



# Cardiff Museum Drawing Group



A collection of artwork by the  
Cardiff Museum Drawing Group

2019-21

Cover image: *Cardiff Museum Main Entrance*, August 2020,  
Pencil, by Chris Hunt

# About the group...

In March 2019, a group of people came together to begin exploring National Museum Cardiff's collections through drawing.

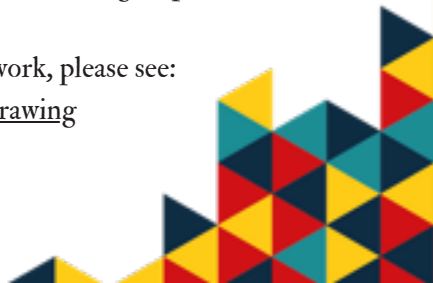
Every Tuesday lunchtime, the group would spend an hour and a half using their own artistic abilities to engage with the objects in the exhibitions. Over time, the participants built a collective picture of the exhibits that captured their attention throughout the Museum: from badgers to bronzes; from seascapes to ceramics.

Originally established by Creative Lives, the Cardiff Museum Drawing Group became a self-organised creative group built on friendship and creativity.

During the first national lockdown, the group moved its activities online, but continued to share creative challenges, and began meeting in-person as respites in restrictions allowed.

This booklet presents a curated selection of the group's artwork.

For further examples of the group's work, please see:  
[www.instagram.com/cardiffmuseumdrawing](https://www.instagram.com/cardiffmuseumdrawing)



# Bev Sarin

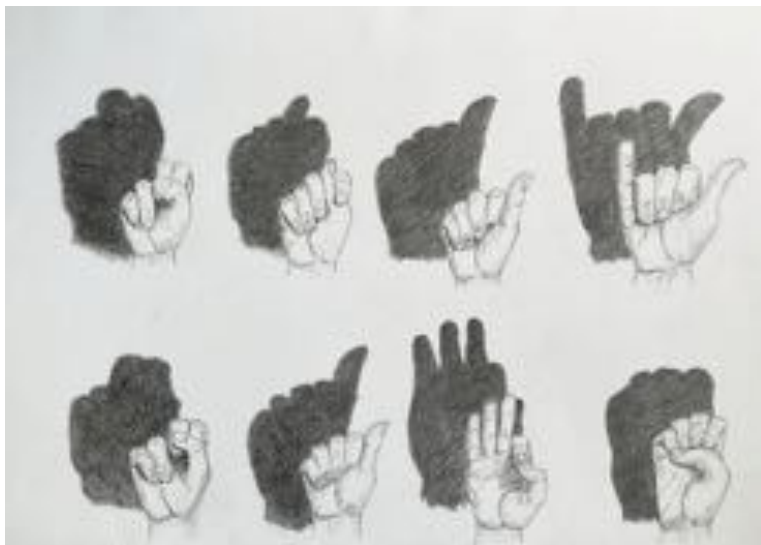
Despite not studying art at school I have always felt I had a creative streak. During teaching I used visual forms of explanation, demonstration and collaboration to explore subjects. Retirement provided me with the opportunity to explore my creative side. I began with an 'Introduction to drawing' class in September 2018.

I joined Cardiff Museum Drawing group at its inception in a bid to link up with an artist community. This group has become a friendship group and a saving grace during the restrictions of Covid lockdown. Together we challenge, support, advise and inspire each other, learning and stretching our imaginations. My drawing and painting skills are progressing and I look forward to continuing to enjoy exploring the world of art with my friends.



*Still Life with Teapot*, coloured pencil, February 2020.

Drawn over a number of visits to the museum. Based on the piece by Paul Cézanne (1902-06).



*Stay Safe*, graphite pencil, April 2020.

Piece for the 'Shadows' challenge. Drawn at the beginning of lockdown as a message to loved ones whilst my fear for those I cared about was at a high.



*At a National Trust café, watercolour, fine liner pens and acrylic,  
May 2020.*

Piece for the 'My favourite cuppa' challenge. As lockdown progressed and the impact of separation from friends began to make itself known, this piece reflected happy memories.



*Chimneys of Llandaff*, inks, watercolour and pen, May 2021.

For the 'Chimneys' challenge. Making the most of 'walking for exercise' to observe and collect inspiration for drawing.





*Bernardino Evaristo, graphite and coloured pencils, May 2020.*

Lockdown brought many new opportunities to engage with art. From a session of 'Portrait Artist of the Week' (Sky Arts).



