



WINTER 2025

NEWSLETTER

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scan code to
go to AAS
website!

Autumn
Exhibition
report!
See page 3



Floral arrangements by
Sue Devonshire



Autumn Exhibition a great success!

Another fabulous exhibition and well attended with over 450 visitors despite the very cold weather. The exhibition had some excellent paintings, cards, and crafts on offer to tempt our visitors along with the usual lovely homemade cakes and warm drinks.

The raffle did very well as usual and some lovely prizes were on offer, along with the raffle of donated pictures from Gwen Scott to be raffled for

Maggie's who help to support cancer patients and their families. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every person who helped with a task and gave supported over the weekend by doing a stint on the rota, and those who stepped in where needed to help out... Thank you so much to you all, it's very much appreciated. It was wonderful to see our founder member Hazel Bromiley attending and also to see former member Hilary Nice on Sunday. The presentations were given by Mayor Kyle Robinson-Payne and his consort for the afternoon Michael Payne MP which was absolutely delightful. We also had visits from Councillor Sandra Barnes and her husband Alderman Peter Barnes, also lovely to see Councillor Pauline Allan and Councillor Roy Allan visiting on Sunday.

Carol Robertson (Treasurer)



Still Life sessions - Every Month

The Still Life session takes place usually on the last Tuesday of the month. Each still life is set-up by a different member each time and takes place within the Tuesday morning practical session. Any medium you wish. All are welcome to come along and 'Have a go!'

Phil (Ed.)

Christmas Social Evening, with Prize Quiz & Fuddle

Our Christmas Social is on **Wednesday 17th December**.

Note new time: 7pm - 8.45pm. Please come along, it should be a good night! **Food will be provided**, but please bring your own drinks.

If you are attending, please inform a committee member, so that we have an indication of numbers for the catering.

- Note: Friday 19th December (Portrait Class) will be our last daytime AAS meeting this year.



Digital Art by Jon Shepherd



Jon Shepherd

On Wed 21st May, our fellow member Jon Shepherd gave a demonstration of Digital Art. Jon's talk specifically dealt with creating Art on an iPad using software called 'Procreate'.

His experience has been solely with the iPad and prior to that a Wacom drawing tablet attached to an Apple Mac in previous years. Though he noted that there are some excellent programs available for Android tablets as well.

You can get started very easily using an older iPad, the software is very affordable at only £12.99 and no ongoing subscriptions (which is rare). Ideally you need the Apple pencil, without it you would struggle, but these too can be bought secondhand.

On the night he took members through the various functions of 'Procreate' and how it works with the Apple Pencil. Discussing: Colour Palettes, Working with brushes, Pens, Quickshapes, Gesture Controls, Layers and Blending. Finishing up with a Time-Lapse replay video that is built into Procreate.

Then we were shown how to create an example, the iPad was linked to the large screen above to make it easier to see and follow. A couple of members had brought their iPads, which made the evening more relatable and fun. This was an informative and useful talk for everybody that attended.

For anyone that would like to be shown how to use the iPad just contact Jon, he will be happy to help you. Alternatively you can download a pdf of the evening's notes at the following link or scan the QR code:

<https://tinyurl.com/JonShepherd>

See below some examples of Jon's digital work. Perhaps, this is the future of Art! For those of us that missed this very interesting insight into the world of Digital Art, possibly Jon can be persuaded to do another session sometime?

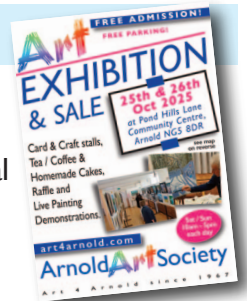
Phil (Ed.)



AAS Autumn Art Exhibition 2025

The exhibition on Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th October was well attended. Again thank you to all members who supplied home-made cakes, they were well received! I understand, a total of 43 pictures were sold over the weekend! Also, sales were good on cards and crafts. Many thanks to James Gant, who was our judge for this exhibition. We were also honoured by the presence of the Mayor of Gedling, Councillor Kyle Robinson-Payne and his husband Michael Payne MP. The Mayor was presented with a donation for his nominated charity which is MNDA (Motor Neurone Disease Association), after which he made a short speech. Our Founder Hazel Bromiley also attended, she reported how much she enjoyed the exhibition and found members work wonderful and of a high standard.

