



DAN Library move publicised

DROITWICH **Standard**

A story about our move out of the Hub and into the library was recently published in the local Droitwich Standard newspaper by our Patron **Tristan Harris**. The report publicised that at the DAN AGM a move to a Community Interest Company was

taken. It explained that Droitwich Arts Network Community Interest Company continues to be a “not for profit” organisation.

The article went on to say, “After more than two years in St Andrews Square, the Hub closed and Droitwich Arts Network secured an area in Droitwich Library until the end of 2026. The group said, with an average of 400 visitors every day, many people would see the banner. Also, a rolling presentation lasting about 20 minutes is usually running on a large screen showing many of the members’ activities. This includes visual arts, performing arts, photography, media, written, music and crafts.

The network provides opportunities for artists to display or perform their work, and for the public to participate in various projects and events. Members are drawn from a wide area including Redditch, Birmingham, Bromsgrove, and Worcester.” Contact www.droitwichartsnetwork.org



DAN Exhibition Space

Droitwich Library - Three Displays



Every month you will have a chance to get near the top of the list to exhibit your pictures in Droitwich Library. Our exhibition area is very visible and attractive.

You can send an email to rhys@photomaestro.co.uk asking to be added to the waiting list for the wall exhibition, the space under the stairs, or the large easel. The fee for exhibiting on the wall or on the large easel is £3 per picture for the month. At the moment there is no fee for exhibiting under the stairs but a £5 fee for the whole space (as many pictures as you can fit in) will be introduced from 1st April. Submit your request quickly and avoid the charge!

The current exhibition will be totally replaced by the next selection during the evening Drink & Doodle on Tuesday 3rd March.

Our exhibition in March in Droitwich Library will consist of pictures by **Rosie Philpott** (under the stairs), **Claire Tooley - Seaside Scene, Dream Catcher**; New DAN member **Archana Raveendranath - Girl and Peacock, Flowers and Vase, Indian Sassy Girl**; **Wendy Simmons - Chasing Sunsets on Droitwich Canal, Paddling at Salwarpe**; **Erika Rosales - Skomer Island, Immensity** (wall display) and **Frank Cody** (on the large easel).

Come in and take a look at this month’s display. Most of the pictures are for sale!

Corbett Medical Centre – 18 Displays

There are two rooms where we exhibit pictures. One room can exhibit approximately 10 pictures; the other room can exhibit approximately 8 pictures. The hanging system is the same as we used in the Hub. Artists can book one room or both. During March **Rolf Zink** will be exhibiting again in the **large Waiting Room** at **Corbett Medical Centre** and **Simon Wilday** will again be exhibiting in the smaller room.

If your pictures are for sale, you should create a small poster (A4 or A5 size) giving your contact details or attach a card to each picture. At present there is no fee to exhibit. Please contact Derek at derekwebster20@aol.com

Poetry Corner

Tuesday 17th February was Chinese New Year of the Fire Horse and Eclipse of the sun and Pancake Day too! And to celebrate **Karen Read** sent in this lovely topical poem.

Ring of Fire-Year of the Fire Horse

Fire Horse is bold with courage and movement ready to leap.
 The 17th and the solar eclipse are you ready for a peak?
 Waiting in anticipation the world is watching in adulation.
 One of the natural events we can look on with admiration.
 Sun crossing moon, moon crossing sun.
 The journey into the ring of fire has begun.
 These natural events taken for granted.
 Sun crossing moon, moon crossing sun.
 The seasons are changing, the world is warmer, leaders and regimes come and are gone.
 Through glass eyes we watch and protect our vision and cannot wait for our moment and imagine.
 Sun crossing moon, moon crossing sun.
 A minute at most as the darkness falls.
 The world is silent and everything has stalled.
 Holding our breath as we watch, trying to feel its presence.
 Millions of photos cannot capture its living essence.
 Sun crossing moon, moon crossing sun.
 A ring of gold and a heart of black they hold onto each other and want no other.
 The universe forces pull them apart.
 A quick word between each as they look below.
 The moon says, "Can they see us?" the sun replies "I don't think so no "
 In the moment blind to us they embrace.
 Now onto the opposite ends of the earth, they race.
 A kiss between them so brief.
 Sun crossing moon, moon crossing sun.
 As the earth drifts, without this celestial meeting, we would not exist.
 The beautiful ring of fire starts in darkness.
 Let the fire horse lead us again into the light.

