

## ANDREW HOPE

Having started a maths degree, that was cut short by illness, I realised that what was important to me is art. In 1975 I self-funded to do an art foundation course at Watford, and completed a BA honours in fine art at Birmingham School of Art in 1979. In 1997 a post graduate extension studies in fine art at UWE Bristol.

After Birmingham I helped to build up a retail business in Cheltenham, and in 1981 I went to Pembrokeshire and, living in a large converted Gas Board van, on the harbour-side of Porthgain, painted landscape every day, and people every night in the Sloop Inn.

I then came to Poole and, setting up a studio in the Poole Aquarium, did the same on Poole quay, until illness once again forced change. Inheriting my father's tool building work then provided my main income, and I taught art at Poole Arts Centre and Poole Adult Learning; later teaching at Poole College, North Road, and at the College of Art and Design at Wallisdown. I now only teach life drawing, and portrait, at Lymington Adult Learning.

Since coming to Poole, PEDAS and its many friendly and talented members, has been the constant that has engaged me with art in the area. Creating my own work, when I can, and occasionally teaching life drawing to local art groups, I hope one day to be able to set up an art school in France. One can't stop dreaming.