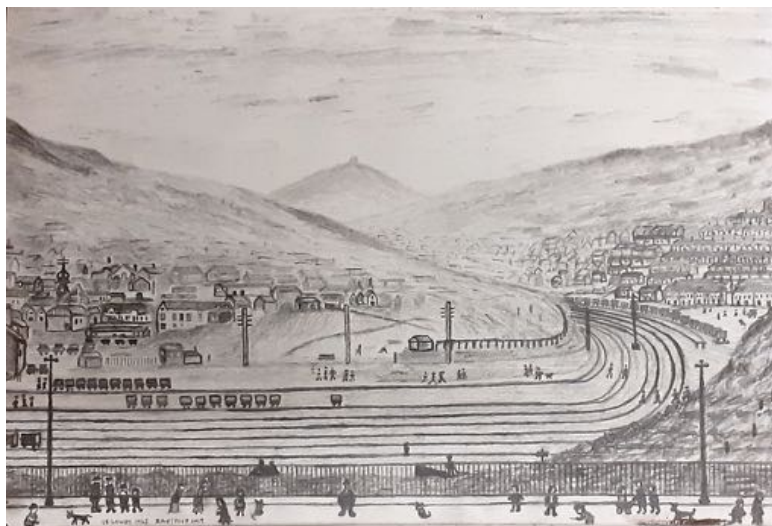
*Green Olives*, watercolour, June 2021.

For the 'Green' challenge. A piece to challenge my watercolour skills.

# Chris Hunt

I took up art as a hobby in the summer of 2018 and very much enjoy it. I am usually working on a piece for the art class I attend or the Museum group every week. I am comfortable working with most media, but especially like fine liner and colour pencil. I like to challenge myself by drawing complicated and detailed architecture.

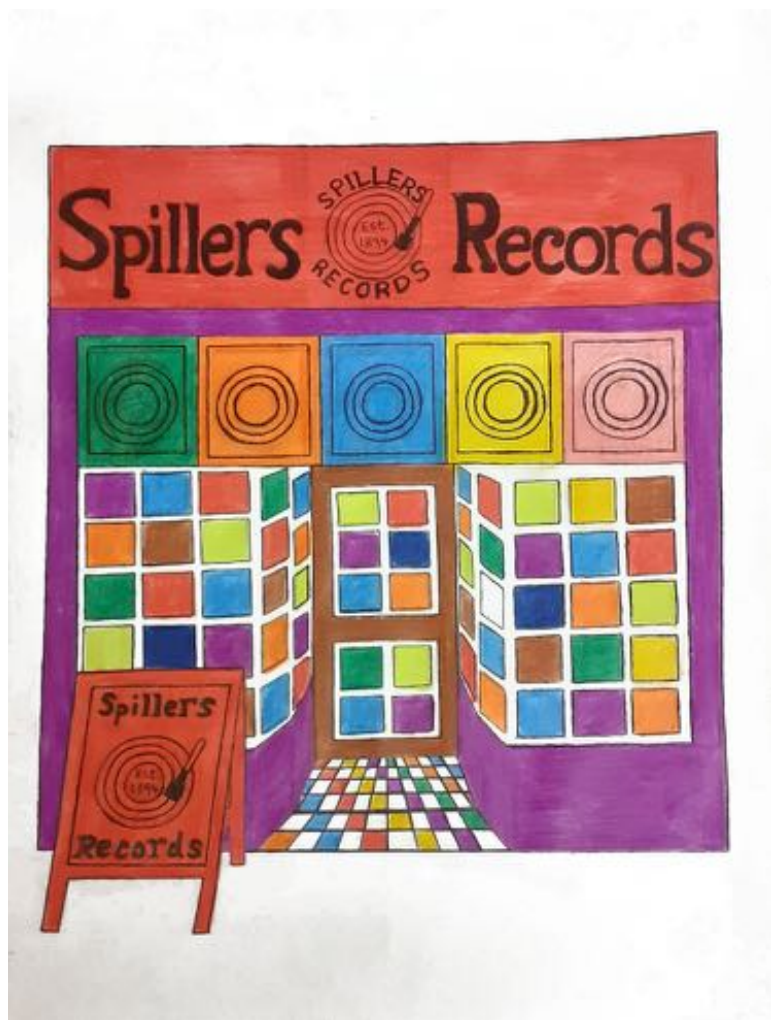
The Museum group has been a fantastic community group and network, especially in lockdown. We are always encouraging each other and learning from the artwork we produce.



