



### Junkanoo Doodles Day

**Derek Webster**, our venue exhibition organiser, liaised with Westmead Care Home in Droitwich to create ideas to brighten up the home in November. The plan was to decorate the home with very bright coloured art with a Bahamas theme such as Junkanoo art work. (See below)



**Derek** brought some art materials to our Daytime Doodle so that we could get creative. People also came with bright, coloured card and feathers so we could add to our pieces. No flags were made but lots of other items were made and Kate from the home came with a resident of the home to help out. There were several very generous donations of materials that have given a real boost to the project. Many thanks for all the contributions.



**Derek** will also bring in some art materials to the **evening Doodle on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November** for us to get creative if you'd like to join us. We had great fun on Monday doing it and would like to do one more session to make more decorations.

Junkanoo artwork is art inspired by the Junkanoo festival, a vibrant Caribbean carnival celebrated in the Bahamas. This art style is characterized by elaborate, colourful designs featuring fringed paper costumes, feathers, and masks, often capturing the energy and rhythm of the festival through various mediums like painting, film, and mixed-media. Examples include large-scale murals, moving image installations, and various prints, photographs, and digital art.

### DAN October Meeting - Improving our Images

In April Andy Checketts showed us ways to take better photos on mobile phones. His suggestions applied to both iPhones and Android phones.

This session held in Droitwich Library during October, delivered by Andy Checketts and Erika Rosales, showed how to improve photos taken on a mobile phone.

It covered cropping (trimming photos down to show more detail), duplicating photos, making dark photos lighter, brighter, generally sharper and more colourful. Since the ways to process and improve your images differ depending on the type of phone, Andy showed how to improve images on an iPhone while Erika showed how to carry out the same functions on Android phones.



### DAN at Remembrance Sunday

**Helen Karakashian** has kindly offered to create the DAN wreath from the donated poppies (from members). Any left-over will be put towards next year's wreath.

#### What is Remembrance?

Our Remembrance Sunday encourages residents and communities to come together to honour those who have served and remember their sacrifice of all those that have defended our freedoms and protected our way of life. We will remember them.

We remember the sacrifice of the Armed Forces community. We pay tribute to the special contribution of families and of the emergency services. We acknowledge innocent civilians who have lost their lives in conflict and acts of terrorism.

**When:** Sunday 9th November 2025 **Where:** Victoria Square, Droitwich Spa, Worcestershire, WR9 8DS

**Time:** Parade to start 10.35am, Service to start at 10.54am



## DAN 2025 Programme

- Doodle Tuesday Evenings 4/11 and 2/12 6pm to 8pm in the open area downstairs for Drink & Doodle.
- Daytime Doodle Mondays 24/11 1pm to 3pm in the meeting room upstairs.
- **CANCELLED Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November** - Sara Ingleby-MacKenzie, presentation

## Tuesday Evenings Drink and Doodle

Our members Drink and Doodle sessions will as usual, be held in Droitwich Library. With the next evening session being held on **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 6-8pm in the open area, downstairs.**

Please be aware that the library is accessed with your library card in the evening as it is unmanned. If you don't have a card, don't worry... just knock the window for our attention and one of us will let you in. Please check out the dates below. We'd love to see some new and familiar faces. **Wendy**



**Doodle Tuesday Evenings 4/11 and 2/12 6pm to 8pm in the open area downstairs for Drink & Doodle.**  
**Daytime Doodle Mondays 24/11 1pm to 3pm in the meeting room upstairs.**

## Rosies' Mural – St. Peters First School

St. Peter's First School commissioned me to create a large mural based on their new mission statement "God Chooses Ordinary People to Do Extraordinary Things".



It depicts the children holding up the words with St. Peter's School on the left and St. Peter's Church on the right.

The children visit the Church throughout the year.

It was extremely large and took 5 solid days of painting to complete. I had great fun completing it. It was a nice change to paint on a large scale and use a different medium. Instead of my usual watercolour and fine line pen, I used tester pots of emulsion paint and permanent markers!