Phil (Ed.)



Mayor of Gedling,
Councillor Kyle Robinson-Payne
who made the presentations.



James Gant

Arnold Art Society Awards for Autumn Exhibition 2025

"Outstanding work showing a broad variety of styles and subject matter. The high level of skill displayed made my decision very difficult. Well done to you all!"

James Gant (Judge of the Autumn Exhibition 2025)

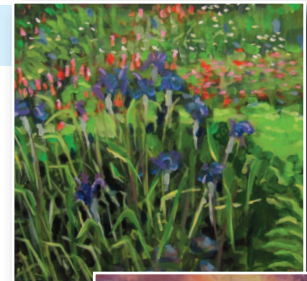
Results of the judging - were as follows:

The Bonington Rosebowl: Best Picture in the Exhibition

was won by **Richard Simkins**

for his painting 'Irises' (Acrylic).

Judge's comment: *"Expressive use of medium, reflective light and colour."*



The Josie Chapman Rosebowl: Best Watercolour

was won by **Yvonne Kirk** for

her picture 'Down by the River' (Watercolour & Ink).

Judge's comment: *"Successful use of medium, showing depth and transparency."*



The Vandoeuvre Award: Best Abstract Picture

was won by **Lynne Wootton** for her

picture 'Shore Line'. (Watercolour).

Judge's comment: *"The painting creates a great sense of calm with the gentle soothing shoreline motifs."*



The Lyn Randall Award: Best Pastel Picture

was won by **Sue Clipstone** for her

picture 'Mr Blue'. (Pastel)

Judge's comment: *"Attention to detail, control of medium and the iridescent feathers."*

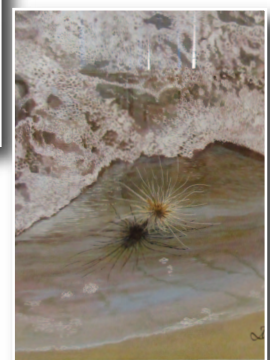


The John Williams Award: Best Acrylic Picture

was won by **Linda Wright** for

her picture 'Sea and Surf'. (Acrylic)

Judge's comment: *"Great use of subject matter showing the fragility of nature against the elements"*



Richard Simkins



Yvonne Kirk



Lynne Wootton



Sue Clipstone



Linda Wright

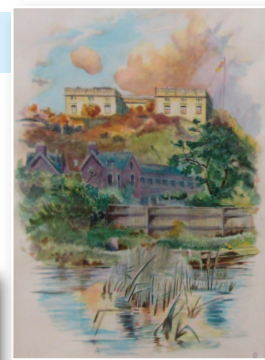


Highly Commended Pictures

'Nottingham Castle in Antiquity c1850' by Philip Chapman. (Watercolour).

Judge's Comment:

"Strong, confident illustration of the castle standing proud".



'Route 45' by Sam Dutta. (Oils).

Judge's Comment:

"Great reflections and a local scene".

Sam Dutta was not available to receive the award.



'Metropolis' by Fi Cusick. (Mixed-media).

Judge's Comment: *"Great use of mixed-media and collage showing an overcrowded city scape".*



'Tangled Shadows' by Susan Devonshire. (Mixed-media).

Judge's Comment:

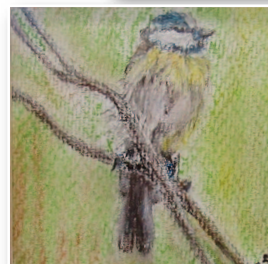
"Successful mood created by colour and shape".



'Blue Tit' by Brian Brooks. (Pastel).

Judge's Comment:

"Evokes a fleeting glance of the bird, before it darts off".



'Despair' by Judith Clegg. (Acrylic).

Judge's Comment: *"Emotional study, using a limited palette and loose brush strokes".*

The award was received by Judith's husband Ian on her behalf.



James Gant

(Judge of the Autumn Exhibition 2025)



The Most Popular Picture

(Voted by the public) The winner of this award was **Linda Wright** for her picture **'Snow Geese'**. (Acrylic).





