

# Portrait of a Local Artist

Hampshire based Alix Baker PCAFAS (Armed Forces Art Society) is one of the UK's leading military artists.

*"I have family connections with Hampshire and Wiltshire going back centuries," says Alix, whose work is the subject of study by many GCSE and A Level art students and has featured on BBC's Woman's Hour. "For landscape painters, Dorset, Wiltshire and Hampshire offer such variety and colour."*

*She adds: "You cannot shut out the artistic side of the brain. It is the same for musicians. At some time in your life it will become an overwhelming urge and you will be compelled to give in to it."*

Alix is an expert on military uniforms through the centuries with a particular interest in the effects of campaigns on dress. She has worked on official commissions for military units and museums, for collectors worldwide and contributed maps and illustrations to history books. Designers of silver statues and model soldiers have modelled their work on figures in Alix's paintings. Now, she also paints other subjects in oils, acrylics and watercolours.

*"Like many artists, I get a physical craving, particularly when it's impossible to access time or art materials," says Alix. "I always carry a notebook in which to record thoughts, notes on colours, light direction, random ideas etc. I'm forever looking up at the sky and the many colours to be found in clouds!"*

In 2002 Alix was elected chairman of The Armed Forces Art Society. In 2009 she was elected a life member.

Alix usually exhibits annually with some of the Royal art societies based at The Mall Galleries in London. Last year a book was published which features one of her paintings: The Complete Guide to Painting in Acrylics by Lorena Kloosterboer. Alix's work can be seen in the Creative Coverage Forest Connections exhibition at The New Forest Centre, Lyndhurst until July 3. [www.alixbaker.com](http://www.alixbaker.com)



'Lt Colonel Robert Lindsay 2 SCOTS'  
by Alix Baker

## What's on offer at Bournemouth M. S. Society

**M**ultiple Sclerosis is a common disabling neurological condition that affects around 107,000 people in the UK; it is unpredictable & varies widely. MS has no known cause and to date no known cure.

The Bournemouth & District Branch of the MS Society is hidden away in West Parley and is open on Mon/Tues/Thurs, it provides a social haven for around 200 people each week. It offers a fully operational physiotherapy gym with qualified physiotherapists, a CAB and Counsellor Service. There is a hairdressing salon, kitchen and dining

room, computer room, craft room and shop as well as a rest room and picturesque gardens on the premises.

We have 6 adapted vehicles for the members who reside around the BH postal areas and beyond. The whole operation is TOTALLY SELF FUNDING and manned by a team of wonderful volunteers.

For more information our contact details are:  
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