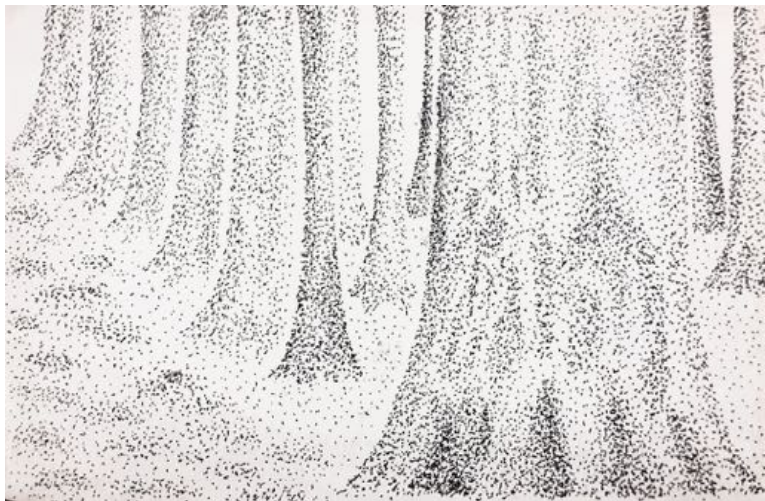
Museum 1 - Lowry, Six Bells - Pencil, November 2019



Museum 2 - Bernardo Bellotto, The fortress of Königstein from the north - Pencil, March 2020



Lockdown 1 - Music Theme, Spillers - Coloured pencil and pen,  
August 2020



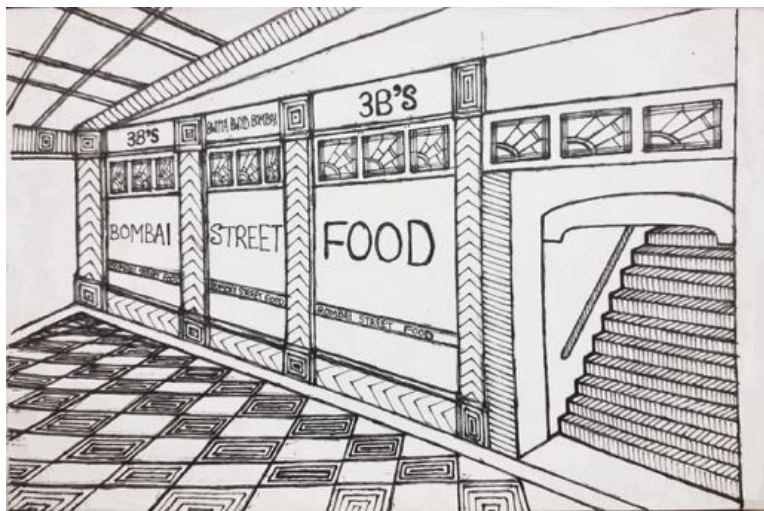
Lockdown 2 - Trees Theme, Pointillism - Pen, November 2020



Meet Up 1 - High Street Arcade, Barker Tea House - Pen, May

2021





Meet Up 2 - High Street Arcade, Bombay Street Food - Pen,  
September 2021

# Jane Davies

I joined the Museum Drawing Group after meeting Bev at another workshop, which provided little opportunity for participants to socialise in May 2019. Bev encouraged me to come to the Museum group, which I did. So I joined with two motives - to improve my art and to make some friends- and I have not been disappointed.

My first drawing was of the iconic 'La Parisienne by Renoir' which I went on to recreate in watercolour and then cake colouring on my birthday cake. The group was always very supportive and encouraging and could always find something positive to say. I looked forward to Tuesdays so much I was disappointed to find the museum closed on Tuesday 23 March 2020 - lockdown!

Through weekly Zoom meetings the group kept together throughout the first lockdown, even if the chat was more social than artistic. As soon as we able to meet outside I persuaded everyone that the Castle was suitable and we met there, moving into the Arcades when the weather was poor, but I couldn't do much art as I had broken my wrist.

When the second lockdown came we resumed Zoom meetings and posting our artwork on Instagram thanks to the tech skills of some of the others in the group. Family ties meant that I longed to be nearer to my new grandson. So in May 2021 we moved to Cornwall, where I have been able to stay in touch with the group and participate in the challenges as time and changed family responsibilities have allowed.



