

DRAWN TO THE VALLEY



Our next event is Drawn to Spring

The closing date for applications is 3 March

Applications are coming in for our first exhibition for 2025, but if you haven't yet applied to be part of Drawn to Spring, there's still time. It promises to be an exciting exhibition with a wealth of 2D and 3D works, in the lively spaces upstairs as well as in the café at Ocean Studios. Although it would be nice to have art depicting spring, there isn't a theme for the exhibition, and it's open to work in all media, with a variety of display spaces to suit a range of shapes and sizes. Flyers have been printed, and you can also download the poster from our website, using the link below. There are also links to the Information Sheet and the Application Form.

[Information Sheet](#)

[Application Form](#)

[Poster](#)

An Exhibition by Artists and Makers of the Tamar Valley

All artwork, crafts and jewellery for sale



Drawn to Spring



Ocean Studios, Plymouth

Royal William Yard, PL1 3RP

Wed 2nd to Sun 6th April

Wed to Sat 9am-4pm, Sun 10am-3pm

Real Ideas Café | Free Entry



drawntothevalley.com

Inside this Issue:

- 1 Drawn to Spring 2025
- 2 Turner Exhibition
- 3 Turner Exhibition
- 4 DttV Announcements
- 5 DttV Announcements
- 6 DttV Announcements and Featured Artist
- 7 Members' News
- 8 Your Committee

We encourage content for the newsletter; do email us your news.

contactdttv@gmail.com

Please share your news and latest work on our social media pages:

<https://drawntothevalley.com>



Turner Exhibition

Are you inspired by Turner?

This is not the first time that Drawn to the Valley has been involved in an exhibition with a connection to Turner. In 2009 the beautifully presented and lovingly written book, 'Turner in the Tamar Valley' by Diana Cook and Dorothy Kirk, was launched during an exhibition at the Tamar Valley Centre by members of Drawn to the Valley.

This year the National Trust has asked Drawn to the Valley to present a Turner inspired exhibition to mark the 250th anniversary of Turner's birth. The location, Cotehele House, is a very appropriate one, a location which Turner visited and depicted in his art.

In 1811, Turner toured the South West extensively, sketching and painting in preparation for a volume entitled 'Picturesque Views on the Southern Coast of England'. He returned to the area in 1813 and possibly in 1914.

"The Painter of Light"

Turner was painting during the era known as the Enlightenment, where the perceptions of human beings led to sublime interactions with nature. He helped define the cross-disciplinary artistic movement of Romanticism, with an emphasis on the picturesque, setting the stage for later developments in painting subjective experiences that would lead to Impressionism. In some of his later works especially, Turner responded to the arrival of the modern era full of steam and industrial processes.

continued . . .



Turner Exhibition

There are many ways that the 'Inspired by Turner' theme can be interpreted, and we hope most members will find that they are able to be a part of this very special exhibition.

Many of our members will already have been inspired by Turner and some might find that their existing work fits with the theme very naturally, whilst others may consider creating new works for the exhibition.

One possibility is to follow Turner's style, using any medium, to replicate his loose and energetic brushstrokes and vibrant colours. Another is to depict the same or similar landscapes around the Tamar Valley or beyond, but using your own art style. Or perhaps your art is touched by the same influences of colour and light or the interaction with the landscape of people and modern industry. There are many possibilities.

The application form will be out in March.

See the separate entry in the newsletter about Drawing Days at Cotehele, which could give you just the inspiration you're looking for.



Extract from 'Turner in the Tamar Valley':

To today's viewer, familiar with the concept of abstract art, these works present few problems, but the unprecedented nature of such wonderfully lyrical and atmospheric images, which, during the course of a decade or two, overturned established conventions, mystified many of Turner's contemporaries. However, he always enjoyed strong support from John Ruskin, the eminent writer and critic. Nowadays many believe that these works were influential in shaping the vision of the early impressionists.

DttV Announcements

DttV is looking for someone to take on the role of Treasurer

The role of Treasurer is central to the organisation of DttV. Ideally, we would like someone with an understanding of accounts and use of Excel, but many aspects of the finances are handled by the Administrator, including the main accounts package and invoicing, so the role is primarily concentrated around income and expenditure in connection with events. Please note that this is an unpaid role.

