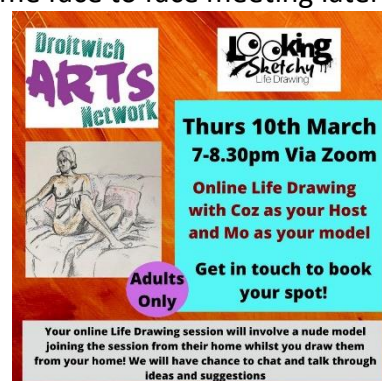


DAN Programme for 2022

We intend to hold the first part of the year on Zoom in the hope that we can resume face to face meeting later.

- **Thursday 10th March** - Our March meeting will be an online life drawing session. Participants are invited to join the session via Zoom (details will be sent to members a few days ahead).

Mo, a nude model, will be joining us from her home, as will our host Coz from Looking Sketchy Life Drawing. We will go through several different poses with the model and you will have the opportunity to draw them while sitting in your own home. Coz will lead the session and will be available to give guidance and discuss ideas throughout the session. At the end, members can share their artwork if they wish. Adults only please!



- *The cost of our meetings is met from members' funds, so to be fair to our members, non-members are asked to pay £5 to participate. But if your friends or family wish to join Droitwich Arts Network before 30 April, their payment of £5 will go towards their first-year annual membership fee. Annual membership is only £15 and as you know, members enjoy a range of benefits including opportunities to display and sell their work. If anyone you know might be interested please ask them to complete the simple form on our Website Contact Us page: <https://droitwichartsnetwork.org/contact-us/>*
- **Sunday 10th April** - Photo walk at sunset. Meet at 6.45 Chapel House **Rhys Jones**
- **Wednesday 13th April** – Woven sculptural pieces using a combination of ancient weaving techniques and state of the art digital technology. *Rachel Carter*
- **Thursday 12th May** - Art demo. **Colin Jack**
- **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

Museum of Carpet talk



On **Tuesday 15th March** there will be a talk at the museum on Art Deco designs from the archives. The ticket price is £10 per person and this price includes entry to the museum on that day too. The talk is from 10.30 until midday and will include being shown hand painted designs and being told stories about the artists behind the art work.

It sounds a really interesting talk. (We had an excellent speaker from the museum who came to talk to the Weavers Spinners and Dyers Guild members a couple of weeks ago.) Helen. Click [here](#) for more details

Exhibition Venues Wanted

DAN are actively working towards creating new exhibitions and to that end, we need your help! Please send us your ideas for artistic displays and more importantly... where we can display these.

With Hanbury Hall being a dim memory, we are in urgent need of suitable venues to display our artworks. These could include pubs, café's, churches, sports venues... anywhere with clear walls really! Please put your thinking caps on and help by asking anywhere you visit locally to see if they would be willing to show our art. Let Chris know [here](#) please.

DAN February Meeting – Wendy Simmons



Wendy at first explained her new Art Graf pigment blocks which are Inspired by traditional tailor's chalk, are rich, water-soluble blocks of pigment. They are extremely soft and provide artists with a wide range of shades depending on the amount of water used, from light, transparent tones to deep, rich, opaque colours.



They can be used undiluted to create drawing marks. When diluted, they act similarly to an ink, and they can be used as an entire block to draw or paint with a brush, similarly to how you would use traditional watercolour paint. Wendy went on to demonstrate an underpainting using them and progressed to show their versatility in full flower mode. A very interesting and new way of using colour. Thanks Wendy!

POETRY CORNER – MORPHING TO PHOTOGRAPHY NOOK

Thank you to everyone who sent in their rather splendid poems. Very interesting all! Hopefully there is more talent out there and from next month we are asking for **PHOTOGRAPHS**. I just need your photographs with any information you wish to disclose, to show in the coming newsletters. Send by email, [HERE](#). **By 27th March.**

Colin Jack sent in the following poem and says *"Attached poem 'moon' Blurb: Based on circle images (medals, thumbprints, O levels (for those who remember them), a lament for the optimism of the moon landings which came to nothing (though we may go back one day soon)"*

Moon

Dusty thumbprint on the sky.
A single clue
Was it left there
To attract our notice?