First drawings at the museum



Still life - With some of the items that were not in packing boxes.

February 2021 - pencil



Pencil and coloured pencil - chimneys on one house in Saltash,  
Cornwall



Green theme: Watercolour - June 2021



Seasons of Mists and Mellow Fruitfulness - Watercolour, October

2021

In response to a picture in Country Living Magazine.



After Allan Gwynne Jones. Pencil and watercolour, March 2020.

Just before lockdown. Cornish landscape - how prophetic!



# Julia Allen

I have always enjoyed observational drawing from life, though not always made time for it.

I learned about the Museum Drawing Group whilst at a 'Life drawing with Leonardo' event at the Museum in March 2019. It seemed a great opportunity to draw exhibits that interested me whilst facing a phobia of drawing in public.

It was great to be part of a group where we discussed our work and exchanged knowledge on media and techniques. I was a bit nervous at first, people occasionally do stop to see what you are doing, but after a few weeks it no longer worried me.

When the pandemic began, we switched to Zoom meetings and Instagram challenges. When restrictions eased it was good to meet up in person again and sketch outdoors at the castle and arcades.



Pencil and chalk drawing of William Goscombe John's sculpture  
'Head of a Young Girl', November 2019.



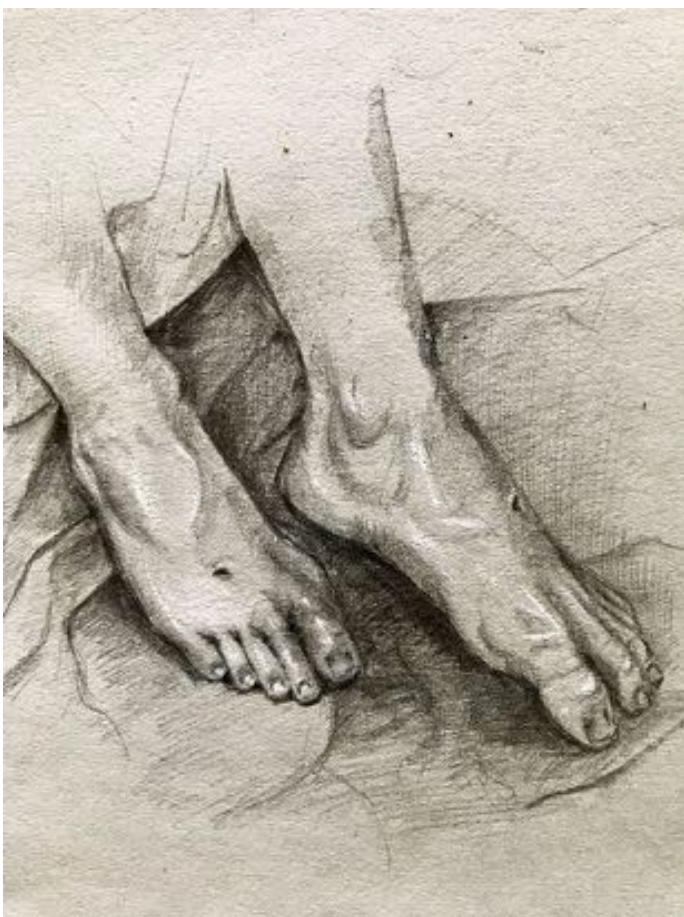
Pencil and chalk drawing of Botticelli's painting of 'Madonna and Child', Cardiff Museum, January 2020.



Ink sketch of Rodin's 'Eternal Spring' sculpture, Cardiff Museum, February 2020.



Skull found during lockdown walk. Drawn in charcoal for Instagram Halloween theme, November 2020.



Instagram 'Feet' challenge, 'Feet of Christ' from the Pieta.  
March 2021.



Meeting up at Cardiff Castle, water soluble pencil and chalk,  
July 2021.



# Lynne Croft

I have been exploring different crafts over the last decade or so, eventually settling on felting where I create wearable art and felted 'paintings' amongst many other things.

However, I wanted to start drawing and painting again after many years, so attended life drawing classes and during lockdown I followed a lot of online portrait tutorials.

On my hunt for different avenues to extend my drawing and painting I found the Cardiff Museum Drawing Group.

Unfortunately I was only able to join the group at the Museum a few times before lockdown, but I'd really enjoyed sharing and discussing everyone's drawings at the end of the sessions.

