

In the 1930's from the age of five I was encouraged, along with my two older sisters, to draw and paint on the nursery wall that was covered in ceiling paper. We were also expected to make our own Christmas Cards and still do so to this day, aged 90, 93 & 95!

I took Intermediate National Diploma of Design at Lowestoft School of Art. For the Craft section I made 10 tea pots, threw the pots, cast the spouts, turned the lids and pulled the handles, but the glaze was so old that most of the drainage holes were covered! Luckily, one was suitable for the exam (a dentist drilled the other holes out). I was accepted at Reading University, where one of my sisters had studied, and Bath Academy of Art. Circumstances changed and after being self-supporting for three years I went to Bath where I studied with Peter Lanyon, Ken Armitage, James Towler, Andrew Wilson and others.

I then taught Art to "A" Level in state and private schools and later in Adult Education Centers. I married an Army Officer and adopted twin daughters.



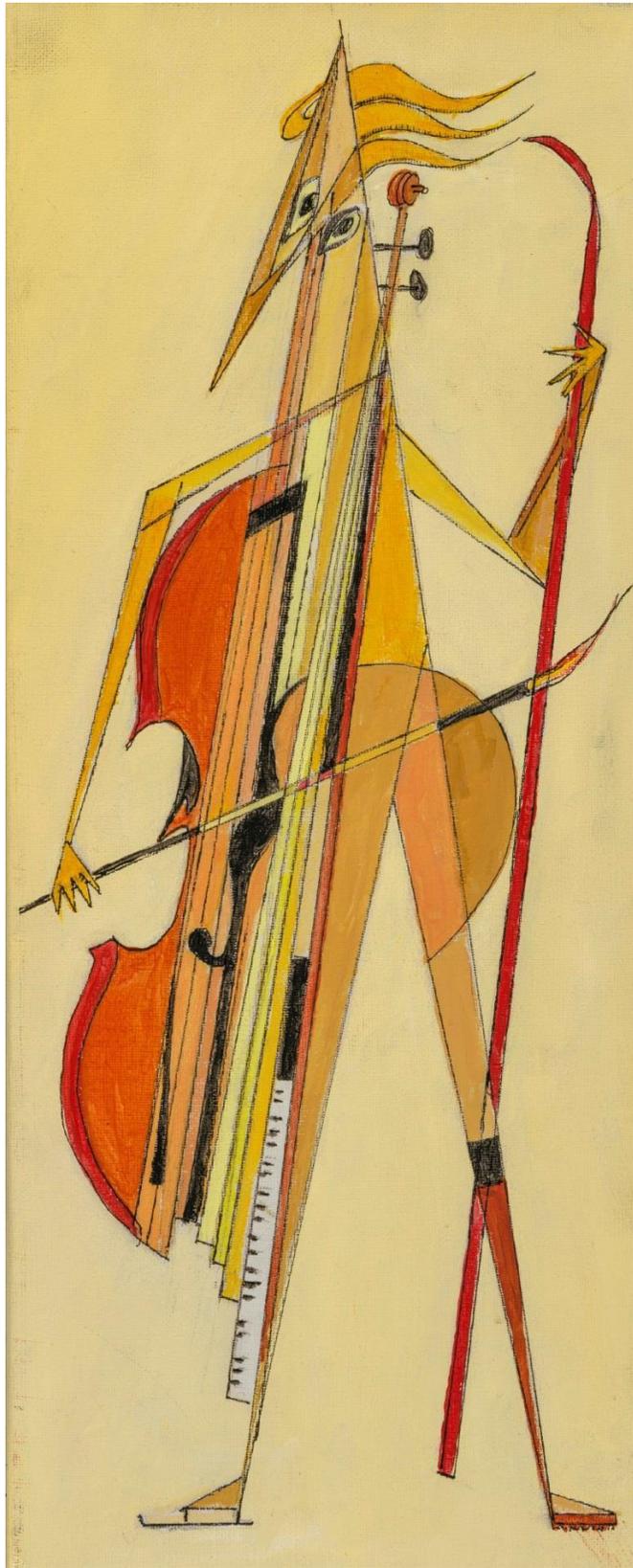
We were soon was posted to Pakistan; Australia; Germany and Belgium. Wherever we went I painted and where possible did pottery and gave classes. I enjoy painting 'en plein air', the Pakistanis wanted to copy, as they had never had any art classes before, this worked well as their children were happier out of doors. Some Australians were scared of snakes in the bush but we continued to paint out of doors! In Belgium, I encouraged my class, including Generals' wives to paint whilst sitting on the pavement!

We moved to Poole during the Falkland Crisis, my husband then Director of Defense Operations UK, was sleeping in his office, I would go to London for the week and teach at the Hampshire School, Kensington, taking sheets and shirts to John at the MOD and returning to Poole at weekends to 'check up' on the in-laws.



Later I then started running adult Art Classes to "A" level in Bournemouth, Poole and Broadstone. I subsequently joined Broadstone Art Society, where we had a model for portraiture, or still life every week and visited different venues out of doors in the summer. I gave some demonstrations and exhibited with them. When asked to teach Art at The College I declined as I already had two evening classes. On losing my husband of 60 years to Motor Neurone Disease I joined PEDAS who had meetings in the evenings. I gave the odd demonstration in Chinese Art and I found that exhibiting with them as well kept me busy. I have had solo art exhibitions in Tunbridge Wells; Swanage; Bournemouth and sold work at the Mall Gallery and overseas.

I would say that I was "Jack of All Trades but Master of None" as I have taught and painted in oils, watercolors and acrylics, silk screen, lithography, scraper board, lino cutting, ceramics, pottery and sculpture. Also calligraphy and Chinese painting. I prefer to paint from life, be it figures, landscape or seascape, and prefer to stand at an easel to work.



I learnt to play the piano to Grade VII. I played and taught the 'cello (with learner plates!) but gave up on the organ. I did not have enough feet! I have also sung in choirs most of my life, including many years with the Rochester Cathedral Nave Choir for evensong, even singing the Messiah in Canterbury Cathedral. Now I enjoy going to the concerts every season with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, on line during the Covid Crisis. I have sketched Kim Wok Sun; Natalie Klein; Alison Farr during and the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra in Rehearsals.



Other interests: I have ridden in point to points and played polo (again with learner plates!) I also used to climb, ski, swim, and sail. I have over the past few years completed, a Wing Walk at the Bournemouth Air Show; abseiled down the Portsmouth Spinnaker Tower; gone down the Velocity 2 Zip Wire in Wales, headfirst at 100 mph. I do this for East Dorset and New Forest Branch of MNDA.

PEDAS have kindly let me run an exhibition "Motivation" at the Gallery Upstairs, Upton Country Park and, when Covid permits, a Retrospective Exhibition for my 90th year there sometime in 2021, with everything priced from 50p to £150 donated to the ED & NF MNDA.

*Dawn Goodson*



