

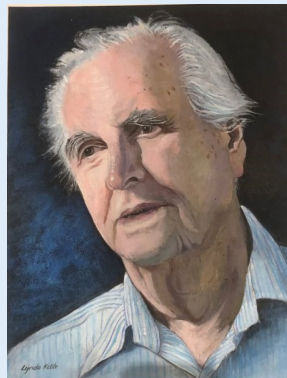


# SCSA NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2024

**A Message from the President  
DEBORAH HODGSON**

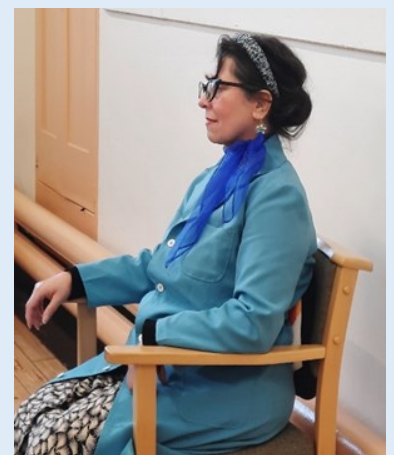
At the beginning of January, it was with great sadness we learnt our long-term member and friend, Keith Ripley, had passed away on Boxing Day. Keith had been an active member of the Society for many years, initially taking on the role of Publicity Officer and then as the “Meeter and Greeter” for our demonstrators as well as exhibition photographer. He will always be remembered for his wonderful watercolours which appeared quite effortless for him.



On a happier note, our 2024 programme started with a very enjoyable demonstration by our very own Dennis Harper. Dennis showed us how he approaches his palette knife paintings and members of the audience were encouraged to have a go too. There was a very good turn out by members together with a number of visitors from the Lichfield Society of Artists. Thank you very much Dennis for all your hard work which was much appreciated by us all.

The first Art Day was very well attended too with our regular model, Geeta. Indeed, it was so popular that the room was practically full to capacity. Coming along to these meetings is a great way to meet fellow members, especially if you're new to the Society.

**Looking ahead, our Spring Exhibition is approaching. Handing in day is Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May and, for the first time in a number of years, we will be back in the Bedford Suite.**



## Minutes Secretary and Publicity Team member - Carolyn Bradburn



I have always been interested in art and enjoy attending art exhibitions to see how others observe and interpret our world. It wasn't until I retired that I began to attend art workshops and classes and things just evolved from there.

During a short spell of classes at the Mac where I was introduced to watercolour and life drawing I strayed into the textile department and that sparked my interest in contemporary textiles. I lacked many skills particularly in drawing and started attending classes with Mary Griffin in Lichfield and continue to do so.

Fabric is a very tactile and also a very forgiving adaptable medium. I can draw, paint, print and stitch onto it. My stitch lines are very often like drawn lines. I work from my personal sketches and photographs. Each piece of work I do is a challenge, trying to figure out how to represent what I wish to portray. I learn with each piece of work I make.

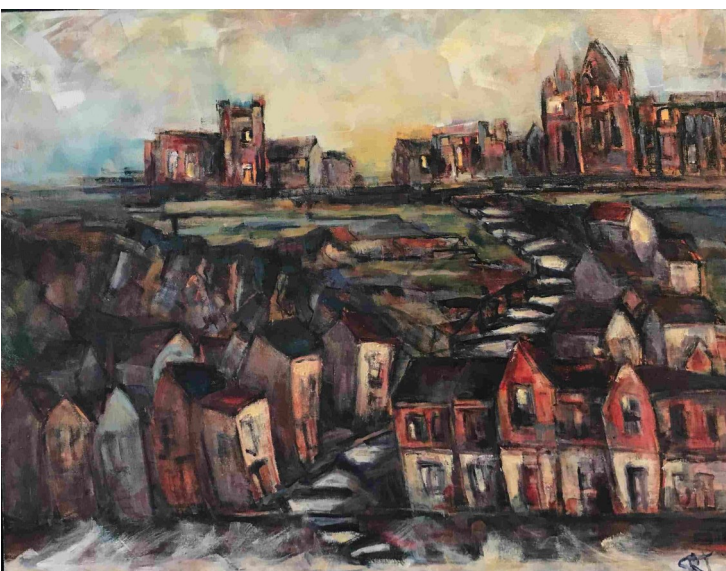
I think it is a pleasure and a privilege to belong to SCSA and to share with members the enjoyment of art in its many forms.