It was nice to see so many different styles and mediums being used, and to hear what inspired each person. The WhatsApp group was a lovely extension of this and it really helped throughout lockdown to have that connection.

The group is very supportive and encouraging, and the themes and challenges have led to me trying and exploring different mediums and ideas.





*Dressed dancer study*, Edgar Degas - fineliner pen, drawn from the  
Cardiff Museum's online catalogue. May 2020



*Dancer looking at the sole of her right foot*, Edgar Degas - fineliner pen,  
drawn from the Cardiff Museum's online catalogue. May 2020



*Stone bridge.* Theme: bridges. Challenge: ink pen.  
July 2021



*Jenkins Vase*, Edith Downing - pencil and watercolour. January 2021.

Theme: Something from the museum.



Still life with drapery, lockdown theme. Inks.  
June 2020.



*The Lake at Ragley Hall*, for the theme of *Green*. Watercolour and fineliner drawing pen.

June 2021

# Sara Constable

A curiosity for history and art, brought me along to Cardiff's Muesum Drawing Group. The museum is a wonderful space to sketch in, with its impressive art collection and programme of visiting exhibitions. I appreciate the group's relaxed and supportive approach to creativity. It has helped keep me connected to dabbling in art from time to time. I am very thankful to all the members of the drawing group and those involved with its organisation.

*"If you truly love nature, you will find beauty everywhere."*

Vincent Van Gogh



A study after 'The Cliff at Penarth, evening low tide' 1897, Alfred  
Sisley (1839 - 1899) Charcoal and Watercolour Pencil, my first  
Museum Drawing Session, April 2019





A study after 'Ancient Table 1983' by David Nash (born 1945)  
Charcoal Pencil on Pastel Paper, August 2019



‘Little Celandine’ watercolour and charcoal, March 2020.  
Outdoor sketchbook study by the River Taff, Bute Park, Cardiff.



‘Ammonite’ Pastel on paper, April 2020  
Study of an ammonite pebble fossil in response to ‘Museum at Home’.



‘City Cherry Tree’ charcoal and watercolour pencil June 2020.  
In response to ‘Up My Street’ sketched during the First National  
lockdown in 2020.



# Linda Evans

I love drawing and enjoy the company of other like minded people, so joining the Museum Drawing Group has proven to be an adventure, whether sketching on-site, or responding to online themes and challenges, this has given the right amount of gentle pressure to encourage action!

I draw to communicate, to convey information, and try to express what I'm feeling, seeing, imagining or inventing.

Perhaps I'll create an image to share, or make working sketches to prepare for a graphics project, or sometimes it's fun to simply practice the skills of drawing. I love experimentation and variation - I also adore graph paper, grids, repeating patterns, animation and digital illustration.

Doodling, scribbling, sketching, drawing - any subject, any medium, I just love making marks.



*Coffee Barker*, September 2021

Between lockdowns, the group met at a Cardiff Arcade cafe and this drippy cup of coffee was sketched on my iPad.





*News Clock, November 2021*

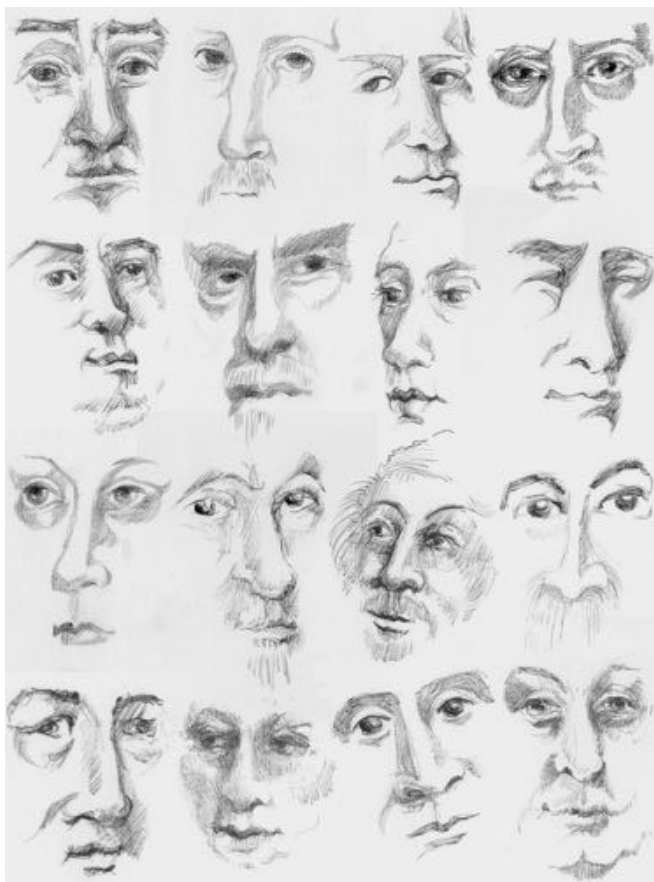
This month, the Challenge was Newspaper and the theme was Clocks. So, inspired by Salvador Dalí's painting "The Persistence of Memory" the melting clock is drawn in charcoal, on top of a very convenient newspaper article!





