Droitwich Arts Network News

November 2026



DAN Art Exhibition in Droitwich Library During October 2026

AN EXHIBITION of 85 colourful pictures was on display in the Gallery Room at Droitwich Library during October.

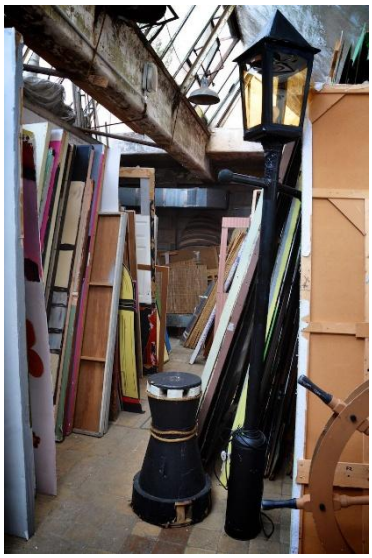
The artwork curated by DAN showcased the effort of 25 of its member artists.

The collection boasted an amazing and vibrant mix of styles and colours and the exhibition was free to view. Chairman, **Rhys Jones**, said: “This is the first large exhibition of our members’ work since the Hub in St Andrews Square closed last year. I am delighted that we took this opportunity to allow the public to view, and possibly buy, good quality artwork at affordable prices.”



Several paintings were sold, amongst them new artist **Cheryl Walton** who was delighted to have her work appreciated.

DAN Norbury and Nosh Event



We were invited by The Norbury Theatre to “Peak Behind the Scenes" and what a peak it was! The Norbury is situated inside Norbury House, an Art Deco building which started life as a luxury hotel - thought to rival even the most luxurious premises. The life of the building as a hotel was reasonably short-lived, it having being used as a military hospital in WWII.



We started off in the lobby which was once the hotel kitchen, then split into two groups and everything clearly explained by Alan and Sheila. We then moved into the theatre and into the Crush.. which is an area where the audience gathers. We were then directed upstairs into the skylight which is a small intimate stage used for dress rehearsals and small events such as the Rik Mayall comedy shows. We were starting to marvel at the size of the theatre, only further gaping once we reached the stage and backstage area. We then were taken down to the workshop and down to the half cellar where some props are stored. All totally fascinating. Many thanks to the Norbury for their hard work and enthusiastic information.



Then afterwards we crossed over the road where we were served a full traditional buffet, at the Old Cock. A most enjoyable evening for all.

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DAN in the Library in November

During October DAN held an exhibition in the Gallery Room therefore members' pictures were not displayed on the wall downstairs. The space under the stairs was taken by **Alan Davey** who displayed some interesting ceramic items and paintings.

Cheryl Walton will be displaying six paintings on the DAN wall during November and **Tina Watkins** has the space under the stairs however, nobody has booked the large easel in November.

The library wall waiting lists are for:

- Pictures to hang on the wall - A maximum of 9 pictures each month. Work from more than one artist provides a mix of styles. This is **FREE** to exhibit for the rest of the year!
- The large easel - One large picture. This is **FREE** to exhibit for the rest of the year!
- The area under the stairs - As many pictures as you can fit in the space. This is **FREE** to exhibit for the rest of the year!

  All work can be shown as for sale with a price. Your contact details will be displayed so that buyers can contact you directly. If you make a sale directly with a buyer, there is no commission. If the sale is arranged through the library, the commission is 25%+VAT (30% in total).

Please contact **Rhys Jones** with information about pictures you would like to exhibit in coming months. Mobile 07787 227 390



On 3rd November DAN will also host the regular **New Moon Monthly.** Life is busy, noisy and relentless. New Moon Monthly is a calm space to slow down, breathe and make something – whatever that looks like for you. Ideal for those managing anxiety. stress, or difficult times. **Do join us on 3rd November at 6-7.30pm. The theme is Sparks in the Dark.** There are two ways in:
Wax resist: Draw with white wax then wash dark paint over the top.
White ink on black paper: Sparks, stars and bare branches in white on dark card.
Choose one or try both. The two layer well, so a finished wax piece can take fine white detail on top.
The beginners' watercolour session will be there as usual. You are also welcome to bring your own project.
It is free and all materials are provided. Please book your place by replying to this email or writing to **newmoonmonthly@gmail.com.**

Mews Care Home

Since late in 2024, **Derek Webster** has been working with a group of residents who have formed an art group. Some of their work was displayed in our area of Droitwich Library during October.
You still have a chance to see it as it will be taken down on the evening of Tuesday 2nd November**.**



DAN Exhibition Space

Droitwich Library - Two Wall Displays and a Large Easel Display

Please reply to Rhys via email to rhys@photomaestro.co.uk with information about pictures you would like to display on the library wall and easel during December. Each picture needs the Title, the Price and the orientation (portrait, landscape or square). Pictures to be hung on the wall need string across the back and cannot be displayed without this. **Remember, it is free to display in these three areas downstairs.**

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. Artists can book one room or both. During November **Chris Everton** will be exhibiting again in both **Waiting Rooms.** At present there is no fee to exhibit. Please contact **Derek** at derekwebster20@aol.com to exhibit.

