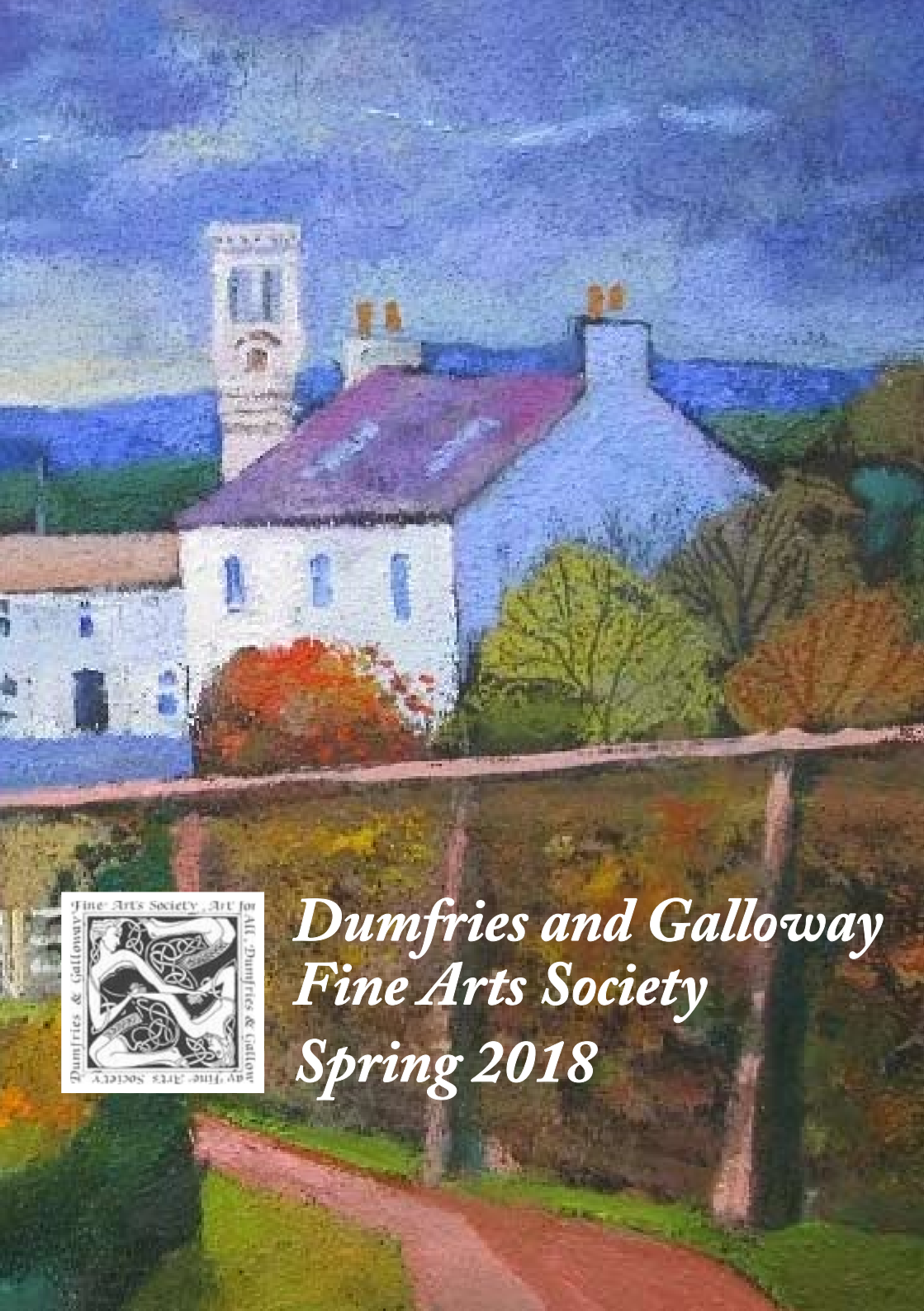




*Dumfries and Galloway
Fine Arts Society
Spring 2018*

On the cover

Study for Back Lane, an oil painting by Davy Brown, the society’s president, who will be leading a workshop for members in May



