



SCSA NEWSLETTER

April 2025

A Message from the President
DEBORAH HODGSON

Dear Members,

After the Christmas break with particularly grey weather, it was great to return to the monthly meetings and have a catch up. The programme commenced in January with a full Art Day, and a new model, which proved very popular. Our February meeting was the first combined event with members working on their own art in the morning with the demonstration, as usual, in the afternoon. This seemed to work well.

Looking ahead, our Spring Exhibition is fast approaching. Jean will be sending out the schedules soon, if you haven't already received them, and I hope many of you will be submitting. If you're new to the Society and have any queries concerning the exhibition, feel free to contact Jean who will be able to help. I'm pleased to say that we have now purchased new display boards to replace the large green ones which were very cumbersome to move, so hopefully should look smart.

Deborah

Art Days on a Saturday



April 12th Practical Art Day with a model 10 am. - 3.30 pm.

May 17th Practical Art Morning 10 am. - 1.00 pm.

May 17th Demo by Phil Biggs - landscapes in watercolour 1.45 pm. - 3.30 pm.

June 21st Practical Art Day with a model 10 am. - 3.30 pm

Membership Secretary - Helen Haywood-Willis ARBSA



After A-levels, I followed the mandatory art course at Stourbridge College of Art before attending Loughborough College of Art for a degree in 3D Design. It was at Stourbridge that I discovered my passion for mud. After two Post Graduate qualifications in Art Education, I taught in secondary education for many years and retired in 2005. I was lucky enough to be able to concentrate on teaching ceramics for most of my career. Many of the children that I taught, who complained that they could not draw, found that they could express their ideas in clay, which was always rewarding.

Being a lover of the fire and the direct approach to processing the clay work, I continue to enjoy the unpredictability of firing my work with wood and other combustibles in my garden incinerator. Every pot that I make is an experiment and unique - never to be repeated, even if I could. I have never had the desire to make anything useful and am in the happy position of being able to only make what pleases me. If someone else likes what I make then, that is a bonus but I don't let that govern what I do.

My inspiration comes from organic forms, often those that are just outside my workshop in the garden. I love the irregular forms of bulbs, seed pods and flower buds, sometimes taking tiny forms and making them really large to highlight the ways that nature makes such amazing shapes. I'm not that interested in glazes - it's all form and fire for me.

Spring Exhibition 2025

Spring is well on the way and that means that our Spring Exhibition is on the horizon.

The Exhibition will run from **Saturday 3rd May to Wednesday 7th May**, with **Receiving Day Friday 2nd May, from 10am to 10.45am.**

Submission Forms and Conditions of Entry will be sent out at the beginning of April and the final submission date is **Monday 28th April.**

The success of our exhibitions depends on publicity so to ensure a good attendance it is up to each and every member, whether exhibiting or not, to publicise the exhibition. You can do so by distributing flyers (digital copy attached to this newsletter) to your place of work, local shops, surgeries and to any organisations of which you are a member. Copies of the flyer will be available at our next Art Day on 12th April at the Methodist Hall, Lower Parade.

If you use social media, please post details of the exhibition on Instagram, Facebook, WhatsApp or any other media.

Let's make this the our most successful Exhibition ever!

SIMON ROBERTS - Watercolour demonstration in February.



Back in a previous century, Simon studied Technical Illustration and then worked in Drawing offices and Advertising agencies in Munich, Vienna, Bristol, and Bath.

He is now living happily in the south of France concentrating on running painting workshops and holidays with his wife Monica in France, Spain and Morocco.

Full details on their website:
www.painting-in-france.com



KARA STRACHAN - Demonstration in Acrylic painting in March

Kara Strachan is a Southport born artist. Her distinctive painting style is inspired by her years of floristry, running her own successful flower shop in North London.

A move to Staffordshire allowed her appreciation of old English gardens and her fascination with ancient woodlands to develop and influence her paintings.

Kara can be found at Curborough Countryside Centre, Watery Lane, Lichfield WS13 8ES, working on creative projects, exhibiting her latest paintings and running regular painting workshops through the year in her studio/gallery.



Future Demonstrations and Events.



April 12th Practical Art Day with a model.

May 17th Practical Art morning followed by demonstration in watercolour by Phil Biggs.

June 21st Practical Art Day with a model.

Suggested places for summer sketching:-

Fradley, Castle Bromwich Gardens, Middleton Hall, Shugborough Hall and Martineau Gardens.

Some of these places are well known to us, but if you have any further suggestions then do share them with us.

Shenstone Community Library Association - Exhibitions 2025

- AprilPortraiture - Alan Harness**
- MayTextiles - Lichfield Textile Group**
- June*Trustees Charity Exhibition - “New Life”**
- JulyTextiles - Karen Cornfield and
Calligraphy - Linda Lewis**
- AugustScratch Board - Chris Ball**
- SeptemberUrban Landscape - Matt Greenhill**
- OctoberStill Life and Stone Carving -
Joan and Dennis Rollason**
- NovemberMixed Media - Andrea Dewsbery and
Fortes Mayer**
- DecemberGreysbrooke School - Christmas**

*The June exhibition is open to all artists and poets with the subject of “**New Life**”. All money raised will go the registered **charity NEWLIFE**. Artists are invited to submit work based on this title—in all its forms.

Shenstone Community Library Gallery can be hired by the month at a cost of £25 with 20% commission on sales. The Gallery is available for booking through the months of 2026.

Please Contact Dennis Harper Tel: 01543 480404 Email: dfh.art@icloud.com



ART EXHIBITION

3rd — 7th May 2025

9 am to 5 pm (4 pm last day)

TOWN HALL

Bedford Suite

Sutton Coldfield B73 6DA

Admission Free

www.suttoncoldfieldsocietyofartists.co.uk

Local Art Classes

Geoff Stubbins runs the Mere Green Art Group which meets at the Mere Green Community Hall, Mere Green, from 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm on Wednesdays.

Contact him on: 0121 323 2694

Pat Pagett runs watercolour classes in Sutton Coldfield.

Commencing 10th January 2025 at the United Reformed Church, Sutton Coldfield Town Centre, Fridays 10 – 12 pm.

For up-to-date information, please contact Pat on: 0121 240 2922

Shane Wiseman runs art classes:

South Parade Art Class

Thursdays 1.30 pm - 3.30 pm Sutton Coldfield Methodist Church Community Centre.

Beginners are welcome. There is a mix of abilities in all mediums. In the class there is a mixed programme with different subjects to paint. You can paint your own if you wish.

You will need to bring your own materials and drink.

www.animalpaintingsbyshane.com

Contact him on: 07513 963478

Join us for 3 hours of creative fun and new friendships



THIS IS THE ART CLASS YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED

- Develop impressive new skills in a warm and friendly atmosphere
- Fun, easy, step-by-step sessions in 3 hour classes, morning, afternoon or evening for 3½ months
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Explore 4 media: **Drawing, Painting with Watercolour, Acrylics, and Pastels.** Discover how to paint faces, figures, beautiful landscapes, animals, birds, still life and much more! Learn artists' secrets needed to create beautiful pieces of original art.

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