DAN Membership 2026



Membership reminders are sent out automatically by MemberMojo which is the online membership management software we use to administrate DAN. It can be used to join, update, renew and create membership cards easily from a PC, tablet or phone. You login to <https://membermojo.co.uk/droitwichartsnetwork> using your email address.

For those who pay by standing order, this may be the time to check the DAN account details as these changed during 2025. Please ensure you make all payments to our new account at Lloyds Bank. The details are: **Account Name** "Droitwich Arts Network Community Interest Company"; **Account Type: Business; Name: Lloyds Bank Account Number: 63555968 Sort Code: 30-54-66**

2026 Programme

Drink and Doodles are now in the library.

- Tuesday 3rd March** – Evening Drink & Doodle, downstairs in the library 6pm-8pm Members only
- Monday 30th March** – Daytime Doodle in the Library Meeting Room, 1pm-3pm. Visitors Welcome.
- Tuesday 7th April** – Evening Drink & Doodle, downstairs in the library 6pm-8pm Members only
- Monday 27th April** – Daytime Doodle in the Library Meeting Room, 1pm-3pm. Visitors Welcome.
- Tuesday 5th May** – Evening Drink & Doodle, downstairs in the library 6pm-8pm Members only
- May** – No Daytime Doodle.
- Tuesday 2nd June** – Evening Drink & Doodle, downstairs in the library 6pm-8pm Members only
- Monday 29th June** – Daytime Doodle in the Library Meeting Room, 1pm-3pm. Visitors Welcome.
- Tuesday 7th July** – Evening Drink & Doodle, downstairs in the library 6pm-8pm Members only
- Monday 27th July** – Daytime Doodle in the Library Meeting Room, 1pm-3pm. Visitors Welcome.
- Tuesday 4th August** – Evening Drink & Doodle, downstairs in the library 6pm-8pm Members only
- August** – No Daytime Doodle.
- Tuesday 1st September** – Evening Drink & Doodle, downstairs in the library 6pm-8pm Members only
- Saturday 12th September** – Painting Workshop with DJ – 10-2pm in the Community Hall
- Monday 28th September** – Daytime Doodle in the Library Meeting Room, 1pm-3pm. Visitors Welcome.
- Tuesday 6th October** – Evening Drink & Doodle, downstairs in the library 6pm-8pm Members only
- Monday 26th October** – Daytime Doodle in the Library Meeting Room, 1pm-3pm. Visitors Welcome.
- Tuesday 3rd November** – Evening Drink & Doodle, downstairs in the library 6pm-8pm Members only
- Monday 30th November** – Daytime Doodle in the Library Meeting Room, 1pm-3pm. Visitors Welcome.
- Tuesday 1st December** – Evening Drink & Doodle, downstairs in the library 6pm-8pm Members only
- December** – No Daytime Doodle.

CASE Exhibition Coventry

Venue: Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Jordan Well, Coventry CV1 5QP

When: Friday 20 February – Sunday 19 April 2026



The CASE exhibition is the Coventry Art Societies' 17th exhibition at the Herbert Art Gallery & Museum.

The show presents a diverse and inspiring collection of artworks created by members of art societies and art groups across Coventry and Warwickshire, featuring paintings, sculpture, ceramics and more.

Tina Watkins is over the moon to have had two of her paintings selected for this fabulous exhibition. To say it is diverse does it an injustice; it is so varied in scope, type and colour. I do urge you to visit if you are in the area.



Worcestershire Arts Events

DROITWICH EVENTS

Droitwich Heritage Centre

Droitwich Heritage Centre has recently undergone a major facilities upgrade and refurbishment and it is now open for you to discover the fascinating story of Droitwich's famous salt, explore interactive displays, and step back in time to see how our town has evolved through the years. It's the perfect indoor activity for curious minds of all ages!



Part of the upgrade is the provision of a new showcase space.