It now hangs in the main hall where assemblies are held so the children see it on a regular basis. St. Peter's was my Primary School and I have lots of happy memories from my time there.

It's amazing that they asked me to do it! **Rosie Philpott**

## DAN Exhibitions

DAN currently has two venues where members can exhibit their works. They each have their own charm and best of all there is no fee at any of them.

**The Library:** It is only a small space behind the staircase but over the last year members have shown it is really possible to make great displays. Certainly, it will get your paintings seen by a lot of people.

**Corbett Medical Centre:** Here we exhibit on the back walls of both waiting rooms. Hospitals now recognize the value on our mental health to all of displaying art. It is a great way to promote art and enrich surroundings.

If you are interested in exhibiting (Christmas is coming and sales of art peaks at this time of year!) contact Derek [derekwebster20@aol.com](mailto:derekwebster20@aol.com)

### CURRENT EXHIBITIONS

During November **John Dugmores'** paintings will be exhibited in the **both Waiting Rooms at Corbett Medical Centre**. **All proceeds from sales will be donated by his family to the British Heart Foundation.** During November, **Tina Watkins** will be exhibiting at **Droitwich Library, Victoria Square** in the small area below the stairs. This is a no fee slot and ideal for just showing a few works. Please contact Derek Webster to book your venue. [derekwebster20@aol.com](mailto:derekwebster20@aol.com).





## Christmas Card Art Competition



I know it's too early but hear me out...

I'm pleased to announce this year's Christmas Card competition. I'm looking for a budding artist of any age to help make this year's Christmas cards extra magical! The only criteria: keep it Christmassy 🌲 The winner will receive a £50 voucher so it's worth a go to help boost that Christmas spending money!

All submissions to be in by November 15th to  
[Dbirch@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:Dbirch@worcestershire.gov.uk)

## Christmas Crackers anyone?

Member **Pauline Wheeler** creates the most exotic Christmas Gift Cracker set and says "Here's a couple of pics of the various luxury Christmas gift cracker sets I make. You can pop a small gift inside."



I've been selling these sets and individual crackers for some years

now and they are much in demand.

The green one is a new style I've tried out using fabric."

The crackers come as a kit of 6 to make your own reusable crackers and

best of all, Pauline is happy to give **10 per cent off for DAN members!**

Contact **Pauline** via facebook [here](#) or email [here](#)

## Local Arts Events

### DROITWICH EVENTS

First we have the **Christmas Family Fun Day** on **15th November** which is being run through the Droitwich Friends and Businesses C.I.C. It's going to be a great event. An event run by the Droitwich community for the Droitwich community so please do come down and support our local businesses and of course the Raven Heartbeat Group!

The year draws to an end with the annual "**Christmas Lights Switch on Event**" **Saturday 23rd November**. Starting from 12.00 noon, there will be a Santa's Grotto, provided by the Droitwich Lions Club at St Richard's House. The Worcestershire Farmers Market together with other seasonal stalls will operate on Victoria Square, along with the Fun Fair in the vicinity of Victoria Square and St Richard's House. There will be a Community Advent Celebration at St Andrew's Church of which everyone is welcome. Back in Victoria Square, entertainment will include a performance from the Salvation Army Band, dance performances by ENTW9 and SB Danceworks, and I- Sing Choir, leading up to the traditional countdown and lights switch on at 6.00pm with the Mayor, and Santa.

### Christmas Craft Fair with FREE tea, coffee and refreshments!

A message for those DAN crafter members, May Perkins says "I am organising A Christmas Craft Fair on 15th November at Stock & Bradley Green Village Hall, Redditch. B9 RW. Two people have at the last minute dropped





out and I wondered if any of your crafters would be interested in having one of our tables. They cost just £15. We have just two spaces. We've worked really hard at promoting it and feel we have a lot to offer.

I have attached our flyer for the event, we are offering free tea, coffee and refreshments for everyone, a goody bag for every child and have a range of home-made cakes and mulled wine to buy, as well as some wonderful local crafts." For further information go to their Facebook page [here](#) or email [paintbox2122@yahoo.com](mailto:paintbox2122@yahoo.com)

## Droitwich Folk Club News

Hello again fellow DAN members. The last few months have been really exciting at the Folk Club; at which statement I'm sure that there are a few of you out there, scratching your heads and thinking, HOW?