In this edition

The chairman writes.....	page 4
Diary dates.....	5
The 91st annual exhibition.....	6
A ‘salon des refusés’.....	9
Our Ottersburn debut.....	10
Showing at Castle Douglas.....	11
Winter events reviewed.....	12
The summer programme.....	20
AGM agenda and balance sheet.....	24
Lockerbie gallery project.....	27
Workshops booking form.....	28
News in brief.....	29
Castle Douglas entry form.....	30
Contacts and cartoon.....	31

(Details and forms for the exhibitions and workshops will also be available on the website: www.dumfriesandgallowayfineartsociety.org.uk)

From the editor

Art or craft? It's not hard to see where most members' sympathies lie. Our workshops on willow weaving and wool "painting" were not strongly supported - and a pottery workshop a while back had to be cancelled for lack of interest - while painting workshops were full or even oversubscribed.

The society's constitution says it should promote "artistic crafts" as well as "the Fine Arts", and of course we have some fine artistic craftsmen among our members, but should the rest of us be more adventurous and try out that unfamiliar craft when the chance is offered? Who knows, one might even discover an unsuspected passion for it.

However, our summer workshops, detailed in this issue, are all firmly based on painting and drawing, though they will be nonetheless challenging. Three will be based as usual at Gracefield Arts Centre in Dumfries, but one will take participants further afield.

This issue also has news of an innovation for the society: a "salon des refusés" - an exhibition in the Gracefield cafe of works not accepted for our main annual exhibition.

Council members' opinion on the idea was divided but a majority were in favour; it will be interesting to see how well it works out.

Ian Irving
ian@dumfriesandgallowayfineartsociety.org.uk

The chairman writes:



2017 was an exceptional year for the society, what with our outstanding 90th annual exhibition and the break from what had become our traditional Christmas show at the D&G Royal Infirmary.

We put on a great show at our alternative Christmas venue, the Ottersburn gallery, which did us proud, though sales were disappointing. The council will in due course be looking at the possibilities for next Christmas and whether there might be a place for our art at the new hospital.

Meanwhile, with winter hopefully behind us (along with my biggest nightmare: driving in snow and ice!) we have our Castle Douglas show to look forward to (details on page 11) and our programme of summer workshops, starting in May (see page 20) Details of our 91st annual exhibition, at Gracefield in July and August are also in this edition.

Please try to get to our annual general meeting on April 13. Volunteers or nominations for the council are most welcome - if you are willing to spare a little of your time to help the society run smoothly please step forward!

Our secretary Carol Reece will be standing down, and we also need someone to help organise our programme of demonstrations and workshops.

I wish you all a very happy and productive 2018.

Kathleen Woods

Diary dates 2018

- April 13** Annual general meeting 11am, Gracefield
- April 25 -
May 5** Castle Douglas exhibition
(hand-in April 24 11am-12noon)
- May 4** Davy Brown workshop, Gracefield
- May 18** George Birrell workshop, Gracefield
- May 26 -
May 28** Spring Fling weekend
- June 1** Pamela Grace workshop, Kirkpatrick Durham
- June 15** Bella Green workshop, Gacefield
- June 30** Hand-in for annual exhibition at Gracefield
12noon-2pm
- July 6** Annual exhibition preview 7-9pm
- July 7 -
August 4** 91st annual exhibition
- August 5** Collection of unsold works
12noon-2pm

Annual Exhibition

July 7 to August 4



The society's 91st annual exhibition will be held in Gracefield Arts Centre, Dumfries, from Saturday July 7 to Saturday August 4, 2018

Handing-in day at Gracefield is Saturday June 30 from 12 noon to 2pm.

Official labels and schedules must be applied for from the Exhibition Co-ordinator, Kathleen Woods, 10 Davie Gill Park, Thornhill, DG3 5AH, stating number required and enclosing a stamped addressed A5 envelope. Telephone enquiries to 01848 331403 or email woods664@btinternet.com

Official labels and schedules may also be obtained from:

Phil's Frames, Buccleuch Street, Dumfries

Gracefield Arts Centre, 28 Edinburgh Road, Dumfries DG1 1NW

Galloway Gems, 130-132 King Street, Castle Douglas

Ottersburn Gallery, 2A Nith Avenue, Dumfries, DG1 1EF

You can also download and print labels from our website:

www.dumfriesandgallowayfineartsociety.org.uk

Labels must show, in block capitals, the title of the work, the medium, the artist's name and address, and the price (mark NFS if not for sale).

