**Starting with Pastel**

A short course introducing pastel techniques

This will be suitable for anyone starting with pastel or wanting to refresh their practise of basic techniques for soft (chalk) pastel. The variety of soft pastels and surfaces suitable for pastels will be explained. We will explore mark making, overlaying, hatching, blending, dry wash, broken colour and also the use of light, mid-toned and dark papers fixative sprays and storage of works.

**Materials**

Soft pastels; any you have or if using pastel for the first time “Inscribe” pastels are an inexpensive but effective choice to find out whether this is a medium you will enjoy using.

Charcoal or charcoal pencil

Paper: cartridge paper for experiments

Pastel paper; for finished work

Drawing board and tape or clips to hold paper in place

Fixative spray

Paper towel

A medium sized soft brush (old watercolour brush that no longer points, an old make up brush could be useful)

Putty eraser or Blu-tak, and plastic eraser if you have one

Small piece of fine sand paper

If you happen to have a couple of pastel pencils have them at the ready.

**Reference and objects for study**

Each session will start by exploring a few techniques on cartridge paper. We will then go on to use those techniques in a more considered way to make a study or picture inspired by a natural form, textile or other still life objects, and a landscape or tree study.

The tutor will supply guidance to suitable reference for each week and supply some photographic material but you are encouraged to work from your own objects and reference.