Well, firstly it is a little-known fact that we attract international artists as well as semi-professional musicians and songwriters from all over the UK. Don't believe it? October, saw our good friend and professional musician, Miriam Erasmus, join us again on her annual trip to the UK from South Africa. West Country duo, 'Silvington', (Tricia Moore and John Connor) came and performed along with our own Evesham-based singer /songwriter and regular contributor, Colin Pitts as well as our regular home-grown talent. You can find YouTube videos online for each of them with three of Miriam's appearances at Folk Club by searching, Droitwich Folk Club and checking out the playlist.



Our offshoot band the Salties, aside from performing at the Rik Mayall Festival recently (photo attached courtesy of Alan Meyrick u3a), have been performing in and around the area, and I'm proud to say have been mentioned in the MS Society Autumn newsletter for their fundraising achievements. Additionally, they are performing at the Edward Winslow event on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2025 in St Andrews Shopping Centre.

On the subject of upcoming events, one of our members, Rob Brunt, is in concert at the CVS Centre at the Old Library on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2025 starting at 7.30pm. The event is free to attend, but Rob will have a donations box in order to cover the hiring costs. He is a very experienced and talented musician and singer, who will be playing a range of different styles and is well worth a listen!

Meetings of the Folk Club for November are on Thursday the 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at the CVS Centre, start at 7.00pm & continue until 10.30pm. You don't need to be a musician or singer; you can just come along just watch or even sing along with us. The venue has full disabled access and heating; so, you have no excuses!

Hope to see you there. For further information contact me on [droitwichfolk@yahoo.com](mailto:droitwichfolk@yahoo.com) **Malcolm Beckett**

## Edward Winslow Events

### 27-29th November 2025 Edward Winslow Thanksgiving with 27th November 2025 Edward Winslow Day, 28th Winslow Friday & Winslow Awards and 29th Street Market & Music

Edward Winslow Thanksgiving 2025 preparations are underway after event organisers revealed the success of its debut last year. American Thanksgiving Day can be attributed to a meal that Droitwich-born Edward Winslow supposedly arranged. The event, will see the American flag raised, the statue dressed in St Andrew's precinct and a Thanksgiving dinner. A market and music stand will also be installed in the town during the event.

#### Knitting for Thanksgiving.



DAN members have been busy knitting vegetables and other items and these were added to the net ready to be put on the Edward Winslow statue for the festival from 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> November.

**Karen Read** and **Anna Peters** added further items to the display at the dabble day event in October.





The completed net will be placed on the statue on Winslow Thanksgiving day.

We also have had an offer of help from outside the DAN community and they have created some beautiful knitted items to be included in the display.

### **Historian Rebecca Fraser will be at Droitwich Library on Thursday 27th November at 11.30am to discuss Edward Winslow.**

If you are interested in attending this free event, please book your place by emailing [drilib@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:drilib@worcestershire.gov.uk) or phoning 01905 822722.

A member of staff will be available on the day to let you into the library.

A really good book written by Rebecca Fraser is 'The Mayflower Generation' and chapter 1 starts the history in Droitwich:

*'... Edward and Magdalen Winslow's eldest child was christened Edward on 20 October 1595 over the medieval font in the ancient church of St Peter in Droitwich. They went on to have four more sons - John, Gilbert, Josiah and Kenelm - and a daughter, Magdalen.'*

*'..... Nevertheless, Edward Winslow became a well-placed member of the town's hierarchy. His signature can be seen on deeds of sale of salt vats belonging to various well-off families who had gentry status, such as the Wildes, the Wyeths, the Bucks and the Gowers.'*



### **Edward Winslow Thanksgiving Awards 2025**

The Winslow Thanksgiving Awards 2025 recognise those who go above and beyond to serve our community. The awards celebrate those remarkable individuals and groups who make Droitwich Spa a better place to live, work, and grow.

