

TOPSHAM ART GROUP

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2025

With the nights drawing in and the weather turning autumnal, there are fewer opportunities to get into the outdoors to draw and paint so you might need to find inspiration for your creativity in other ways. Douglas Anderson who is coming to TAG in October may well provide that for you and let you find new ways of adding texture and detail to your landscapes in the comfort of the studio.

In addition to Douglas' workshop, TAG member Nazedha Lisak is running a half day workshop to show you how to use gold leaf in your paintings. Look out for the Christmas Card competition with entries to be brought to the legendary Christmas party on 4 December, as well as the chance to sell your work at Topsham Christmas Fair on Friday 28 November.

Tuesday 21 October, 6.30 for 7.00 **Douglas Anderson – A life in art**



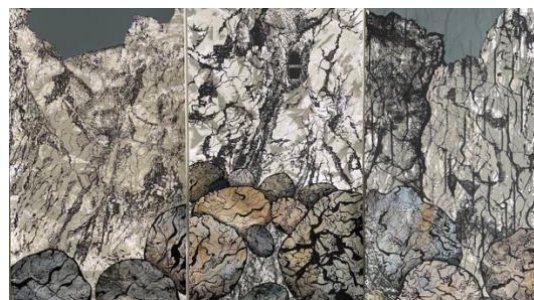
Douglas is a multimedia artist & visual arts educator based in South Devon. He has a background in Industrial Textile Design and over 35 years in Arts Education.

He will take us on a visual journey illustrating his 45 years from textile designer & educator to painter & printmaker. Douglas mixes collage, drawing, print making & painting in his sketchbooks and work. He will talk about this approach within his sketchbooks during his talk, and you will have the opportunity to explore this during the workshop.

Douglas Anderson, Friday 7 November, 10-4 at St. Nicholas Methodist Church, Fore Street, Topsham: Exploring details in the landscape creatively using a concertina sketchbook. £35.00

In this one-day workshop Douglas will introduce you to the joys of the concertina book format, and encourage you to play and experiment with mark making, using textures to build a richly layered composition within a painting. See the application form for more details.

Workshop full – waiting list for places.



Thursday 20th November 6.30 for 7.00

What do sculptors do all day? In conversation with Alistair Lambert.



Alistair Lambert was lucky enough to grow up with space and opportunity to experiment, make and build. After a BA in Sculpture at Chelsea School of Art and an MA at the Royal College of Art he found his way into commissioned work alongside various part time jobs.

Alistair now makes sculptures, delivers creative projects and runs workshops full time.

Christmas Fair at St Margaret's Church, Friday 28 November 5-8 pm

I hope you are busy making work for the Christmas Fair at St Margaret's Church – cards, stocking fillers such as small framed paintings and small unframed work or other original pieces such as coaster sets or mugs with your own art designs. All entries will be taken at the November TAG meeting.



**Thursday 4 December 6.30 TAG
Christmas Party and Christmas
Card competition**

At our festive gathering we are going to be joined by Cherry Lee-Wade who will take us on an informal and light-hearted tour of vintage Christmas cards. To celebrate the season we thought a Christmas card competition would fit the bill perfectly and Cherry will choose her favourite. More details in the November newsletter.

**Tuesday 11 November 10-1 at St Nicholas Methodist Church,
Learning how to apply gold leaf to your paintings. £25 plus
materials (about £10).**

Gold leaf has been used in different ways within art – think of icons, of illuminated manuscripts, and as highlights to add a shimmer of light to paintings.

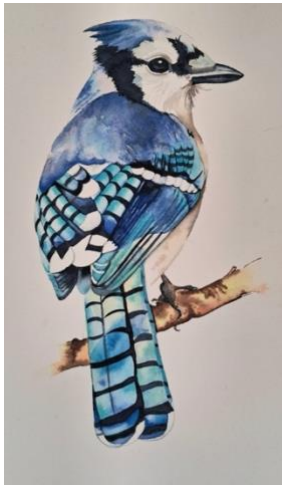


TAG member Nadezhda Lisak will teach the traditional method of applying gold leaf to a picture, and materials will be available if required with a charge of about £10.

You can use gold leaf on any surface, even wood and stone. If it's paper, then a selection of smooth and textured paper is useful because they have different effects and it's fun to see which paper does what. You don't have to have an image to work on, as it will mostly be focusing on how to apply gold leaf in various ways. But you can bring a prepared drawing if you wish. Gold is applied before painting because gold sticks to paint.



Saturday November 8th, Exeter Library, 10-4 £40



Nadezhda is also running a watercolour workshop where she'll explore the striking beauty of the Blue Jay. This workshop is suitable for both beginners and those with some experience, and offers the chance to slow down, focus, and create. The day will centre on a single image of a Blue Jay, allowing you to concentrate on capturing the bird's elegance and the subtle variations of blue within its feathers. Through guided, step-by-step instruction, you'll learn watercolour techniques for layering, blending, and creating lightness and delicacy.

Book here <https://nadezhda-portraitartist.com/one-day-workshops/> Or email nadezhda.portraitartist@gmail.com

TAG member Sandra Andrews has a Guest Exhibition, 'Where the Sea meets the Land' at Seaglass Gallery, The Strand, Lypstone: 15th November - Christmas



Sandra will be showing new work in this lovely, welcoming, local gallery full of gorgeous art and craft. It's open Friday and Saturdays 10-4 (closed 1pm for half an hour), also by appointment. Phone 07510 942542

Oil painting at Matthews Hall

Matt Culmer runs oil painting classes upstairs at Matthews Hall on Wednesday afternoons. He has long experience as a teacher and is happy for complete beginners or more experienced artists to join a small friendly group. Class dates are 22 October (with 29 October half term), then 5, 12, 19, 26 November, 3 and 10 December. If you join after half term it would cost £80 for the six weeks. There will be further classes starting in January. Contact Matt Culmer on mattculmer@me.com or 07764193754 www.pidgeculmer.com

9/2025



Help please!

Are there any retired accountants amongst you or do you know any, who could spot check/audit our accounts? It doesn't need to be an official audit (far too expensive) but to look through and spot check. Please contact Wendy Saunders, our treasurer, if you can help - wendyrolandprice@hotmail.com

Last words – we're aware that some of our members are working and therefore have a problem with daytime workshops. We've debated the issue in the committee several times but it's difficult to work out a solution – evening workshops could only be a couple of hours, and weekends it is difficult to book rooms. If you are one of those members in this situation please come and talk to us so we can hear your views – at the moment we don't know whether it is an issue or not. Thanks.

Hope to see many of you at the next meeting.

All the best from Maddy and all the committee