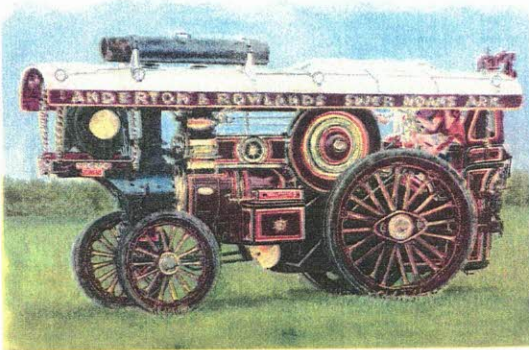




NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2026



'The Lion' by Nick Barker

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

In Person Demonstration: Jamel Akib
Thursday 26 March

Changeover Day: Popup Gallery
TUESDAY 7 April

NO SATURDAY GROUP
Saturday 4 April, Saturday 16 May

NO TUESDAY GROUP
Tuesday 31 March, 7 April and 12 May

Molly Dicker & Sylvanarth Trophy
Thursday 30 April

WELCOME BACK AND LOOKING FORWARD

Dear members, we have already seen workshops from Jill Illiffe, Helen Carter, Alison Board, and Elaine Reed in 2026, as well as zoom demonstrations from Cas Holmes and Marilyn Allis. Our popular Tuesday and Saturday painting groups have been back up and running since the New Year and we are seeing more members than ever attending.

This month we welcome members back to our Thursday night monthly meetings at Trinity Church Hall, Jamel Akib will be providing the first in-person demonstration of the year and we hope to see many of you there.

As you know Fareham Art Group is run entirely by members who have volunteered their own time to organise workshops, co-ordinate painting groups, provide exhibition opportunities etc. If you feel that you can provide support at any of the group activities, for example table set up and take down, recording attendance/taking money, and provision of teas and coffees then please make yourself known to a member of the committee. We really need additional members to step up and help, particularly at our Tuesday group - if more people can provide just a little extra help then every member has the chance to enjoy all that Fareham Art Group has to offer.

COMING UP...

Molly Dicker and Sylvanarth Trophies

Our first competition of the year is on Thursday 30 April at Trinity Church Hall. Theme: A5/6 Postcard of a local scene. Dry media only; no wetting agent. Appraisal by guest artist Lisa Freeman.

Sussex Art Fair Trip

There is one space left on minibus for the Sussex Art Fair trip on Sunday 10 May. Please contact Trudy Bishop if you are interested - farehamartgroupmembership@gmail.com

Summer Painting Days

Tina has kindly organised another packed schedule of Plein Air painting days for this Summer. There is an exciting mix of old and new locations including Portsdown Hill, Priddys Hard and Portchester Castle. Look out for more information in due course.

Members Survey

What suggestions do YOU have for the future of Fareham Art Group? What would YOU like to see? Maybe you have something you feel you could offer to the group. 2026 Members Survey coming soon.

New Workshops

Booking has already opened for Waves in Pastels with Sue Kerrigan-Harris 21st & 28th April and Lino & Block Cutting Workshop with Katherine Anteney on Saturday 25th April - check your emails for details. We are also delighted to announce that we have booked Saturday workshops with Jamel Akib, Jill Illife, and Elizabeth Saunders later in the year as well as a Tuesday collage workshop with Rachel Reynolds Watch this space!

My Art Journey: Chairman Heather Jay BA Hons Dip W/C

My Art Journey really started after 'O' and 'A' level art which I had chosen because I had always enjoyed drawing and the creative process.

I then taught art in Junior schools going on many art and display courses. During my working life I carried on going to an art class once a week and on weekend courses to keep learning and improving my skills.

While teaching, I went on a one day release pottery course for one year at Southampton Institute to learn everything from mixing up my own glazes to different ways to make bowls and models, ending with a written and practical exam at the end.

I then joined Fareham Art Group while still working as the monthly meetings were manageable with a full time job, learning a lot from watching the various demos each month.

When I retired from teaching I had more time to paint so I went on many courses, some weekly art holidays and joined the Southern flower painters society among others, also started weekly classes with a local well known tutor.

In Fareham Art Group I have been minutes secretary at times and also Exhibition Organiser when we exhibited in the Museum and at Ferneham Hall, as I had more time to give to the group.

As I had done watercolour painting all my life up until this point, I then decided to do a Diploma in it which took three years. After doing many watercolour assignments I wanted a change, so started learning oils, acrylics and mixed media which I love and I think you can never stop learning new ideas.

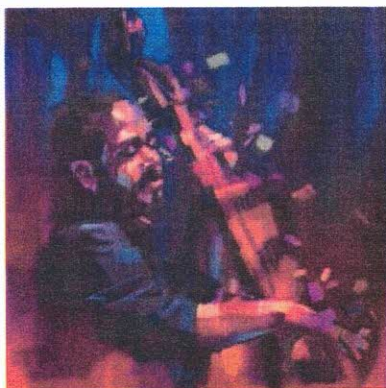
It has been a great pleasure in my life to be a member of our art group - making friends and having fun and new experiences along the way. One time, while sketching on the beach, I had to get rid of seagulls around us because my friend hated birds. Another time on an art holiday a woman asked me what I wanted her to pray for, and another time my drawing blew into the River Meon and a man took off his socks and shoes and waded in to retrieve it for me. I could say more but note all of this happened while painting outside so now I mainly paint where it is safe!

Over the years I have seen Fareham Art Group grow and flourish, I have enjoyed many demos and workshops from visiting artists and I hope to continue for many years.

Demonstration:

Jamel Akib

Thursday 26 March



Jamel Akib was born in Leigh-on-sea, Essex, England, in 1965 to mixed English and Malaysian parentage. He moved to Sabah, North Borneo at the age of five and returned to England to pursue further education at the age of thirteen. He gained a BA honours Degree in Illustration in 1989.

He began working for the London Observer newspaper while still a student at art college, and has since become an award winning artist involved in many exhibitions and commissions. He has so far illustrated the covers for three booker prize finalists.

He lives in Salisbury, England with his wife and two boys.

Please note we are delighted that Jamel will also be tutoring a full day workshop for members in May 2026.

Get In Touch:

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