These Winslow Thanksgiving Awards shine a spotlight on the volunteers, groups, and everyday heroes whose efforts often go unnoticed, but never unappreciated.

**The Awards evening will be Friday 28th November at the Droitwich Spa Community Hall, England** 🇬🇧

## **Christmas Craft Fair**



We're just under a month away from our very popular Christmas craft fair - join us at Lower Smite Farm to kickstart your Christmas shopping (or finish it off if you're very organised) whilst supporting local craftworkers and wildlife at the same time 🎁

**When: Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November**

**Time: 10am until 4pm**

**Where: Lower Smite Farm, Smite Hill, Hindlip, Worc, WR3 8SZ**

<https://www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk/whats-on>

## **WORCESTERSHIRE EVENTS**

### **Barbourne Artists Christmas Fair**

**Venue:** St George's Church, St George's Square, Barbourne, Worcester, W1 1HX

**Timing:** Friday 3pm-7pm / Saturday 10am-4pm **Date:** 21 November-22 November 2025

Worcester Open Studios say, take a look at some of the fantastic events and exhibitions our members are taking part in. These are run by our members rather than Worcestershire Open Studios so please contact them directly with any questions!

Browse and buy from a unique selection of beautiful art and gifts created by five Barbourne artists: Caroline Hall, Felicity Osborne, Jane Arthur, Margaret Powell and Cherrie Mansfield.



You'll find a range of pieces to suit a wide variety of tastes and budgets including original paintings and textiles, prints, coasters, place mats, cushions, jewellery, mugs, notebooks, greetings cards, key rings and more.

If you're looking for a piece of art, thoughtful gifts for family and friends, stocking fillers or a treat for yourself this is the perfect place to find them. We look forward to welcoming you.

## Creative Art Showcase - Craft Market at the Artrix

8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> November

Join us for the most inventive, exciting and immersive event yet created by The Creative Art Showcase team.

From the new refurbished venue of the Artrix Theatre this will be explosively different and encompass:

- A carefully curated selection of artisan stalls, including leather, textiles, jewellery, ceramics, hand produced glass, locally produce including food and drink. A must for all those early stocking fillers!
- An outside market zone with hot food and a seating area also featuring seasonal outside goods and gifts
- An indoor Craft – book an experience zone, including painting, pottery, geode smashing and many other activities, book as a family, or treat yourself! Bookings open soon.
- An afternoon of Community Performance from Halftail Productions with Artrix Panto, Got to Sing Choir, Theatre Train and many other local Groups take to the stage to entertain you all afternoon.



Totally new for 2025 – Virtual Reality comes to you. Don't wait book now. Encompassing world exploration: - fly over the North Pole and through the Northern lights, wade through the jungle in the Amazon, explore major cities you choose the venue! Create your own virtual masterpiece with Tilt Brush an art lovers dream.

Why not book a luxury VIP package and enjoy a fabulous, curated and hosted experience with the best seats in the house, a backstage experience and a meal and drink package all inclusive.

**Family Tickets/NHS Tickets: £50 per 4 tickets - shows as £12.50 per ticket, must buy 4.**

## Artists Alley Worcester



Welcome to the first artist alley pop up stall for young artists in Worcester! The alley isn't open every day but you can find out what's going on, on their Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/artistalleyworchester/>

We are looking at expanding Artist Alley Worcester!

Are you a local business that can facilitate an artist alley which would house stalls for small artists? Please get in touch with: [artistalleyworchester@gmail.com](mailto:artistalleyworchester@gmail.com).

Looking for artists for the next artist alley partnering with @speakvolumesfestival simply message: [artistalleyworchester@gmail.com](mailto:artistalleyworchester@gmail.com) with what dates you are available out of the two: 6th December and 13th December (you can even apply for both) it costs nothing to apply and payments of £10 per artist will be sorted out later.

## SPOTLIGHT ON – New Member Alison Humphries at The Gallery

Dalishbakes At The Barns Rural Business Park has recently opened a fabulous new



gallery as part of their thriving café. **Ali** who owns the café, is a keen amateur artist who loves art and couldn't pass up the opportunity to open The gallery when the space became available.