Tim Iddenten

Exhibition Refreshments

I would just like to say a big thankyou to all the people who looked after the café for me over the weekend. My missus, Margaret, Brian Brooks and June, Ruth Hudson, Elaine Beardsley-Turton, Ann Saunders and Tracey Watson, and not forgetting Fi Cusick who almost helped out, had she not found a more interesting job!

Also, to Carol for organising and setting- up, but even more so to all the wonderful people who furnished us with a superb selection of homemade cakes. Thank you all. (Tim - 'chief cake sampler')!

Tim Iddenten



Gwen Scott

Gwen Scott Donated Pictures

Gwen Scott a Nottinghamshire-based watercolour artist who did a brilliant pen and wash workshop for the society, which was well enjoyed by all who attended. For the exhibition, Gwen kindly donated 3 of her paintings to be raffled off for a Cancer charity. I suggested to Gwen that the money raised could go to 'Maggie's' Nottingham (Cancer charity), and she said "Cancer touches so many people's lives, that she didn't mind at all". I chose 'Maggie's', as I knew first hand what good work they do and any money raised would help benefit someone! My daughter's husband fought cancer for 3 years, but lost his fight at only 52 years old, which left my daughter not wanting to go on, as he had been her soul-mate and they had had so many plans! 'Maggie's' charity was supporting them, providing free cancer support and information. We all know, if a loved one has been dealt with the 'C' word, we need more than medical treatment! Maggie's help by focussing on other things like money worries, stress, depression, managing side-effects and relationships. Helping people take control, when cancer turns their life upside down. The raffle for Gwen's paintings raised £180 (which the Art Society rounded-up to £200). The 3 Winners were: Pat Taylor, Becky Roberts and Jo Pryde. The money raised will be used to make a difference to people living with cancer, who walk through Maggie's doors.

A huge thank you to everyone who bought tickets and to Gwen Scott for generously donating her paintings. Gwen Reavley

Many thanks also to Julie Smith (Artisan Studio) for kindly framing Gwen Scott's paintings.



Raffle Prizes

Exhibition Raffle

Once again can I send out a big thank you to all the members who generously donated items for the Raffle hampers. This meant I was able to put together 6 really impressive prizes which in turn tempted over 400 visitors to buy a raffle ticket. Thank you.

Lynne Wootton



Card and Craft Stalls

The Card stall reported brisk business throughout the exhibition. The Craft stall had an impressive display of great gift ideas which were very popular with the visitors during the weekend.

Phil (Ed.)



Picture Quiz

Can you identify these famous paintings?

Do you know, the title of each picture, the date it was painted and the famous artist who painted it? (Answers are inverted at the foot of this page).

Phil (Ed.)



Some or all of these works have been cropped and therefore do not show the full painting.

Tip of the Month

Creating Mood using watercolours

You don't have to create your skies in one go! Sometimes more atmospheric effects can be made when a sky is partially painted - but then left to dry. Then further layers of subtle colours are added. To create subtle mood in your watercolour, the sky will then only require a pale wash, you can use a base wash of Raw Sienna which will add warmth and depth or simply a touch of Yellow Cadmium to create the effect of sunlight. As your sky will be blue, be careful not make the yellow too strong, as it can end up going slightly green.

Phil (Ed.)

- Picture Quiz Answers**
1. The Scream, 1893 by Edvard Munch
 2. Girl with a Pearl Earring, circa 1665 by Johannes Vermeer
 3. American Gothic, 1930 by Grant Wood
 4. The Persistence of Memory, 1931 by Salvador Dalí
 5. The Persistence of Memory, 1931 by Salvador Dalí
 6. Poppies, 1873 by Claude Monet
 7. Going to the Match, 1928 by L.S. Lowry
 8. The Fighting Temeraire, 1839 by Joseph Mallord William Turner
 9. When Will You Marry?, 1892 by Joseph Mallord William Turner
 10. Mr and Mrs Andrews, circa 1750 by Paul Gauguin
 11. Luncheon of the Boating Party, 1880/81 by Pierre-Auguste Renoir
 12. The Son of Man, 1964 by René Magritte



Jack Greenwood Cup - Drawing Competition 2025

1st place



2nd place



3rd place

This is an internal drawing competition held each November. This year it was on Wednesday 5th November and we had a very good attendance of 19. The number of entries was 17. The standard of work was very high, covering a wide range of subjects. Entries were in either Pencil or Black Ink (no colour). After members cast their votes, a review of all pictures was carried-out, with the artist and other members commenting. Members split into groups for a fun quiz (Great quiz, thanks Kay!).

