



Gallery Newsletter March 2016 Hello!

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Summer Exhibition 2016

“Sharing Spaces”

16th May to 27th August 2016

The gallery will be as in previous years hosting a summer exhibition. Artists and makers are invited to submit one piece of work. Submission forms are available from the gallery and the centre's website.

Please return your form to the Manager at the Loch Torridon Community Centre Gallery
by 15th April 2016.

Interview with Hannah Cundiff

Have you always been an artist? I started painting as a child having always had an interest in art and crafts. I would have liked to have continued that when I went to High School, but had an affinity for music as well and decided to pursue music as a teenager. I always had art supplies at home though and would sketch and paint for friends and family.

Can you tell us a little bit more about yourself and the Patterns of Light Studio you run? I have lived in the area since childhood moving here with my parents in 1993. Before taking on Patterns of Light I spent nine years working at the Carron Pottery on the shores of Lochcarron. Finding I had a natural way with people, my confidence gradually grew. During that time I started making jewellery and cards in my spare time.



Patterns of Light was started in 1997 by Jenny and Mike Turner in Yoxford, Suffolk. In 2002 they relocated to Kishorn. Jenny and Mike were friends of mine and after moving to Achintraid in 2008 I developed a close friendship with Jenny. Very sadly she passed away at the end of 2012. Having always found Patterns of Light to be a sanctuary to me, during 2013 I found I was less happy with where my own life was at. After a lot of discussion and soul searching Mike offered the business to me, officially becoming the owner in April 2014. I found my real place and discovered myself in the process!

The shop is also a studio where I can produce my own artwork, dreamcatchers, jewellery and continue producing Jenny's prints and cards. Whilst also stocking a wide selection of cards, candles, glass, pottery, jewellery, books, incense and locally made soaps.

Did you have any formal training? I had no formal training as I was diagnosed with ME at sixteen. Taking time out from my education until well enough to return to my studies as a part time student. Plockton High School were incredibly supportive and allowed me to study for two Higher qualifications by attending part time until I could sit my exams. I was unable to go away to university and could only maintain part time work.

On reaching twenty-one Rob and Jan Teago took me on at Carron Pottery as a part time worker.



Gradually my energy returned, eventually becoming their full time employee. Through all of this I would paint and sketch when inspired, along with music it was a form of therapy for me.

What media do you like to work in? When younger, I used to enjoy sketching in pencil and also to paint with watercolours. As a child, I remember being at my Grandmother's when she produced an old set of watercolours to keep me entertained and it developed from there. Having dabbled in various mediums

there are more still to attempt! I consider my education in art to be ongoing and enjoy experimenting with new things when the chance arises. Since being in Patterns of Light I have thoroughly enjoyed working in acrylic, the particularly bold colours achievable together with the effects this can create. Recent work done in watercolour inks have also proved very satisfying.

Where do you find your inspiration? Mostly in my surroundings and like many artists who are lucky enough to live here, I love the dramatic landscape and seascape of the West Coast. A series of paintings were inspired by a holiday on Lewis and Harris last year - the colours and light in the Hebrides really appeal to me. I like to experiment and try different things, enjoy working in detail having done studies of flora and fauna as well.

What are you working on at the moment? Running the business myself gives me lots of other duties, so at the moment I don't have anything particular I'm working on. The early months of the year are spent preparing the shop for the coming season, also trying to find a little time to recharge the batteries! Having recently finished a small painting of a thistle in watercolour inks, I'm looking forward to producing the first cards of it in the next week or two.

Spending a fair bit of time building up the stock for the shop as well, so dreamcatchers, cards and creative kits are where I channel my creativity at the moment. A short break is planned at the end of the month though when my sketchpads, paints and brushes will accompany me to the Moray coast where hopefully some different inspiration will present itself.



Hannah's work is being exhibited at the Torridon Centre Gallery and her studio website can be found here <http://www.patterns-of-light.com/>

Spotlight on Steve Austin

The Torridon Centre Gallery is hosting a mini exhibition of Steve's work which will include examples of his photography and driftwood designs. The exhibit will run from 21st March to 30th April 2016.

Steve started craft work many years ago selling framed landscape prints and hand-crafted-walking sticks. For the stick shafts he especially liked to use pieces of honey-suckle twisted hazel – such amazing and individual shapes.

He later got into wildlife photography and concentrated on that for some years. However, on some of many walks throughout the Highlands he came across great looking pieces of seashore driftwood and couldn't resist collecting it. The problem then was – what to do with it? He tried a couple of driftwood mirrors and these became rather successful.