DAN member **Chris Everton** was honoured to be asked to display his work as the **first exhibition** in this space.

The exhibition runs until 22nd May 2026.

Find Chris on <https://www.chriseverton.co.uk/>



WORCESTERSHIRE EVENTS

Watercolour Workshop

Venue: Artyfacts Gallery and Framing,
56 Broad Street, Sidemoor, Bromsgrove, B61 8LL.

Date: 28th March 10am to 2pm.

Artyfacts is a family run art gallery and picture framers in Bromsgrove. Visit our gallery in Bromsgrove today to see a wide range of magnificent art created by talented local artists throughout the West Midlands. We're also on hand for all your framing needs.

Artyfacts are very excited to welcome **Brendan McMahon** to their studio on 28th March for his 'Whispering skies and washes' watercolour workshop.

Brendan is a watercolour artist based in North Worcestershire, he says "My art is very much about losing myself in the moment, that is when I get my best and most dynamic results. A form of mindfulness takes over as I dance with the pigments to create organic, naturally formed marks on paper and other natural materials."

Book early to avoid disappointment! Limited places available. Call today for more information: 01527 577449

Artyfacts also wish to announce that local artist & tutor Richard Crabtree will be beginning an Oil Painting course from Tuesday 17th March! The classes will be based at their shop in Broad Street. Contact us for more details, and to reserve your place.

St Richards Hospice

enquiries@strichards.org.uk



Could you, or someone you know, make and donate garden items to raise funds for our care?

We're appealing to crafters to create wooden and fabric items for our marquee at the RHS Malvern Spring Festival in May 🌱

Think bird tables, bug hotels, aprons, bags - and anything else suitable for the garden! 🪸

Donations, clearly labelled for the Malvern Spring Festival, can be dropped to any St Richard's shop before Friday, 17 April.

Please include your contact details within the packaging so we can ensure you receive a thank you.

We are grateful to everyone who makes and donates items to raise funds for our care 💙

Susan Birth – Bevere Gallery Art Charity Prize Draw

Venue: Bevere Gallery, Bevere Lane, Worcester WR3 7RQ

Timing: Upto 28th March donate and collect a draw ticket: Tue to Sat 10am to 4pm.

Prize Draw: Sat 28th March at 2pm

Date: 7 February to 28 March 2026

Art that Inspires; Giving that Matters

Experience the beauty of art and the power of giving.

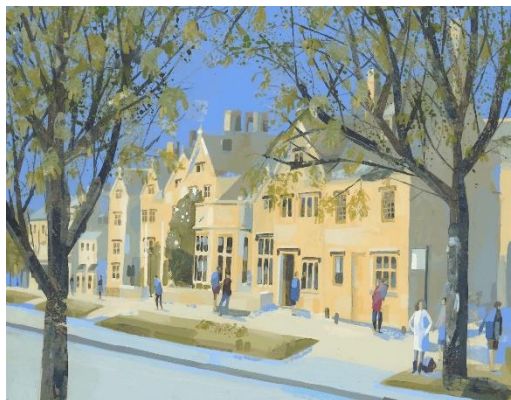
Visit Bevere Gallery and Studios up to 28 March to donate to Acorns Children's Hospice and Worcestershire Breast Unit Haven and collect your draw ticket from the gallery or any of the six open artist studios for a chance to win one of SEVEN ORIGINAL ARTWORKS donated by the resident artists and the gallery. The 7 artworks will be on display.

The prize draw will take place on Saturday 28 March at 2pm (winners must be in attendance with winning tickets). Any enquiries please contact Kim Taylor at Bevere Gallery.

kim@beveregallery.com



Broadway Arts Festival



A ticket has become available for our Cotswold Village Scene Mixed Media Workshop with [Claire Henley Art](#) on Sunday March 22nd (10:30 am - 4:30 pm) at Willersey Village Hall.

During this studio-based workshop we'll be looking at some of the beautiful buildings of Broadway or the surrounding area and will be capturing them in a contemporary way. Claire will be working from a photograph to guide you through some of the layering techniques she uses in her work which include painting, collage creation, cutting, gluing, tearing, scratching, and spattering.

