

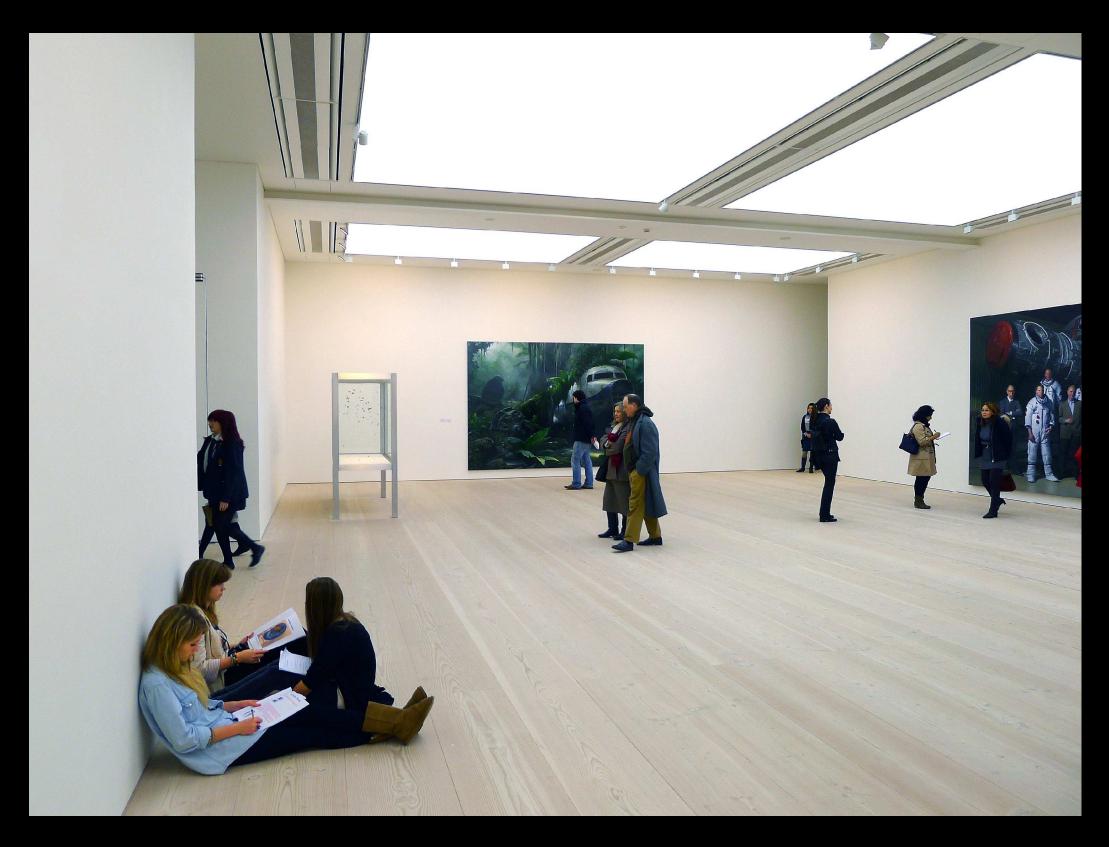
After The Peach

I created my first image diary during my convalescence in late 2010 called 'The Perfect Peach and other stories'. That done I was mobile again after my fun time with Mr Eden and his pals, wondering what next?

One decision was to walk The Alpine Pass Route the following year, more painting and to carry on with the fun photography.

This book follows on from The Perfect Peach, covering the time from October 2010 until October 2013. Some pictures have been omitted because they are in other books, so this is a book of the 'rest'.

My first little photo trip was to the beech woods at Marlow, then onwards to other observations of the world around me.....and the reflections of an ageing Degenerate Bum to go with them.



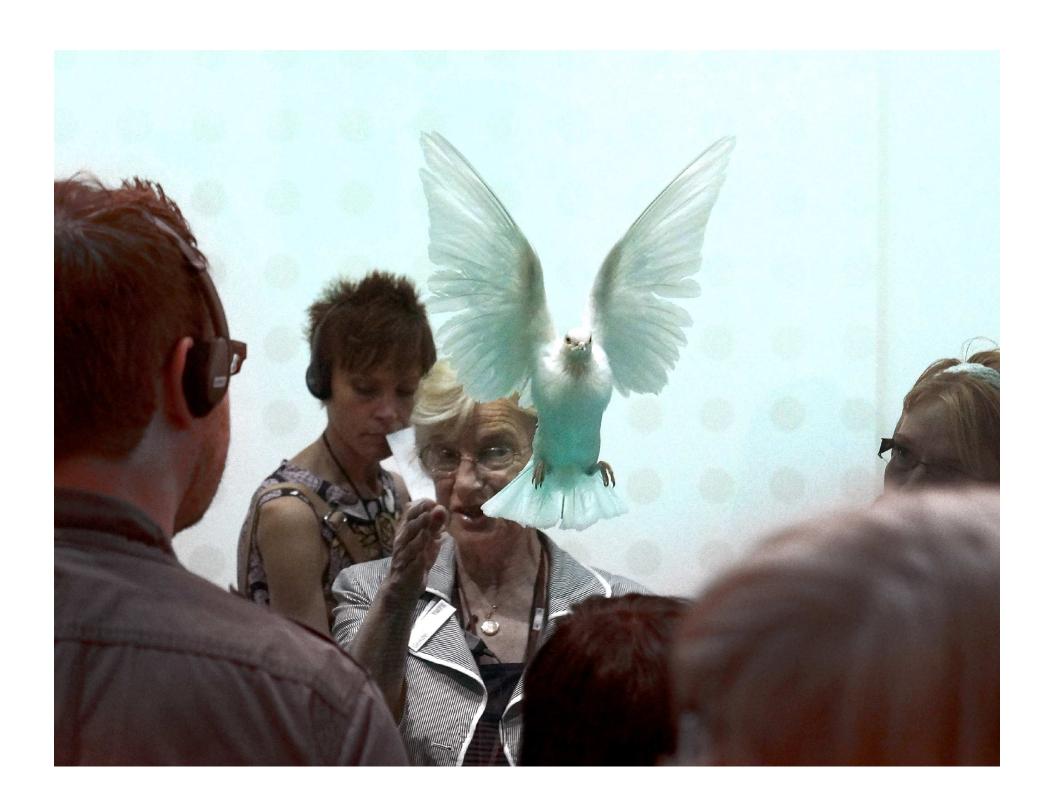
London

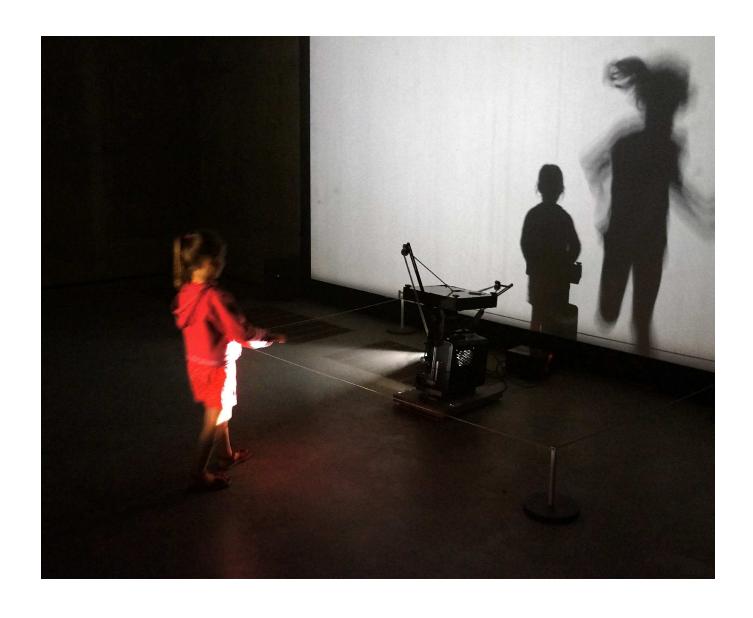
This series of photographs comes from many trips to London, starting with art galleries.

This page is the Saatchi Gallery, followed by The Tate Modern

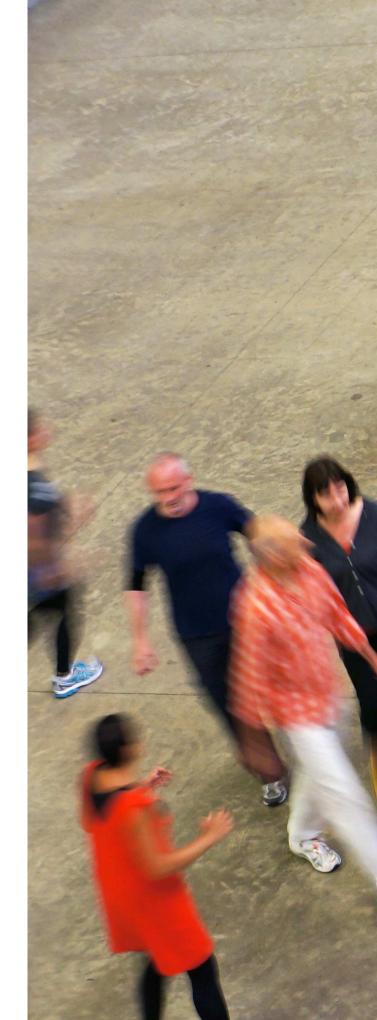




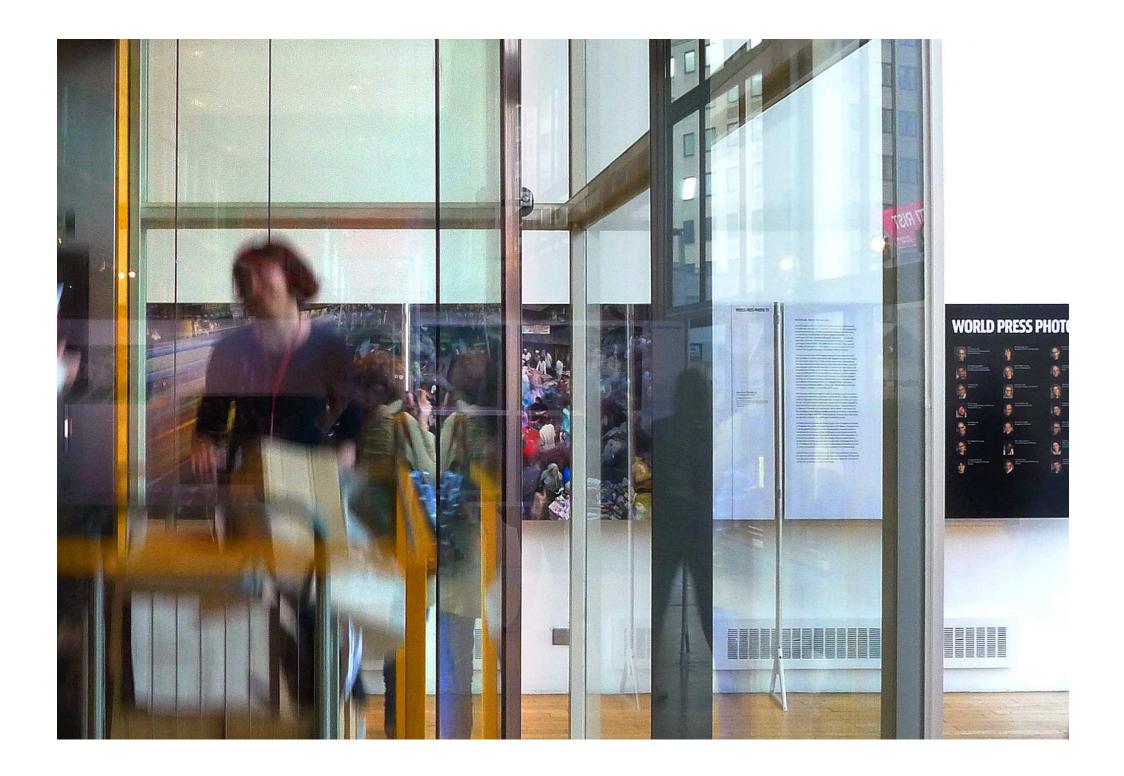




On the right.... Performance art at Tate Modern.... what more do you need to know, except I was pretty chuffed with myself getting the right mix of movement with a hand held camera.







The Festival Hall is one of the great inside spaces in London, just the right scale.

Below the main entrance area is a small area used by break dancers to practise their moves. Sadly the light level is awful, but the dancing is enjoyable to watch.







Left: The Whitechapel has a small library and reading room; etched into the window is a load of info, but I cannot remember what it was about.

Above: Lots of shapes in white in the new extension of the National Portrait Gallery....as well as Paul McCartney looking good.



Above: The manificent space that is St Pancras International. Just after I took this picture Jon and Kathryn told us they were engaged. Great news and a satisfactory photo as well.