Anne Payne will be stepping down as Treasurer at the end of February. If you think you might be interested in taking on this role, you could initially have a chat with Anne. You can email her on treasurerdttv@gmail.com.



Join the team

We need a new treasurer for DttV

If you are good at managing accounts and want to support a growing community of artists we'd love to hear from you. Our arts organisation supports and promotes the artists and craftspeople of the Tamar Valley.

This is a voluntary, part time position that needs you to manage art funds, mainly around the time of our exhibitions. There will be support available from our friendly arts administrator who can assist you to carry out the tasks that are required.

contactdttv@gmail.com

DttV Announcements

Drawing Days and Creative Sessions

We are delighted to announce that committee member, Anne Crozier, has booked two drawing days this spring at Cotehele. So if you would like some inspiration for our forthcoming Turner exhibition or if you just want to take advantage of the beautiful landscape in and around Cothele, please come along. The forthcoming dates are:

Wednesday 5 March and Tuesday 24 March 2025

Remember, you can visit Cotehele anytime and it's free if you are a National Trust member. If you would like more information, please contact Anne Crozier:

anne@leighfarm.co.uk

We have two other things in the pipeline. Firstly, Debra Parkinson has kindly offered to host a Drawing Day in the Royal William Yard. We look forward to trying a new venue later in April, when hopefully the weather will be kind to us. Secondly, plans also are in progress for another Creative Session of Collage and Gelli Plate Printing. Date and venue to be advised.



Preparation for Exhibition - Training Offer

Long time member, Iain Grant, has kindly offered some training on how to present your art for exhibition. If you are interested or would like to find out more, please contact Iain directly: basnudoc@gmail.com



Some news from the Committee

Open Studios:

Last year, having achieved a good level of advertising in the Open Studios brochure, thanks to DttV member Lynne Saunders, and also managing to get the brochures printed at a reduced cost, it has been decided to drop the fee for taking part in Open Studios from £85 to £60. As cost has been cited as a reason some members have opted not to be a part of Open Studios recently, it is hoped this reduction will enable more members to take part this year.

Income from sponsorship and advertising:

To help keep costs down for members during this difficult financial period, the committee is keen to take advantage of any opportunities there may be for having exhibition sponsors and offering advertising space on the website or in the newsletter. If any member would like to help with this, or has contacts with businesses that might wish to take advantage of either sponsorship or advertising, please get in touch.

Social media:

The Social Media Working Group is doing a great job promoting DttV, our members and exhibitions. If you see a Facebook or Instagram post, please do share it. Also, please make sure, when you create your own posts, to tag #drawntothevalley so that your post will get picked up and shared by the group on our social media platforms.

Hardship Fund:

Funds were raised by members to help other members who were finding things difficult during Covid, and there is a remaining sum in the DttV accounts. The Committee has decided it would be appropriate to use this fund to help students by off-setting the cost of membership for one year. The details are being worked out.

Committee membership:

The constitution allows for additional committee members to be co-opted at any time during the year. If anyone thinks they might like to join the committee, to help shape the future of DttV, please do consider putting yourself forward.

To get in touch, please contact dttv@gmail.com.

DttV Announcements

A reminder of the dates for our Exhibitions and Open Studios this year

Drawn to Spring

Wed 2 to Sun 6 Apr, Ocean Studios, Royal William Yard, Plymouth

Inspired by Turner

Sat 31 May to Sun 8 June, Cotehele, St.Dominick, Cornwall

Summer Exhibition

Tues 15 to Sat 19 or Sun 20 July, Butchers Hall, Tavistock

Tamar Valley Open Studios

Sat 23 to Sun 31 Aug

Drawn to Make

Sat 22 and Sun 23 Nov, Memorial Hall, Yelverton



Featured Artist - Maya Sturtridge

Maya has recently joined Drawn to the Valley. Here she explains what inspires her and the process she uses to create her art.

Local rural landscapes and seasonal changes in the natural world have inspired me to paint. I have been painting for many years and get absorbed in the physicality of painting. For me painting is hard work; but I enjoy the process of resolving artistic challenges like getting the composition right.

Working in the medium of oil paint allows me to develop a range of effects that add to the depth I can achieve in my images. I aim to capture the transient beauty that nature presents to us all year round.