In addition artists must confirm that all works submitted are their own original creations. Information on the schedule must tally with that on the labels and completed schedules must accompany works submitted. The part of the schedule to be returned to members informing them of

works accepted or rejected must bear the artist's name and address and have appropriate postage stamp affixed.

Only members and associate members whose current subscription of £10 is paid on or before February 28, 2018, may submit work.

Full members may submit up to six items, but no more than three in any one category. Associate members: up to four items, but no more than two in any one category

The categories are:

Paintings – watercolour, oil, acrylic, pastel, mixed media
Drawings and original fine art prints
Sculpture
Crafts

Submission fees of £3 per item will be payable for both full and associate members. Dumfries and Galloway Council will charge the society commission on sales at 30% this year.

Please note the following rules:

1. No direct copies of another artist's work or commercial work will be included.
2. Work must not have been exhibited in any previous exhibition of the society.
3. Not more than one item marked "Not for sale".
4. Rings and cords must be attached, with rings fixed not more than one-third from the top of the painting - large rings on large pictures. Tie-on labels must be attached to the back of paintings with long strings.
5. The details on the tie-on label will be those on which information will be based.
6. Works in unusual frames (e.g. metal) or those which would be awkward to hang or display may have to be rejected regardless of artistic merit.

7. Photo prints or colour laser copies will not be accepted and all fine art prints must be clearly indicated as such, by the artist, on the print, in the customary manner.
8. No rejected works to be uplifted on members' preview night.
9. Only deep box canvases at least 3cm deep will be accepted unframed.
10. The council reserve the right to reject works seen as inappropriate for this exhibition.

Rejected works may be collected between July 7 and August 4 during exhibition opening hours - **but see the article opposite.**

Works hung but unsold on closing day must be collected by the artist or his/her agent on Sunday August 5 between 12 noon and 2pm.

Thereafter the society accepts no further responsibility

Preview night is Friday July 6 from 7pm to 9pm

Free tickets will be available on handing-in day or on the night.

Assistance, please! Helpers will be required for handing-in, selection day and during the arranging of the exhibition. If you have time available please contact the exhibition co-ordinator – address above



Deciding what will go where, for the 2017 annual exhibition

New this year: a Salon des Refusés will give visitors the chance to judge the judges' decisions

At the suggestion of the Gracefield administration, works not selected for the main exhibition can be shown in a “Salon des Refusés” show in the Gracefield cafe between Tuesday July 3 and Saturday July 28.

To quote Gracefield’s description: “The Salon des Refusés, French for ‘exhibition of rejects’, is generally an exhibition of works rejected by the jury of the official Paris Salon, but the term is most famously used to refer to the Salon des Refusés of 1863, where many of the leading lights of the Impressionist movement, like Manet and Pissarro were not selected.

“Today by extension, salon des refusés refers to any exhibition of works rejected from a juried art show and this year, Dumfries and Galloway Fine Arts Society will be offering visitors the chance to view the works which this year’s selection panel didn’t choose.

“Visitors can decide if they agree or disagree with the panel’s decisions.”

Of course, members whose work has not been selected may choose not to have it shown in the cafe and should collect it in the normal way.



Rejected! Whistler’s *Symphony in White No. 1: The White Girl* was rejected by both the Royal Academy in London and the Académie des Beaux-Arts in Paris, but was shown at the Salon des Refusés in Paris in 1863. The painting is now in the National Gallery of Art in Washington.

Debut show at Ottersburn

Ottersburn Gallery in Dumfries was a great show venue for the 109 pieces of work from 61 members submitted for our exhibition in the run-up to Christmas, which took the place of our usual show at the infirmary.

Thank you to all the artists who sat in the gallery, taking some pressure off the owners Sean and Kate McKay. It was good to see some of you doing some artistic work while on duty.

