



A new exhibition of paintings and drawings by local artist Christine Howard opens at the Hub on 26th May 2018. The exhibition, called "Hive", features bees, beehives and other busy insects that reflect Christine's ongoing fascination with the natural world.

Christine lives in Retford with her family and has always had a passion for art. After completing her A-levels at King Edward VI Grammar School, she went on to do an Art Foundation Course at Nottingham Trent University before studying Fine Art at Staffordshire University,

obtaining a BA (Hons) in Fine Art in 1995.

She first got a taste for exhibiting and selling her work whilst she was an undergraduate. "I entered a painting into The Laing Art exhibition and the painting was accepted and also sold, which was great". It was called "Burning Stubble" and was painted from a set of photographs she had taken whilst out on the family farm with her father and brother, who were busy working out in the fields. The painting was exhibited at Harrogate's Mercer gallery before going on to the Mall Galleries in London.

After graduating, Christine decided to take a break from painting; however, this break ended up being rather longer than anticipated. "It was 18 years before I picked up a paint brush again, which was a rather daunting task, but I found it did all come back with perseverance!" Her work was developing well, so in 2016 she held an exhibition called "Harvest" at the Heritage Skills Centre at Lincoln Castle. It was a joint show with her partner, Shaun Clark, who is a potter. The paintings and pottery on display celebrated our rich agricultural heritage. Christine has been part of the stable of artists in residence at The Hub for several years now and will be taking part in the Nottinghamshire Open Studios event on 9th June when you are warmly invited to come along and visit her studio.

Christine's exhibition runs until 30th June 2018.