If you would like to find out more, you can contact Maya directly: maya.sturtridge@gmail.com

Members' News, Announcements and Opportunities

Zoe Singleton Stone carving - New Course dates for 2025 - Booking now open

Hello, after months of planning my new studio in the Tamar Valley up and running, so I will be starting to run my courses again. I will be running only six of my most popular stone carving courses next year so if you wish to secure your place please book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

26, 27 April and 27, 28 September
LOVE LETTERS - EXPLORING THE ART OF LETTER CARVING IN STONE

31 May, 1 June and 25, 26 October
CARVE YOUR OWN GARDEN PLANTER OR BIRD BOWL IN BATH STONE

26, 27 July and 29, 30 November
CARVING FROM NATURE - RELIEF CARVING INSPIRED BY NATURE AROUND US

All courses are suitable for beginners; those who have had some previous stone carving experience can take your skills to a higher level on these courses. Each course is two full days of tuition and costs £180.00 per person per course which includes all materials and use of tools.

Detailed Course details can be found on my website:

<https://www.zoesingleton.co.uk/courses>

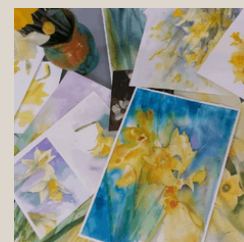


Students work on weekend courses

A Watercolour Residential Break with Shari Arnott

I will be delivering another watercolour painting residential break down near Falmouth at Budock Vean Hotel in March 2025. It's a lovely opportunity to stay in a beautiful place, use the spa facilities, enjoy wonderful food and, of course, focus on uninterrupted painting. For more information, please click on the link below.

[Watercolour Painting Break | Budock Vean Hotel | Cornwall](#)



New Exhibits by Celia Over

Celia Over is showing a relief print at

**Penwith Society of Arts
Associates Spring 2025 exhibition
1 February - 3 March 2025
Penwith Gallery, St Ives**



She also has a selection of silver & gemstone jewellery on display in the Penwith Society of Arts Gallery shop.

Call for Volunteers at Plymouth Urban Tree Festival

If you are interested in offering a workshop, please contact them via their website:
[visit our website](#)



COMMITTEE - WHO'S WHO



Ali Fife Cook
Chair



Anne Payne
Treasurer



Anne Crozier
Committee
Member



Lucy Griffiths
Committee
Member



Sonia Hicks
Committee
Member



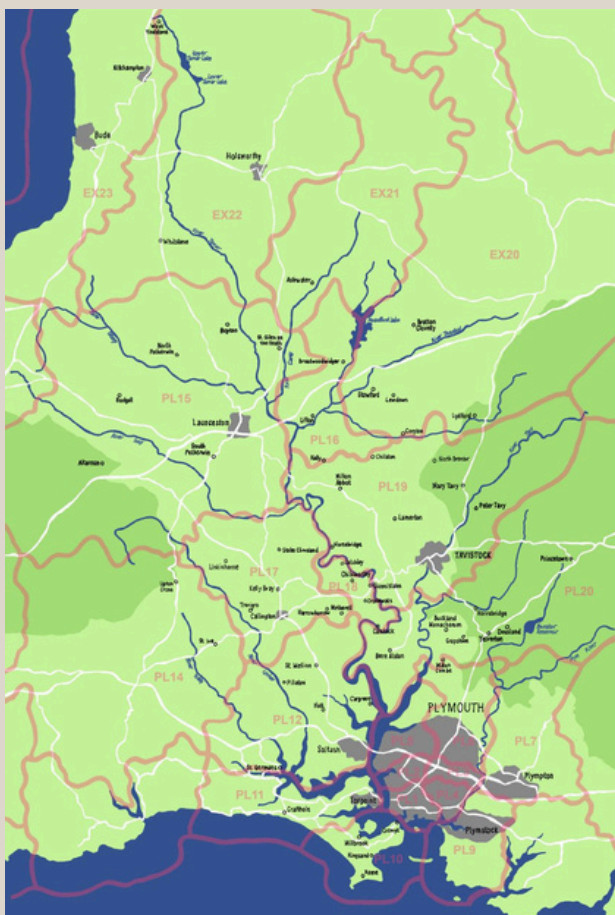
Michael Jenkins
Committee
Member



Stuart Morrissey
Committee
Member



Adrian Bower
Administrator



WHO IS YOUR AREA REP?

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