

Welcome to Wells & Mendip Museum's newsletter with information about exhibitions, talks, events and developments at the Museum. If you would like to receive a copy by e-mail please contact admin@wellsmuseum.org.uk

Opening hours: Monday – Saturday 10am – 5pm. Closed Sundays.

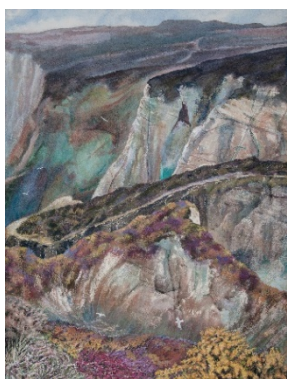
SMALL ART EXHIBITIONS IN MEETING ROOM

The Museum's Meeting Room has been hosting a regularly changing programme of Art exhibitions since the summer of 2016, during which many individuals, and some groups, have embraced this novel opportunity to see a body of their own work displayed in a public space, overlooking the Cathedral Green.

Showing work here is an attractive proposition, there being no charge to take part. Requirements are that all work must be able to use the hanging system in situ, and available for purchase, at which time all transactions will be handled by the Museum Shop, with 30% of the selling price directed toward the running of the Museum.

The Museum would like to encourage more people to take part in the programme, so if you are making something that can be displayed on a wall, why not get in touch.

ART EXHIBITION BY JENNIE THOMAS UNTIL 25 MAY



Jennie is a local artist living and working in Catcott, Somerset, she also tutors adults privately in all painting and drawing mediums.

Originally from Cornwall, seascapes are a mainstay but the wilds of Somerset, flowers and still life remain a constant fascination.

When the weather is too bad for grassy bank, boulder or car, Jennie compiles pictures from her own sketches and photographs back at her studio. **Museum entry fee applies**
www.jenniethomas-art.com

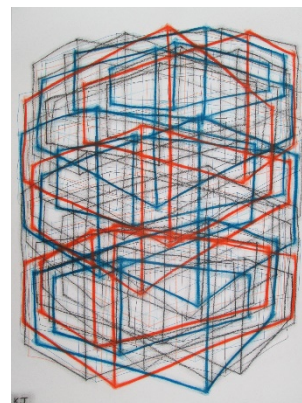
"FREE STRUCTURE" AN ART EXHIBITION BY KEVIN JONES 27 MAY – 30 JUNE

Following his very successful exhibition at the museum last year, Kevin has sold further pieces of work to collectors in both the UK and USA. In addition to this, one of his artworks was included in a collection, selected by Rebecca Wilson, Chief Curator & Director, and displayed on the homepage of Saatchi Art.

Line, space and colour are the main elements for the manner in which he works.

These are combined in a form of free structure, engaging a type of controlled freedom, which involves both improvisation and expressionism. The work is very original and fresh, but can also be complex and thought provoking, with the use of many multiple-image compositions. Influences include the human form, geometry, landscape (both urban and coastal) and music. The materials I use are pastel, conte crayon, charcoal, ballpoint pen, marker and graphite. These are applied on varying types of paper. Kevin says "I am continually both rubbing back line, and mixing colours, with my fingertips; this is how I love to work".

Museum entry fee applies



1st FLOOR EXHIBITION ROOM

ART EXHIBITION BY ANNA DMOCHOWSKI

20 – 27 MAY



Anna is a local artist who works mostly in watercolours and enjoys painting views of Wells and the surrounding countryside.

She also paint animals, especially horses, and for this subject her style has been influenced by Chinese brush painting. When she lived in London she was lucky enough to have lessons from traditional artists from China - a family going down the generations, so the daughter and her grandmother both gave her lessons for a couple of years. The grandmother didn't

speak a word of English, so she had to work incredibly hard to copy her brushstroke by brushstroke as she demonstrated the paintings!

In the fifteen years since she left London, she has developed a different style for her landscape watercolours, based on good drawing and areas of flat colour; saying, "it is great fun to set off different colours against one another, and make them sing".

Free entry to exhibition only

EXHIBITION BY DRAYCOTT ART GROUP

4 – 22 JUNE

One of the Country's leading Art Clubs return to the Museum for another exhibition, with a huge variety of paintings, drawings, prints and sculptures in a diverse number of techniques, styles and materials.

The club is well versed in Life Drawing, Sculpture, Print Making and various artistic pursuits. **Free entry to exhibition only**



"SOMERSET & BEYOND"

A TEXTILES EXHIBITION BY HILARY TUDGE & PAM MARTIN

26 JUNE – 13 JULY

This exhibition is a joint showcase of the artists' love of working with textiles and the inspiration they derive from Somerset and beyond.