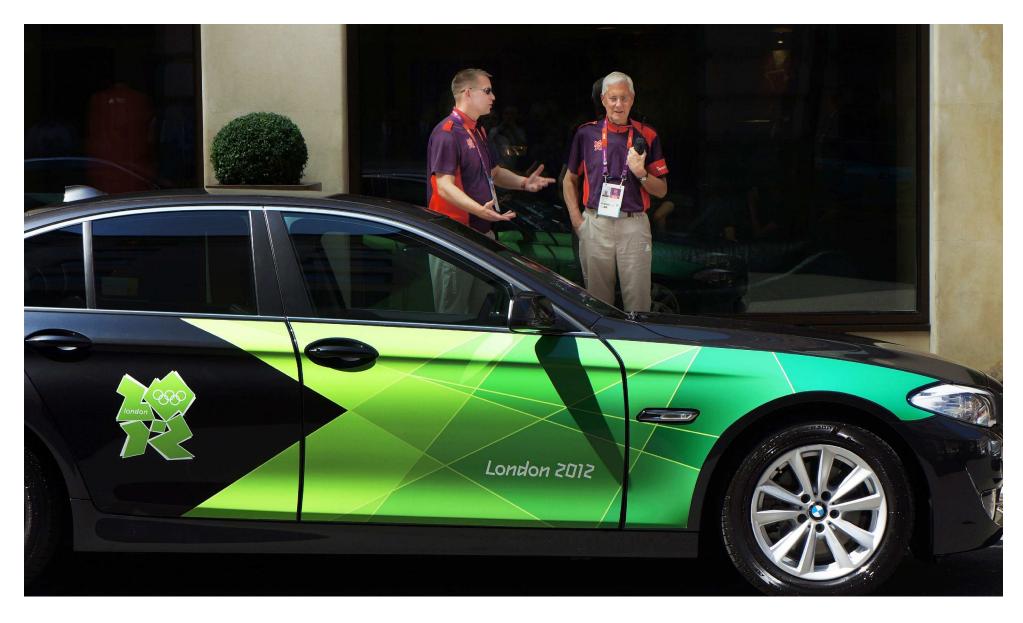
Right: Looking over a bridge near Victoria Station, love the curves.





Cycling in London has exploded, sadly the infrastructure is not in place to make it a great experience. The Boris bikes above and the young man on the right represent both ends of the activity.





I was never going to be a fan of the Olympics coming to London. The cost always seemed ridiculous. That said if we are going to do it, let's make sure we do it well.

We did, the attention to detail was very impressive, a great, if very expensive show, but I still wish we had put the money to better use than a national feel good month.







When you think of London Transport, you cannot help wonder at the 'users' who have to endure it every day, but endure it they do. The pictures are at Wimbledon station and Waterloo station after an evening of cancelled trains

Next Page: Now there is something I never thought I would see in London... a cable car going somewhere to somewhere across the Thames. In reality it is going from nowhere to nowhere in docklands, but I am sure that will eventually change. I reflect that not much of the scene was around in my youth... or even 20 years ago.







On a walk between Wimbledon and Belgravia, I passed my favourite greasy spoon café in Putney. For old times' sake I had tea + toast and remembered, when working for Kodak, how we used to meet here before moving on to receive an arse kicking at the nearby Boots HQ.

I then walked a mile to Parsons Green and entered one of my favourite coffee shops and bakery chains, Le Pain Quotidien. A world away from the greasy spoon in product ... and cost.

The lady on the left is so 'on message'.....
OJ, cappuccino, poached eggs and bike.











Previous Page: On one of our annual 'Watch The Buggers Work Day' ... a celebration of retirement. On the way to meet up with my pals I passed this man working on Tower Bridge. I felt good about my job as I hope he did about his.

Above: It was a warm sunny day at the beginning of February and this young lady was getting the most out of the warmth in her lunch time, near Sloane Square.

Right: Probably the best cup of coffee ever, this is made in a street kiosk on the river pathway by Lambeth Palace. The effort and trouble producing it made Costa's staff look like amateurs.







Left: A springtime art instalation with artificial snow in Canary Warf.

Above: Tow path on the canal near Hackney Wick.

Next Page Left: Helping out at my last outing to the Affordable Art fair. In my lunch time I took a walk around a very misty Battersea Park. On the plus side I sold a picture the next day.

Next Page Right: Performers at Spitlefields Art Market

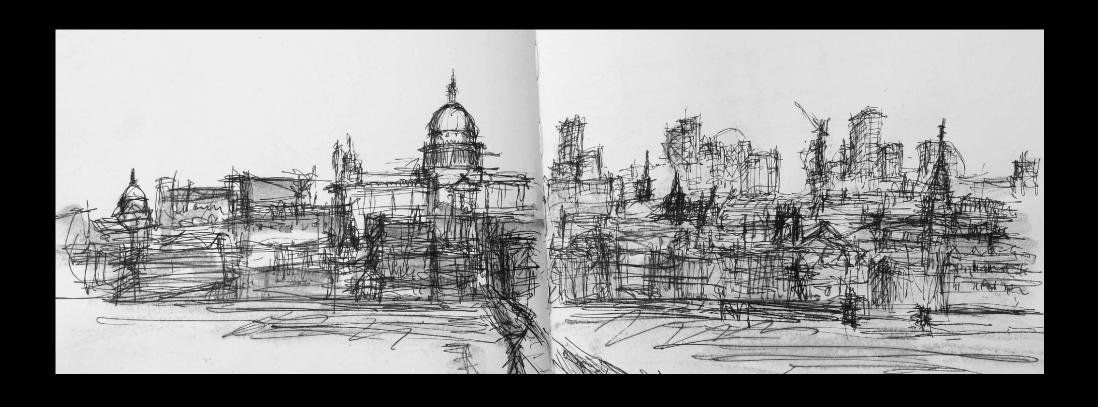






Above: After Remembrance Day outside the Bank of England

Right: I sketch very infrequently these days but this was my attempt from the bar in Tate Modern.... picture made, expensive beer consumed.







Winter in London: Below the Christmas tree in Somerset House, to the left from inside a book shop on the Southbank.

Over the page, A side view of St Paul's and a storm over the old naval college at Greenwich.



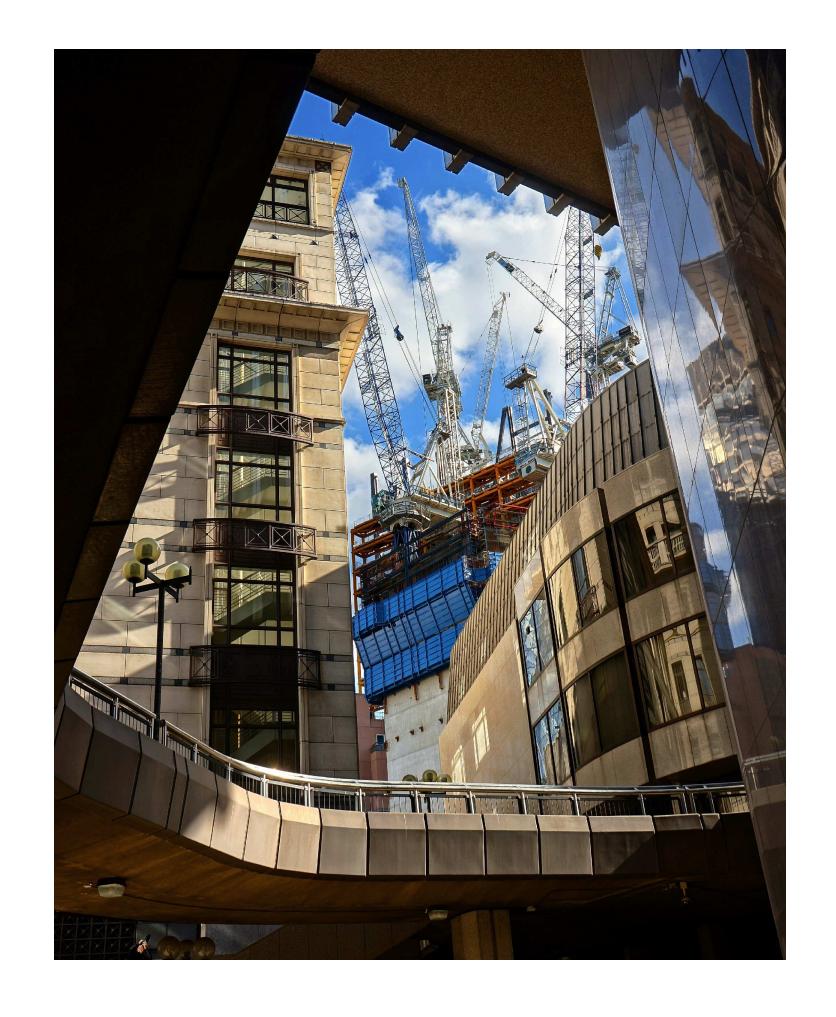


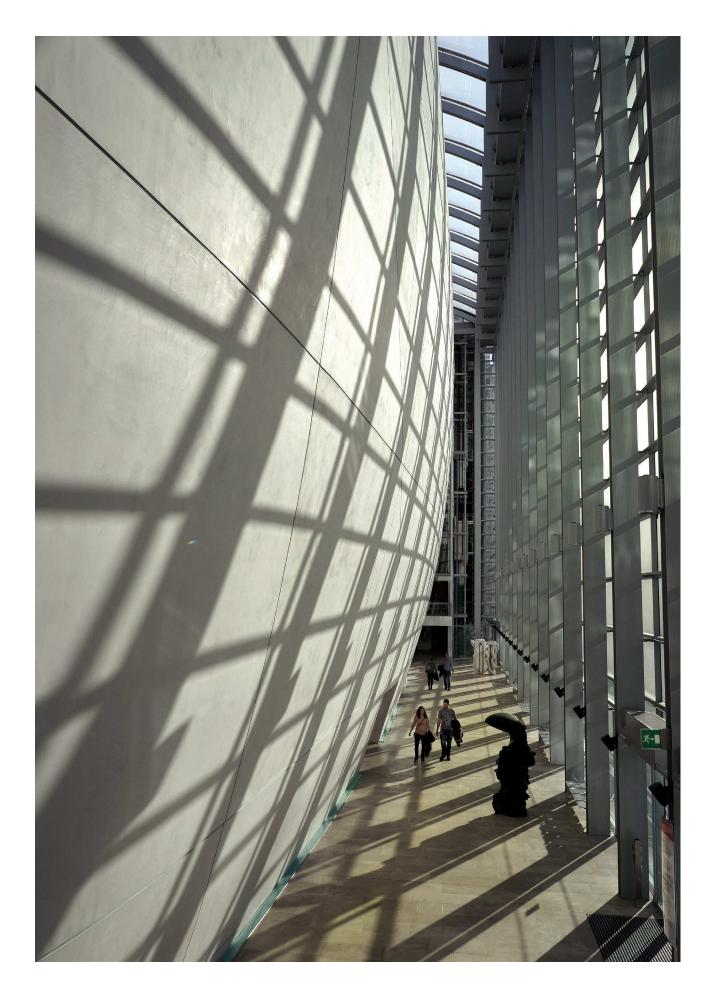




On one of our 'Watch The Buggers Work Day' walks we carry out an animated discussion on the Scottish referendum whose date has just been announced. Jim (a Scot) is the but of our digs but takes it in good humour as we walk through the Greenwich tunnel.

Right: We see the 'Walky Talky' being built, it soon becomes famous for creating excessive heat in the street below during the summer.

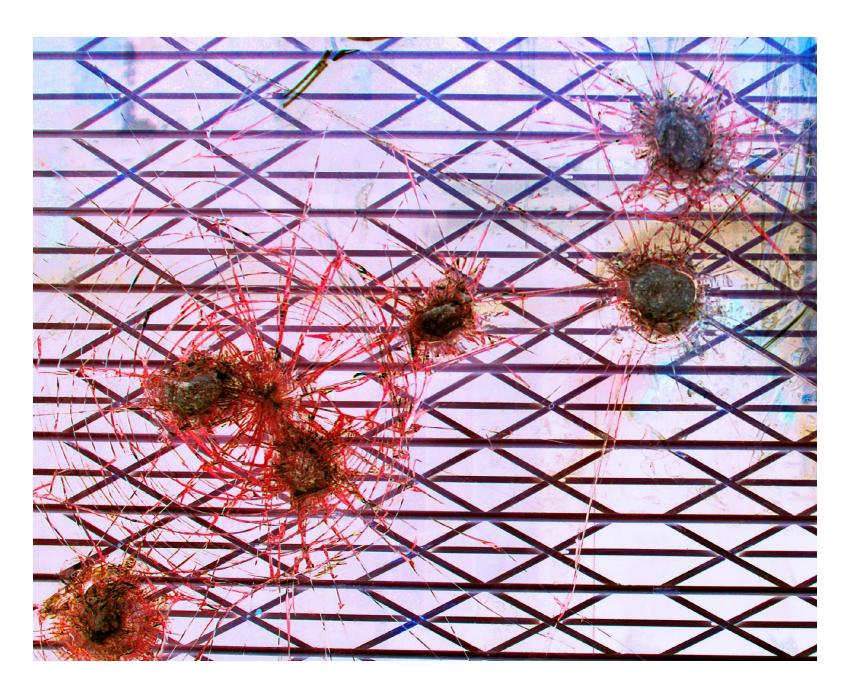




After a number of years we revisit the Natural History Museum and find this new area away from the school parties.

Right page: The Cutty Sark is very impressive in its new display position in Greenwich, looking around it is less exciting as it is a cargo ship and contains, not a lot. However the copper bottom looks great in the different lights.

