

***SALISBURY GROUP OF
ARTISTS NEWSLETTER
March 2023
Issue 65***



INSIDE

Our artist this month is Louisa Saffioti telling us of her passion creating her art .

We reprint a 1982 Artist Magazine article about SGA

A look at our Springtime Exhibition AND LOTS MORE !!!!!

SALISBURY GROUP OF ARTISTS

**SPRINGTIME ART
EXHIBITION**

**GALLERY 4 SALISBURY
LIBRARY**

4TH MARCH - 1ST APRIL 2023

LIBRARY OPENING TIMES

**WIN AN ORIGINAL ART WORK WORTH
£150 !!!!!**

- VISIT THE EXHIBITION
- VOTE FOR YOUR FAVOURITE ARTWORK
- ENTER FOR THE FREE DRAW
- WINNER TO CHOOSE ONE OR MORE PICTURES FROM
THE EXHIBITED ART TO THE VALUE OF £150.

Notes from the Editor

Once upon a time I put my hand up and said I would love produce a monthly Newsletter for the Salisbury Group of Artists. This addition is number 65 and I have enjoyed being part of the sharing of the news of our vibrant art group. However, like all stories that start with 'once upon a time' things never are straight forward.

Indeed, the word 'monthly' has turned out to be the villain of my story as other demands have 'clobbered' me. Nevertheless, here we are and I hope you will forgive me for missing the February 2023 Newsletter from popping into your letterbox or emails.

Included in this edition is a reprint of an article that was printed in the Artist Magazine in 1982. It is really an enjoyable read and a glimpse at our past.

Also included are photos of our Springtime Exhibition that runs to the end of the month at Gallery 4 Salisbury Library. It includes a generous opportunity to win one or more pictures from the Exhibition to the value of £150. Nothing to pay just vote for your favourite artwork.

We must all give grateful thanks to the fantastic Exhibition team for the hard work in putting the Exhibition together. Seeing the team in action you would realise it is not a straightforward task. This was summed up by the note sent to all the team by Mark Elling - *I wanted to say a massive 'thank you' for all your hard work, wisdom and energy to prepare all the essential elements to enable the new Springtime Exhibition to come to fruition. With your combined efforts SGA has an excellent show of brilliant creative work to be enjoyed by everyone who visits.*

I do hope you enjoy this newsletter!

Best wishes,

Terry newsletter@salisburygroupofartists.com

Featured Artist of the Month – Louisa Saffioti

Chatting to Louisa we asked her some questions about her background and of course her passion for creating her art.



Where did your love of painting/art start from?

I began my art journey aged 18 when studying for A level art. I began painting small watercolour landscapes which were popular. I have now been painting for over 30 years. Carrying a small sketchbook in my bag wherever I went, along with a small watercolour set, I filled sketchbooks with anything of interest. Very early on I developed a real love of outdoor sketching and painting. I particularly enjoyed cycling around the countryside looking for attractive views to paint. Being brought up in rural Somerset surrounded by lots of animals was a

big influence. My love of chickens comes from keeping them as a child and later exhibiting them at local shows.

Although I was brought up in Somerset, I lived in London for many years where I enjoyed sketching waterfowl along the river Thames. Places such as Richmond, Twickenham, Chiswick House, Hyde park and Richmond park among other places often featured in my paintings. I particularly enjoyed painting outside in the numerous parks in London, never short of subject matter.



What are your favourite subjects and medium?

My favourite medium is, has always been and I feel probably always will be watercolour. It was the first medium that I started working with so will always be special. I have many sketches of chickens and waterfowl in my sketchbooks studied from life and I have used them to create my finished paintings. I particularly enjoy spending a morning or afternoon out painting a local scene or sketching chickens at the city farm. For a while now I have been developing an interest in mixed media, particularly watercolour and collage. Collage can add a fantastic vibrancy to watercolour paintings, for example, in harbour or street scenes.

Where does your inspiration come from?



I believe it is the years spent painting and sketching outside from life that has been the foundation for my art. I paint and sketch outside in all seasons and this is my main source of inspiration. I live in Salisbury where one of my interests is visiting ancient sites and historic towns where I love sketching and painting the old buildings.

Can you mix art with family life?

From the age of 18 I have never stopped painting and exhibiting my art. Even though I have worked full time for most of my life and have a child I have continued to develop my art. My work as a primary school Teaching Assistant has allowed me to run school art clubs for many years and help to develop a love of art in children. It is wonderful to see a real passion for art developing in children. Indeed my own primary school age d daughter, from a young age, has enjoyed coming out with me sketching and attending other art events, such as with the SGA.