The footfall was approximately 200 over the period of six weeks and there was lots of positive feedback with very encouraging comments in the visitors book. Eight pieces and a few cards were sold.

Helen Acklam's painting, "Carloway" was voted visitors' favourite work.

A massive thanks to Sean and Kate for their hospitality and for sharing their space with us and I hope we can work together again in the future.

Kathleen Woods



Scenes from the opening day of the Ottersburn exhibition on Saturday, November 11

Castle Douglas 2018

April 25 - May 5

DAGFAS “On the Road” at Castle Douglas Gallery, Market Hill library.

Members are invited to submit two artworks for this exhibition, running from Wednesday April 25 to Saturday May 5. A new feature this year: members may also enter up to 20 cards, priced at £2 each.

In order that a list of exhibitors and works can be prepared, a completed application form must be sent to Kathleen Woods on woods664@btinternet.com or to 10 Davie Gill Park, Thornhill, DG3 5AH by Tuesday April 17.

The artwork must be labelled with the title, medium, name and address of the artist and the price. Please stick your own labels on the back of paintings, which must be framed with rings and cord fixed ready for hanging. A deep box canvas may be unframed.

The artwork along with an entry fee of £3 per work must be handed in to the hanging committee at the Castle Douglas Gallery on Tuesday April 24 between 11am and 12 noon.

Dumfries and Galloway Council will charge 15 per cent commission on sales. The exhibition will be open from 10.30am-4pm daily.

Artworks not sold must be collected from the exhibition on Saturday May 5 between 3pm and 4pm.

The entry form is on page 30 - and please indicate on the form if you can help out in the gallery during the exhibition.

A glimpse of the 2017-18 season's presentations and workshops, starting with...

'Painting' with wool

Ann Smith



Ann with one of her textile paintings

Members were initiated into the art of using wool and other textiles to create pictures, at Gracefield on October 13.

Ann has had years of experience in the textile and fashion industries and is now a full-time artist, painting in oils as well as creating felted wool and needle felt pictures.

Six members took part in the follow-up workshop in November.

"We had a really good day and Ann was a really good tutor," said one of the participants. "There wasn't much talking and a lot of concentration!"



Stages in the making of a felted wool picture. Above: laying strands of coloured wool on a wet wool base. Right: the work is rolled and compressed.





"A lot of concentration" - Ann's workshop in progress



Members show the results of their day's work. Right and below: some creations in close-up



Willow weaving

Geoff Forrest

The intricacies of making objects with willow were demonstrated to members by Geoff Forrest on November 17. His follow-up workshop on December 3 tested members' manual dexterity in making decorative objects with Christmas in mind.



Above: Geoff demonstrates some basic techniques involved in basket making. Left: at the workshop, measuring up in the process of making a Christmas angel



**Willow work angels
and hearts under
construction during the
workshop**



**Some of the other
decorative objects
members were shown
how to make**



Still life and composition

Bella Green



Bella's talk on January 10 was an illuminating exposition, with slides, of ways of approaching still life,

focusing on such things as observation, arrangement, colour and tone. Her workshop on February 2 (above and opposite) had members making a series of quick sketches, scaling-up a selected composition and, eventually, attempting a painting.



Part of an array of objects provided by Bella which workshop participants were asked to observe and draw from various angles





Painting abstracts

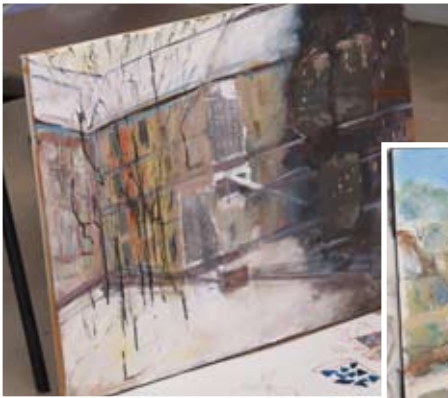
Patti Lean



Showing some of her work in progress (above), Patti gave an insight into her studio practices and what inspired her - including her scary experience of being under a snow bridge while on a residency in Iceland.