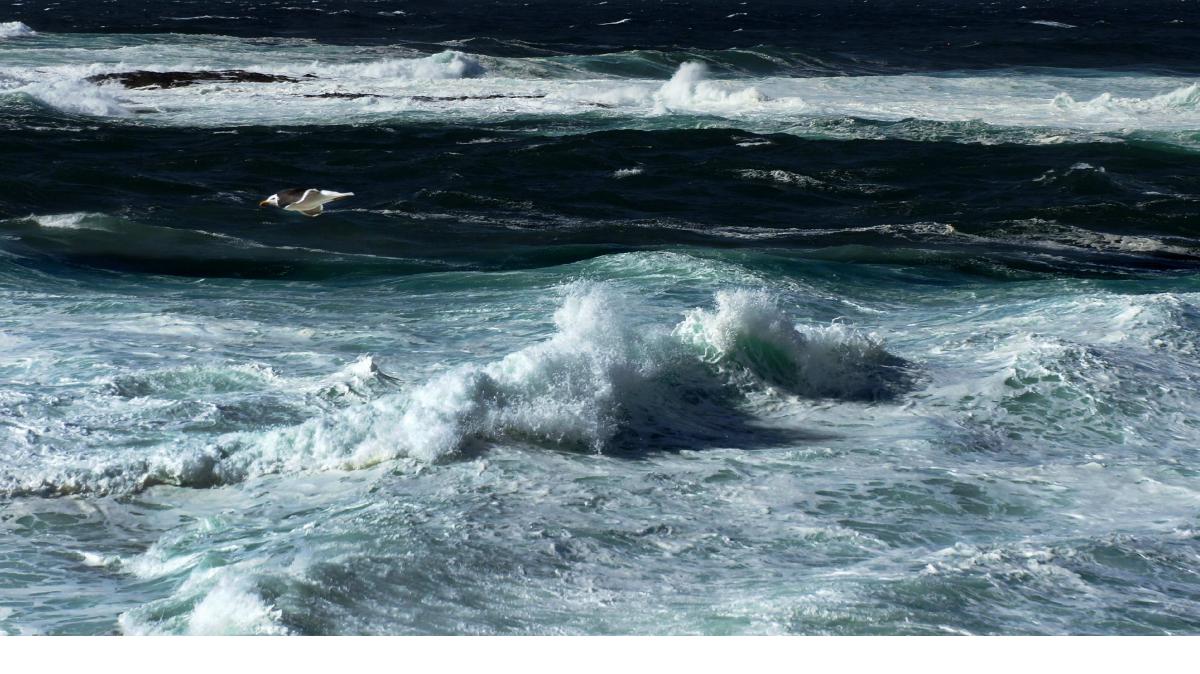




Above: Walking in London, a few weeks after the riots, I find this memento in Belgravia. A sad few days for the city and country.

Right: Street knitting.... what a great idea. This example is on the Thames near O2 stadium.





Cornwall

A selection of pictures that were produced or inspired by our trip to St Just at the very tip of Cornwall. The weather was tremendous; the Atlantic storms rolling in and fantastic sunsets. I had a great time with my camera. Joy, I hope, enjoyed the experience.

Above and Right: Ideas from observing the end of a storm over The Tribbens, Sennan.

Over: Night storm over The Tribbens, Sennan













Sunsets at Cape Cornwall on two seperate evenings.







My favourite painter has to be Kurt Jackson, who lives in St Just where we were staying. He also has a fisherman's shed at Cape Cornwall where he has produced a lot of sea paintings. He inspires me...I try not to copy him, but learn from him. It is difficult to judge if I manage this.

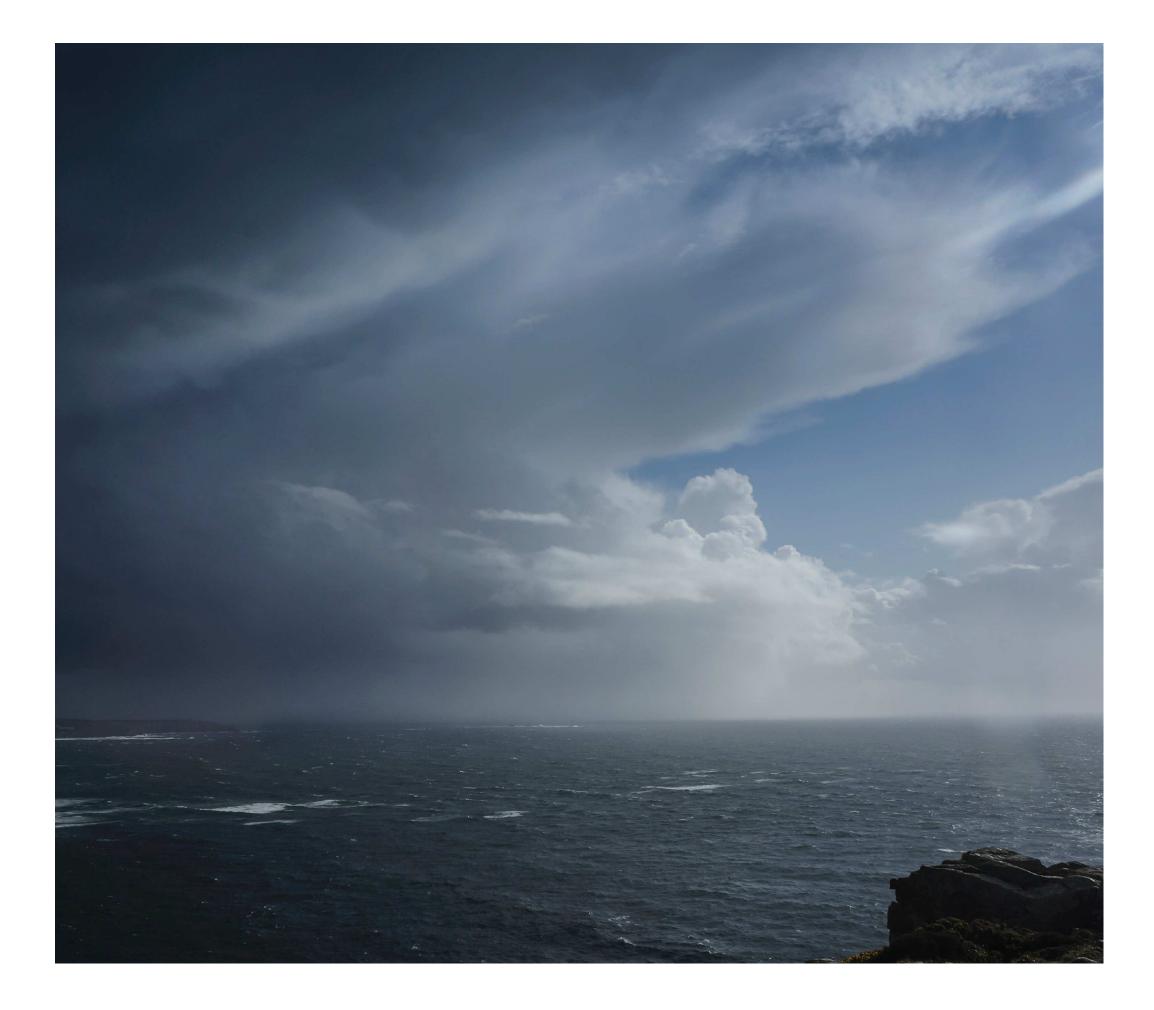
Previous: From the end of the slipway at Cape Cornwall, near KJ's shed and where he painted the pictures on the left.

Below and Right: From the safety of our car we watch a storm roll in and away, Cape Cornwall

Next Page: Storm over The Tribbens, Sennan.













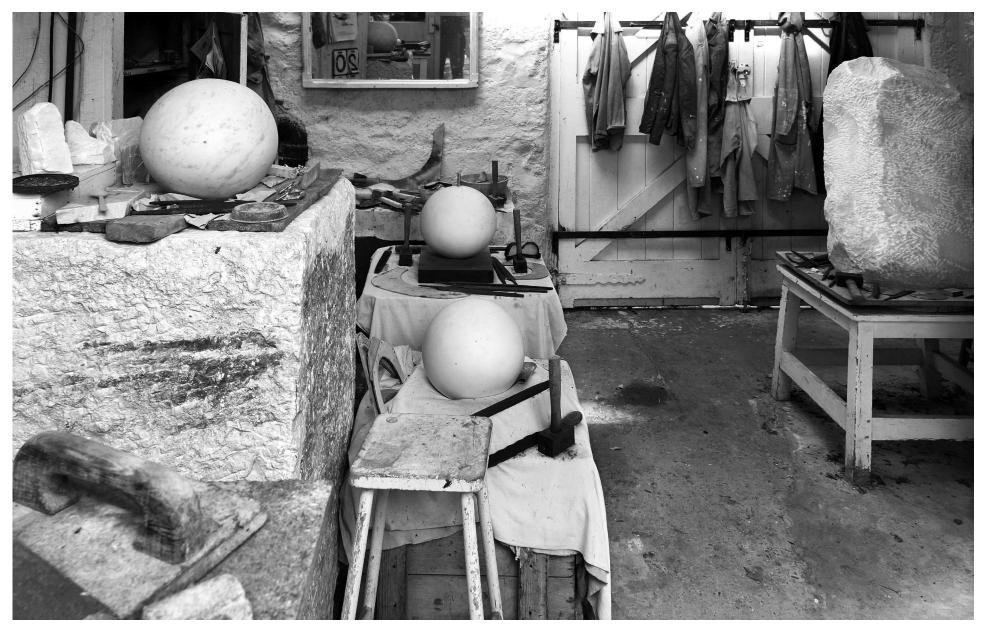
On the right is one of KJ's many pictures of Kenidjack Valley, a magic place which emerges opposite Cape Cornwall. The other pictures on this page and the next are all mine!







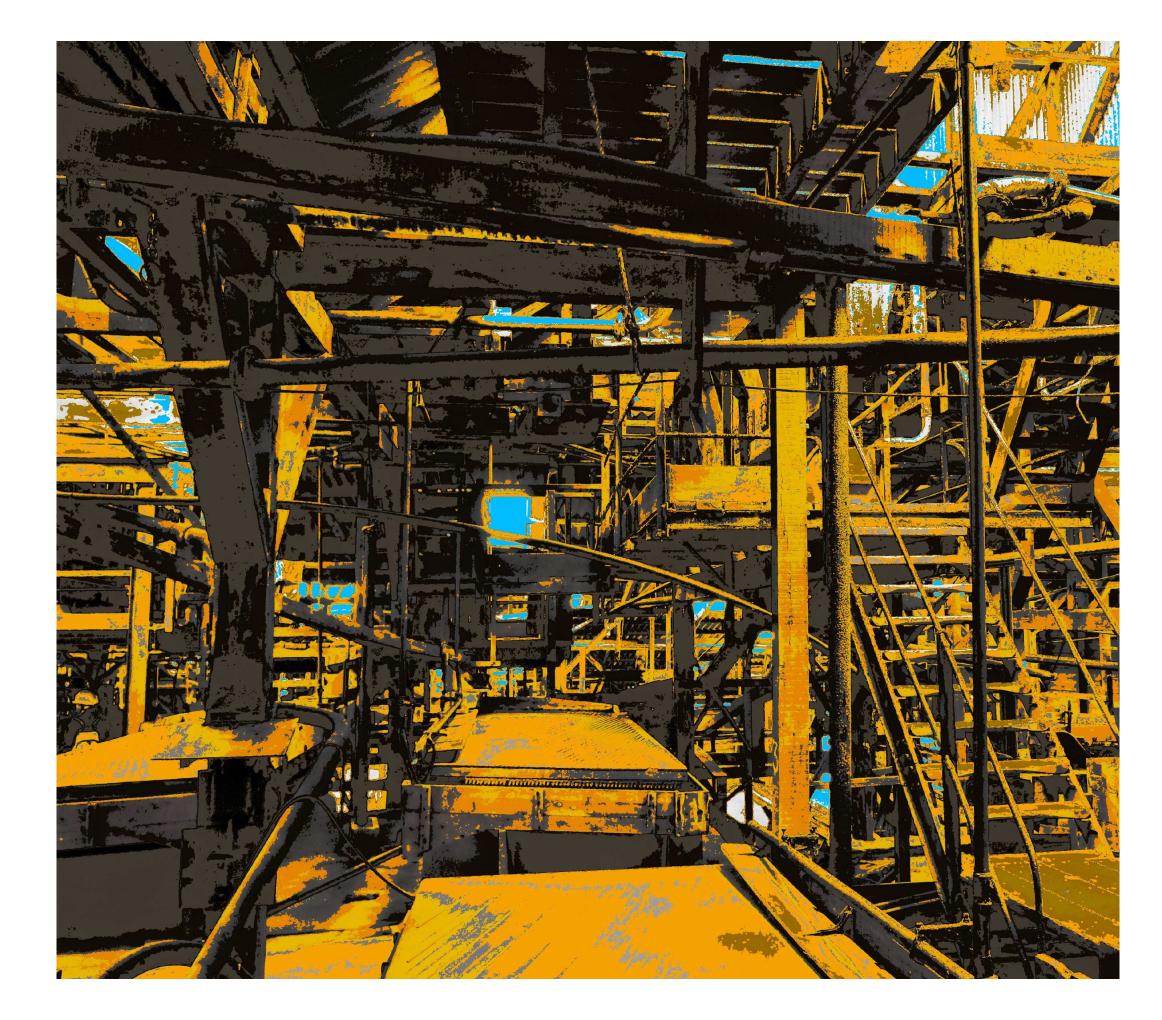




St Ives is now full of tourists all the year round. It is difficult to find a peaceful spot. Barbara Hepworth's garden and studio are a reminder of more tranquil times.

Right: Disused ore sorting shed, Gevor Tin Mine. Although closed just 20 years ago this sheds 'scaffolding' was made of wood, I think from a design 300 years earlier.