### Events for the Diary

Next month's demonstration on **Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> March** is by Steph Trethowan who will be doing a contemporary oil painting.

Once again, due to room availability, it will start at the slightly later time of **2.15 pm**.

**The Practical Art Day** will be on the following **Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> March**.



Steph is a contemporary artist based near Burton-on-Trent. She loves the scope of oil paint to create textural effects and finds that using brush and scrapers helps to exploit that potential. She likes to explore the boundary between figurative work and abstraction. Her work is influenced by Post-Impressionism and Fauvism.

<https://stephtrethowan.uk>

## The Spring Exhibition in May 2024

The days are getting longer and Spring is on its way, which means that our Spring Exhibition is on the horizon! The exhibition opens on **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May** and runs until **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May** in the Bedford Suite at Sutton Town Hall. Receiving Day is on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May. Exhibition schedules will be sent out at the beginning of April.

Unfortunately, the costs of hiring the Town Hall are rising, so in order to cover our costs, it has been necessary to increase the hanging fees. Fees for 3D work have also been brought into line with 2D work. The new fees are shown below:

Hanging fee changes Spring 2024									
	2D Work						3D Work		
	large	medium	small	un-framed	miniature		up to £75	£76-£150	Over £150
old fee	£8	£5	£3	£3	£2		£2	£3	£3
new fee	£9	£6	£4	£4	£3		£4	£6	£9

It is not too early to prepare your entries and make arrangements for framing if required.

**At the last Receiving Day**, there were a number of entries which were incorrectly framed or did not have adequate strings and fitments for framing. We did manage to amend some entries, but this was time consuming and we are unable to do so again. Any work presented on **Receiving Day on 3<sup>rd</sup> May**, which is incorrectly framed or does not have the correct hanging fittings, will be rejected.

Some members new to exhibiting their work have also asked for some guidance so a brief guide to framing is included in this newsletter. Committee members will be happy to help and advise and will be available at the **Art days on 17<sup>th</sup> February, 16<sup>th</sup> March and 20<sup>th</sup> April held at the Methodist Hall in Sutton Coldfield.**

**Please note that annual membership fees of £30** should always be paid in October or November after the AGM. The Society rules state that if fees are not paid by the 31st of January then we will assume that the member has resigned. Therefore a reminder is sent out in the middle of January. We are always grateful when members let us know if they are letting their membership just pause for a while. You are always welcome to re-join at a later time.

## Guide to Framing for SCSA Exhibitions

All 2D work should be presented for exhibition in a suitable frame.

The only exceptions to this rule are browser works, textile works and canvas works where the edges have been painted.

Frames should be robust enough to withstand hanging and be in good order. Potential purchasers will be deterred by a worn, damaged or untidy frame.

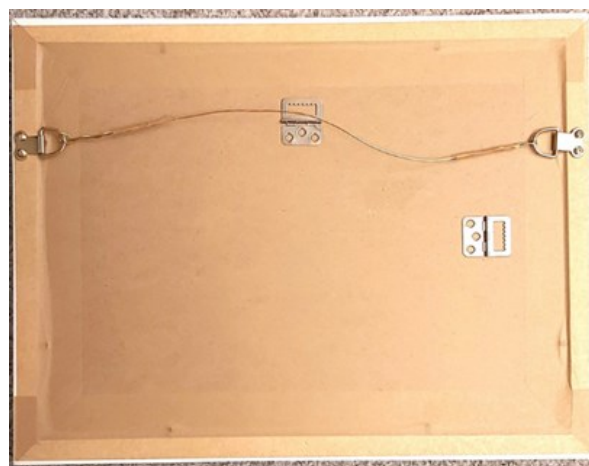


The backing board should be held in place with metal tabs and framing tape to ensure that it is secure. Framing tape also prevents dust and insects gaining access to glazed framed work.

Framing tape is available online or from retailers such as Hobbycraft, Cass Art or Vesey Gallery. Masking tape is not strong enough for securing backboards as it dries and comes away from the board.

