Lichfield Society of Artist Newsletter November 2026

Flower Painting Group – The next meeting of the Flower Painting Group will be Friday 6th November at the Holy Cross Church Community Room, Chapel Lane, Lichfield from 1.30pm to 3.30pm. (A small charge applies)

Demonstration Evening –

Lichfield Social Club, Netherstowe, WS13 6TS, 7.30pm to 9.30pm

This month we will be welcoming Sue Chatterton who will be demonstrating Portrait in Watercolour





Future Demonstration Evenings 2026

December 9th Christmas Social

Painting Evening – We are currently unable to use Saxon Hill for painting evenings due to staffing issues. The remaining painting evenings for this year will take place at **Lichfield Social Club, Netherstowe, WS13 6TS, 7.30pm to 9.30pm**

The next painting evening will take place on Wednesday the 25th of November

Portrait/Still Life Group – The next Portrait group will be meeting on Sunday 1st November @1PM (A small charge applies)

Martin Heath Hall, Christ Church, Christ Church Lane, Lichfield, WS13 8AY, 1pm to 4pm.

During the portrait group Dennis Harper has offered to give help and advice on framing but only if members request this. To book an appointment please contact Dennis in advance by email at dfh.art@icloud.com

Exhibition Report October 2026

As always, the run up to the exhibition was a roller coaster ride of 'will we have enough entrants?!' to 'Oh my goodness, where are we going to put them all!'. Our members did us proud once again with 99 hanging works, 14 3D works and a shop bulging with beautiful things.

We had an excellent hanging crew captained once again by Dennis Harper. We have so much to do in a short space of time and never was 'many hands make light work' more truly said. My sincere thanks go out to all those who gave their time to help. We were comfortably ready for the arrival of our judge, Martyn Harris who spent a difficult hour agonising over his choices.

The first visitors were sneaking in by midday, an hour before the official opening and the first painting sold shortly afterwards. I am grateful the weather was merciful after some worrying forecasts that fortunately did not come to pass. A cheeky cold wind on the Friday caused the market to close early and people to scurry home.

However, Saturday and Sunday made up for that. Footfall was excellent, with 1244 visitors recorded and some 1100 votes cast for the People's Choice award. Kerry Telford's portrait of Cliff caused a stir in the market community, most of whom came in for a look.

Sales were also good with 15 exhibition works sold and brisk business from the shop. Claire Turner's beautiful hand painted silk scarves were particularly popular. In total we took £2225 over the 5 days. At the time of writing, we have also gained five new members.

In a change to previous years, our award ceremony was held on Saturday afternoon with our guest the lovely Kate Gomez from Lichfield Lore presenting the awards. It was wonderful to see so many people filling the gallery.

My thanks to Tony B for looking after the refreshments and to all who came to support our winners. Best in show was won by Daniela Sommer-Owsianny with her striking painting 'At the Crossroads'. All the award-winning works are to be posted on our website shortly so please do take a look if you didn't make it to the exhibition.

Nikki Burns' cheeky donkey won over visitor's hearts and took the People's Choice award. 'Hay There' was ultimately sold to a lovely couple who are taking it home to Berlin!

Honourable mention goes to Neil Rogers who wowed the visitors with his portraits and fatally split his own vote. However, it is notable that votes were very much spread across all the artworks, demonstrating once again that people connect with art for all sorts of different and personal reasons.

After our short five days, our stalwart volunteers took down the exhibition at lightning speed. Liz Thomas, whom I couldn't manage without, kept track of the chaos of art collection and once again we must thank Angela Nicholls and Alex for the use of his van to return all our equipment to storage.

Finally, I must thank my long-suffering husband who taxi drove, helped shift equipment and provided me with food.

The next exhibition will be at the Guildhall once again from the 14th - 18th May 2027.

Sasha Lauer

Exhibition Organiser

Advert - Exhibition at Guildhall

Hello,
The Sutton Coldfield Marquetry Group will be hosting the 73rd International Marquetry Exhibition at the Guildhall Lichfield from the 1st to 4th May 2027. Judging will take place on Friday the 30th of April.

The event features all standards of Marquetry and there are classes for beginners through to premier marquetarians. Most of the exhibits consist of interpretations of paintings and photographs by the skillful use of the grain, shade,colour and other characteristicts of wood veneer to produce a unique peice of work. The classes are judged by experienced marquetarians.

However there is one award for an original piece of marquetry using the competitors own artwork, and for this class the exhibits are judged by an artist. Would your society be able to provide someone to judge this class at next years exhibition? Although it is an important task it will not be very time consuming, as the number of enries in this class is normally below 20.

Mike Roberts

Secretary Sutton Coldfield Marquetary Group

Kind Regards

Stuart