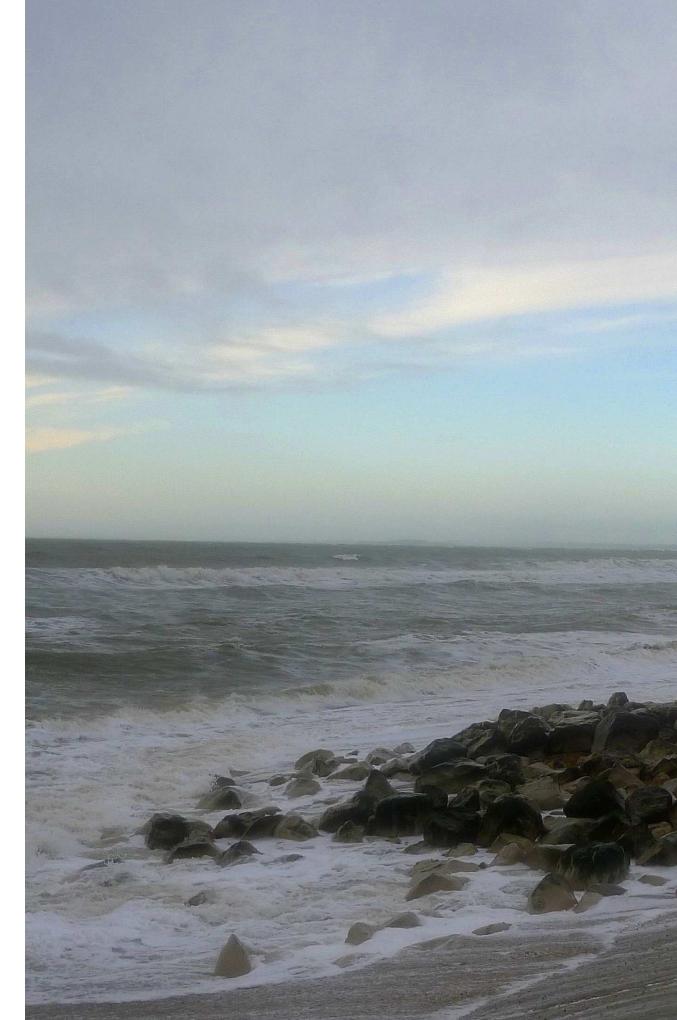




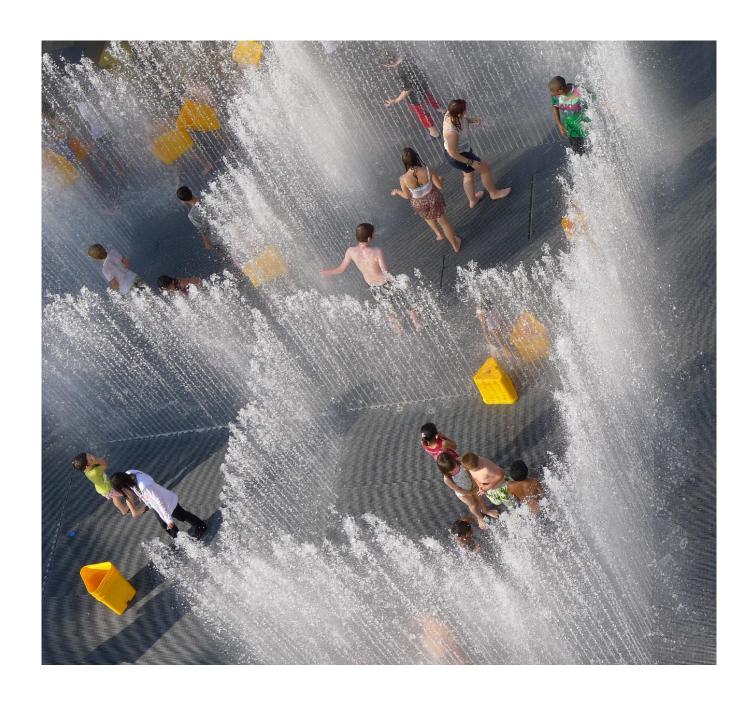
Water & Sky

This page: The peculiar light as a storm arrives and departs at Milford on Sea in Dorset









The summer water feature outside the Festival Hall, London. Doing what it is intended for.... getting young people wet.

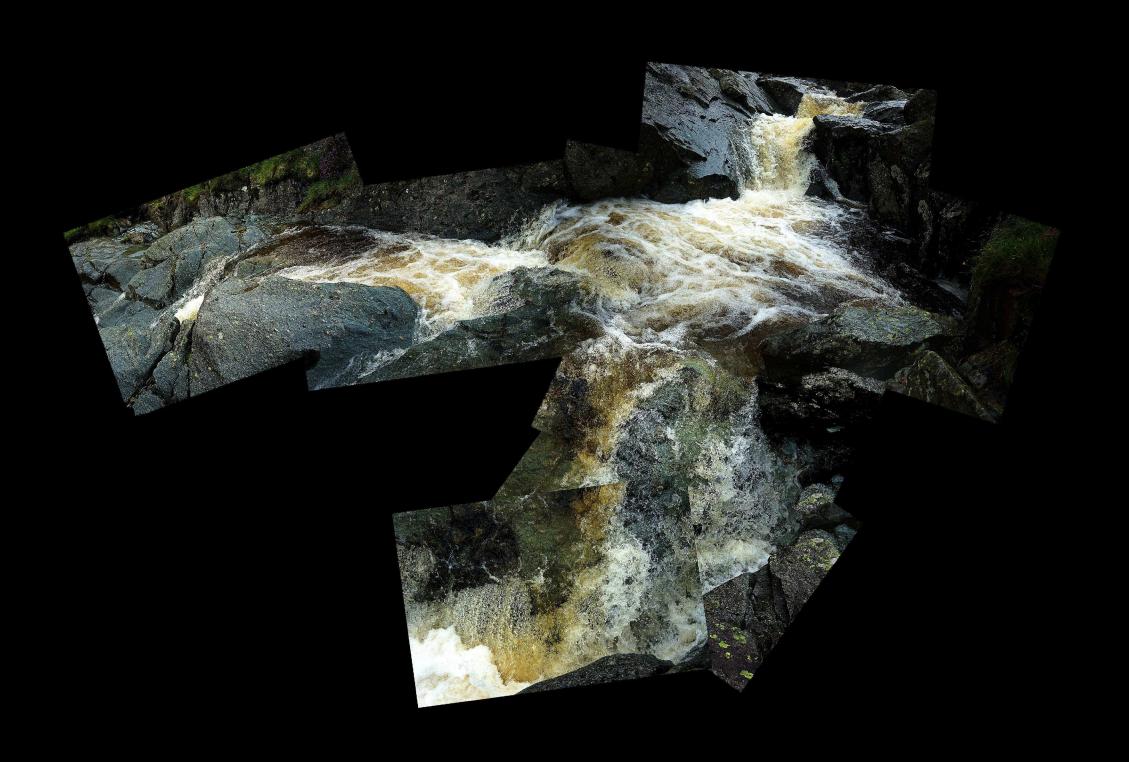
Right: A windy day from Bamburgh Castle, Northumberland.

Over: Tide out, Mont Saint Michel, France











Photographs and paintings from Longsledale in The Lake District.

I had left home at 6.30 and had a busy drive in the drizzle to Cumbria arriving at 2pm I left my car and headed up the dale in the rain..... I was in picture heaven.





Above: Further upstream I decided I was wet and cold enough to call it a day, still a great place and river.

Right: A stream somewhere in the South East of England.... can't remember where.



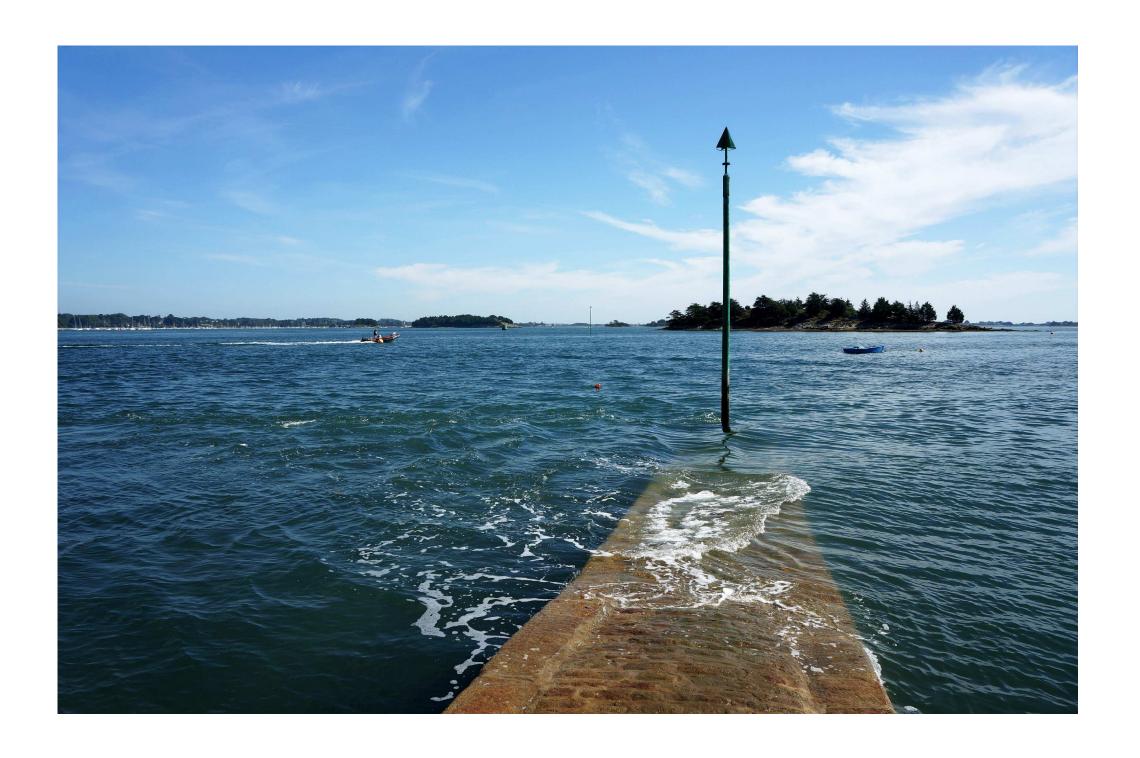




Left: The summer sky above St Malo

Above: Receding storm Beaulieu river





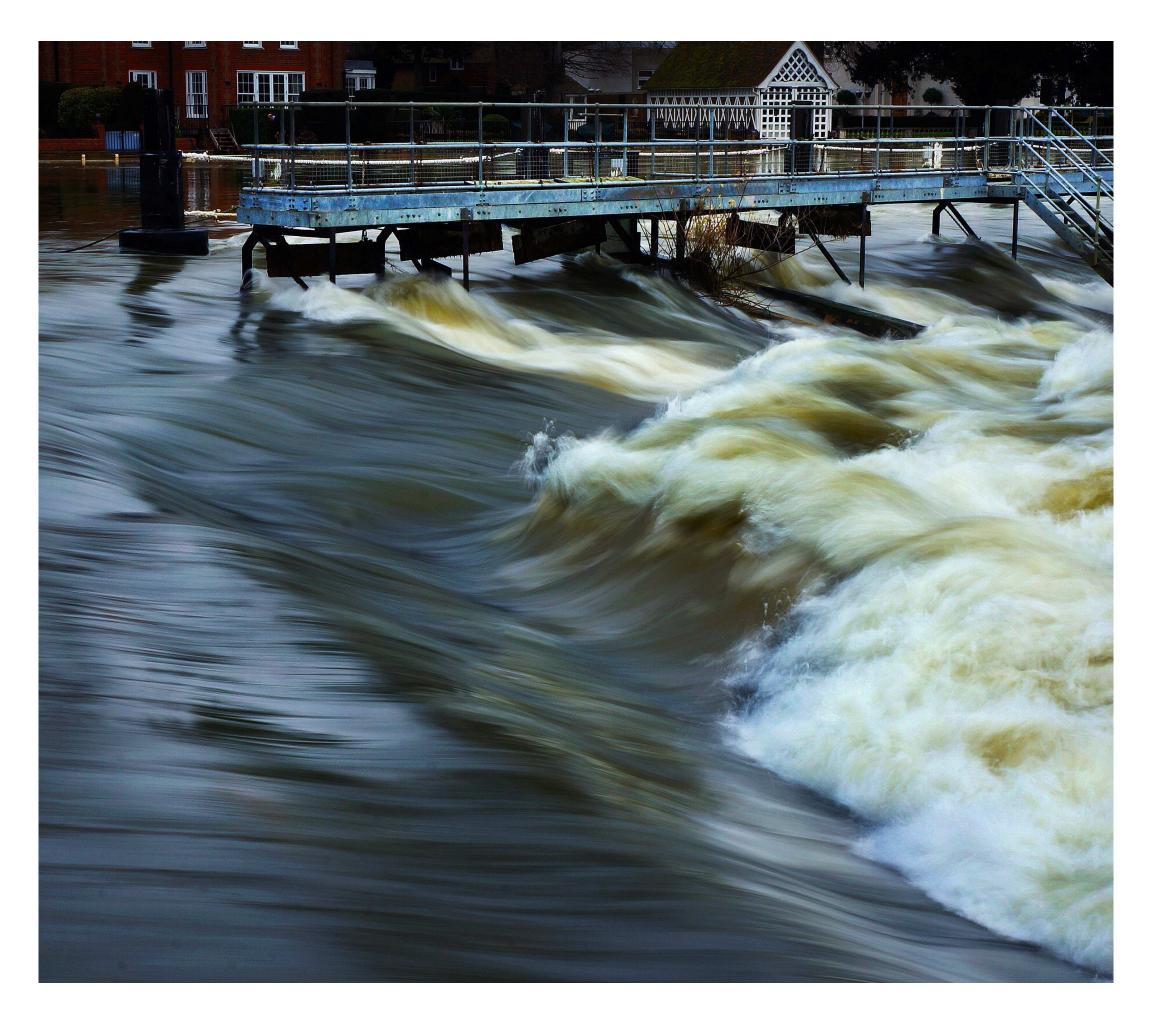
Left: Christmas day walk, the gravel pit, Bicksbury Hill, near Fleet

Above: A lovely traffic free day on Ile aux Moines in the gulf of Morbihan, Brittany

Over: Gathering storm, the bay near Mont Saint Michel, France.