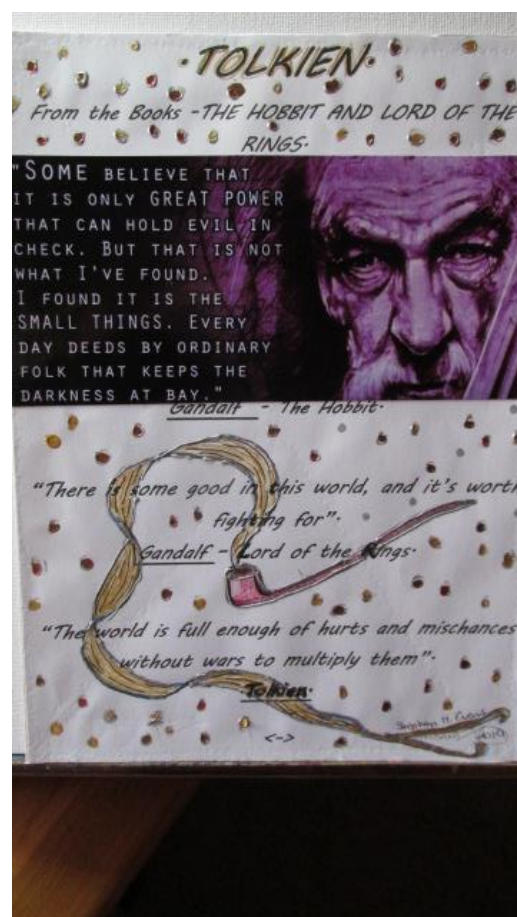
Just dark enough
To dim the light
Just bright enough
To light the darkness

Just far enough
To seem difficult
Just close enough
To seem easy

Just the right challenge
Like an 'O' level.
Were we being examined
And did we pass?

Years on, it looks small and dull
A medal from school prize day.
What do we do with it now
Where do we go from here?

Stephen Evans sent the following... *"Not exactly poetry but I include these wise words from Tolkien, perhaps appropriate for what is happening in the Ukraine. I did this in 2019 for one of Tamara's International postcard exhibitions displayed in the Droitwich Library. We were both so upset and disappointed when we discovered that someone had stolen it. Thought this would be an opportunity to display it again. "*



Alan Davey sent in the following “the best ever poem I have read was written in the visitors book by a visitor to St Andrew’s Brine baths, July 1889. The poem has been copied from the book ‘Droitwich Spa’ by Cora Weaver.”

Droitwich Spa

‘By a Visitor from Rugby’:
 There once was a man – I won’t mention his name
 It’s no one you’re likely to know.
 He was stiff in his joints, he walked very lame,
 His movements were painful and slow.

His doctor of course gave him physic and pills,
 He tried all the advertised “cures”
 And old women’s notions, that conquer the ills
 Poor rheumatic mortal endures.

He wrapped himself up in the warmest of clothes,
 Paid great attention to diet,
 Rubbed oil from his nose to the tips of his toes,
 And kept exceedingly quiet.

In vain was the lotion, the physic, the pill,
 He didn’t get better, but worse,
 Their only effects was to run up a bill,
 And lighten the sufferer’s purse.

At length a kind friend, (who had suffered for years
 And found great relief to his joy)
 Just whispered these few simple words in his ears,
 “Why don’t you try Droitwich my boy?”

The trial was made – I’m not going to say
 That the very first bath wrought his cure –
 But this I do say – That from that very day,
 His progress was steady and sure.

He stuck to these baths, both the swimming and hot,
 And behold, instead of his groans,
 He laughs and he chuckles, for every jot
 Is pickled clean out of his bones.

And now he is well, and returns to his home,
 To his wife and his bairns again.
 And if you should chance round that quarter to roam,
 You’ll perhaps hear him sing this refrain
 “A dip in the briney” the poet may sing
 “A plunge in the deep rolling sea”
 In the Baths of St Andrews myself I’d fling,
 The briney of Droitwich for me.

(Private and confidential)
 My wife wants to send me to Droitwich again,
 But not for rheumatics this time,
 She thinks that the brine baths might act on the brain
 And cure me of making bad rhyme.

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