Showcasing local artists & talent; The Gallery has a plethora of work, displaying many mediums from Charcoal to pastel, watercolour to oil & digital to photography (plus much more) – there is certainly something to catch everybody's eye!





Set in the countryside location of Tardebigge with free onsite parking, The Gallery is part of The Barns Rural Retail and Business park. As well as having a designated gallery, The café has also started displaying to enable customers and visitors a taste of what is in The Gallery. It has been well received and we are in the process of a marketing campaign to get more people to know about us.



We welcome enquiries from all new artists and our Gallery can also be used as hire for workshops.

In 2026 we are opening our calendar to have guest artists come and paint in our Gallery, for people to be able to speak directly with you – should you be interested we welcome your interest. Contact Ali [here](#)

We also have an exciting opportunity on the barnyard!! We have now made one of our newly renovated units into a pop up shop which will be ready and available from the 1st November 2025. The space is 160sqf / 8ftx20ft, has a nice glass

frontage, with ample free parking outside & internet access. Ideally we are looking for interest from artisans & businesses who have a good following and need a temporary base/outlet in a beautiful rural setting conveniently situated between Redditch & Bromsgrove. Onsite we have various local businesses, including a busy café & giftshop. Visit our website for more information on our site [www.thebarnsvillage.com](http://www.thebarnsvillage.com)

## ALL ARTS ALLEY

### NEWSFLASH BACK TO ALL ARTS – but could it be Halloween inspired??

Our All Arts project is continuing and we really do thank everyone who sent in their splendid artwork photos for our summer theme, however, for this and future editions we will be looking for all arts. 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 28<sup>th</sup> November.

**Lyn Sharp** sent in her usual fantastic creations but this time a bit scary! She says *“I’ve been searching for scary artwork but don’t have too many pictures which are ‘Halloweeny’ but here’s a couple if you use your imagination could fit the criteria!”*

The girl’s face using soft pastel has a hidden scary undertone, those dark shadows around her eyes look sinister!

The beautiful little village church at Elmbridge, collage using small pieces up cycled denim fixed onto mount card. This has a Creepy feel to it as the wind blows the tree bends and birds (could be bats) sweeping overhead!

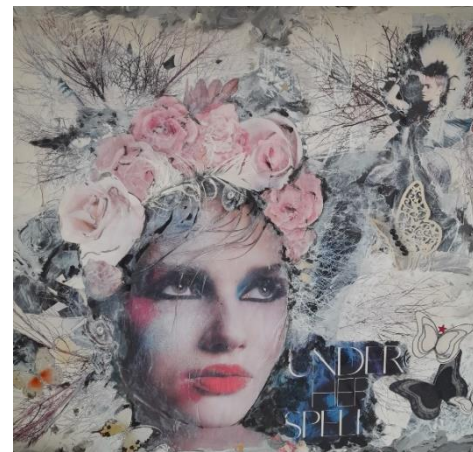




**Tina Watkins** sent something that could be construed as HALLOOWEEEEENN inspired....



**Valerie Kerridge** sent in this excellent collage and says "I started by simply adding bits and pieces to the canvas having no idea of the end result. Eventually it started to look quite interesting and added a cut out lovely face from a magazine. As I continued it started to look quite beautiful but also quite EIRIE....can you spot the wicked witches casting the SPELLS?"



**'UNDER HER SPELL'**

**Chel Walton** sent in these lovely images for Halloween and says "Here are three photos for the newsletter. The first one is pumpkins in the style of Yayoi Kusami. Second one is a little Halloween doodling and the third one is something I am working on at the moment! Pleased with the drawing but am nervous about adding colour yet!!!"