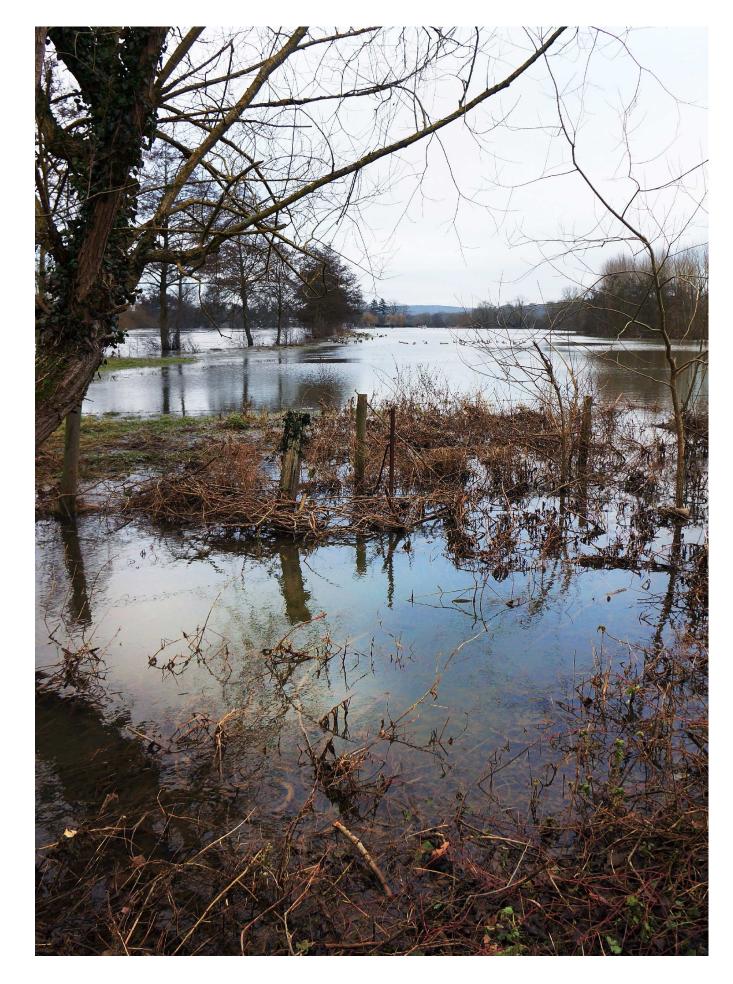




Another one of our short New Year holidays, staying at the Complete Angler, Marlow.

Because the river was so full the weir looked less dramatic than normal.

Further downstream the river merged into the fields. Isn't that is what water meadows are for?





Above: Winter view Tundry Pond, Dogmersfield.

Right: After another quick shower I carry on with my walk to the top of Longerford Tor, Dartmoor.

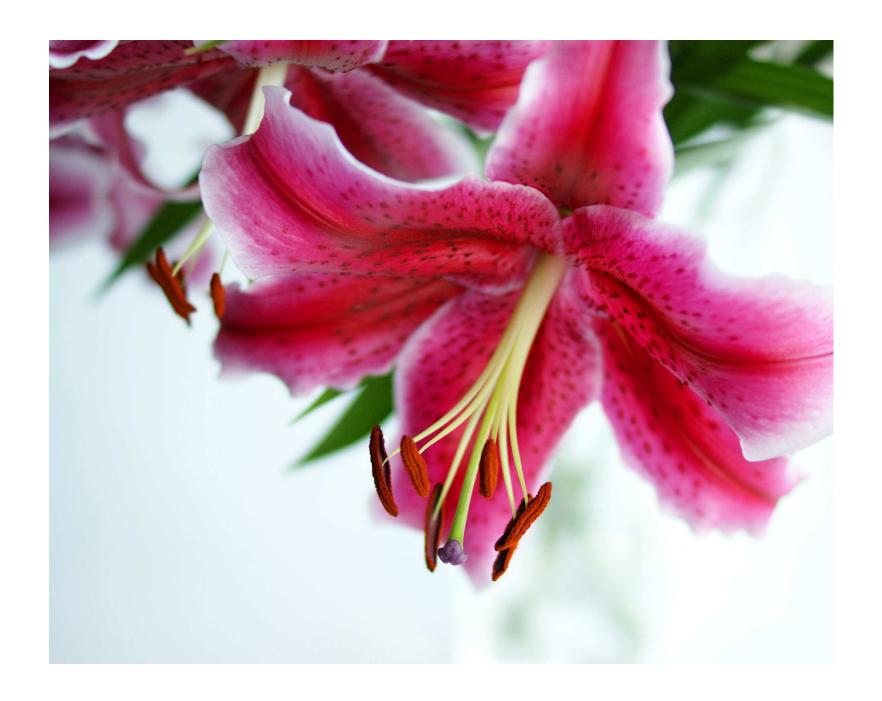






Left: Walking part of the South Downs with Ian, we end up at Newhaven, not a lot to say about the town except it had a good Indian restaurant.

Above: Looking along the beach at Southwold, East Anglia



Flowers + Food + Foliage

Why put these headings together? why not?

Right: Joy makes a great cheese cake.



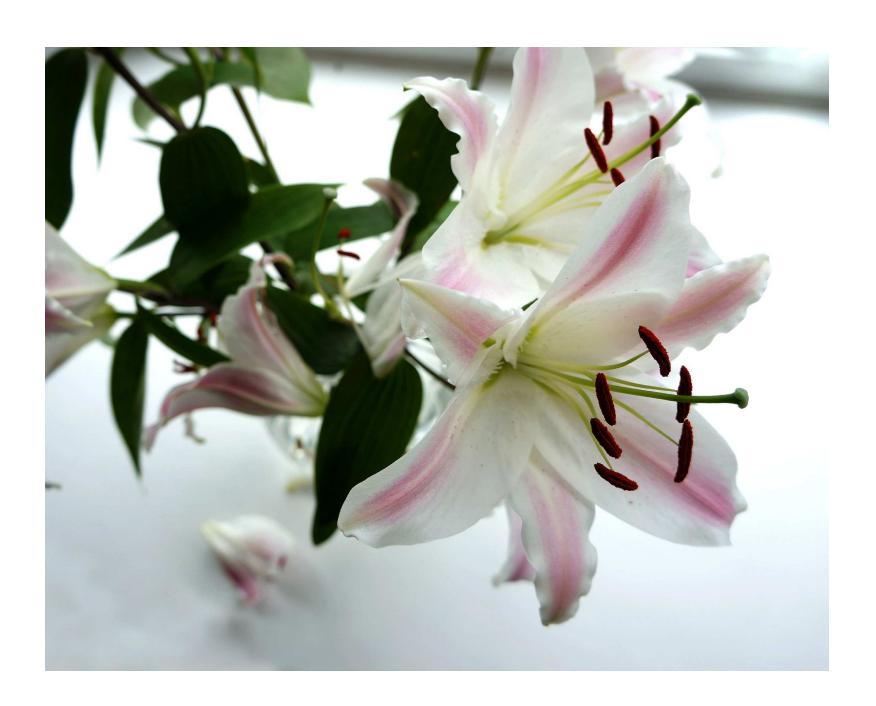


One of the best fish dishes I have ever enjoyed....Rive Gauche, Auray, France.

Right: Glasshouse, Cragside House, Northumberland.











I was told this was the best Tart Tatin in Paris, a purist might argue against that view.... but I thought it was great, Below one of the many Creme Brules we have enjoyed.

Above right: Trees in Borley Wood.

Over the page left: Another salad in Paris

Over the page right: An autumn visit to Winkworth Arboretum









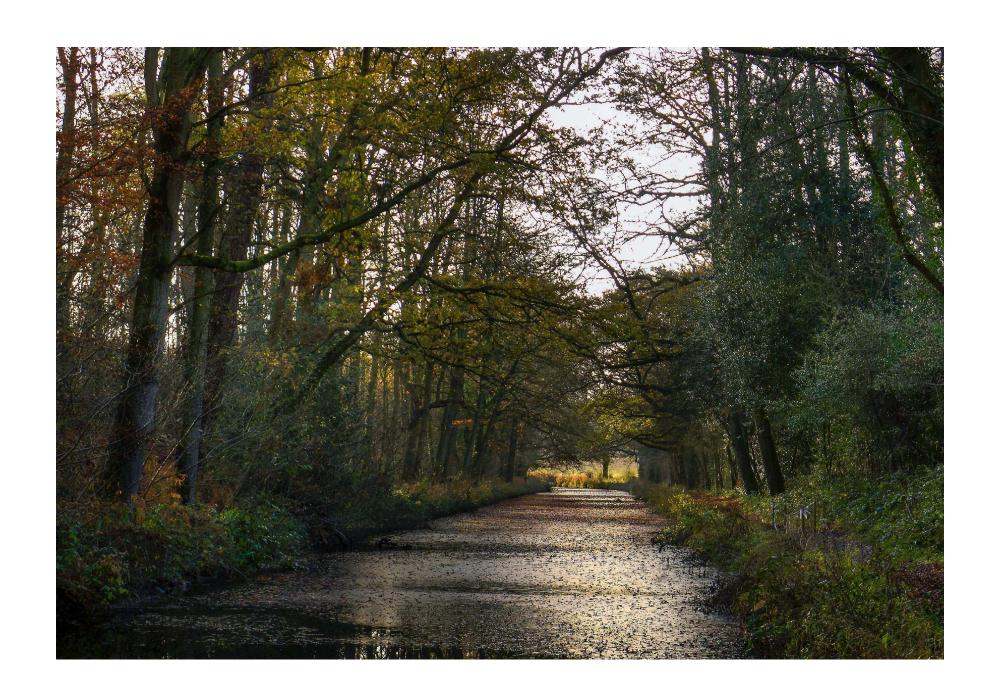
One of the pleasures of walking is stopping. Ian and I find a coffee shop + bakewell tart in Lewes on The South Downs.

Right: On the Basingstoke canal near Winchfield.

Over: Same canal, different seasons









Foxgloves at the start of a wet walk up Longsledale, Cumbria

Right: Thistles in Peter Rush's garden, Dorset



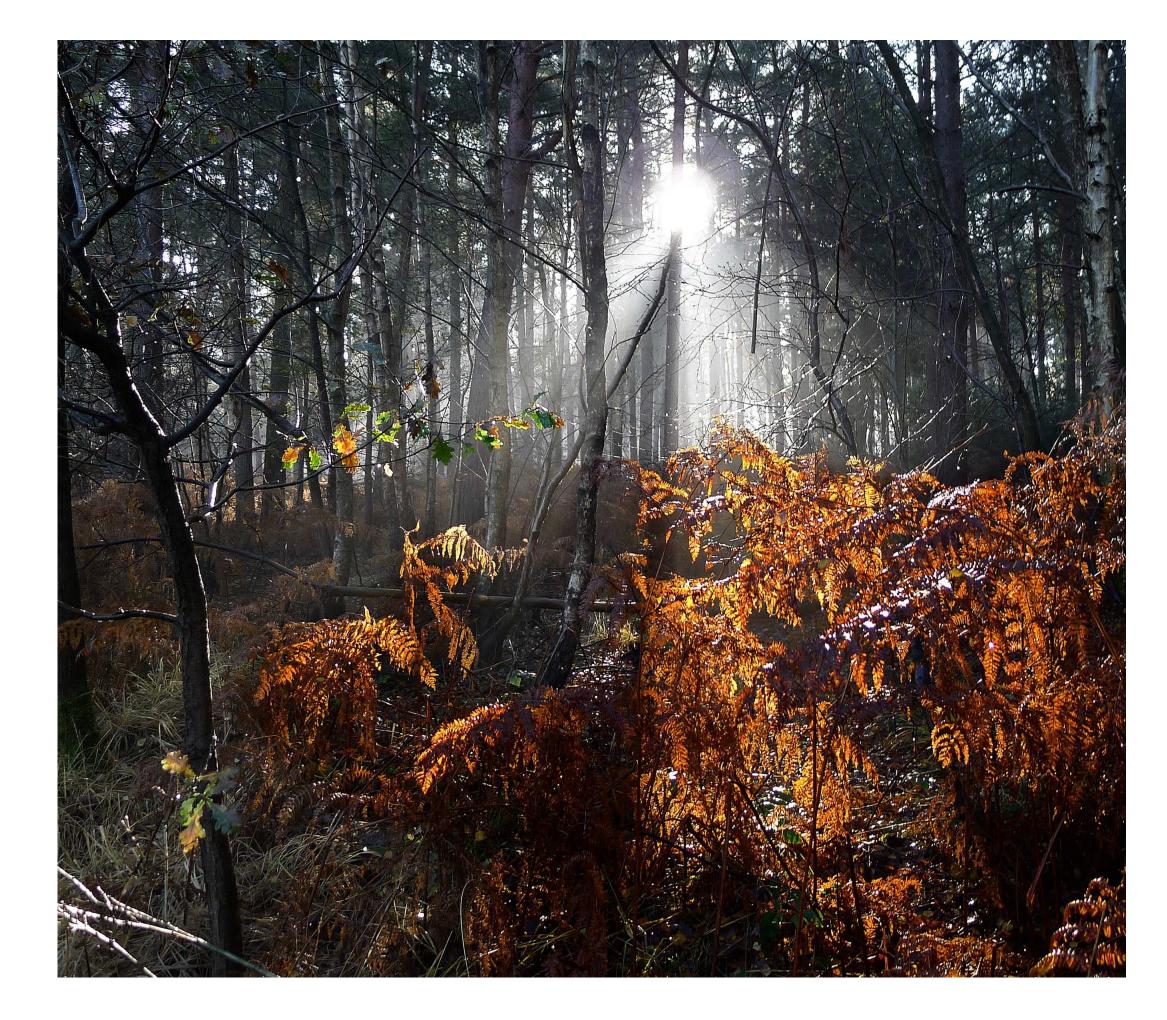


Bring your wine and bread and the fisherman's shack provides the rest, Southwold.

