

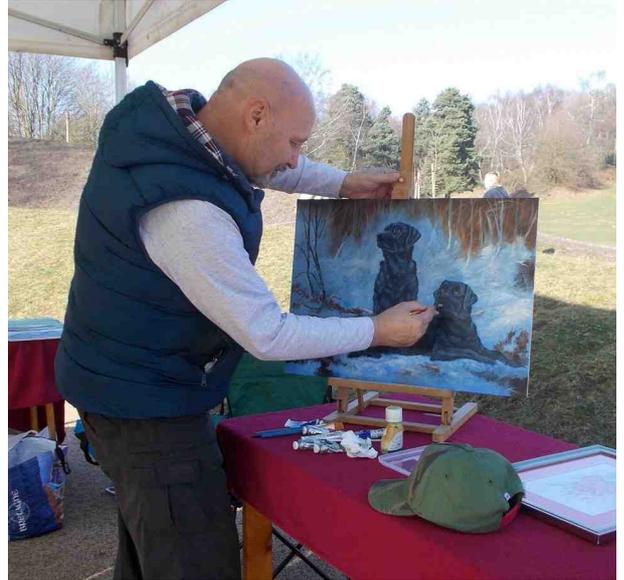
The Hub's New Resident Artist

John Harris began painting nearly forty years ago while stationed abroad with the British Army. To fill his leisure time, he bought a set of paints and paper, and began painting local landscapes and wildlife. He continued this during his various jobs until in 1987 he became a full-time artist.

In 1990 at Hallam University he met his wife, Bonita Ferguson, now an established artist, and they have been together through various interesting projects. This included being resident artists at Renishaw Hall in Derbyshire, where HRH The Prince of Wales, who attended one of their exhibitions, discussed painting techniques (!)

As a result of exhibiting in galleries, they have pieces of art in private collections around the world, including the USA, Russia, China, France, Switzerland, the UK & Ireland, South Africa, Australia and Japan.

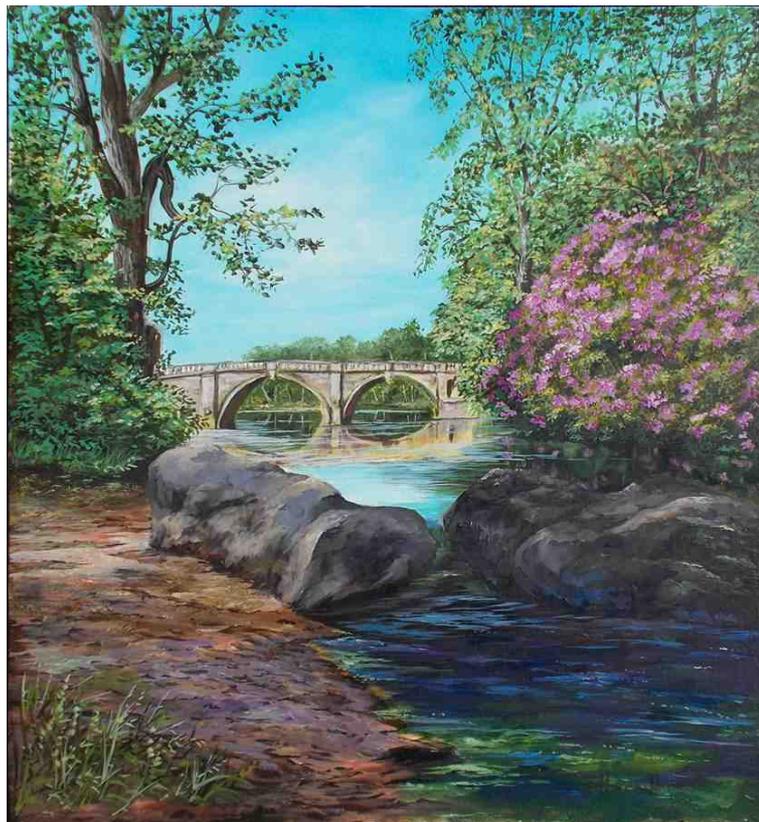
Their range of experience in watercolour, oil and pastel painting in many different styles and subjects became noticed, and for some years they painted copies of Old Masters for private



clients and insurance companies, and their work in appears in books, prints and greetings cards. Life becoming hectic, an agent took over their affairs, and as a result they represented many art materials companies such as Derwent Pencils, Clairefontaine Papers and Winsor and Newton Paints on live and recorded shows on the Ideal World and Create and Craft networks on television.

They started a family and life changed: Bonita became an art teacher and John travelled around the country giving painting demonstrations, talks and workshops.

Now, Bonita still paints and is Head of Art at a school in Mansfield; John has a studio gallery at The Hub in Retford. Internationally, John is known for his wildlife paintings and has had exhibitions with the WWT, the RSPB and the National Trust. He also paints landscapes, and accepts commissions



for, eg, dogs and favourite places. Examples of all these can be seen at The Hub, so do come and talk to John if you are interested in original art.

John is passionate about passing his knowledge on; if you'd like to paint with him in a class or one-to-one, just ask.