Can you give us one important lesson you have learnt in the pursuit of your art?

Resilience and perseverance are so important. There may be times when you feel uninspired, don't sell work, have very little time to create art due to many other commitments or have lots of failed paintings but I truly believe that you just have to keep going with your art and believing in what you do, not only to succeed but also because art really does enhance your life and the lives of others in so many ways.



A look at our Springtime Art Exhibition Meet the Artists



Future Dates for your diary!!!!-

SGA at Arundells

We are delighted to confirm SGA's next exciting exhibition is to take place at the iconic Arundells, in The Close from Monday 5 June until Sunday 18 July.

This is a fantastic opportunity to display paintings in a newly extended, beautifully refurbished 'Studio' a delightful purpose built exhibition space.

For this particular exhibition the suggested theme is 'Time and Tides' - this is open to a wide interpretation and a deliberate nod towards sea and sailing which was so close to Edward Heath's passion, and so highly appropriate to Arundells.

Timeline:

Monday 5th June - Hand In

Tuesday 6th June - hanging

Thursday 8th June -Exhibition opens

Sunday 18th July - Exhibition closes

Monday 19th July - Hand back

SGA Summer Exhibition 2023

Friday 4 August Exhibition opens to the public

Saturday 5 August 'Meet the Artists'

Wednesday 30 August Exhibition closes

Salisbury Hospital Artcare SGA Christmas Exhibition 2023:

23rd Nov - 4th Jan 2024

Hand in w/c 20th Nov

Artcare Open Exhibition 2023:

4th May - 22nd June

Hand in Sat 29th April and Monday 1st May

SGA in 1982 – Copy from article within the Artist Magazine

In the mid 1940's, the Arts Council set up a cultural organisation known as the Salisbury Society of Arts. One of its functions was to arrange for an Art Exhibition annually. The contributors were both members and non-members and their submitted works were judged by well known artists and these included Edward Seago and Henry Lamb.

On one occasion the latter had made his selection, the results were viewed with bated breath by Canon Arthur Smethurst (Chairman of the Society) and the writer. Now Lamb's selection consisted of worthy but restrained pictures. The jolly, colourful and flamboyant paintings had been discarded. Canon Smethurst rose to the occasion. "We'll have another exhibition," he said "in the ante-room, of all these marvellous rejects."

So with an abandon that was splendid to see we mounted a second and rival exhibition, paying no attention to merit, but only to colour and abstraction. The next day, Henry Lamb came in to see how his selection looked. He also saw the rival exhibition. He declared that nothing on Earth or Heaven would make him judge for the Arts Society again!!

As a result of this fiasco the Art Section broke away to be formed as the Salisbury Group of Artists under the Chairmanship of Mr. John Bennet, part owner of the "Salisbury Journal"; He was a man of artistic integrity and the new society increased in membership and prestige. It held all its meetings and exhibitions in the College of Art, in New Street, Salisbury. The Principal and his staff were friendly to us and gave us so much help. The students, of course, regarded us past redemption for we were staid, romantic and careful. We tempted them to become junior members by offering them reduced fees, but they were not tempted. They have always looked with askance upon us.

We met for criticisms of our work by professional artists or members of the staff of the Art College. We had lectures or demonstrations. One of these was to be given by a member of the Arts Council Art Panel. It was billed to occur on a Saturday afternoon at 4.30 p.m.

We were there in large numbers. At 6 p.m. he had not arrived but a telephone message informed us he had been detained and would be with us at 6.30 p.m. He came to talk on contemporary painters. His explanation for lateness was loftily simple; he had had one or two things to do! We felt that the Salisbury Group of Artists was small fry !

Each Monday from 4 pm until 6 pm some members met to draw and paint and each took it in turn to set up the subject, or suggest a theme or bring a model. Once a month in the Autumn and Winter terms, on Saturday afternoons there was a life-class and both of these meetings were popular with a small number of members. The cost, if there was one, for running these events, came from the members' annual subscriptions.

Then the idea of one-day painting schools for five occasions, held on Saturdays

or Sundays evolved. We joined forces with the Lawrence Arts Society of Devizes. They or we arranged the venue and tutor alternately. On more than one occasion we were tutored splendidly by Richard Cusden, whom you may well have seen demonstrating the art of painting in many T.V. programmes.