1st place and winner of the Jack Greenwood Cup - Phil Chapman
2nd place - Sue Brown
3rd place - Abi O'Dea

All the above received a cash prize and also a certificate.

There was also a prize draw, everyone who made an entry received a ticket. Carol Robertson was the lucky ticket-holder, winning a bottle of red wine.

Phil (Ed.)



1st place - Phil Chapman



2nd place - Sue Brown



3rd place - Abi O'Dea

LOOKING BACK! - from the AAS Archive

In our local paper, circa 2004:



Some familiar faces! Phil (Ed.)

Watercolour - Landscape with People - a demonstration

On Wednesday 7th May, 2025, we had a visit from the accomplished watercolour artist Jennie Bambury. Jennie did a demonstration using watercolours - 'Landscape with People'. The evening, which was well attended, was enjoyed by all present. Jon Shepherd was present and said "Jennie's talk was about adding loose studies of people in a landscape painting, to give it scale, depth and interest. It was fascinating that, with just a few strokes a convincing human form was quickly created". Here are some pictures taken on the evening. *Phil (Ed.)*



Diary of Forthcoming Events

Events Programme Summary - November 2025 to December 2025

date	event	time	notes
Wed 19th Nov	'The Paddy Pearce Bowl' - Still Life Competition. All members are welcome to enter. Cash 1st, 2nd & 3rd Prize. Fun Quiz and Free entry to a Prize draw for anyone entering a picture.	7.00 - 8.45pm	Internal competition rules apply (see notice board or web site). Not entering a picture? Why not come along and vote for your favourite entry!
Friday 21st Nov	Life Class	9.30 - 12.30pm (arrive 9.15am)	Cost per session £10 (cash). For details see Notice Board.
Wed 26th Nov	'Christmas Wreath Making' - Workshop with Linda Wright	7.00 - 8.45pm	Limited places. There will be a charge for materials.
Friday 28th Nov	Portrait Class	9.30 - 11.30am	Cost per session £5 (cash). For details see Notice Board.
Wed 3rd Dec	Practical evening	7.00 - 8.45pm	Do your own thing!
Wed 10th Dec	Practical evening	7.00 - 8.45pm	Do your own thing!
Friday 12th Dec	Life Class	9.30 - 12.30pm (arrive 9.15am)	Cost per session £10 (cash). For details see Notice Board.
Wed 17th Dec	'Christmas Social Evening' - Prize Quiz and Buffet will be provided, please bring your own drinks (if you wish). Tea & Coffee will also be available.	7.00 - 8.45pm	<i>If you intend to come, please inform a committee member so we have an indication of numbers for catering.</i>
Friday 19th Dec	Portrait Class	9.30 - 11.30am	Cost per session £5 (cash). For details see Notice Board.

* A voluntary contribution of £3.00 would be gratefully received to help cover the cost of outside contributors - Thank You.

