



DAN April Photography Walk



On Sunday 10th April a group of members - **Julia Rollit, Lyn Sharp, Wendy Simmons, Helen Karakashian, Colin Jack, Beryl Quennell, Chris Walker, Alan Davey, and Rhys Jones** - spent just over an hour walking along the canal near Hanbury Marina.

Walking up the locks towards the Eagle and Sun provided an opportunity for some interesting photography including details of the lock gates. Sunset was expected about 8pm but there was no hoped-for orange glow in the sky. At the end of the walk Helen provided tea, coffee, and delicious homemade cakes. The perfect end to an enjoyable evening.



Call For Entries – Worcestershire Open Studios

Worcestershire Open Studios 20-29th August. Registration is now open for local artists until May 2nd. For WOS 2022 we are bringing our focus back to the main Open Studios August event. We are making changes which we feel will give artists more flexibility on how and when they take part. And for visitors this will mean being able to spread your visits over more days, or see more artists!

- Longer event – now over 10 days.
- More flexibility – artists can take part for one weekend or two, with optional additional midweek opening.
- Opportunity to visit other artist studios.
- Single registration process.
- Online web presence for each artist throughout the year.
- New updated website with enhanced features.

CALL FOR ENTRIES

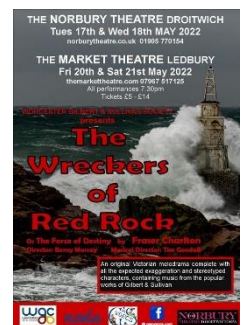
Worcestershire
Open Studios

www.worcestershireopenstudios.org.uk

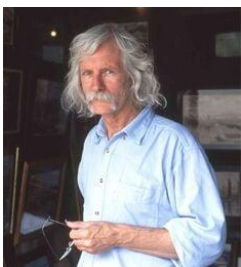
Registration will close on **Monday 2 May**. To enter and for more details go to our website www.worcestershireopenstudios.org

Events to come!

NORBURY THEATRE: The Worcester Gilbert and Sullivan Society is delighted to be returning to The Norbury in May. Using a selection of the beautiful music from the well-known operettas, this over-the-top Victorian melodrama with elements of pantomime humour, tells the story of the villain Maximillian Blackheart who sends a beautiful girl out onto the cliffs at night to draw ships into the rocks. The “spoils” are then collected by the village girls all unbeknownst to the (dozy) revenue men. Of course, there are babies mixed up at birth and a hero to save the day and a happy- ever- after conclusion. All to be enjoyed at the Norbury Theatre Droitwich on Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th May.



DAN ART DEMONSTRATION – Colin Jack



One of our members, Colin Jack, will give a practical demonstration about his Japanese style of art. This meeting will take place in **the Old Cock in Friar Street**. Colin works in oils, acrylic/emulsion and soft pastel and has done demonstrations and workshops for art societies for over 30 years. Colin likes to experiment and try out different things, from palette knife impasto in oils to flat areas of colour in emulsion. His subjects include seascapes, snow scenes, nocturnes, landscapes, flowers, still life, abstracts, figures, surreal moonscapes and most recently, the style of Japanese ukiyo-e woodblocks.

Further details will be sent to members by email nearer the [date](#).

DAN April Meeting – with Rachel Carter



Our guest speaker was sculptor Rachel Carter who has been commissioned to create a series of bronze Pilgrim Woman sculptures as part of the 400th anniversary of the Mayflower sailing. Rachel entertained us with a talk entitled “The Making of a Pilgrim Woman”. The session charted Rachel’s physical and inspirational journey in order to create the series of sculptures.

Rachel shared with us her Atlantic crossing, we listened to diary entries, heard Mary Brewster letters, William Brewster telling of his Pilgrimage, exploring of Harvard University and much more. The Rachel Carter Pilgrim Woman details can be found [HERE](#)

DAN Meetings 2022

- **Thursday 12th May** - Art demo by **Colin Jack** at the Old Cock at 7.30. more information above.
- **Wednesday 8th June** - En Plain Air followed by visit to pub
- **Thursday 14th July** - Art demo with **Lyn Davies**
- **August tbc** - Visit to Museum of Carpet, Kidderminster
- **Wednesday 14th September** - Poetry Evening led by former Worcester poet laureate **Nina Lewis** and International poetry winner **Colin Jack**
- **October 19th/20th** - Published crime thriller author **Carla Buckley**
- **Wednesday November 9th** - Workshop. Christmas wreath for door. **Amanda Coldridge**
- **Thursday 8th December** - Play reading and light refreshments

Exhibitions by Members

Congratulations to **Lyn Sharp** – a sale at Parks. At our usual venues **Mike Crockett** is exhibiting at **Parks Café** from 3rd to 31st May and **Wendy Simmons** is exhibiting at **The Button Tree** from 3rd to 31st May.

