

### SCSA NEWSLETTER

### SEPTEMBER 2023

#### SCSA TREASURER AND ACTING CHAIR - DEBORAH HODGSON

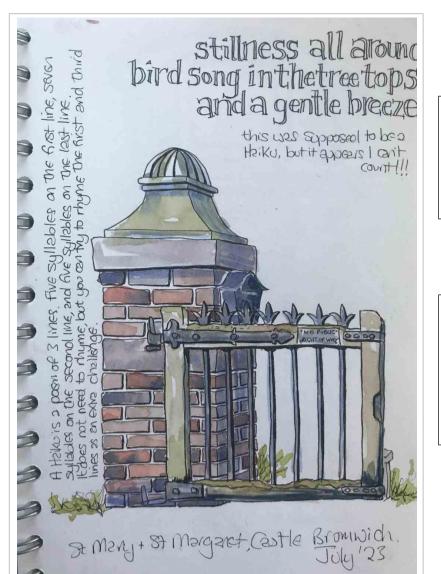
I've always enjoyed art but didn't take it any further than O-Level at school. We moved to the Midlands from Essex in 1990 and I joined a watercolour class run by Sylvia Taylor. It didn't take me too long to realise that pastels, acrylics and oils were easier than watercolours. I joined the SCSA in the early 90s and took on the role as Exhibition Secretary firstly with Len Hardy when we were still exhibiting at the library, and later with Bob Pagett and Malcolm Newall. I swapped roles a few years ago to Treasurer and for the last few months, Acting Chair as well.



### Summer Art Days "en plein air" mostly. Many thanks to Chris Bowden for organising these.

As an alternative to our original venue, we started to sketch in the grounds surrounding the Parish Church of Castle Bromwich next to Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens. Unfortunately, the weather took a turn for the worse, and we took shelter inside the church. This is a rare 18<sup>th</sup> century church decorated in the baroque style, and everyone found a subject which attracted and inspired them, from the ornate altar to the patterns in the glass . After lunch, Jean Willis gave a brief history tour of the church and bell tower and a bellringing demonstration. Everyone had a chance to try their hand at ringing a bell. Although the weather wasn't kind, we found plenty to do in the church resulting in a successful day out.





Here are lovely examples of the Castle Bromwich art day sketches from Julia Green (top) and Carolyn Bradburn (bottom)..

Even though it rained a little, there were many successful results.

Hopefully we will see them at the AGM on Saturday 21st October.



### The Urban Sketching Day around Sutton Coldfield on 8th August. Report from Tim Griffith.

That was a really enjoyable day and I was very pleased with the turnout. Janet did a headcount at the beginning and reckoned we had 18 attending. I hope everyone got a good idea of what urban sketching is about and will be up for trying it again.

I am attaching a few of the photos I took. The SCSA Facebook presence seems to be a Page rather than a Group so doesn't allow members to upload directly.

I have set up a Northbirminghamshire Urban Sketchers Facebook group that is private but can be found by searching for 'Northbirminghamshire'.

If anyone is interested in joining, they can upload photos of their sketching and keep up – to-date with future local urban sketching outings. Of course, everyone is encouraged to join the Birmingham Urban Sketchers Facebook group, as well, to keep informed on events in the wider area





### From the streets to The Duke for an appraisal and refreshments.



The summer art days have been so popular and successful that Chris is proposing to continue the 'En Plein Air' events into October so long as the weather is dry. So watch this space and wait for information by email.







### **Events for the Diary**

Friday, 8th - Sunday,17th September......Birmingham Heritage Week in Sutton Coldfield https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/sutton-coldfield-heritage-network-50629663033
Saturday, 16th September......Demo at Methodist Church venue B72 1RB
Sunday, 17th September......Plein Air Event at Charlecote Park. (see page 11).
Saturday, 23rd September......Practical Art Day at Methodist Church venue B72 1RB
Saturday, 21st October......SCSA AGM and social event 1.45 pm at Methodist Church B72 1RB
Saturday, 28th October......Practical Art Day at Methodist Church venue B72 1RB
Friday, 3rd November......Handing in work for Autumn Exhibition.
Saturday, 4th - Sunday,12th November.....SCSA Autumn Exhibition at SC Town Hall.
Saturday, 18th November......Demo - Karen Thomas, animal drawing at Methodist Church venue.
Saturday, 25th November......Practical Art Day at Methodist Church venue B72 1RB

