



DAN Virtual Exhibition



A big thank you goes to all the 30 DAN members who submitted a wide variety of artwork (paintings, sketches, photographs, sculptures, textiles, written work, spoken word, and music). **Rhys Jones** did a marvellous job of combining all the submissions into a video that lasts about 20 minutes. He says "I volunteered to create a simple gallery of artwork from our members. But when I received videos and sound tracks, I realised that I would need to create a video file.

VIRTUAL EXHIBITION

That was a steep learning curve but it was a real pleasure to create and publish the video". After a successful members preview, the video is now available for anyone to view (and perhaps lead to some purchases?). To view the video, click [HERE](#). Please add your thoughts in the REPLY box below the video. Since its launch our Virtual Exhibition was mentioned in [SLAPMag](#) magazine, and also in the Wychavon Arts Newsletter.

Given the high level of participation and widespread recognition, would members support a proposal to hold another virtual exhibition in the autumn where artwork could be put up for sale? A video would be accompanied by a catalogue giving prices, sizes, contact details for each artist etc. Please contact [Rhys](#) by email for detail.

Droitwich Camera Club

Droitwich Camera Club is alive and well and we have remained active throughout lock down, despite the challenges that all camera clubs have faced. We have taken advantage of technology and have invested in an annual video communications subscription which has seen us have several video presentations over the past few months with speakers from far and wide including France and Ireland, which we definitely could not have done before.

We have run regular 'lock down' competitions on a range of topics, the only rule being that the images must have been taken since March when the pandemic began. In addition, to



ensure that we remain engaged with our members, we have published a monthly Newsletter for the first time. Our members have also been active entering external competitions and the attached image of Amethyst Deceiver Mushrooms won Robin Couchman a place in the Worcestershire Wildlife Trust 2021 Calendar.



We are very much looking forward to our 2020-21 Season which starts on 7th September and although we are not able to meet face-to-face until further notice, we have a full and exciting programme of speakers, competitions and events which will take place via a Monday evening video presentation. For full details visit our website at: www.droitwichcamera.co.uk

To support you, our subscription fees will remain unchanged for another season and the usual weekly fee of £3 will be voluntary until further notice. For information about joining the club email info@droitwichcamera.co.uk

Droitwich Spa High School Writing Competition Winners

Two pupils from Droitwich Spa High School have proved they have the 'write stuff' with the announcement of the winners of a literary competition. After much deliberation and a rigorous process, the winning story in the Karen Moore Award for Creative Writing, sponsored by the Droitwich Arts Network, was won by **Grace Rogers** in year 12. **Martha Frapwell** in year 11 finished runner-up. The accolade was named after Karen Moore who was the school's deputy head for many years. Both Grace and Martha will be presented with a hard-back copy of Ross Armstrong's first book 'The Watcher'. Ross is a former Droitwich Spa High School student who is now a successful author living in London. Grace, as winner will also receive the Karen Moore Trophy and a cash prize of £100 kindly donated by the Droitwich Arts Network.

Karen Moore and DAN chair **Helen Karakashian** shortlisted the two pieces of prose and then Ross Armstrong decided the first and second place. Mrs Moore said: "Creative writing has always been close to my heart and after I retired, I really wanted to give something to the school that was for all of the students so that they show off their skills, creativity and imagination".

Ross added: 'I'm so glad the school held the competition despite recent events because I think these are really strong entries and it provides an opportunity that'll be really special for those that entered and indeed those that will enter in future. Now more than ever, we are in need of keeping our imaginations alive and broadening our horizons whenever we can.'

Helen said: "Droitwich Arts Network is delighted to be supporting this creative writing competition. It has been a joy to judge such high-quality writing.'

Re-opening Cafes – Park's Café and The Button Tree



Jo Morris

Park's Café: This week sees Park's Café participating in the Governments Eat Out to Help Out Scheme which means you get up to £10 off per person Monday-Wednesday. Due to social distancing measures, they would advise that you call (01905 776633) and book a table to avoid disappointment. At the moment Park's Art on the Wall is supplied by **Roger Ricketts** – his journey through art can be found [here](#).

Then on 18th August we will be treated to artworks by **Jo Morris** through till 15th September. To view her artwork on Etsy click [here](#).

Button Tree: Are also participating in the Governments Eat Out to Help Out Scheme which means you get up to £10 off per person throughout August (Monday to Wednesday) as well as enjoying tea and wonderful cakes! Not to mention the excellent artwork of **Ken Bell** who is exhibiting at the moment. If you need an answer to any enquiry please give the Button Tree a call on 01905 775256.



Ken Bell

DAN Upcoming Events

August: Watch this space!! Something special may be coming our way before the end of the month!

Wednesday 16th September: Show and Tell. If you would like to volunteer to be included in our September or any other Show and Tell event, please contact **Helen** via email [here](#).

DAN Website: Please remember to send Rhys any information you think may be of interest to other members and the general public on the DAN website. Visit www.droitwichartsnetwork.org to find out about everything!

Claire's Blog and an Opportunity to earn £500

Claire Hilton writes; over on our [YouTube](#) channel **Creating Space** have released a new techniques video with a start to finish example of homemade scratch pictures using oil pastels and acrylic paint (with a secret ingredient) which you can have a go at at home, great for adults and kids alike. Claire's full blog can be found on www.CreatingSpaceSessions.com/blog

Severn Arts is delighted to be partnering with Worcester City Council and Worcester BID on an exciting new project for the City Centre. The aim of the project is to inspire and energise residents and visitors in the City by installing imaginative artwork on vacant shop windows. They will commission a number of artists to create bespoke designs for the vacant shop windows across the City. **Deadline for applications is 9.00am on 14th August.** For further details please follow this link [Outdoor Gallery](#).

A fee of £500 per artist will be paid per design, exclusive of VAT. You are welcome to submit more than 1 idea but their priority is to support as many artists as possible during this process.

And finally... another opportunity

St Richards hospices' fundraising income has been hit by the pandemic as they have been forced to postpone events and temporarily shut their shops. To help, this November, they are hoping to hold an online auction, with artwork from a range of artists, celebrities and members of our local community. They say "this could be anything from an intricate water colour painting to a simple doodle. We won't provide artists with a theme; we just want you to let your creativity flow! All that we ask is the artwork is A4 size or smaller making it easy to deliver. We are hoping to have artwork back by the end of September so we can start promotion of the pieces, ready for the online auction in November."

Please post artwork to this address, **Kelly Johns, St Richard's Hospice, Wildwood Drive, Worcester WR5 2QT**

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