Suitable for intermediate painters who like to experiment with acrylic and mixed media, we'll be working on one painting during the day, unless you prefer to work on a series of studies. It will be a relaxed workshop, with plenty of freedom to work at your own pace on your chosen subject matter.

A professional artist for 40 years, Claire exhibits and licenses her work widely. She is the current Artist in Residence at Broadway Arts Festival. Snap it up at: <http://www.broadwayartsfestival.com/.../cotswold-village.../>

John Singer Sargent: an American in Worcestershire

Saturday 17 January – Sunday 14 June 2026 | Worcester City Art Gallery and Museum

Showcasing the work of John Singer Sargent, one of the most celebrated portrait painters of his time, this exhibition explores his role within the Broadway colony of artists in Worcestershire. His summers spent in the county saw the American artist break free from the conventions of Salon-style studio painting to experiment with Impressionism and work 'en plein air', producing famed works such as *Carnation*, *Lily*, *Lily*, *Rose*, painted in a Broadway garden.

The exhibition includes works not seen before in Worcester, with loans from Tate, British Museum, Ashmolean Museum and Houghton Hall.



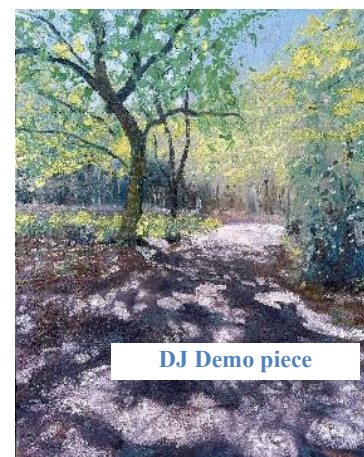
The exhibition reflects the importance of the Broadway colony of artists on Worcestershire's artistic heritage; the circle of avant-garde creatives included Frank Millet, William Morris, Lawrence and Laura Alma-Tadema and Edward Elgar. The exhibition is open from 10am to 4pm Tuesday to Saturday, and 10am to 3pm on Sunday. Last entry is one hour before closing. [Book exhibition tickets](#) Or call the telephone box office on [0333 666 3366](tel:03336663366).

Spotlight on a Painting workshop with DJ in Warwickshire

Winter sun on the Sheepwalks Workshop in oils



I first met DJ (David Johnson) when he came to give a demonstration in oils to Droitwich Spa Art Club. As part of our usual curriculum, a couple of weeks later we all paint something in the style our demonstrator showed, we then display them and all members vote for their favourite. DJ has such a way of teaching that is helpful, informative, and friendly. I had never used oils, being a mainly pastel painter, but he inspired me to spend rather a lot of money after trying The Works best (not) oil products. I worked rather hard, and got very, very messy, found the smell of some products awful and other not so bad. I found oils to



DJ Demo piece

be easy to blend and gave the ability to change and over paint and soon I was a convert! I created my DJ interpretation and to my utter surprise I won the display!!! I contacted him and asked that he give my other art Society, the Coventry and Warwickshire Society of Artists, a workshop – luckily our committee agreed too!

Flushed with confidence, I signed up to his CWSA workshop in oils at Stoneleigh in January. We, me, Phil and our dog Trixie arrived early and it was really great to meet old friends and members I hadn't met before. As we live an hour or so away, it's not very often I get to see everyone. We had been given a list of colours and instructions to pre gesso our canvas – which I had done, but of course it wasn't properly dry! DJ said it would work ok so off we went! DJ is approachable and fun, a brilliant teacher too.

He painted along with us but demonstrated first and then moved around the room, encouraging all and told us to embrace 'happy accidents' and repair unwanted results. His flexible approach to tuition actually encourages disruption to custom by encouraging risk taking. All is done with smiles, encouragement and flair. I thoroughly recommend him for any and all your art clubs and he hosts many painting holidays – the first is in Devon. Find him on <https://www.artbydj.co.uk/> **Tina Watkins**



STOP PRESS

Art by DJ <https://www.artbydj.co.uk/> has been booked to give all members and non-members of DAN a 4-hour acrylic workshop on Saturday 12th September 10-2pm in the Community Hall, the costs will be in the region of £18 for members and £20 for non-members. This is a really good opportunity for an enjoyable session. Contact me to prebook your place [here](#) as places will be limited.