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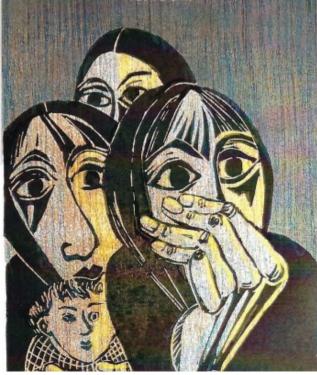
## HEINKE JENKINS

2nd JULY 1937-7th JULY 2023

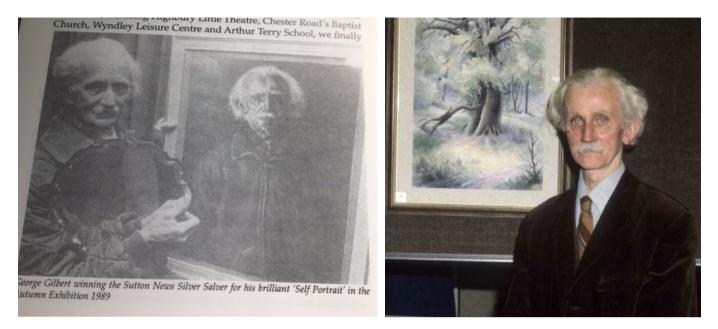


Sutton Coldfield Crematorium Tamworth Road Sutton Coldfield B75 6LG

Wednesday 26th July 2023 10:45 am



We received an email from Eileen Donohoe of the SC History Society concerning George Maitland Gilbert, who was a past member of the SCSA. He gave his watercolours in 1979 to the Sutton Coldfield Library on the understanding that they would be exhibited from time to time. I am now in the process of encouraging the library to display his work on some of the blank walls that they have in the library.



George Maitland Gilbert was born in Glasgow, Lanarkshire, in 1904, and attended Glasgow School of Art as a young man. He subsequently used his artistic talents making a living as a poster designer and signwriter. He was also a frequent exhibitor at shows; including the Scottish Academy, the Glasgow Institute and the Royal Society of Painters in Water Colours.

When he moved to Sutton Coldfield in 1950, he joined the Birmingham Water Colour Society and the SCSA, and regularly exhibited at their shows. For a few years the Gilberts lived in a flat in Comberton House on the Parade and he painted many views of Sutton Coldfield from his windows. In 1956 they moved to Falcon Lodge.

George's main interest was in portrait painting but he branched out into painting local scenes that have now become a wonderful historical record of Sutton Coldfield.

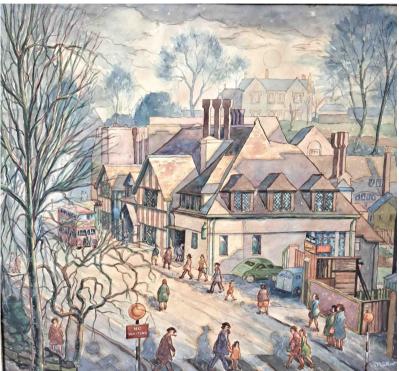


Please note that amongst all the events during Birmingham Heritage week from Friday 8th to Sunday 17th September, there are events happening in Sutton Coldfield. On Saturday, 9th September, various displays can be seen in Holy Trinity Church, including an incredible display of work by George Maitland Gilbert and lots of interesting information.

If you have any memories of his life in Sutton Coldfield be sure to share it with Eileen.



George Maitland Gilbert. Self-portrait



The Dog Inn (on the Parade).

#### **Breaking News**

Please pencil in the **SCSA Christmas Lunch** at the School House, Weeford, on Friday, 24th November. The cost will be £33.50 for three courses. More information to come...

The **Lichfield Art Society's Autumn Exhibition** will be on 20th - 22nd October in the Guildhall room in Lichfield.

**The SCSA AGM** will also be a social event on Saturday, 21st October at 1.45 pm with refreshments. Please bring some of your work to show, especially all the sketching that you have been doing over the summer, here or on holiday. We love to see them. Come and meet new members of the Committee, as well as your present members, and help us make decisions for the coming year.

**Sad news** - A loyal and longstanding member of SCSA, Phil Ordidge has died. He was Exhibition Secretary for many years.

### For Your Information.....





Make a note of these two weekends and look on-line or on Facebook for a list of all 169 artists/ crafters who will be opening their studios for your pleasure.

### warwickshire open studios



# warwickshire open studios



Visitors to Charlecote Park are welcome to wander around and see the art in action on 17th September. At the end of the day, the artwork will be displayed in a pop-up exhibition in one of the buildings close to the house where you can view the work, discover the prize winners and even buy a piece.