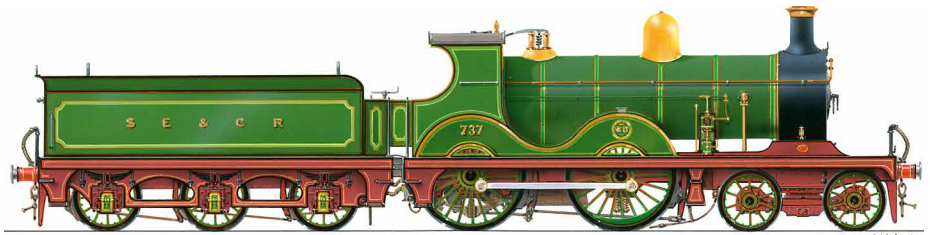
Earlier this year I was asked to give a talk on my railway art. It was something I never thought would be of interest, but having accepted the job it made me think about my influences and why I went into this extremely risky career. Then, while talking about how to fill a few issues of the Art Club newsletter, a few Members said that many people don't actually know what being a professional artist really means.

First of all, it is not the wonderful image that most people have of an artist painting in a field and earning a living. Some do, but in the main, these are people who have moved into it in later life from other careers or, with financial independence from pensions or indeed if much younger, from their partners. The hard fact is, that today, you would need to earn at least £3,000 per month before tax to even survive and that does not include materials and overheads. Unless you are already well-known, that is a lot of sales. Starting young, it is usually impossible.

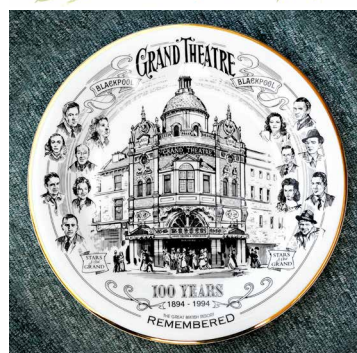
I had just turned 16 and it was nothing short of miraculous for me to get an apprenticeship as a Litho Artist in my home town. Such a trade was unheard of outside of the printing industry and even if you had, such vacancies were very rare and in 1970, a trade union closed shop. It simply meant "an artist in the printing trade". It was a dream job, a studio full of guys with long hair, beards and bow ties – all well over 30 years old so I was very junior. And although they were border-line nut cases, they were immensely talented and put an old head on young shoulders very quickly. I was taught the complexities of the printing trade and colour reproduction, which at that time was immense. Also, design, drawing, lettering, cartoon and surprisingly, photography.



1960s covers by Cuneo. Dismissed by most people, but railway paintings done well are industrial landscapes needing more than just a skill with colour and light. They were a huge influence and Cuneo was my hero, not celebrities or football players. David Shepard, the wildlife artist was another and indeed Monet - who was also a railway enthusiast. I never met Monet of course, but I did meet and exhibit alongside the other two!



Detailed air-brush illustration for a large London publisher that unfortunately went bust after a couple of years owing me money! I now enjoy looking for copies of the magazine appearing in second-hand shops.



(Clockwise) A Christmas card ridiculing the big bus manufacturers, an oil portrait, one of a series of plates with detail, and above, a 1990s Clip Art image for the transport industry.

Over the next few issues I will endeavour to illustrate the wide variety of work that was needed to survive – one does tend to become a "jack of all trades" rather than a Master!