ALL ARTS ALLEY

Our All Arts project is continuing in 2026 and we really do thank everyone who sent in their splendid artwork photos this year, for this and all editions. If anyone has an idea for this spot, please do let me know – in the meantime please send in **ANY ART/CRAFT BASED WORK**. I just need photos of your work with any describing information, to show in the coming newsletter. Send email, [HERE](#). **By 29th March.**

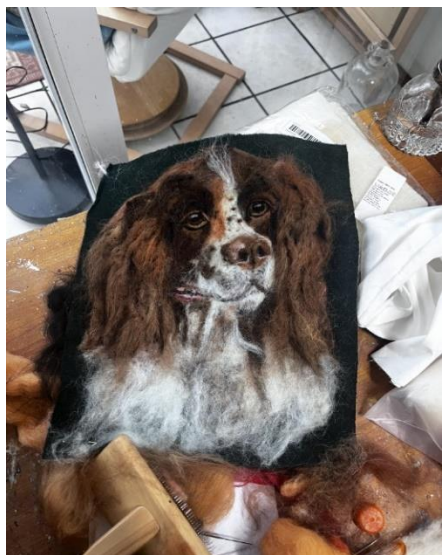
Tina Watkins says "A sketch of my mom and dad from photos taken long ago before they married."



Sheena Howarth sent in this cheerful painting and says "I wanted to create something really bright to cheer us up on those grey days! Hope it might..."



Lyn Sharp sent in this lovely felted work and says "Just found this in studio and thought I should finish it or is it finished? Springer felted in merion wool."



Chel Walton sent in these paintings and says "My 2 pics from Monday mornings DSAC session!"



Watercolour and pen and oil pastels!! Quite pleased with the result!!

Sue Cook sent in these very different works and says "The bowl is prefixing at Worcester Porcelain Museum when u3a Art Group visited in January. The 2 drawings were done at u3a Art session. Our first still life session. Just to add. The u3a Art group meet 2nd and 4th Tuesday every morning at Emmanuel Church Blake Avenue 10am - 12.00. First 2 sessions free."

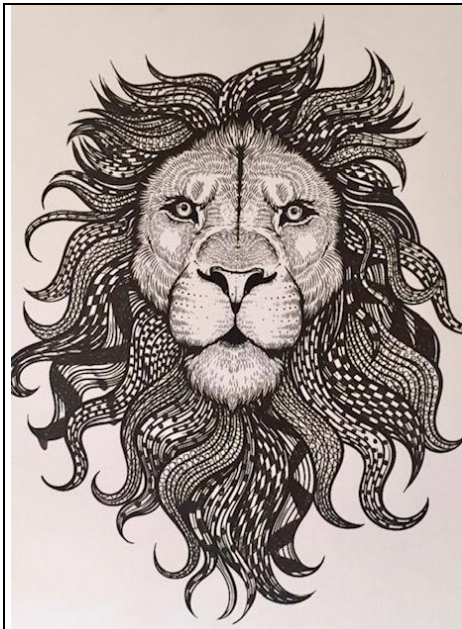


Chel Walton sent in these interesting works and says "Some of the activities I've done with U3A recently. 2 still life, watercolours. The pot is the unglazed version done at Worcester porcelain museum!"



Claire Tooley sent in these paintings and says "Please see attached my painting by numbers/diamond painting: 1. Tree of Life: 2. Diamond Angel Wings: 3. Seaside Scene: 4. Dream Catcher The Tree of Life and Diamond Angel Wings are presents for my friend. The Tree of Life is a mother's day present for her mum and the Angel Wings are a Christmas present to my friend. The Seaside Scene was a Christmas present to me and the Dream Catcher was one that caught my eye."





Pauline Wheeler sent in this compelling painting and says *"Here attached is my entry for the March newsletter. I screen printed the lion and then added the black pen work by hand*

On Tuesday I painted my very first transparent watercolour and include it too"



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