Each year there were two exhibitions: one open and one for members only. The former was always judged by a panel of professional artists.

Amongst these, on one occasion, we had Lord Weymouth. His arrival caused a stir amongst the organising committee for he did not look like their idea of an aristocrat.

He was very good. He would look at a picture for a minute or two and then say "This picture tells me nothing." He eschewed academic excellence, preferring artistic merit and if the entries did not come up to his judgment they were discarded.

An element of rebellion increased amongst the flamboyant members because their pictures were constantly rejected for academic reasons. These people banded themselves into a splinter group and called themselves Progressive Artists. They had their own open air exhibitions in the Close, the Dean and Chapter giving their benign blessings upon them.

At first the Members' Exhibition was not judged, each member being permitted to show two or three pictures. The standard dropped noticeably and several of the more competent members refused to submit pictures. Eventually at an Annual General Meeting it was agreed that all exhibitions of members' or non-members' work must be judged by a panel of competent artists.

Some eight or nine years ago the Art College moved into new, stark premises and with the fresh era the good relationship between the College and ourselves deteriorated. The upshot was that we had to find new premises for our meetings and exhibitions. The Headmaster and Governors of the Cathedral School in Salisbury lent us their large gymnasium with a plan for the latter purpose.

The task of setting up the exhibitions was enormous and back-breaking. The premises are tucked away at the far corner of the Close so it was difficult to attract viewers. Nevertheless we were grateful for this large room.

Then the new Library was opened and it has an excellent art gallery. We are allowed the use of this annually in the spring for our open exhibition. Even here there is not room for more than a hundred or so pictures and this fact means that, the number of rejects is too big in view of the standard.

The Cinema loaned us an upstairs room for our Members' Exhibition for a time. Then the Salisbury Playhouse allowed it to be mounted there in the autumn and now we

are hoping to house it in the exhibition room in the Salisbury Museum which has moved to new premises in The Close.

The Group makes an annual visit to Burlington House for the Winter Exhibition there, and in the summer to one of the collections of art in one of the great private houses. Amongst these we have Luton Hoo, Waddesdon Manor, Upton House, Clandon and Polesdon Lacy.

Six years ago to meet the needs of some of the members, Friday's studio was established. Some twenty members meet for ten Friday afternoons in the Winter term and ten in the Spring-term, with a Tutor. This is financed by each member of the class paying a fee. We still enjoy our one-day painting schools in the summer and we engage a tutor to take these. Naturally we have been joined by new members who tell us of the marvels of the clubs they have left. We are interested of course, but we are selective of these excellences for truth to tell, we think we are not at all bad and that perhaps others may be inspired by us!!

(Eric H. Grant. printed in the Artist Magazine October 1982)

SALISBURY SKETCHERS

Visit to St.Thomas's Church, Sunday, February 19th, 2023

This is the first time since the Sketchers began that we have started our programme of events in February, as in the past we always waited until April when we hoped the weather would be suitable for sketching outside.

However, at the request of the group last year, I arranged an interior location to start off 2023.

This was the beautiful setting of the medieval St.Thomas's church, the parish church of the City that is very much a community space for local residents as well as attracting visitors who come to admire the Doom painting, the largest and best preserved in England situated above the chancel arch. This location was a real challenge for us, particularly knowing where to begin, should we pick a view of the interior, focus on smaller objects, or even sit outside in the churchyard and enjoy sketching on an usually warm February afternoon? What was revealed the end of the afternoon when we gathered to look at our work, was that amongst us we had produced rewarding variety of all of these viewpoints.

We all agreed that it had been an enjoyable time getting our 'artist's eye' back in after a winter break. Certainly, I found need to concentrate on the detailed architecture of the interior absolutely stretched my observational skills.

I have changed the **date of the next meeting** from March 19th (Mothers' Day) to the afternoon of **Sunday, March 26th at 2.00 pm**. I have arranged for us to sketch inside the Cathedral, as with the unpredictable weather it may still not be warm enough to sketch outside. The entry charge is £9 but if you live in SP1, SP2, and Laverstock areas, or are a Friend of the Cathedral admission is free. You will need to bring along residential proof such as a Council Tax letter if the latter applies. The Cloisters area is not chargeable if you wish to sketch there. We will meet at 2.00 pm as usual.

Please contact me if you would like to join us.

