

Newsletter February 2026

Edited and produced by David

FORTHCOMING CLUB EVENTS

Friday 6 February – Indoor Painting. Walton Evangelical Church 9.30am to 2pm.

Friday 13 February – The AGM and OPEN FORUM. These meetings are important, please try to attend.

Friday 6 March – Indoor Painting. Walton Evangelical Church 9.30am to 2pm.

Friday 13 March – Julian Bray Demonstration. Mixed media, Harbour scene.

Please keep an eye on your emails for updates as the weather can cause problems.

Committee members needed

Don't wait until next year please. Let Helen know if you are interested – you are needed.

Untutored Life Drawing.

Straight Curves Art and Crafts

Sunday 8 February, 10am – 12.30pm (£27.50) with a tea break and parking. With only five artists per class this is an unbeatable session. If you are unsure about tacking Life Drawing, David will be there.

104 Saltergate, Chesterfield S40 1NE. (01246) 807575 or 07976 845662 See www.straight-curves.co.uk and look through the icons. This is another superb opportunity that we are going to lose if we don't use it.


TURNER & CONSTABLE IN CINEMAS FROM 10 MARCH

Celebrating the 250th anniversary of their births, this seemingly unmissable new documentary explores Turner and Constable's intertwined lives and legacies alongside the ground breaking Tate exhibition. https://seventh-art.com/product/turner_constable/

An interesting combination as the two men did not get on with each other at all and were constant rivals. **The Tate Britain exhibition is on until 12 April but you must book in advance.**

It is a well-worth seeing. See these famous paintings and drawing up-close is very instructional – and reassuring when you can see and understand their struggles. Good art does not come easy.


If interested in creative photography, there is another exhibition at Tate Britain of the work of Lee Millar, a beautiful and ground breaking lady from the 1920s to late 1940s. I can recommend both.

Julian Bray

paintings

Will be giving a mixed media demonstration on the theme of 'Down at the Harbour' for the

Chesterfield Art Club

Whittington Moor Methodist Church
Scarsdale Road, Chesterfield, S41 8NA



Friday 13th March 2026 7.30-9.30pm
 £8 for non-members-contact Helen Varney our club secretary
 by email: chesterfieldartclub@gmail.com



Notice of the 2026 Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of The Chesterfield Art Club will be held at the Whittington Moor Methodist Church, Scarsdale Road, Whittington Moor, Chesterfield S41 8NA, on Friday 13 February 2026 at 7.30pm to transact the business of the Art Club.

Applicants are desperately needed for committee positions so please put your name forward.

Forms were given out at the last meeting and are available.

Studio life... in a time, far, far away! by Steve Holloway

I left school at 16 to go to college for a year before going to St Martins Art School in London. I lived in Camden at the time and didn't complete that year, so I got a job in an advertising art studio by Euston Station. I started as a junior. The studio consisted of illustrators, letter artists, past-up and key line artists amongst many other highly skilled people.

As a junior, my first job was to clean and fill the gold fish bowls that were the water pots for everyone, I had to buy the Sun newspaper every morning as well, as my boss then did a cartoon call Horatio, and I would cut out each one as reference.

The worst job was cleaning off the screens that we used to screen print mock-up packaging and labels using gouache water paints. These included cigarette pack mock-ups, cat food can labels, giant PG tips boxes and many more. Some for TV and others for pitching to companies as visuals.

Making up a flip top cigarette pack from scratch and then putting cellophane around it was a challenge to make them look real. But this is where I learnt so many skills.

From the lettering artists I was given practice of drawing a typeface call Grot 9. This was hard as it was a San serif face but flared very slightly towards the bottom of the letter, so S and O's were hard to do, I was also given old Letraset sheets to practice letter and word spacing. And even now I can't look at printed type without wanting to re-space the lettering correctly!

The owner was a fantastic illustrator, and took time out to coach me on drawing techniques, advice and tips.

Getting everyone's lunch from a local sandwich bar at midday, was horrible as I had a long list for 20 or so different orders. As we started work at 9, but lunchtime was at 2pm. So a long morning, but short afternoon until 5pm.

The advertising accounts the studio had were for the big advertising agencies around the west end of London and one of the most enjoyable jobs was delivering to these places. It got me out and about.

There were always rush jobs or presentation to do, some late evenings, with the studio manager begging for people to stay late. It would have been high pressured for some, especially the account handlers pacing the floor as a dead line got near, but not for me... I was only the junior.

This is just a small account of my early work life, I imagine everyone of us can relate their early work life. So, let's hear from you.