*Pottery From Crete, January 2020*

Sketchbook studies made in Heraklion Archaeological Museum, Crete (before Covid lockdowns). Soft graphite pencil, digitally coloured.



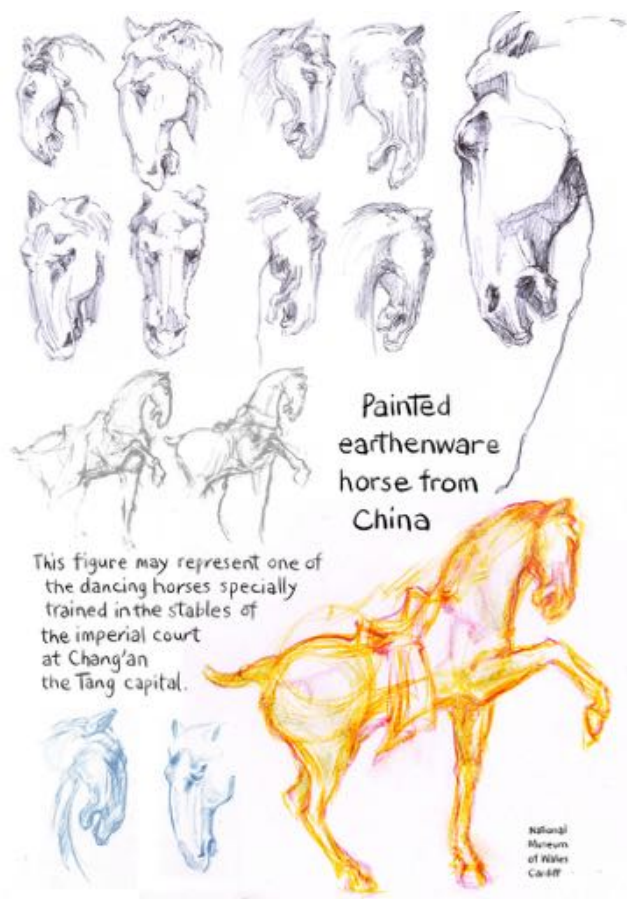
*Museum Faces, January 2021*

The National Museum of Wales Online Collection of portraits provided inspiration during lockdown. Some of those very interesting faces were sketched in black biro, graphite and digital pencil.



*The Keep at Cardiff Castle, September 2020*

Digital drawing on the iPad, at an outdoor meet-up between lockdowns.



Painted  
earthenware  
horse from  
China

This figure may represent one of  
the dancing horses specially  
trained in the stables of  
the imperial court  
at Chang'an  
the T'ang capital.

National  
Museum  
of Wales  
Cardiff

### *Chinese Horse, 2021-22*

Sketch studies in black biro and coloured pencils - started in the summer of 2021 and continued in early 2022, when the group was able to meet inside the Museum, and draw from its wonderful variety of exhibits.

# Katy Evans

Having only studied Art to GCSE level, and not having much of an interest in the subject in my younger years, over the last 5 years my good friend has re-ignited my interest in Art.

It started by attending life drawing classes which was a bit daunting but I really enjoyed the experience. (Drawing, not modelling!)

The next step was to tag along with my friend to the Cardiff Museum Art Group. Due to my working pattern I only managed to attend a few times. The group was very friendly and offered helpful hints on techniques and how to use different materials.

When we went into lockdown the group went online via WhatsApp. The weekly art challenges kept my spirits up. Lockdown was such a lonely place but my new online art friends made me feel proud at the different pieces of art I created week by week.

I still have lots to learn and although life is nearly back to normal and is busy, I will continue to try and complete the challenges.