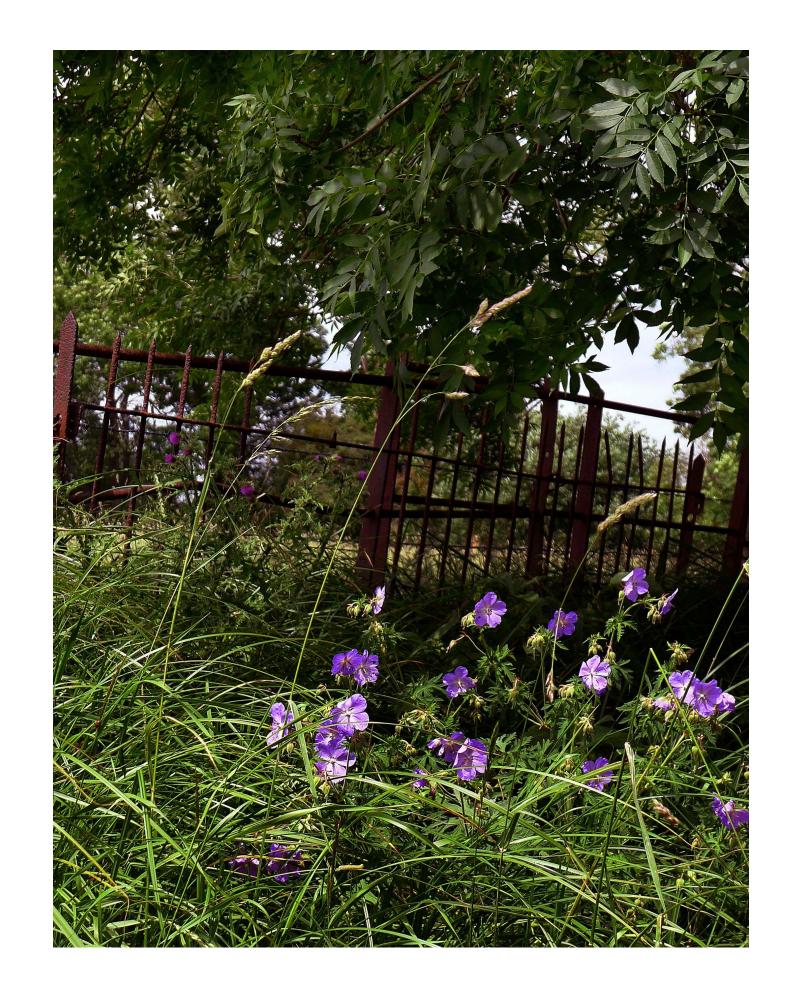
Right & over the page: In Borley woods on one of my many walks to Farnham.

Overpage right: Flowers by the Thames, Cookham.











Countryside - The Empty Bits

A trip round some of the less populated parts of the UK

Above: In the Brecon Beacons. A new 'place' for me.

Right: Pen y gent, Yorkshire Dales





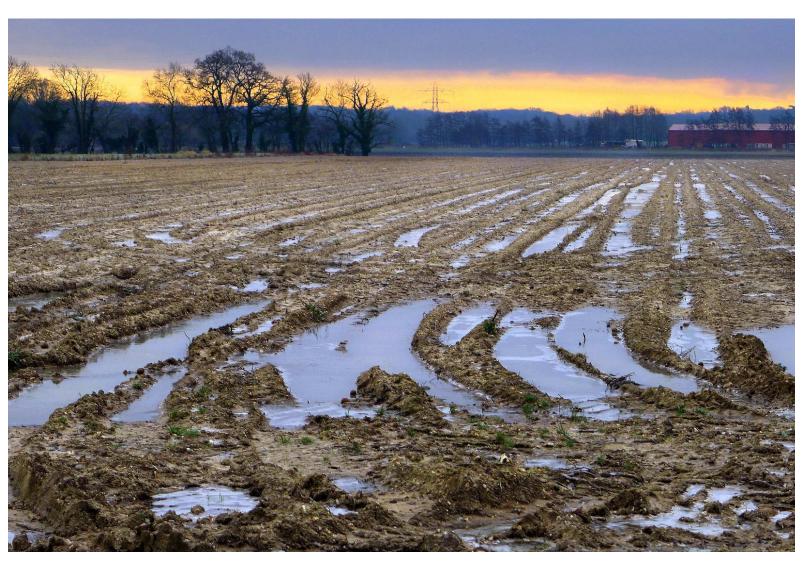


Preparing for walking in Switzerland. I had to know I could walk 15miles, climb 5000ft verticaly and stay on my feet for 10hours. I demonstrated this to myself by doing a figure of eight climbing Pen y fan in Brecon twice. I achieved my objectives, as well as thinking to myself that climbing a hill twice in one day was not something I wanted to do again anytime soon....or ever











Top Left: Watching this painter at West Wittering I thought I should be painting outside more, but he didn't look all that warm and I am, in my playpen.

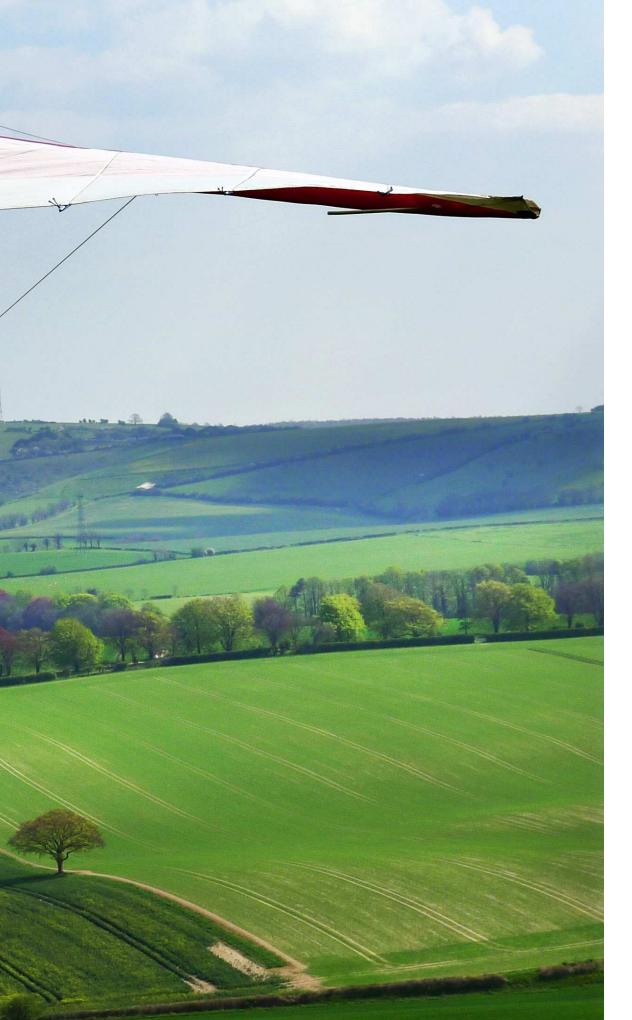
Bottom Left: Rob and I were out for a walk taking us from near his house in Hook to a coffee shop a few miles away. I grabbed this picture in the winter light on the way back.

Above: On a very wet day I took camera and tripod to Stonehenge. Like it or not, this is my picture..... I felt it summed up how grim it looks on a grim day.



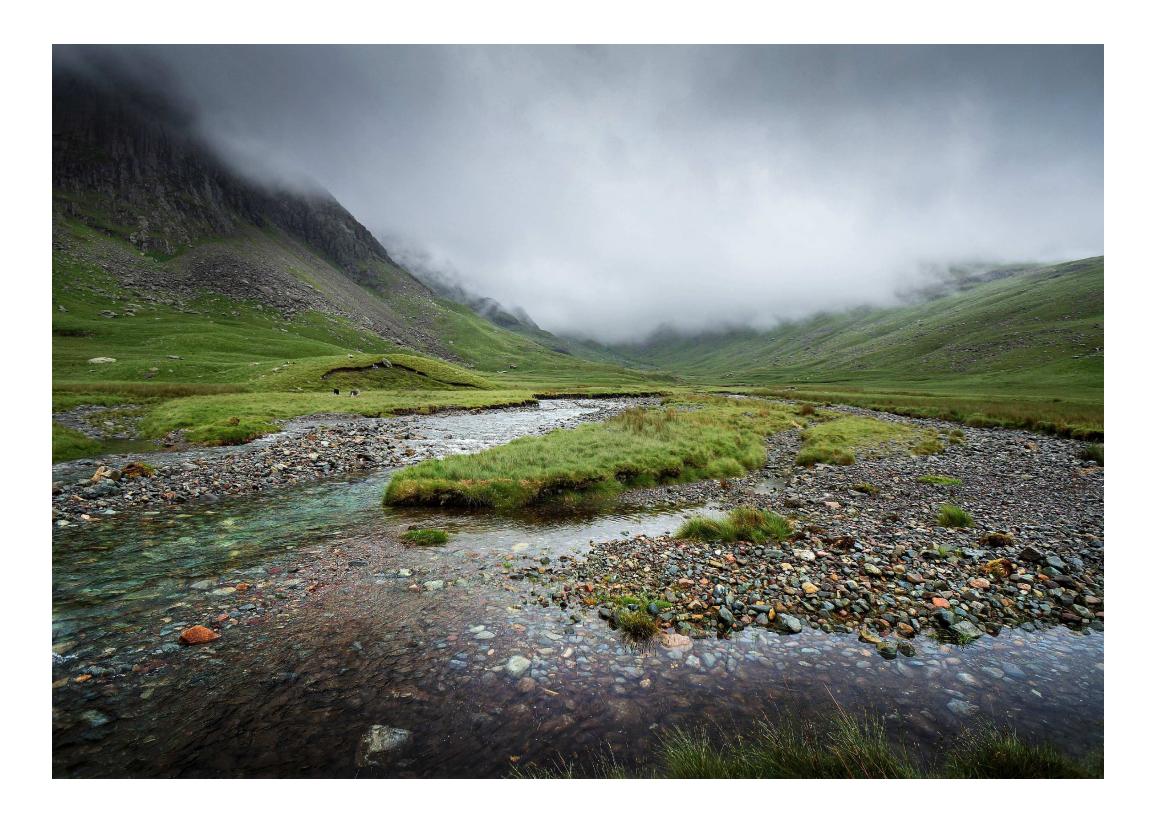






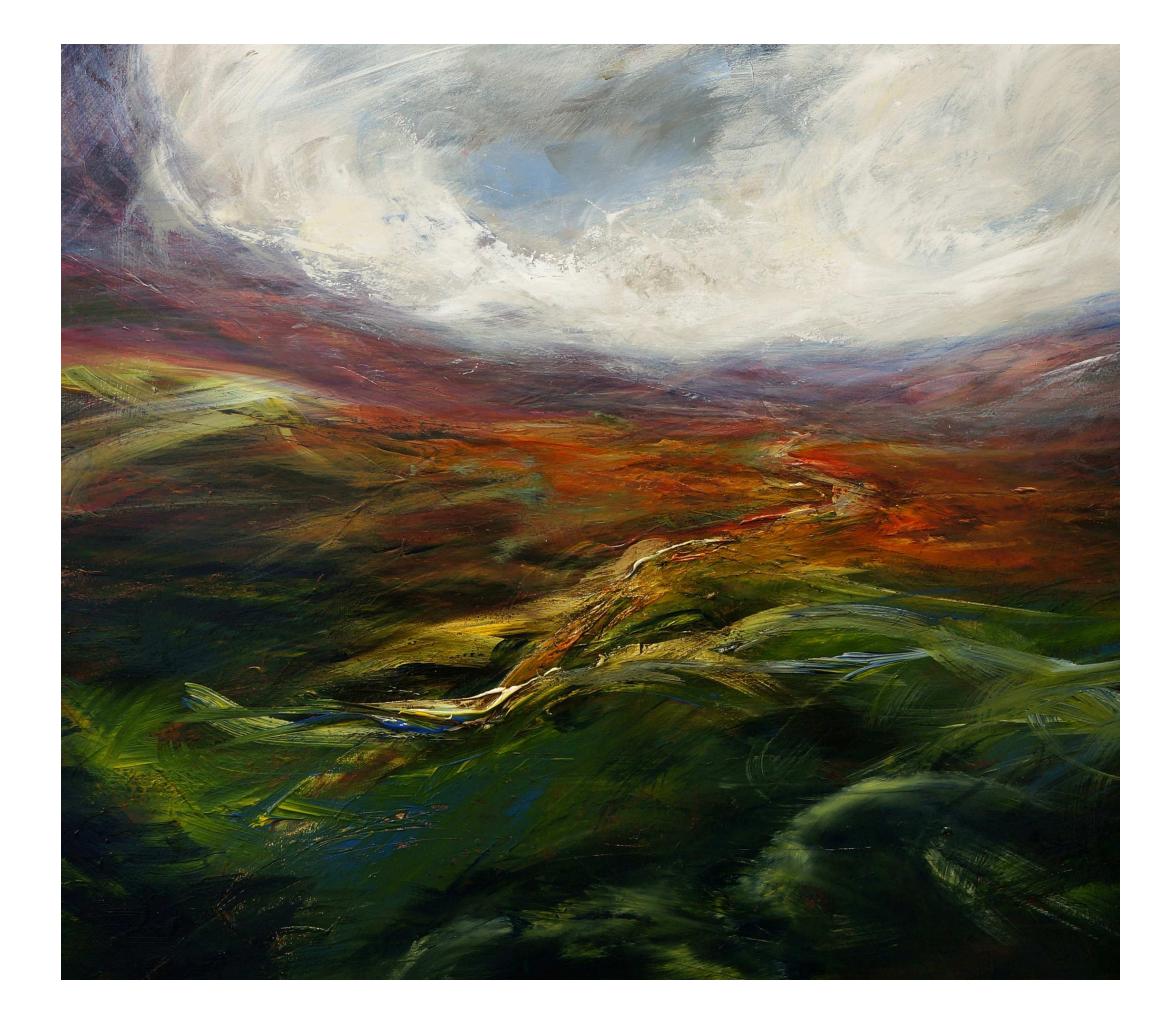
I assist this gentleman to position his paraglider before take-off from Salt Hill opposite Buster Hill on the South Downs.