**All 2D work whether framed, glazed, unglazed or unframed canvas should be strung for hanging using D-rings and either framer's cord or wire.** The D-rings should be fixed no lower than one-third of the way down the sides. Please ensure that the cord or wire is robust enough to support the weight of your work. D-rings and wire / cord are available from hardware shops and on line.

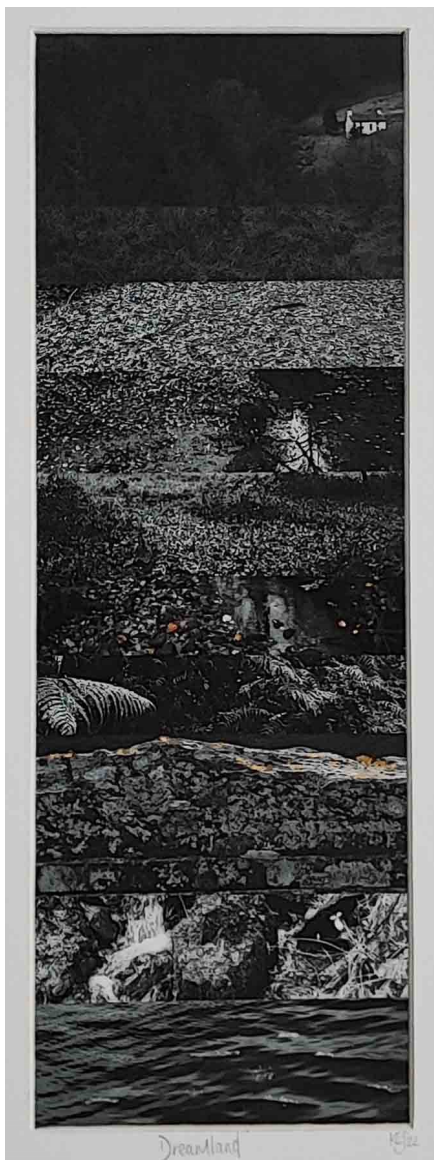
Many frames available online or from shops have hanging fittings such as metal clips attached to the back of the backboard. Unfortunately, we cannot use these with our existing exhibition fittings so d-rings and cord or wire are still required, as per the image shown.



If you are having difficulty in finding the correct framing equipment or are unsure how to complete the framing, please contact a member of the SCSA Committee who will be able to advise you. Alternatively, there will be Committee members at the Art Days who can help.

## Exhibition at Shenstone Library

Rachel David and Kathryn Sawbridge have a joint exhibition at Shenstone Community Library until **Saturday March 2nd**. Works on show include paintings, photo- and paper-collages, and textiles.



A textile by Rachel David,  
"Rockpool with sea anemone".

"Dreamland" by Kathryn Sawbridge, photo-collage.

**Tangent Textiles will be exhibiting at the NEC Sewing For Pleasure 2024 March 14-17th.  
Their stand is No. ZG19 in Hall 20.**

A number of Tangent Textiles members who are also members of SCSA are fortunate enough to have a stand at **Sewing for Pleasure in March at the NEC**. It should be a really good event for anyone interested in textiles.



**Please note that we now have an Instagram account.  
[www.instagram.com/suttoncoldfieldsocietyartists](https://www.instagram.com/suttoncoldfieldsocietyartists)**

## Lichfield Art Society—Spring Exhibition

Lichfield Society of Artists will be holding their Spring Exhibition at the Guild Hall in Bore Street opening at 1 pm on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March through to Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March, closing at 4 pm.

SCSA members might be interested to know that Shenstone Library Gallery will be holding a charity event in June this year. Similar to the event last August, artists will be invited to submit paintings on the theme of Wild Life and its vulnerability. An Artists Forum will take place on the 8th of June with talks and presentations by professional artists. Food and beverages will be free, funded by the library trustees.

Due to limited space, admission will be via ticket which will cost £5 with all the proceeds going to Staffordshire Wild Life Trust who are based in Rugeley.

More information on this will be available in due course.

## Demonstration by Carl Knibb for SCSA

Our February demonstration was an acrylic street scene by Carl Knibb. Carl showed his very energetic approach of blocking in and allowing the painting to evolve through his impressionistic style.