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DROITWICH LIVE

This new company has been formed to create a Music and Arts Festival in July 2027. It is separate from Droitwich Arts Network but we are very much involved, and **Rhys** is one of the directors of the new company.
Participants do not need to be members of Droitwich Arts Network, so tell your friends and family about it. To get involved people need to register their interest (without commitment) on the website www.droitwich.live. Registering on the website ensures you will receive emails going forward.
There is also a Facebook Page with the name Droitwich.Live.

2026 Programme

New Moon Workshop and Doodlers are now TUESDAYS in the library.
Contact Newmoonmonthly@gmail.com to attend.
Tuesday 3rd November – Changeover of pictures exhibited, and New Moon Monthly / Doodles at 6.30pm
Monday 30th November – Daytime Doodle in the Library Meeting Room, 1pm-3pm. Visitors Welcome.
Tuesday 1st December – Changeover of pictures exhibited, and New Moon Monthly / Doodles at 6.30pm
December – No Daytime Doodle.

January AGM

We are delighted to invite you and your plus 1 to the AGM of Droitwich Arts Network Community Interest Company, which will be held during January to discuss our future programme, the library and anything else related to DAN. There will be a hot buffet served to all. More info shortly.

Spotlight on Droitwich Folk Club

Droitwich Folk Club News

Hi everyone & hope that you are all managing to tolerate the sudden downturn in the weather with its attendant lack of heat.



Just to remind you that the Edward Winslow Festival runs from 26th to Saturday 28th November 2026. We are proud to say that the 'Salties' will be performing in St Andrews Square on the saturday for the 3rd year in succession.

This year will see the 1st public peformance of the song. "Saints & Strangers' that we wrote specially for the event. The song tells the story of Edward Winslow leaving England aboard the 'Mayflower' in 1620.

If you would like to hear the song & watch the accompanying video, it is on YouTube & can be accessed by searching 'Saints & Strangers' on the site or using the following link: SAINTS & STRANGERS (THE MAYFLOWER STORY)

This song was written for the 1st Edward Winslow Day in Droitwich Spa in 2024. The Salties have had the honour of performing at the event since then. The song details the journey of the Pilgrim Fathers in 1620 from Plymouth Sound to the New World.

Worcestershire Arts Events

DROITWICH / BROMSGROVE EVENTS

Edward Winslow Festival



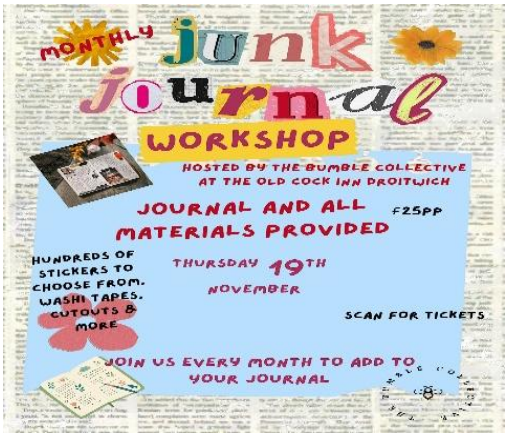
Edward Winslow was a prominent Pilgrim Father born in Droitwich Spa, Worcestershire, on 18 October 1595.
As a passenger on the historic 1620 *Mayflower* voyage, a signatory of the Mayflower Compact, and a three-time Governor of Plymouth Colony, he is one of Droitwich's most historically significant figures. His early life in the town was deeply rooted in its local salt-production trade. You can visit a bronze sculpture of Edward Winslow designed by artist Sara Ingleby-Mackenzie. It features him taking his first steps onto a granite replica of 'Plymouth Rock'.

To honour him, the Droitwich Spa Town Council organises an annual Edward Winslow Thanksgiving / Edward Winslow Day festival. Held to coincide with US Thanksgiving, the festivities include:

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- American Flag Raising: The US flag is raised outside St Richard's House by the Mayor.
- Statue Dressing: The bronze statue in St Andrews Square is traditionally dressed for the holiday.
- Community Events: Live music, historical talks, Thanksgiving-themed meals, and civic awards (such as the Winslow Endeavour Award) are hosted across the town.

Junk Journal Workshop



When: 19th November 7pm

Where: The Old Cock Inn, Friar Street

Special offer: Bring a friend with you for free. Add to your cart to get two tickets for the price of one.

Ready to get creative? Join our Junk Journal workshop where you'll turn everyday bits and bobs into a super cool, personalised journal.

It's a fun, hands-on experience perfect for anyone who loves crafting & saving memories.

No fancy skills needed — just bring your imagination and get ready to make something uniquely YOU!