Events Programme Summary - January 2026 to May 2026

date	event	time	notes
Tues 6th Jan	Start new term - Tues mornings.	9am - 12 noon	Tuesday group. These sessions run throughout the term.
Wed 7th Jan	Start new term - Wednesday nights. Practical evening.	7.00 - 8.45pm	Wednesday group. Do your own thing!
Thurs 8th Jan	Start new term - Thurs mornings.	9am - 12 noon	Thursday group. These sessions run throughout the term.
Wed 14th Jan	Practical evening	7.00 - 8.45pm	Do your own thing!
Wed 21st Jan	Practical evening	7.00 - 8.45pm	Do your own thing!
Friday 23rd Jan	Portrait Class	9.30 - 11.30am	Cost per session £5 For details see Notice Board.
Wed 28th Jan	Practical evening	7.00 - 8.45pm	Do your own thing!
Friday 30th Jan	Life Class	9.30 - 12.30pm (arrive 9.15am)	Cost per session £10 (was £20!) For details see Notice Board.
Wed 4th Feb	Practical evening	7.00 - 8.45pm	Do your own thing!
Wed 11th Feb	'Margaret Scard Award' - Themed Subject Competition. All members are welcome to enter. Cash prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Free entry into a Prize Draw for members entering a picture.	7.00 - 8.45pm	Competition theme is 'That Smile' set by the previous winner Sue Brown. Pictures can be in any medium and must be un-framed and anonymous. Competition to be judged by the members present. Internal competition rules apply. (please see notice board or website for the rules).
Wed 18th Feb	Practical evening.	7.00 - 8.45pm	Do your own thing!
Friday 20th Feb	Portrait Class	9.30 - 11.30am	Cost per session £5 For details see Notice Board.
Wed 25th Feb	Practical evening.	7.00 - 8.45pm	Do your own thing!
Friday 27th Feb	Life Class	9.30 - 12.30pm (arrive 9.15am)	Cost per session £10 (was £20!) For details see Notice Board.
Wed 4th Mar	'Portrait Competition' - All members are welcome to enter. Cash prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Free entry into a Prize Draw for members entering a picture. Fun Quiz.	7.00 - 8.45pm	Bring along a Portrait in any medium. Must be un-framed and anonymous. Competition to be judged by the members present. Internal competition rules apply. (please see notice board or website for the rules).
Wed 11th Mar	Practical evening.	7.00 - 8.45pm	Do your own thing!
Wed 18th Mar	'Bunting Making' workshop - Design and make your own triangular pennant on the theme the 'Mad Hatter's Tea Party'	7.00 - 8.45pm	Bunting will be used to decorate the Café area of our Spring Exhibition. Watch out for more details nearer the time.

* A voluntary contribution of £3.00 would be gratefully received to help cover the cost of outside contributors - Thank You. 9

Events Programme Summary - January 2026 to May 2026 - continued:

date	event	time	notes
Thur 19th Mar	LAST DATE for Entries for Spring Art Exhibition	9.00 - 12.00pm	All entries MUST be received by 12 noon (Thursday 19th Mar 2026)
Friday 20th Mar	Portrait Class	9.30 - 11.30am	Cost per session £5 For details see Notice Board.
Wed 25th Mar	Practical evening.	7.00 - 8.45pm	Do your own thing!
Friday 27th Mar	Life Class	9.30 - 12.30pm (arrive 9.15am)	Cost per session £10 (was £20!) For details see Notice Board.
Wed 1st Apr	'Easter Social & Quiz'	7.00 - 9.15pm	All members welcome. Food will be provided, but please bring own drinks.
Wed 8th Apr	Practical evening.	7.00 - 9.15pm	Do your own thing!
Friday 10th Apr	'Spring Art Exhibition' - Setting-up and Receiving entries.	3.00pm - 7.30pm	Please attend to help set-up stands and hang the pictures! Bring your pictures between 5.00 - 6.00pm.
Sat 11th - Sun 12th Apr	'Spring Art Exhibition' - weekend	10.00am - 5.00pm (each day)	Please can all exhibitors put their name on the 'Rota' to do a duty, to make our exhibition a great success!
Wed 15th Apr	'Landscapes in Mixed media' Demonstration by Faye Maguire.	7.00 - 9.15pm	* In addition, there will be a charge of £5 for Non-members.
Friday 17th Apr	Portrait Class	9.30 - 11.30am	Cost per session £5 For details see Notice Board.
Wed 22nd Apr	Practical evening.	7.00 - 9.15pm	Do your own thing!
Friday 24th Apr	Life Class	9.30 - 12.30pm (arrive 9.15am)	Cost per session £10 (was £20!) For details see Notice Board.
Wed 29th Apr	Arnold Art Society AGM - come along and have your say.	7.00 - 9.15pm	All members are welcome to attend.
Wed 6th May	'Experimenting with Charcoal & Watercolour' - a Demonstration/ Workshop with Fi Cusick.	7.00 - 9.15pm	Bring watercolour paints, brushes, paper and charcoal. More details nearer the time.
Wed 13th May	Practical evening.	7.00 - 9.15pm	Do your own thing!
Wed 20th May	'Learning Coloured Pencil Techniques' - a Demonstration/ Workshop with Gwen Reavley.	7.00 - 9.15pm	Materials will be provided for this and there will be a charge to cover the costs. Watch out for more details nearer the time.
Wed 27th May	Practical evening.	7.00 - 9.15pm	Do your own thing! Note: LAST indoor Wed session until September!

