



December Editorial – the year in review



We hope the Christmas season finds you happy and healthy. Jacqui and I started the new Brushstrokes Bulletin in May and we had a lot of fun with its production. Here are a few of our CWCA highlights for you to remember.



- **April** began with a Jan Gay workshop who had been an inspirational tutor who gave great advice.
- **May** saw Nancy Upshall installed as our new President after the retirement of Jane Powell who sadly died during July. May also was the time of our 106th Annual Art Exhibition will be held at East Lodge Gallery with the highest number of sales for some time, followed by GDPR with which everyone complied.
- **June** began with Warwickshire Open Studies with over 270 artists taking part many of whom were our members. The Talisman Theatre also had our ongoing exhibition on in June and several works were sold.
- **July's** event was Pascale Bigots Pastel Workshop which was both interesting and entertaining.
- **August** was the month of Art in the Park 2018 and what a festival it was with 180 artists, 17 musicians and bands, food and workshops in abundance. August also saw our first En Plein Air session for some time with an excellent 3 hours of painting opposite Kenilworth Castle.
- **September's** Tom Shepherd workshop was well attended and members created a variety of subjects all with Tom's able assistance.
- **October** began with Estelle Robinson's 'paint along' workshop which was fun and informal.
- **November** saw Cliff Vince very unusual sculpture workshop which many attended and enjoyed. Paul hadn't realised just how much dust would be made however!
- And **December**, finally.... Christmas is upon us and the Christmas lunch is awaiting you.

Many of you sent in ideas, articles and snippets which we very much appreciate. Do carry on with this and we will look forward to seeing you all in the new year. Happy Christmas all!

It's the CWCA CHRISTMAS Lunch

This year's Christmas lunch will be held at the **Clarendon Arms, Kenilworth** in their downstairs Snug Room on **Friday 14th December from 1pm**. Their Christmas Menu is £19 for 2 courses and £22 for 3 and your choices and a £5 deposit are required by 6th December to secure your place. There is a Car Park next to the pub, it's a Pay & Display but there is a 3-hour limit so please be aware of this if arriving early. Do come and meet your fellow artists and have a well-deserved break from Christmas shopping!

Last Month's Workshop



This was Cliff Vince's first workshop, as well as our first ever stone carving workshop, so we really didn't know what to expect! Cliff started by telling us about the properties of various stones and the basics of carving, with an emphasis of how 'not hard' it is. He explained about the importance of pre-planning your design, with plenty of examples for us to choose from, before letting us loose on the stones.

Initially, it was hard work, what with the cutting of the stone, then filing then working on the detail. People were soon 'glowing' and muscles were aching. But despite this, the workshop was very enjoyable, people were very enthusiastic as well as helping each other along. Cliff made sure he spoke to everyone, giving tips and advice.

However, it was in the last half hour or so when Cliff got out the magic coconut oil that we started having our 'wow!' moments! The oil somehow turned a dirty lump of stone into a gorgeous smooth translucent sculpture! Seriously, you had to be there! To finish



Uthaya's carving

off, Cliff mounted the sculptures onto small plinths so that everyone had a finished piece to take home. All in all, a surprisingly enjoyable workshop. Paul Chokran

Exhibition information from Nancy

Whistler and Nature. Exhibition at Compton Verney. Oil paintings, works on paper and objects explore the quarrelsome late Victorian artist's relationship with the natural world, in the context of his family's



background in industry and the army. Most people are familiar with the exquisite portrait of his Mother and his Nocturnes, particularly Nocturne Blue and Gold. Open until December 16th.

Healing Arts Exhibition at Walsgrave Hospital. On Friday November 23rd the Healing Arts Winter Exhibition was launched at Walsgrave Hospital. The work of 14 artists are displayed in various areas of the main hospital and Myton Hospice. A guide to the artists and the location of their work can be picked up at the information desk in the main entrance and at the reception desk at the Hospice. The exhibition continues until about Easter 2019. **Exhibit your work or run a Creative Workshop Contact Emma Linnane, Arts Co-ordinator on 024 7696 8338 emma.linnane@uhcw.nhs.uk**

Coming CWSA events

Christmas Lunch will be held at the **Clarendon Arms in Kenilworth** on **Friday 14th December from 1pm**. Their Christmas menu has been sent out and you need to send back the form by 10th December latest.

New for 2019 - 'Drop-in' Sessions. Starting in January we are going to be holding 'drop-in' sessions at a venue in Earlsdon, Coventry, once a month alternating between Tuesdays and Wednesdays. We will be open from 1pm until 4pm, where members (and guests) can drop-in at any time to meet each other, have a chat and a coffee and share their artwork. Further details and a map in the next issue of Brushstrokes.

Fish & Chips lunch, will be held on **Friday 25th January 2019**, 12.30 - 3.00pm at Stoneleigh Village Hall.

Virginia Murphy will be running a mini workshop in February – full details of both to be sent out shortly.

Exhibition Call for the Talisman Theatre

6th December at 10.30 am. Again, the same date as the monthly coffee morning. Collection of unsold work from the previous exhibition plus hand in. Please send submissions in the first instance to **Jacqui Smithson** jacqui.a.smithson@gmail.com with details of your piece which should include: price, title, medium and a high-quality image. **Members will be able to submit one piece of work each with a maximum size of approx. 100cm x60cm. Hanging fee £3 per piece payable by cash on handing in day.** Any questions regarding either of the exhibitions to Jacqui via email

Warwickshire Art – What's on Locally

[Leamington Art in the Park Festival.](#) The new flyers are now available at East Lodge and from Art at St Nicholas's House ready for sharing and sprinkling at any art or craft events that you may be attending. Artist applications will open on December 15th - Feb 6th for the festival on August 3rd & 4th 2019.

LSA The LSA members show is on from 28th November until 6th January at East Lodge Gallery. This is a marvellous opportunity to see a selection of their work and to buy a unique Christmas gift.

The Farthing Gallery is a contemporary Craft Gallery and workshop space. It is set in the beautiful old 'High Street', Kenilworth just a stone's throw away from the Historic Kenilworth Castle. Selling high quality British designed and made, craft and art work.

What's on at the Talisman, Kenilworth

Aladdin Friday 21st December – Saturday 5th January *'Talisman family Panto in its finest traditional form'.*

Local Art and Craft Classes

Susan Moore, Art Classes and Workshops Tel 07745 144 922 www.susan-moore.co.uk

Tanya Kozin, Art Classes and Workshops mail: Tatiana.kozin@gmail.com www.tanyakozin.com

Jacqui Smithson, Felting Workshops. Mail: Jacqui.a.smithson@gmail.com www.jacquismithson.com

Virginia Murphy, Art and Design Courses <http://www.virginiamurphy.co.uk> 07833 353872

For the latest information visit: <http://www.covwarsocart.co.uk>

CWSA Contact: 01905771886 or e-mail tina.watkins47@outlook.com December 2018