Loraine

07496894568

Paperstitch@icloud.com



Winter/Spring WORKSHOPS 2023

Abstracting The Landscape- Karen Welsh (our January workshop)

Josie Smith writes about Karen's workshop:

(Josie is too modest and very kind!)

Just to say thank you to Karen Welsh for a magnificent workshop held on Saturday 28th January. Karen welcomes all into her lesson with a hug and warm smile. Karen makes all feel at home even for people like me that can't really paint very well, she has such patience. Karen doesn't tell you what to do, but gently offers advice. Great, for people with little confidence like me. Her next SGA workshop is on Saturday October 16th, so book early to be sure of a space. Karen works two workshops morning and afternoon every other Thursday at Bemerton Hall, Roman Road, Salisbury. Thanks to Annie George for helping to set up for the workshop. It is fabulous to be part of Salisbury SGA and such a privilege.

Josie Smith



Saturday February 25th - Alta Edwards.

www.altaedwardsart.com

Alta's workshop is fully booked. Report to follow next month.

Saturday 25th March- Terry Kemp

Getting Creative with Clay workshop. This workshop is currently full but I am starting a waiting list as we sometimes have late availability.

No previous pottery experience necessary!



Saturday 22nd April- Helen Southwell

Create and make fused Glass - Taster session.

(These will be half-day sessions, morning or afternoon. 10am and 1pm).

Helen's morning session is now fully booked. Book your afternoon place soon to avoid disappointment! £20 per session, including all materials and firing.

Explore the wonderful world of glass; experiment with a variety of techniques and materials and produce wonderful glass items. Design and create, choosing from; a hanging suncatcher, tea light, trinket, plant pot decoration, dish, soap dish, coaster etc. **Each session will have 8 students at £20 per session (everything provided).** No previous glass experience necessary.



New exciting workshops coming up.

Saturday May 20th- Watercolour artist Sarah Orchard

Watercolour sketching for journals and sketchbooks; Tips and techniques on getting ready to record your holidays and visits.



Sarah is a New Forest Watercolour artist. See her beautiful loose and atmospheric paintings and sketches on her website; sarahorchardfinearts.co.uk Sarah is a gifted teacher and runs watercolour classes in Lymington, Morgan Vale and Woodfalls and Wellow.

Saturday June 24th- Paul Oakley from Pewsey Vale Studios

Working in oils- Impressionist painting, Seascapes

Saturday July 22nd- Laura Bell returns for a day entitled

‘Eyeballing and David Hockney!’


Members £30, guests £40. To book To book any workshop contact;
annie.george2308@gmail.com

(Pricing for glass taster sessions with Helen- £20). All workshops are on Saturdays, 10am-4pm, at Bemerton Methodist Hall, Roman Road, Salisbury, SP2 9BH.

To pay by BACs for workshops;

Acc. name; Salisbury Group of Artists

Sort code; 30 97 41 Acc.no; 03627988 Ref; workshops



2023

SALISBURY

ARTSSCENE

ART

IN THE

SQUARE

A great day out

for all art lovers!

Market Square

Salisbury 10-4

Sunday 5th March

Sunday 2nd April

Sunday 7th May

Sunday 4 June

Sunday 2nd July

Sunday 6th August

Sunday 3rd September

Sunday 1st October

Sunday 5th November

Sunday 3rd December

SALISBURYARTSSCENE.CO.UK

**Salisbury Group of Artists will be at Salisbury ArtsScene
starting in April !!!!**

Interested?

contact –

Louisa Saffioti 07504 358412



Lucinda Nicholas

invites you to attend the opening of
her Solo exhibition

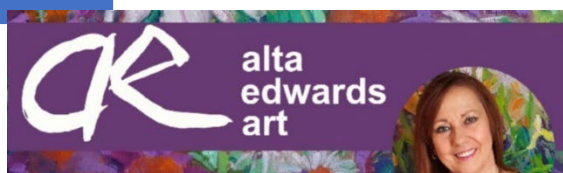
'Flora and Fauna'

At The Hanger Farm Art centre,
Aikman Lane, Totton, SO40 8FT

On Monday 3rd April 2023 from 6
until 8pm

The exhibition will run from 4th to 28th
April 2023

RSVP lucindanicholas63@gmail.com



Soft Pastel Floral Workshop

Come and enjoy a fun day exploring soft pastels.
I will be demonstrating a beautiful summer garden.