From June 2026 onwards (throughout the Summer), Wednesday evening sessions will move Outside for Plein Air Sketching. These will be at various locations around Nottingham. Locations and meet times will be posted out to members by email or via the website.

***** A voluntary contribution of £3.00 would be gratefully received to help cover the cost of outside contributors - Thank You. 10

A Tribute to Our Friend Jim Nixon

In early September, we heard of the sad loss of our fellow member Jim Nixon. Jim joined Arnold Art Society 4 years ago and quickly became a highly valued member. A professional artist throughout his working life, Jim brought with him a wealth of experience, skill and generosity of spirit. During his time with us, he was always helpful, professional and kind to everyone.

Jim was born in 1934 in the small village of Biddulph, in the Staffordshire moorlands. From an early age he took great interest in drawing and painting both at, and away from school. He attended the Burslem School of Art as a part-time student in his early teens.

During his National Service in the RAF his skills with a brush served him, becoming the camp sign-writer.

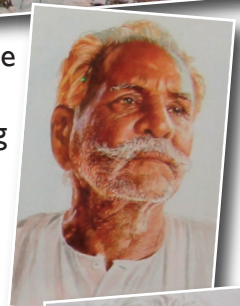
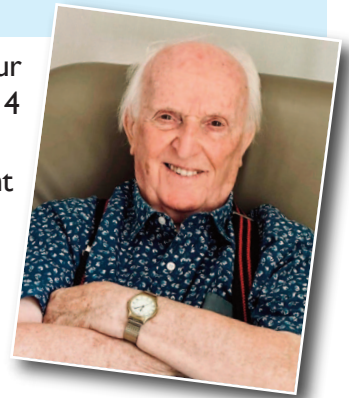
Following this he moved to

Nottingham, working in Advertising Agencies across the city, as a freelance artist. Later, along with his eldest son, he ran a successful business designing and building Exhibition Stands in the UK and Europe. Since retirement, he has devoted most of his time to Watercolour painting, also becoming a member of the local Arnold Art Society. His subsequent work, now mostly portraits, has become well received by both fellow artists and the public, in the UK and abroad.

I personally, felt a great affinity with Jim, as we had both been involved in advertising and we had many reminiscences. He was such a talented artist, yet he was always ready to share his painting techniques with others.

What a grand chap he was! Jim will be greatly missed by all who knew him. The Jim Nixon Award created in his memory, will be awarded each Spring for Best Watercolour.

Phil Chapman



Life Class - Update

We are a friendly group, so why not pluck up the courage to join us for our forthcoming sessions during November / December and into the next year. Hope to see you there!

We meet Fridays **9.30am - 12.30pm.**

The remaining dates for the Autumn

Sessions are as follows:

21st November and 12th December.

Dates for 2026 are as follows:

30th January, 27th February, 27th March and 24th April. The fee is **£10** per session.

For further details please get in touch with me by email: lifeclasses@art4arnold.com

Glenn Major

Note: None AAS members CAN attend these classes.

Portrait Class - Update

The Portrait group is still alive and well and meets every month on a **Friday** morning **9.30 to 11.30.** The fee is still **£5** and includes tea / coffee / biscuits.

Last dates for 2025 will be:

28th November and 19th December.

or Come and join us after Christmas!

Dates for Spring 2026 are:

23rd January, 20th February, 20th March and 17th April

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Alternatively, if you or anyone you know, would like a portrait painted, come and sit for us, and observe what we do.

For more details, please contact me by email: portraitclasses@art4arnold.com

Dorothy Robinson

Note: None AAS members CAN attend these classes.

THANKS FOR READING!

Next issue will be in May, 2026. In the meantime, come along to as many events as you are able and support our forthcoming Art Exhibition in Spring 2026. As always, any contributions to the Newsletter by Members, are very welcome! If you need a hard copy of the AAS Newsletter, please ask our Secretary Ruth Hudson.

Best Wishes,
Phil Chapman (Editor.)



WISHING YOU A HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

Our President David Wharton and all the Committee would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a very Happy and Healthy New Year!