Hilary has experimented with many art forms and now concentrates on tapestry weaving, enhancing some pieces with needle felting. Apart from the pictorial weavings, which reflect local scenes, she has included others influenced by her extensive world travels.

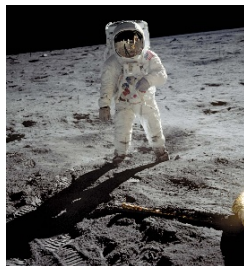


She is an active member of the Somerset Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers and embraces the idea of keeping these ancient traditions alive.

Pam's passion for textiles follows in the footsteps of many ancestors and has been her preferred creative medium from an early age. Her recent pictorial and 3D textile work in natural fibres has been inspired by her home area on the Somerset Levels. Pam also derives much pleasure from

supporting the creative development of her textile students and the exhibition will include examples of students work. **Free entry to exhibition only**

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF APOLLO 11 SATURDAY 22 JUNE



Wells & Mendip Astronomers will be presenting a celebration of the 50th anniversary of Apollo 11 - man's first landing on the Moon. The event will bring together lunar exhibits, activities, film and an evening talk. We may even be visited by BBC Somerset during the day.

From **10am – 4pm** there will be free entry to an exhibition and various activities, including: Moon and space exploration posters, Apollo memorabilia, Interactive lunar exhibits Models, Meteorites,

Astrophotography, and a raffle with great space prizes.

Space Detectives will be supporting the event with an ever-popular Virtual Reality system to experience a Saturn V launch and a walk on the Lunar surface. Also, with a life-sized version of a space capsule inside which children can imagine life as an astronaut (space costumes optional!). At **2pm** there will be a free showing of the Gene Cernan documentary film "Last Man on The Moon".



From **7:30pm – 9:30pm** there will be a public talk by Nick Howes who is an Apollo fan, collector, amateur astronomer and passionate space advocate. Nick is an invited speaker to many high-profile events during this Apollo anniversary summer including the Cheltenham Science Festival.

Entrance to his talk: WMA members free, non-members £3, students £2, family £5.

NEWS FROM OUR LIBRARY

"The library has received two large donations of newspaper/periodical collections. Although strictly speaking not within our collections policy, they usefully supplement our existing random collection of historic newspapers. Malcolm Spice has presented us with copies of the *Illustrated London News* for 1948 and 1950-55, while Mr J. L. Dorber's collection of sensational front-page headlines goes back to Bleriot's successful flight across the Channel in 1902. A further four newspapers on mainly royal occasions have been given by Martin Brook

Both the main collections have been accepted on the understanding that they will be shelved in our Reserve Stock which is easily accessible from the Library itself. We are planning to feature the most dramatic 20th-century headlines in our next winter exhibition starting in November.

Meanwhile our latest exhibition, linking Library books about glass to the Museum's permanent display of ancient drinking glasses, ends on 30 April. It will be followed on 3 May by a display of the Library's 19th-century photographs of High Street shops - timed to coincide with the publication of Eric Preston's forthcoming book on the same topic later this summer."

OTHER EVENTS AT THE MUSEUM

On Tuesday 21 May at 7pm there will be another **"Defibrillator and CPR Training"**. This is a 2-hour training course, run by Frank Wood, a fully insured training course supplier. Cost is £10 (to include free tea and coffee). Booking essential.

For more information, or to book, please contact Richard Leworthy
rjleworthy@gmail.com

Saturday 8 June 11am – 4pm Come and have a wander around the Museum's beautiful garden, which will be hosting a **"Pop-up Art Fair"** by **The Old Bakery Artists**
Free Entry to event only.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We are currently looking for Volunteers to cover our Front of House duties every other Saturday morning and every Saturday afternoon. Our Front of House Volunteers co-ordinate the smooth running of the reception area of the Museum by extending a warm and informative welcome to all our visitors.

The Museum is also looking for Garden Volunteers to join our small team who tend our front garden and beautiful walled garden which is situated at the rear of the Museum.

Please contact Janet Rodger for further information and an application form: volcoordwmm@gmail.com or alternatively please visit our website: www.wellsmuseum.org.uk

TICKETS The Museum is currently selling tickets for –
BATH & WEST SHOW 29 MAY – 1 JUNE
YEOVILTON AIRDAY – SATURDAY 13 JULY



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