ART Assembly - Manchester

You’re invited to Art Assembly – a one-day festival of art and creativity in Manchester this summer, brought to you by Art Fund with some of Manchester's leading arts organisations. On 18 June, the whole city will be transformed into an art school, as artists and young people get creative across the city’s streets and arts venues. There’ll be lots to see and do, including murals, pavement art and a guerrilla photography exhibition. Find out more [HERE](#)

POETRY and PHOTOGRAPHY NOOK

Thank you to everyone who sent in their splendid poems and photographs. Well done all! Hopefully there is more talent out there and we are asking for more **PHOTOGRAPHS**. I just need your photographs with any information you wish to disclose, to show in the coming newsletters. Send by email, [HERE](#). **By 30th May**.

Clare Knighton sent in “I’m exploring a bit of



photography as well as my art so thought you might like this photo for the newsletter. It features a plant in my garden Dicentra - Bleeding hearts. The gargoyle is one of many in my garden. “

Rhys Jones sent in “A bum tree”.

Here is a photo I took last Christmas. I called it "A Bum Tree".



New DAN member Maureen Dew wrote *"I'm a bit shy about sharing my work but here goes....! I've attached two poems I composed in March*

I'm married, and my husband Glyn and I have 3 children and 3 young grandsons. We are both retired vicars and live in Cofton Hackett. As I have a compromised immune system we are still socially distancing - this has meant that over the past two years I've been able spend time writing, enjoying painting and learning more about art. Still very much a novice at both but I write, sketch and paint for pleasure and to illustrate various aspects of my life. I particularly enjoy life and portrait art, and keeping a nature journal recording the life at our local conservation ground and lake, and places to travel to in our caravan. Until I am able to attend live meetings, I will be joining DAN online events and following members inspiring creativity on Facebook.

Driftwood

Working with the grain
and barely a touch he
smoothed the shape

from nature's design
saw how the elements
sculpted a frame

broad sweeping arm
eye suspended over
an open palm

scooped from a bank
at the vernal equinox
of the Severn Bore

he told me how
the river once flowed
in the opposite way

was it before Doggerland
sank and left us adrift
or an earlier rift when

the climate created
catastrophic changes
and upended landscapes

I cannot recall his name
nor the precise history
of his lesson yet

What do you pack (27.2.22)

to take your children
on a long walk? Water
biscuits wipes loo roll
and a change of clothes
for the spills when
small hands grapple
with gloves, buttons,
zips and Velcro?

When your backpack
threatens to fray at
the seams, how do you
weigh up how long
under 5's can pull
their Peppa Pig suitcase?
What training have you
and they had for this?

Knowing it will be wet
cold and rough what will
protect their pink cushioned
soles more at home in
spiderman slippers on rugs?
Do you jettison the rituals of
washing hands cleaning teeth
creaming sore eczema patches?

Do you point out the wild
narcissus and white eagle along
the way as you would on any
stroll in spring or do you
keep their eyes away from
vapour trails and clouds
as the skies have lost their
former innocence?

How do you speak when you
are exhausted and they whine
'are we nearly there yet?' and
refuse to move on adopt
the non-violent action drop
on the well-trodden ground
tell-tale sign of a toddler
tantrum on its way?

Do you force a harshness into
your voice so they'll comprehend
a new regime or do you coax
them with soft bedtime words?
When they ask again and again"

Colin Jack wrote "I enclose paintings for the newsletter



Of Worcester cricket ground, one of the loveliest grounds in the country, in the shadow of the cathedral. Traditionally it was where the summer's touring team played their first match"

Oil on canvas 30x24 inches

I also enclose a cricket poem to go with them, about the great West Indian sir Vivian Richards, who retired in 1991.



Brief Encounter

For Vivian Richards, On His Last Tour Of England

One day now they will pronounce you
 Finished. Thirty-nine. Even you must fear
 To see the latest nonpareil step blinking
 From the pavilion gloom into the sunshine
 Like Lazarus, and you not dead yet.
 Death, of course, does not come into this
 Nor much else that can be said to matter.
 Do you dig ditches, pull teeth, drive a bus?
 You have not found a cure for cancer, nor fed
 One hungry mouth. You wield a wooden stick
 And hit a ball. Tragedy and Glory?
 No fault of yours, these subtexts to the scoresheet
 Language can be murdered like the English
 bowlers.

Yet what do I remember most
 From the past fifteen years?
 Two children born. An older generation
 Passing, dragging me reluctantly
 One rung higher up the ladder.
 I remember Venice, the pizzas by the Rialto
 Moonlight on the Firth of Forth
 A second honeymoon in Paris, better than the first.
 Career of sorts, Success and failure, People.
 A friend killed in a car crash.
 And I remember Richards, one Caribbean day
 Sending the ball into the crowd
 Like a spring swallow. I shouldn't, but I do.

I would have paid, I think
 To watch you walk to the wicket
 Like an Ethiopian king. Red carpet
 On the new cut green; crown of crimson cloth
 Sceptre of willow. Some men call a bat a bat
 And use it like a spade, Some become artists
 Delicate, with a blade in their hands.
 You wield the hammer like the blacksmith of
 Olympus
 With strokes that burn into the memory.
 Maybe, in the end, you were only an eye
 But what an eye! So rage, my hero,
 Against the dying of the light. Each day gets
 harder,
 Harder than the rest, but worth the fight.

And of course.. more photos from the Photo Walk



For the latest information visit: <http://www.droitwichartsnetwork.org/> on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/208713719174369/> e-mail tina.watkins@ntlworld.com