One of my first drawings from the Museum. Pencil. November 2019.  
*Wings of the Wind* by Gilbert Bayes. Bronze on marble base.

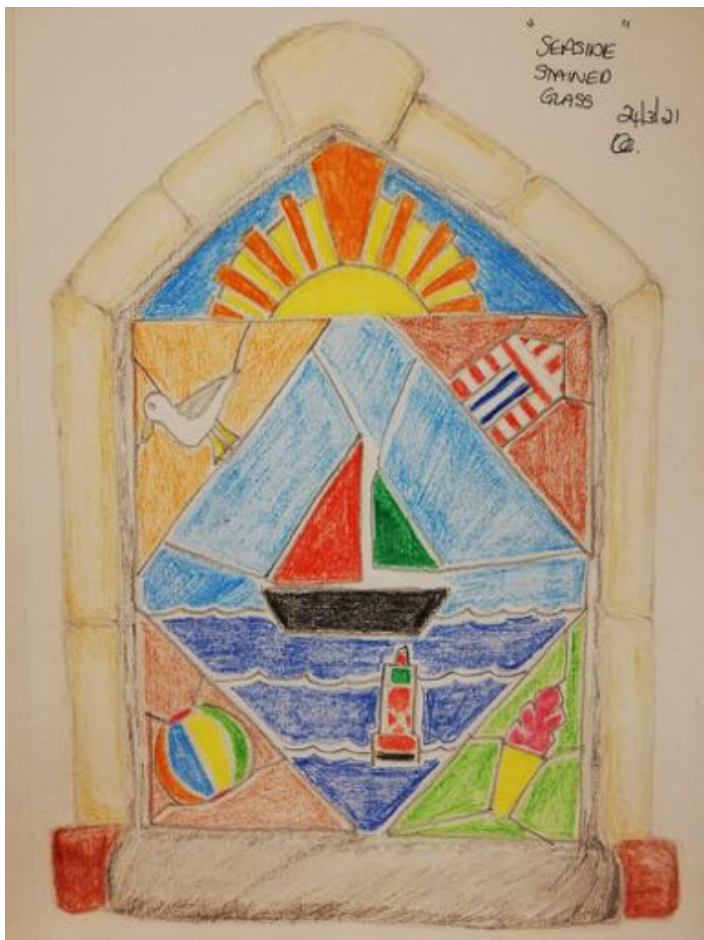


Just going into lockdown one of the themes *Springtime*.  
Watercolour of my lavender pot in the garden. March 2020.

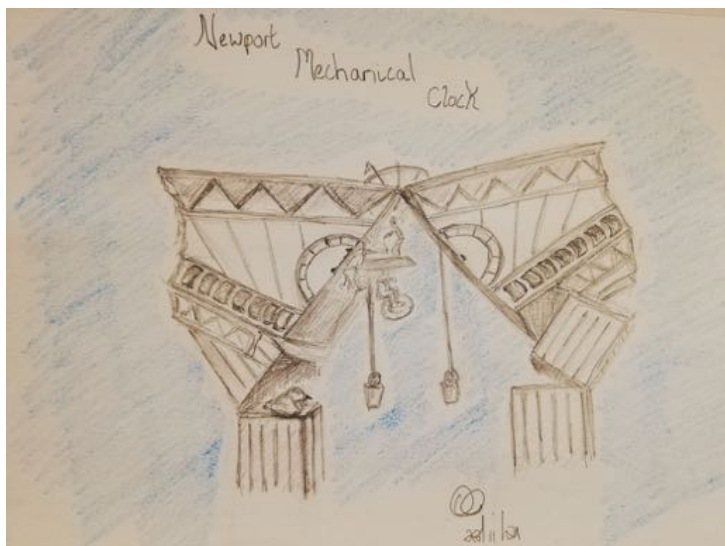


East Usk Lighthouse. During lockdown and missing going out and about the theme of *Landmarks*. I decided on the local wetlands centre which remained closed for quite some time. Black ink pen. August 2020.





*Stained glass* theme. Coloured pencils. Inspired by the Beach and all those seaside holidays we longed for during continuing lockdown restrictions.



Pencil drawing of the Mechanical Clock which used to be displayed in John Frost Square. Clock theme. November 2021.



Pencil drawing of Bellevue Tea Rooms. Favourite pastime to have a coffee and cake after a nice walk. July 2021.



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