More recently Steve started collecting freshwater driftwood – mainly from the large Hydro dams. Then, after seeing an intriguing example of a tree made from driftwood 'down South' began to produce some of his own design. These are made in various sizes: from small 'fixed ones', to self-build ones that can easily be dismantled and flat-packed when not in use. They are especially popular as Christmas trees, however, they can also be used as an all-year display e.g. for an Easter, autumn, or a seaside theme. They really are unique pieces of art.

Having a caravan at Applecross his photography now concentrates on the wildlife and landscapes of the Applecross and Inverness areas and some of his photographs feature in a range of cards and mounted prints.



Some of you may have noticed the large display panel above the Inverness Museum of a Loch Ness sunset – one of his photographs – taken around the shortest day of the year.

Other items made by Steve are smaller, such as driftwood keyrings and shell tortoises; which have proved to be popular with children. So these, along with other driftwood products, cards and prints now make up his crafts today.



This and previous issues of the newsletter are available to download from the Centre website via the Exhibitions page. We'll be back soon with more news and features.

from The Gallery

Summer Opening Hours

Easter - October
Monday to Saturday
10am – 4pm
Closed Sunday

Winter Opening Hours

November – Easter
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
11am – 3pm
Closed Sunday

Contact

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**Artists and Makers Exhibiting at the Torridon Centre Gallery
(Alphabetical by surname updated March 2016)**

Anderson	Susie	Harris Tweed Accessories
Austin	Steve	Photography / Driftwood
Banister	Sammy	Artist - Mixed Media
Barrett Webb	Vicky	Artist - Mixed Media
Barton	Ann	Artist - Mixed Media
Bates	Les	Photography / Poetry
Bates	Sheila	Felt Artist
Bennett Mackenzie	Lynn	Visual Artist
Bervoets	Monique	Willow Basketry
Blaxter	Bruce	Silversmith
Blois	Clare	Artist - Oils
Bryan	Ken	Ceramics / Photography
Bryan	Polly	Textile Artist
Buchanan	Muirne	Stained Glass
Christie	Helen	Ceramics / Photography
Close	Anne	Handspun Knitwear
Cocks	Carol	Artist - Mixed Media
Cowie	Margaret	Artist - Oils
Crawford	Anne	Handmade Cards
Cundiff	Hannah	Artist - Mixed Media
Dixon	Andy	Artist – Mixed Media
Duncan	Ed	Photography
Duncan	Susan	Pottery
French	Liz	Fused Glass Art
Grant	Aileen	Artist - Acrylics
Grocock	Sue	Jewellery
Hall	Greig	Artist - Watercolours
Hay	David	Wood Turning
Holmes	Jill	Bees Wax Candles
Hughes	Alisa	Artist - Acrylics
Islip	Bryan	Poetry / Artist - Pastels
Johnson	Tim	Wood Turning
Joss	Elizabeth	Artist - Oils
Kilbride	Thomas	Textiles - Hand Dyed & Woven
Macdonald	Murdoch	Local History Literature
Mckay	Margaret	Artist - Oils
Mackenzie	Fiona	Artist - Acrylics
Maclean	Eoghain	Photography
Maclennan	Catherine	Artist - Oils
Maclennan	Iain	Local History Literature
Macritchie	Alan	Cabinet Maker
Made in Ullapool	Community Charity	Candles
Marsh	Julia	Knitwear

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Moyes	Mairi Johan	Silversmith
Murray	Daniel	Artist - Oils
Newman	Lorriane	Jewellery
O'Brien	Lisa	Artist - Mixed Media
O'Keefe	Christine	Artist - Watercolours
Pattinson	Gillian	Artist - Mixed Media
Picking	Jan	Artist - Watercolours
Port	Viveca	Artist - Acrylics
Proniewicz	Iwona	Textile Artist
Purdie	Annette	Artist - Oils
Ranger	Julia	Artist - Acrylics
Reiter	Cindie	Artist - Acrylics
Rossiter	Jeremy	Artist - Acrylic on Slate
Rowley	Graham	Cabinet Maker
Schnabel	Steve	Photography
Schnabel	Sue	Sea Glass
Shilton	Jill	Quilting / Bead Work
Simpson	Marcus	Horn Work
Stevens	Lys	Artist - Acrylics
Stonebridge	Vicky	Ceramics / Artist - Acrylics
Stewart	Jean	Quilting
Stockl	Beth	Textiles
Sutherland	Katherine	Artist - Oils
Szeiler	Jill	Pewter Jewellery
Watson	Jennifer	Artist - Acrylics
West	Alison	Knitwear
White	Louise	Harris Tweed Accessories
Wickham	Deborah	Artist - Mixed Media
Wickham	Matt	Silversmith
Wiseman	Roseanne	Artist - Oils
Wilson	Gill	Artist - Oils
Woodcock	Sarah	Artist - Mixed Media
Young	Derek	Artist - Oils
Young	Mairi	Textiles