Among strategies for painting abstracts, she recommended working without preconceived notions of what the end result should be, working on a number of pieces at once, and borrowing from many other artists - "but not from one - that's copying!" Other suggestions included welcoming surprises, breaking things up rather than drawing lines and colouring-in, and thinking about touch, smell, movement, taste and feeling.

Members get creative at Patti's workshop on March 9 - which had been postponed for a week because of snow. Below a montage of some of the work produced after a number of exercises designed to help participants 'loosen up'.



The magazine went to press too soon to include details of William Neal's presentation on March 16 and workshop on March 30.

2018 summer workshops

The workshops take place at Gracefield (with the exception of Pamela Grace's on June 1 which will be on location at Kirkpatrick Durham) and run from 10am to 4pm. Booking form on page 28.

May 4 - Davy Brown Still life

Davy says: “ I shall be concentrating on, firstly, Composition, and secondly, Tone.

“All participants are asked to bring the following: three white objects to be included in a still life, and all the necessary equipment for oil painting (easel, palette, canvas or board, paints, brushes, turps, sub-turps, rags, dust-sheet, as well as some sketching paper and pencils)

“If participants prefer to use acrylics, that's OK.

“Everyone will leave with a painting of which he or she will be immensely proud!”



***Still Life with Jug,
Lamp and Lemons.***
**Oil, 15" x 12" by
Davy Brown**

May 18 - George Birrell Improvising from memory



George says: "Bring acrylic or gouache paints, brushes, rollers, palette knife, memories, inspiration! Maybe also aquarelle pencils, oil crayons, blotting paper, old credit cards."

**Garden Sheds. Oil
on linen, 40x40
cm, by George
Birrell**

George trained at Glasgow School Of Art from 1967 to 1971, and taught art, design and photography off and on, until 1998. Painting full time since then, he uses mostly oil colour, sometimes mixed media. His subject matter is improvised from east coast towns, villages, coastline, castles and mills.

June 1 - Pamela Grace

Sketching and painting on location



Pamela says: The workshop will be based on the Kirkpatrick Durham recreation field and Bothy (my Spring Fling venue). We will be looking at recording sketchbook ideas and ways of working on location on larger more finished projects. There is a good range of views and painting possibilities. The Bothy will be our base for refreshments- tea and coffee and biscuits will be provided - bring your own packed lunch, If the weather is not kind, we can work indoors from drawings, tablet photos etc and some of the lovely wildflowers in the field.

**Pamela's image
of flowers, done
on the recreation
field**

Bring warm clothing, a lightweight portable seat, palette and paints - your choice - drawing and heavier watercolour papers. I will bring a range of pens and inks and some printing inks and discuss my own practice.

Parking on the street and limited space on the field itself. for the less able. Pedestrian access is about halfway up Victoria Street - I will put a sign up on the day

June 15 - Bella Green

Still life and creative composition

Bella's previous workshop in February was oversubscribed so she kindly agreed to lead another one on the same topic. Bella writes: Like many artists, I have a large collection of objects around my studio. Each has an association, a memory, even perhaps a story. I create my paintings from these sources. I make observed studies in real media and on my iPad, and I use my imagination and a playful approach to picture making.

This workshop will explore how to create a still life painting from multiple sources. It will show compositional methods derived from Degas - and if participants have an iPad and the ArtRage programme they may also utilise that.

Please bring a few inspirational objects and some photos as references, and your preferred medium - acrylics or pastels suggested. You will also need ordinary charcoal, a pencil and biro and your usual canvas/paper and brushes and palette for your medium.



***Summer Garden
Bouquet by Bella.
Oil on canvas
49x39cm***

2018 Annual General Meeting

11am, Friday April 13, at Gracefield, Dumfries

Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the 2017 AGM
3. Matters arising
4. Chairman's report
5. Treasurer's report
6. Appointment of accounts examiner
7. Election of executive council
8. Any other competent business

Nominations for membership of the council are welcome - the rules allow up to 12 members in addition to office bearers.

Summary of minutes of the AGM on April 7, 2017

The chairman, Kathleen Woods, thanked members for their attendance and the council for their support and excellent work over her first year in office. In particular, she expressed gratitude to the society's secretary, Carol Reece, to Martine Berlemont for organising an excellent programme of events, and to Ian Irving for his work on the website and magazine. In his absence, thanks were also extended to Chris Otty, for his care of the society funds.