A journal will be provided & a folder to keep your items for the next workshop safe. This will be the first of a monthly meet-up where we will add to our journal each time & see it grown! - we will have tons of materials for you to use to personalise your journal, your way, washi tapes, stickers, glue, fabric, paper and loads more!

Cosy setting for a cosy craft, meet new people - join our hive !

For more information about DWIG please contact group leader David Wornham, Tel. 01905 775840 or *flexicase@gmail.com* Ron Hawkins For DWIG, **From £14.25** **Get tickets**

WORCESTERSHIRE EVENTS

Reflections at Worcester Art Gallery

Saturday 12 September 2026 – Sunday 3 January 2027



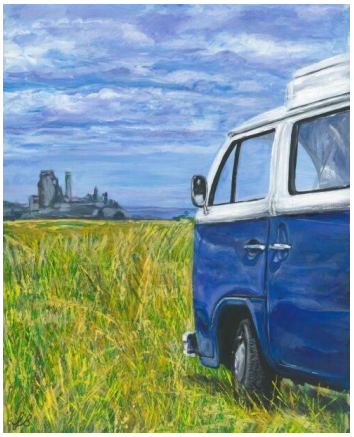
Blackbirds Singing to Me Across the Severn, 2004, Kurt Jackson

An invitation to immerse yourself in the fluid beauty and immense power of water. Featuring works from Worcester City's own collection as well as high profile loans from national collections and works by contemporary artists, *Reflections* inspires the imagination and reminds us of our responsibility to protect the seas, rivers, streams and waterways that are vital for our future.

The exhibition is open Tuesday to Saturday, 10am – 4pm, and Sunday, 10am – 3pm. Last entry is one hour before closing. Tickets are required for this exhibition and are on sale now. Find out more and book now.

Worcester Society of Artists' Annual Exhibition

Saturday 7 November 2026 – Sunday 3 January 2027



The Art Gallery and Museum has hosted the Worcester Society of Artists annual exhibition ever since the Society was founded in 1947. Members come from a wide range of backgrounds with different levels of skills, experience and styles; some are lifelong artists while others have only recently come into art. The exhibition celebrates their shared passion for art, creativity and their support for fellow artists. This is a selling exhibition, all sales support the artists and the Art Gallery and Museum.

The exhibition is open Tuesday to Saturday, 10am – 4pm, and Sunday, 10am – 3pm. Last entry is one hour before closing.

Free entry. Plan your visit to Worcester City Art Gallery and Museum.

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SAVE THE DATE – FUTURE EVENTS

Watercolour Group proposal

John Evens would like to run a regular (monthly or bi-monthly) watercolour group for DAN members to be held at the central town library during the Libraries Unlocked evening hours. These sessions will be informal and untutored; however, he will be happy to give guidance to a small number of beginners.

We could work in the gallery room – we would book the room in advance if there is sufficient interest.

Johns initial idea is to work as a group in stages towards a finished painting with the reference image being chosen by the group from a selection, or, from a member supplied photo. Please feel free to offer your own suggestions if you are interested.

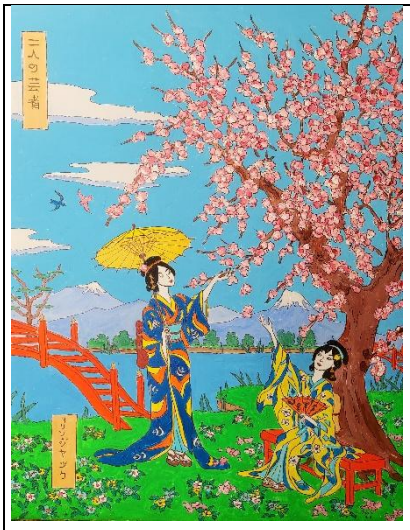
DAN can only supply a very limited amount of watercolour materials, therefore individuals will be expected to provide their own. Please contact John here if you are interested.

Christmas Card making at DAN Group Member Droitwich Spa Art Club

Our own **Lyn Sharp** will be showing us how to create Christmas Cards at the Art Club at the **Community Hall from 10-12 noon on Monday 16nd November**. All welcome to attend for free if a DAN member, but £3.00 if not. Cards and stickers are included but you will need to bring your paints. Please email me to let me know you're coming here.

ALL ARTS ALLEY

Our All Arts project is continuing and we really do thank everyone who sent in their splendid artwork photos, 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 describing information, to show in the coming newsletter. Send an email, HERE **by 28th November.**



Colin Jack sent in these bright and cheerful paintings and says "*With the world going to Hell in a handcart, I lift my spirits by paintings bright colourful pictures* "



Tina Watkins painted this recently, another in pastels.



Sue Thomas sent in this lovely flowery photo and says "*Photo Name: Soft Pastel-Taken in Melbourne. Australia in 2020*"



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Rob Webster sent in this colourful and unusual painting and says "*Included below is my painting which is titled " The Silent Passage"…trying to suggest the mysterious unknown…shapeless and awkward figures in procession heading to light."* 	**VACANT!**

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