



# Newsletter

*Welcome to March 2026*

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Spring is a season of new beginnings, so it feels especially fitting that my first newsletter as Chair arrives now. Thank you all so much for your kind words and support as I try to fill some very big shoes - it is genuinely appreciated.

It was lovely to see so many of you at the Saturday demonstration. I'm sure you'll agree that Janne has put together an exciting and varied programme for 2026 with plenty to inspire us whatever our preferred medium or style.

On that note, Janne has now taken on a new role within the committee which means we are looking for someone to organise our speakers for 2027. If this is something that you feel you could take on, please get in touch with me or another committee member. Janne will, of course, be happy to share the resources and contacts she uses to finding guest speakers - so you won't be starting with a blank canvas!

We are also introducing a new feature in the newsletter: 'BDAG Members' News'. We would love to hear your snippets of art-related news - exhibitions, achievements, projects or anything else you think might interest fellow members. Please send items to me for consideration. As the newsletter is produced quarterly, content will be included where it is timely and all submissions will be edited by the committee.

Have you ever wanted to visit an exhibition but not had anyone to go with? If you're happy to travel independently but would enjoy sharing the experience with like-minded people, we'll be publishing lists of upcoming exhibitions. Where there is interest, members can arrange to visit together - a great way to combine art, conversation and inspiration.

After such a long, wet winter, it's wonderful to welcome lighter and brighter days and hopefully more time at the easel! Happy painting!

Juanita

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### Monthly Art Challenge

We've been running this activity for 2 years now, having started in January 2024, and we've accumulated quite a 'gallery' on our website. We would like to encourage more members to join in so we can expand the offering even more. Remember, it's not a competition and it's open to all levels using any medium you like. So, if you haven't participated so far, why not have a go? Take a look at all the amazing entries to date on our BDAG website: [https://www.battleartsgroup.co.uk/page-monthly\\_challenge](https://www.battleartsgroup.co.uk/page-monthly_challenge) . If you missed This month's note regarding March's topic, it is '**Anything in Collage**' with entries, per usual instructions, to Dorothy by March 30<sup>th</sup> please. So, get those scissors and glue out of mothballs and get creative. Any theme you like and you can, of course, add paint or other medium as you see fit, as long as the primary effect is collaged. Full instructions on the website.

### BDAG Members' News

BDAG member Melissa Hall has her debut solo exhibition 'Cut the crap: paint the truth'. After a career in graphic design, Melissa has turned her focus to visual art, creating hand-cut paper collages that use wit and insight to explore local issues and social commentary. Her exhibition runs from 2nd March -25th April at The Stables Theatre gallery, Hastings. Please do go along and support her!



## Workshops 2026

Dear Members,

Please see attached the dates of our next workshops for the year. These are quite popular and have already started filling up. Come and join like-minded people spending a morning or afternoon (or both) being creative and learning a new technique or two. Book soon to avoid disappointment. All materials and refreshments are supplied just bring yourself and a packed lunch if you are staying for both sessions. Feel free to bring your favourite brush if you wish to.

Look forward to seeing you in Mountfield Village Hall.

All the best, Kerry