The chairman said the retiring president, Hazel Campbell, had been a tower of strength during her term of office and praised her active and supportive commitment to the society and its council. The retiring president and events organiser were each presented with a bouquet of flowers by the chairman, who went on to applaud members for their excellent presentation of works at the 2016 exhibition at Castle Douglas.

The annual summer exhibition at Gracefield had been another success with excellent attendance and sales, and members were reminded of the forthcoming special 90th annual exhibition in July 2017. The 2016 Christmas exhibition at

Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary had been a great success both in standard of work presented and in sales. Unfortunately an exhibition in 2017 might not be an option in the new building, according to recent information. Alternative exhibition space was being sought and liaison with the relevant NHS managers was ongoing.

The chairman made a plea for volunteers to join the council. Phil Gibson responded and will be co-opted on to the council in July 2017.

Treasurer's report: In the treasurer's absence, the chairman reported a healthy balance of £7,776. A proposal that Tom Aitken continue to audit the society accounts was agreed.

Membership: the secretary said membership stood at almost 300.

Election of council: the chairman confirmed that the current members had agreed to continue for the next year. Martine Berlemont had stood down as programme organiser but had agreed to remain on the council. Davy Brown had been proposed and had accepted the position of president for a three-year term of office.

Guest speakers: Rebecca Coggins, Dumfries and Galloway principal officer for arts and museums, and Harry Thomson, head of services, spoke about the results of the Gracefield future options survey.

It was confirmed that no decision had yet been made regarding the future of the Gracefield site and that the results of the options appraisal would be the subject of a public report, with release expected in the late autumn or winter of 2017. Those present confirmed that the decision was awaited with interest and some anxiety - it was suggested that the process could take several years.

NB: This is an abridged version of the minutes. The full version may be downloaded from the website, www.dumfriesandgallowayfineartsociety.org.uk

Dumfries & Galloway Fine Arts Society

Receipts and Payments Account for year ended 31st December 2017

2016	2017	2016	2017
£	£	£	£
PAYMENTS		RECEIPTS	
<u>General</u>		<u>General</u>	
1860.00	2228.45	2902.50	2817.51
1256.55	1155.75	87.00	-
270.00	501.60	1436.00	1825.00
338.28	289.60	4425.50	4642.51
<u>249.92</u>	<u>357.40</u>		
3974.75	4532.80		
<u>Annual Exhibitions</u>		<u>Annual Exhibitions</u>	
3620.25	3160.05	3601.00	3521.00
331.80	652.40	34.60	-
331.47	325.90	<u>470.10</u>	<u>797.00</u>
-	-	4105.70	4318.00
<u>4283.52</u>	<u>4138.35</u>		
<u>Closing Balance</u>		<u>Opening Balance</u>	
5236.76	<u>5526.12</u>	4963.83	<u>5236.76</u>
Bank of Scotland (reconciled)		Bank of Scotland	
<u>13495.03</u>	<u>14197.27</u>	<u>13495.03</u>	<u>14197.27</u>

I have examined the accounting records of Dumfries & Galloway Fine Arts Society for the year ended 31st December 2017, and certify that the above Receipts and Payments Account is in accordance with those records, and that the closing balance has been agreed with the Bank Statement. I also agree with the terms of the note attached referring to pictures and equipment which are the property of the Society.

T.H.Aitken, BA

19th January 2018

NOTE – The Society has purchased two pictures which are on permanent loan to The Gracefield Arts Centre. At the last valuation, their joint value was £1,000. Details of the pictures can be supplied, on request, by the Hon. Secretary. In addition, the Society owns a microphone system worth approximately £40, an overhead mirror at £85 and software in respect of the membership database at £121. In 2010 the Society purchased a Sony Camcorder and Tripod for £353.99, in 2013 Projection Equipment for £993.00, and in 2014 Banners for £168.00.

Support sought for Lockerbie's Old School Hub project



Photo © Oliver Dixon

The society has been asked if it would be interested in mounting an annual exhibition at the Old School Community Hub in Lockerbie.