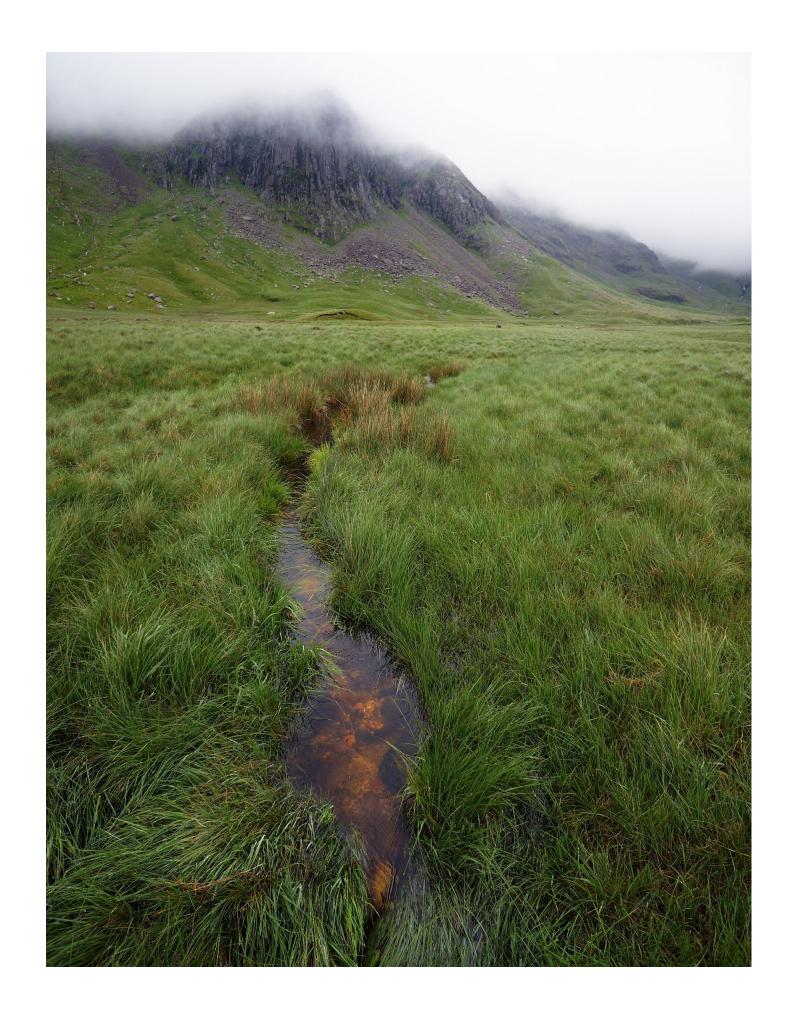
A grand spring day for us both.



The next four pictures are from The Great Moss in Eskdale, Cumbria. After explaining what I wanted for source material for future paintings to the Youth Hostel manager he said that The Great Moss had everything I wanted + wet feet.

The grass itself was interlaced with little hidden streams that were unavoidable..... A great day out with my camera.









Hardknott Pass, Eskdale.



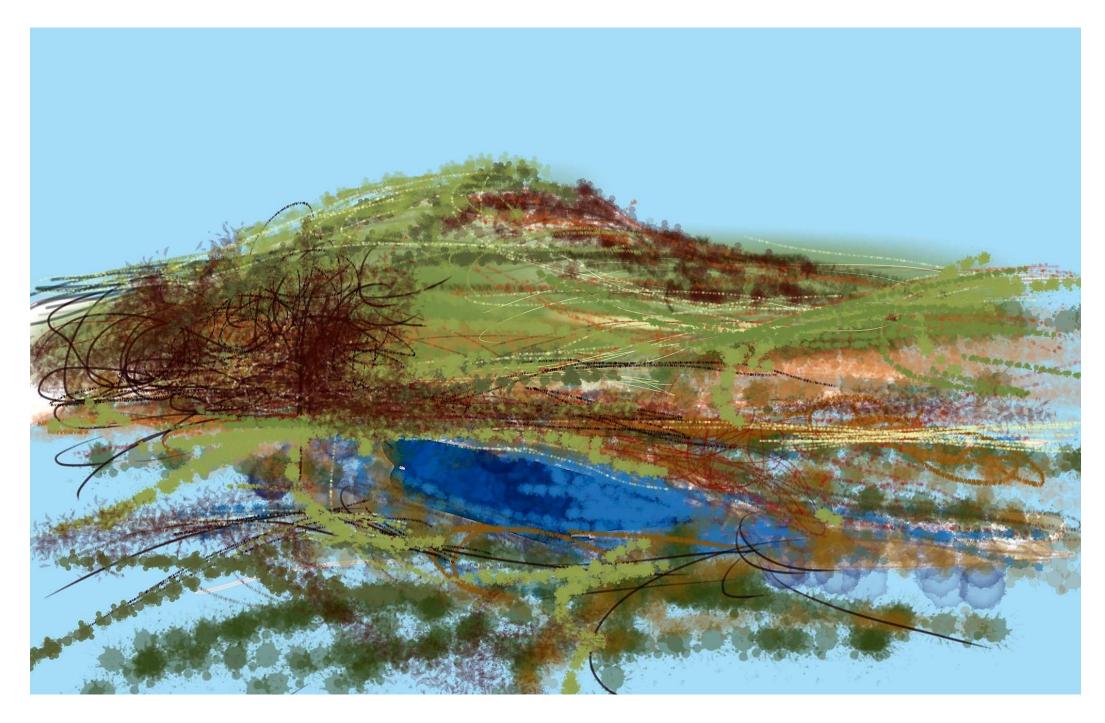




Left: On the way up Longlesdale, Cumbria

Right: Blind Tarn near Coniston, Cumbria





I was invited to join a bird watching trip on the Seaton Tramway in early November. All good stuff except I have zero interest in things with feathers. After dressing with lots of layers I tried the sketching app on my i pad.... what a load of fun.

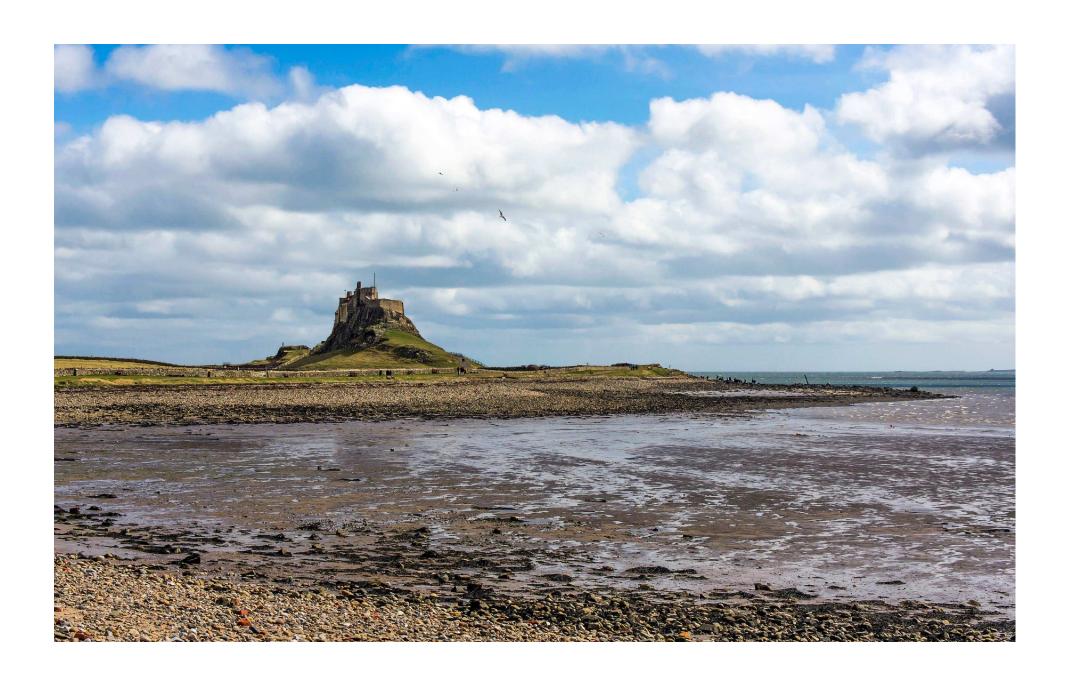
There might be something in this outside painting stuff after all.







The next four pictures are from a trip we made to Northumbria including Hadrian's Wall and Holy Island.









The picture on the left is of the reed bed next to Aldeburgh Maltings.

Above: I have no idea where, but East Anglia somewhere.





Caesar's Camp in Bourley Woods. You can stand here after struggling up the hill and admire the scene. The view over the surrounding area is magnificent. On a clear day you can see Docklands in London which is over 40 miles away.

However just before this picture was taken you could see very little. Then the mist started to clear revealing this strange looking scene with conflicting light and colours.





Dartmoor has been a great inspiration for a lot of my paintings. I always enjoy walking there even when it is cold and muddy.

Soon after his retirement lan kindly volunteered to wander up the river Dart with me. The picture of him looking 'windswept and interesting' is a testament to the power of Photoshop on a very dull day.









I am always impressed what a shaft of sunlight will do for a dull day's scenery. The photo on the left on the edge of Dartmoor is self explanatory.

The picture above was my very quick interpretation of the river Dart going around a corner by a hill, as I quickly looked back over my shoulder.



Miscellaneous

A collection of pictures that do not fit into a larger category.





One of the benefits of my other little business, artonweb, is that I meet some interesting artists. Terry McKivrigen was one. I helped him install a new computer in exchange for a day's painting.

His style of acrylic painting was uniquely subdued and of a very high standard. Like all artists his studio reflected his style and personality.

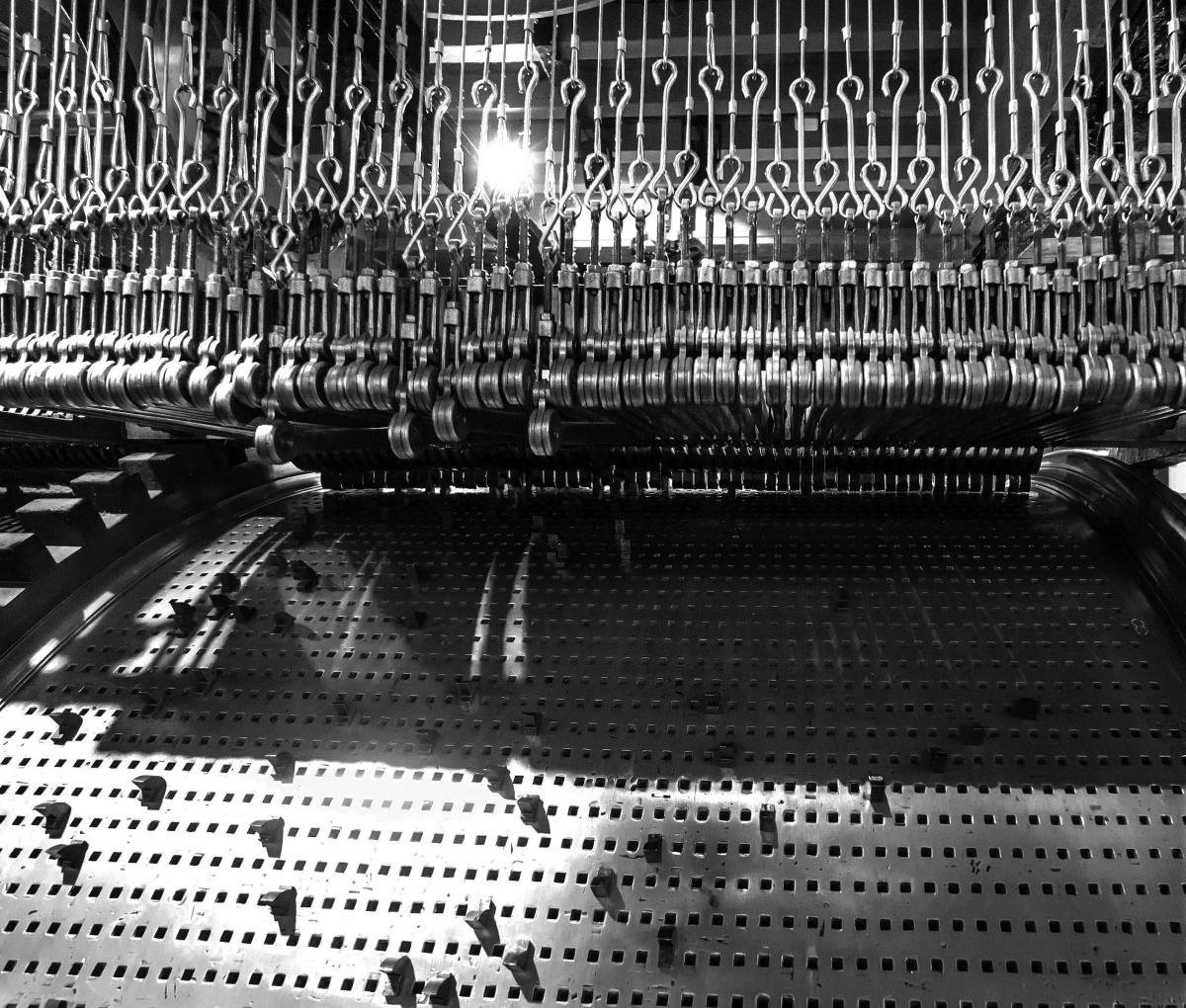
Sadly he died before I had my day's tuition but I enjoyed his company while I made his web site and installed his computer.