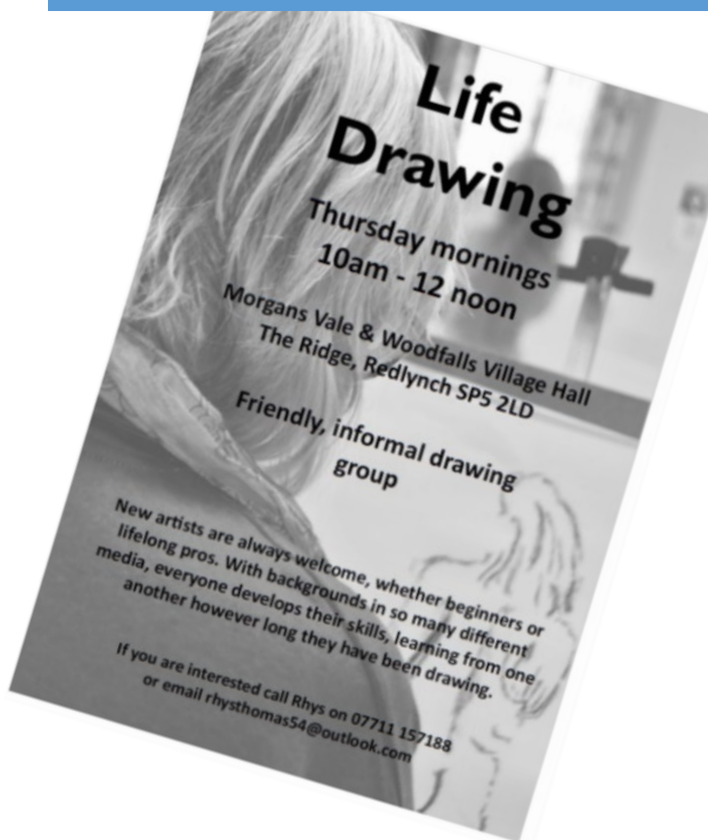
Saturday 1 April 9:30am - 3pm Wallop Parish Hall £40

Enjoy a bring and share lunch.
Tea, coffee and a glass of wine supplied.
Booking is essential

alta.edwards.art@gmail.com Call 07709 718280

Belmont Fine Arts - established 2007 offering giclee and digital prints from business cards and greetings cards to 60inch wide canvas, A2 flatbed scanning and bespoke picture framing we are sure we will be able to help. We work with individual artists and photographers as well as commercial clients nationwide producing an excellent finish to showcase your work at its best. Visit us in our studio and barn just outside Salisbury to discuss your needs, choose mounts, mouldings and papers or just have a chat about how we can work with you. We are a friendly family run business with a growing customer base so drop us an email or give us a call and we look forward to hearing from you and working together soon. (We want to be able to give you our full attention so by appointment only please)

2 Belmont Cottages,
Southampton Road
Clarendon
Salisbury
SP5 3DE
(Opposite Kennel Farm)
07891 480240



Lindsey Cole WORKSHOP OPPORTUNITY



DITCH YOUR BRUSH! SAT. MARCH 18th

An experimental workshop that allows you to break free from your brush and try other exiting tools in your box creating a more abstract feel to your painting. Using tools for mark making, scraping and scratching into the surface. Rollers, palette knife, skewers are just some of the suggestions for mark making tools. (Landscape or seascape)

(Smaller workshops can be arranged for groups of 4 people in my studio room in Ringwood. Please contact Lindsey for availability on ALL workshops

***Email: ljart1963@hotmail.co.uk
Tel: 01425 489376 /07817624034)***



Ian Southwell is now making a range of floating frames, ideal for canvas prints.

Frames are made to order, can be any size and painted white as standard (or primed ready for you to paint).

Sample costs are:

60 x 30 cm for £19

60 x 60 cm for £25

90cm x 90cm for £38

Every frame is made to order so please get in touch with Ian to discuss your requirements on 07847 409062 or email ian@iansouthwell.co.uk

FEES

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE £20 individual; £30 Family

WORKSHOPS £30 members (booking essential)

UNTUTORED LIFE CLASS £12 per session.

TALKS / SALISBURY SKETCHERS free.

FRIDAY ART £2 per session.

VISITS fees vary. See website/ newsletters

FRIDAY ART MEETINGS ARE HELD THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, EXCEPT AUGUST, AT METHODIST CHURCH HALL, ROMAN RD., BEMERTON, SALISBURY. SP2 9BH

FURTHER DETAILS OF ALL THESE EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE.

www.salisburygroupofartists.co.uk

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