The organisers - a registered charity - are hoping the former Lockerbie Academy building (later used as a primary school) will be refurbished and open by 2019, including an art gallery and shop.

They are looking for expressions of interest in the project to support the funding process. They also suggest that DAGFAS members might be interested in supplying art and craft items for the shop. Commission of 20 per cent on shop and gallery sales is proposed.

The hub may also be used as a venue for evening classes, including arts and crafts, and the organisers are looking for people who would be willing to teach courses.

contact: lynnprhal@yahoo.co.uk
www.lockerbieoldschool.co.uk

SUMMER PROGRAMME 2018 - BOOKING FORM

May 4	Davy Brown	£25	Gracefield	Room 2	
May 18	George Birrell	£25	Gracefield	Room 2	
June 1	Pamela Grace	£25	Kirkpatrick	Durham	
July 15	Bella Green	£25	Gracefield	Room 2	

NAME

Email for confirmation

Telephone

I enclose a cheque, payable to DAGFAS, for

Please indicate which event (s) you wish to attend and send the completed form together with full payment to:

Kathleen Woods
10 Davie Gill Park,
Thornhill, DG3 5AH

or email **woods664@btinternet.com**

If you require a receipt, please enclose an SAE. Confirmation will only be sent by email.

In brief...

Opening soon

Kirkcudbright's new galleries are due to open in May after a £3 million transformation of the 19th century town hall.

There will be a permanent exhibition of well known Kirkcudbright artists' work, two other spaces hosting temporary exhibitions and touring shows, and a cafe.

Doing the Fling

A number of DAGFAS members will again be opening their studios to the public over Spring Fling weekend, May 26-28.

The organisers say the 2017 event attracted 30,000 visitors and gave a £1.7 million boost to the region's economy.

This year 86 studios will be welcoming visitors, including 11 opening for the first time.

Connecting...

A website aiming to "bring together the most comprehensive collection of Scottish artists, galleries, art clubs and art groups on the net" has been launched at www.scottishartconnect.com.

As well as listing galleries and art societies, the site offers artists a chance to show some of their work on the web without charge.



Castle Douglas exhibition APPLICATION FORM

Name of Artist:-

Address:-

E-mail Address:-

Telephone No:-

Title of work:-

Medium:-

Price:-

Title:of work-

Medium:-

Price:-

If you are willing to help staff the exhibition please indicate in the table below your preferred date or dates. Sessions may be either full day 10.30-4pm, or half-day 10.30-1pm or 1pm-4pm.

Application form must be sent to Kathleen Woods on woods664@btinternet.com or to 10 Davie Gill Park, Thornhill, DG3 5AH by Tuesday April 17.

		Tuesday April 24	Wednesday April 25	Thursday April 26	Friday April 27	Saturday April 28
10.30-1pm		Hand-in 11am-12				
1pm-4pm		Hanging				
	Monday April 30	Tuesday May 1	Wednesday May 2	Thursday May 3	Friday May 4	Saturday May 5
10.30-1pm						
1pm-4pm						Collection 3pm-4pm

Your council

(Some details may be different after the AGM. Check with the website)

President: Davy Brown

Kilmodan, Corvisel Road, Newton Stewart. DG86LW

01671 403 767 davybrownartist@gmail.com

Chairman and Exhibitions Co-ordinator: Kathleen Woods

10 Davie Gill Park, Thornhill, DG3 5AH

01848 331 403 woods664@btinternet.com

Secretary: Carol Reece

4 Maxwell Park, Dalbeattie, DG5 4LS

01556 612 464 carolreece1@btinternet.com

Treasurer and Membership Secretary: Chris Otty

25, Ardwell Road, Dumfries, DG1 4DF

01387 252 649 chrisotty@hotmail.com

Website and magazine editor: Ian Irving

Woodlea, Corsock, DG7 3DN

01644 440 276 ian@dumfriesandgallowayfineartsociety.org.uk

Members: Martine Berlemont, Muriel Collins, Alan Hawker, Brian Power, David Rose, John Fairgrieve, Phil Gibson

Last-page laugh With thanks to Richard Whiting