**Colin Jack** sent in two of his excellent Japanese style paintings and says "Flowerscapes in my Japanese style. One on our Drive. Both acrylic on canvas 30x24 inches"

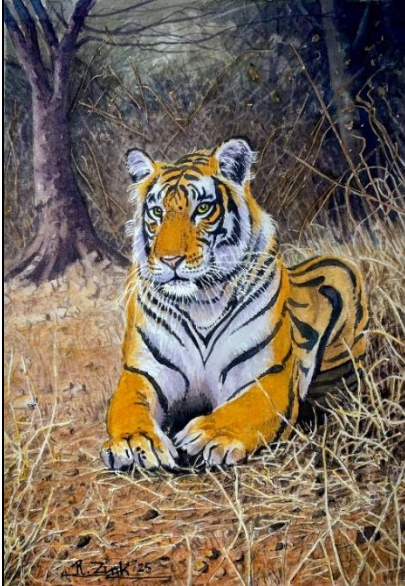


**Sue Thomas** sent in this colourful photograph and says "Forever Autumn 🍁🍁"





**Rolf Zink** sent in these very excellent watercolours and says *"These are four water colour paintings which I did earlier this year. These are my first attempts at painting tigers. I really enjoyed the subject matter, and experimented with applying masking fluid to enhance the grasses in the foreground. I wanted to keep the background details out of focus, as they were in the photographic images I used. This was necessary because of the limited colour pallet within each picture."*

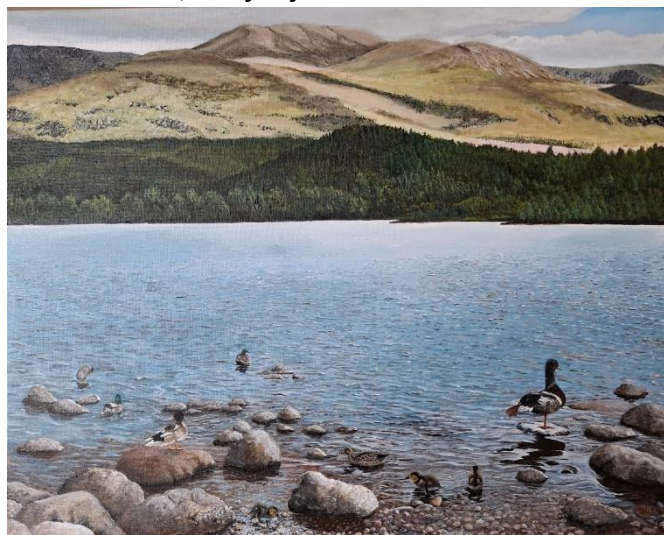


**New member Rob Webster** sent in this lovely autumnal study and says *"Here is just one picture...the first I have sent in as a member. I am an amateur that's for sure and I just paint because I enjoy it."*

*I am still settling into Droitwich but hope to join in some events in the future. Not a lot to say about it really...I took a photo of some flowers we were growing in a pot and it's the bee that prompted me to paint it. "*



**Peter Hawkins** sent in this beautifully detailed painting and says *"At the end of June, we visited friends who now live in Newtonmore, not far from Aviemore in the Scottish Highlands."*

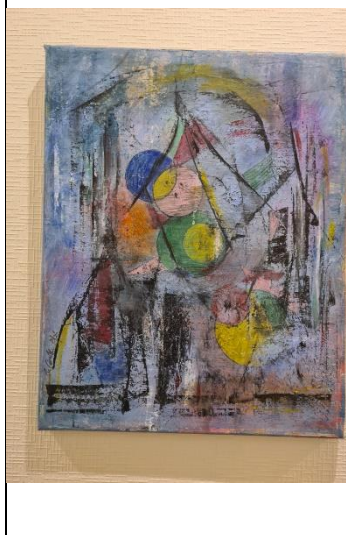


*Whilst there. we naturally had some outings in the area; many of my photos are material for the future. This picture is of Loch*

*Morlich with the Cairngorm mountains in the background. I discovered that I did not have a single photograph of the scene I wished to paint. The result therefore references around 5 different photos, but the main influence is the feelings of space and peace that I experienced there."*



**Susan Cook** sent in her latest project and says “Both of the attached are practice pieces and acrylic on canvas mark marking with charcoal.  
 The smaller ones were completed following an online workshop. Again acrylic but on mixed media paper  
 The final pic is of a 'painted pot'. Completed at Worcester porcelain museum.  
 Booked online.”



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