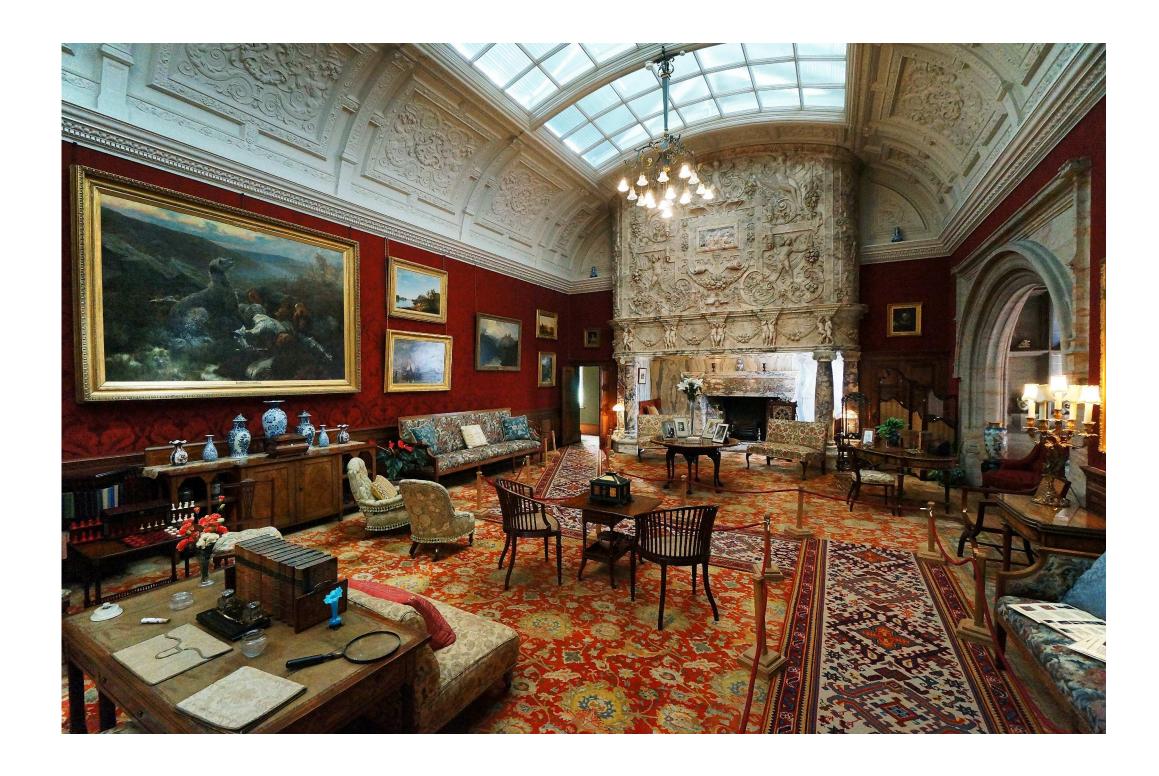




Street photography is all the fashion these days, but I have a hang up about sticking my camera in peoples faces. These two pictures are rare exceptions; the one on the right taken while we had lunch in St Malo is even more furtive.



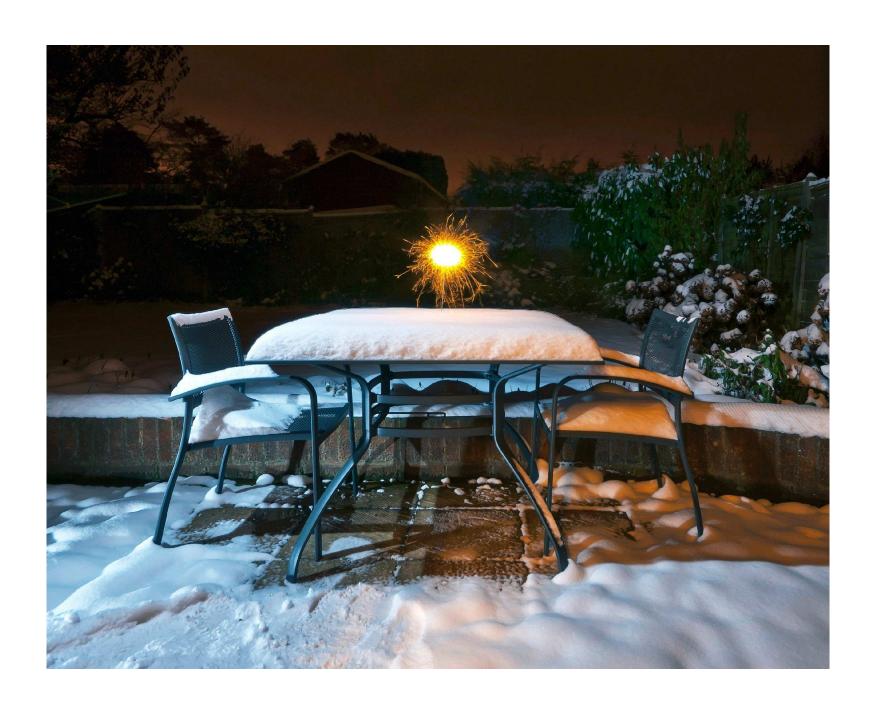




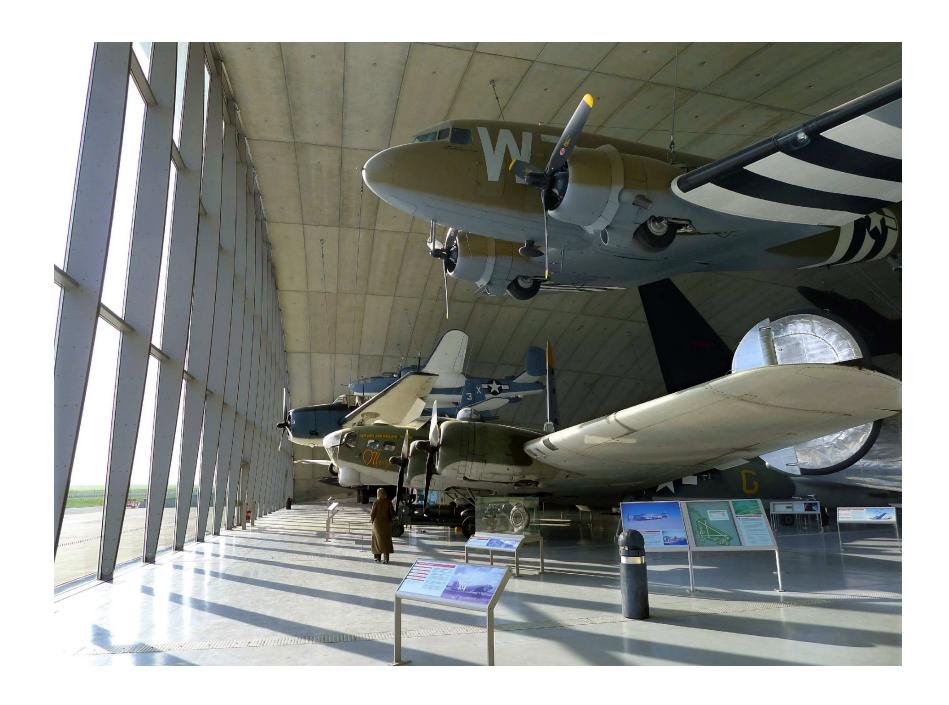
Left: Inside the Bell Tower, Bruges

Above: Cragside House, Northumberland





Winter comes to Bourley Wood and our back garden. I add the sparkler to cheer the scene up a bit.

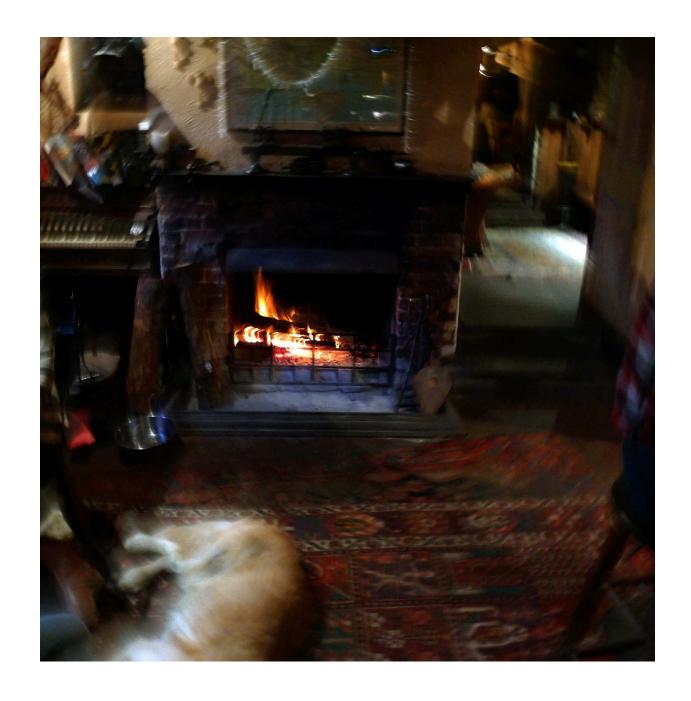


Above: Joy and I tour the Imperial War Museum at Duxford.

Right: Last sun, near Salisbury.

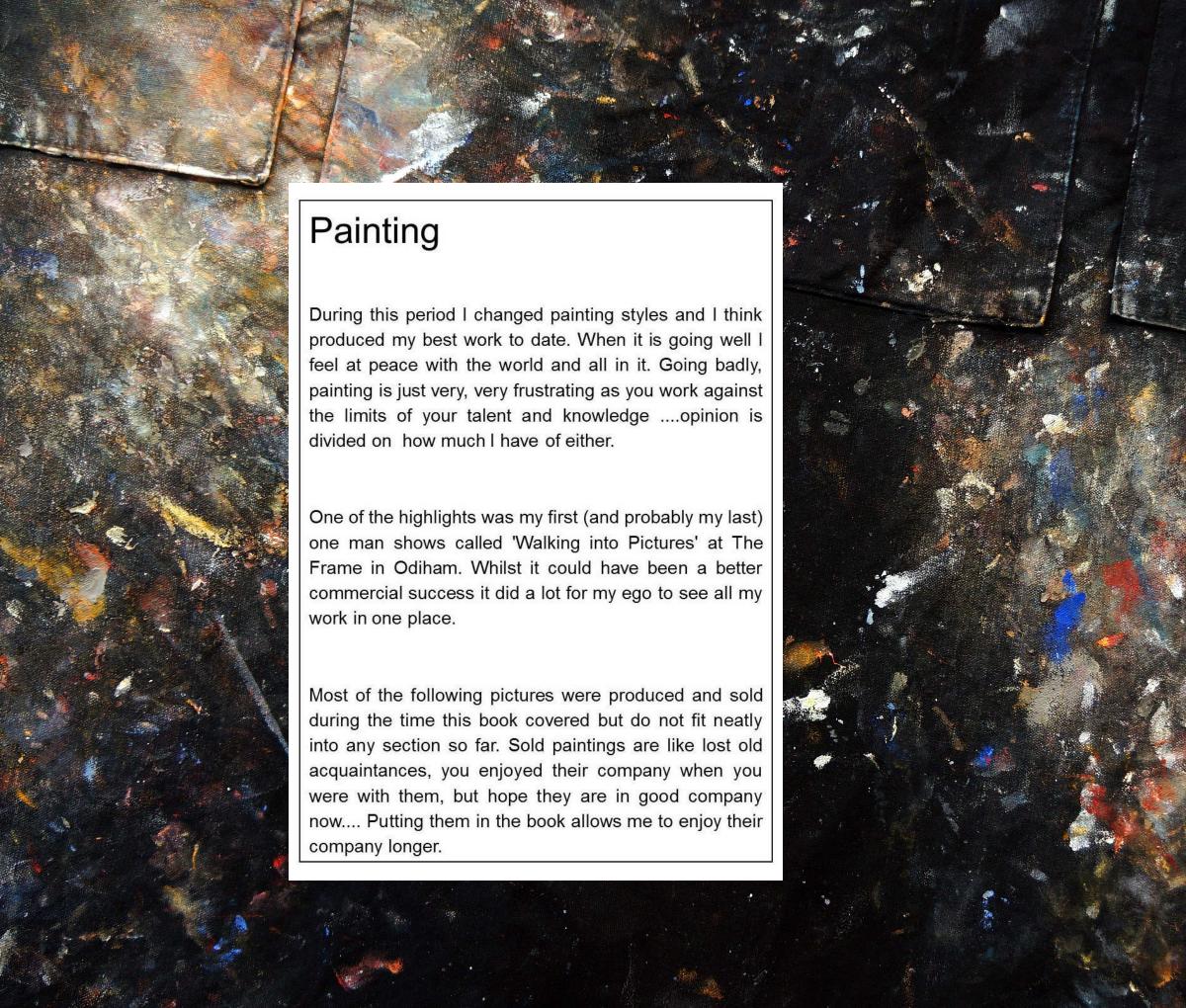






More winter scenes... Left; looking over the road bridge, new year's day, Kinskerswell.

Above: A cold winters day. A pub with an open fire and a sleeping dog. Winchester























Joy

I think it is right that I end the book with a few of my favourite pictures of Joy; after all she had to stand patiently while I took a lot of the other pictures.

These photographs were made during the few years covered by this book. The ones on this page are not technically perfect but mean a lot to me.



