

POLDRATE ARTS AND CRAFTS CENTRE

2022 PACC Annual Report for AGM



Starting Classes Again Post-Covid and Class take-up

Following a successful four week pilot of a small number of classes in June 2021 we were able to fully resume classes and self-help groups in September 2021, with some precautions to help limit the spread of Covid. The membership numbers have grown back quickly with 284 members joining over the year. Most existing classes returned along with a couple of new ones and a number of classes were full from the start of the first term.

Committee Members and Changes

After four very successful years, Judith Dunkerley stood down as chair of the committee in March. Victoria Murray has stepped forward to take on the post of chair. We are always looking for more members to join the Committee. Current Committee Members are:

- Victoria Murray, Chair
- Russell Frith, Treasurer
- Mary Frith, Class Co-ordinator
- David Morris, Website Co-ordinator
- Lyndsay Fergus
- Frida Bleakley
- Grazyna Fremi
- Annie Bruckner

Lamp of Lothian

As ever we are grateful to the Lamp of Lothian trustees for making the buildings available to us for no charge. We make a donation to the Lamp to contribute to the cost of utilities and the upkeep of the buildings. The Lamp are trying to increase the usage of the buildings so you may find new and different groups using some rooms, such as the East Lothian Messenger, who record their talking newspaper on the first floor of the Granary on a Friday afternoon.

Like PACC, the Lamp is run by volunteer Trustees. They have one part-time employee to co-ordinate all their activities and manage and take care of the buildings. Members of the Committee are in regular contact with the Lamp to ensure that we all get along effectively and harmoniously.

Annual Members Exhibition

Our 2022 Exhibition in March was the biggest ever with over 200 pieces of work being displayed across all of our arts and crafts categories. George Glen, who has previously tutored life drawing classes at Poldrate, provided the judging and award of prizes, which proved challenging given the high standard and number of works. The Duchess of Hamilton Award went to a piece from our newly reestablished Printmaking class, while the Visitors Choice award went to a charming willow sculpture from our increasingly popular Basket Making Class.

Tutors' Exhibition

Wonderful works by our tutors and self-help leaders were displayed in the John Gray Centre, Haddington from 23 July to 3 September 2022. The exhibition was well

attended by a very diverse audience, and we received a lot of positive feedback. We've submitted a bid to East Lothian Council to hold a similar event next summer to raise awareness in the community of the range of classes that the PACC offers.

Weekend Workshops

Over the last year we held a number of very successful weekend workshops. We hope to hold more workshops in the future.

- 7-8 May 2022 Life Drawing with Andrew Watson
- 25-27 June 2022 Landscape Painting with Andrew Watson
- 22-23 October 2022 Mixed Media with Andrew Watson
- 19-20 November 2022 with Andrew Watson

New Tutor(s) and Classes

We have introduced some new classes this year:

- Lyndsay Fergus started in 2021 as Printmaking Tutor
- Weaving beginners with Kirsty Odds
- Portrait Painting with Owen Normand
- Janice Hall and Penelope Wilson Started as Basketmaking tutors

Behaviours Charter & Complaints Procedure

It is important to us that everyone who is involved with the PACC, whatever their role, feels safe and comfortable. We have, therefore, set out the behaviours we must all follow to make sure this is the case in our Behaviours Charter:

Fairness: we will treat everyone equally and fairly.

Respect for others: we will treat other people as we would like to be treated ourselves, with respect.

Openness: we will be open, honest and clear when we communicate with each other, and encourage people to raise issues if they arise.

Positivity: we recognise the benefits of creativity to everyone and aim to have a culture of positivity in everything we do.

We have also included a complaints procedure so that everyone knows how to raise issues with the Committee and how we will handle these. You can find the document in the Members section of the website:

<https://thepacc.org.uk/behaviours-and-complaints/>.

Evening Lecture

This year we are holding our first evening lecture, open to members and non-members. Winter Landscapes by Dr. Andrew Watson 9th December, an illustrated lecture on Winter Landscape Paintings with complimentary drinks and nibbles afterwards. If this event goes well, we hope to invite Andrew and other tutors to hold similar events in the future.

The PACC Committee

December 2022