

The Easel

August 2026

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July's Meeting was a presentation by **Sue Ainley**, who makes her watercolour paints and dyes from natural material.



She was obviously a very popular speaker, as we had seven Guests that night coming to hear her!

We learnt how she is inspired by walks on the disused Great Central Walk, which is rewilding, and tries not to use any chemical media, but makes them all herself, learning how to make watercolour paints and dyes in a slow painstaking process.

We've heard of paints called "Lake", and found out just how they are made.

Her thorough processes were explained, and she brought many examples of her work, many made with unconventional tools such as twigs and feathers.

Perhaps we should all have a go!



'An image of itself, made of itself.'
Exploring the potential of natural materials along
the Great Central Walk, Rugby by local artist Sue Ainley

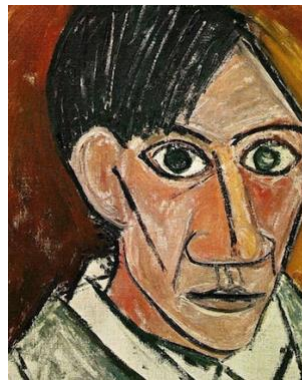


An Open Studio Exhibition
4 Timber Court, Rugby CV22 5AZ
5th – 13th September 2026
11.00am – 5.30pm daily (Monday closed)
All welcome

If you liked her work,
don't forget she has an Open Studio Exhibition
at 4 Timber Court, Rugby CV22 5AZ.

"An Image of itself, made of itself"

5th – 13th September.
11.00am – 5.30 daily – closed Mondays)



August as usual will be our **Members Meeting**, where we work together on a theme. This year we hope members will work in pairs and make **Portraits** of one another – and why not try out a different medium to your usual?
Serendipity will be there with materials to stock up.

If you don't want to make Portraits, why not come anyway to watch the fun, and take the chance for a good chat and catch up over a coffee or tea & a biscuit.

Anyone who uses a **sketchbook** regularly could also bring some of those along for a general look – this is always a great source of interest and discussion.



We shall be having another **“Paint-In Day”** together at **Houlton Barn** on Sunday 27th September, the cost will be £10 each – as we now have to pay to use the Barn. Bring any work in progress, or new ideas you want to try out, or there will be some foliage to work from. It's always great fun and a sociable day.

We hope to include some Houlton locals – can any Members donate some **Acrylic Paints** for them to use?
 There will be an interest list available at the August Meeting.

The Winter **Sketching Evenings** will return this year in November & January 2027, at Bilton Methodist Church Hall, giving us a chance to sketch together. We already have some promised models, but If you have a family member willing to “sit” for a while, they'll be very welcome!
 Cost approximately £15 per 3 sessions.
 There will be an interest list from the August meeting. Thanks to Leslie Read for organising this.

Our **AGM** and publication of next year's Programme will be on September 2nd, when Subscriptions for the year will be due.