Snowdonia has a wealth of subject matter for every kind of artist, and consequently painters have been coming to this area to draw and paint the mountains, lakes and rivers, for very many years. There are quiet riverside meadows and spectacular waterfalls, panoramic mountain vistas or wooded valleys all within easy reach of the Centre.

Locations will be chosen according to weather conditions and the preferences of members of the group, the aim being to spend each day out of doors. For part of the week we will try some mountain sketching and watercolouring, so there will be an opportunity for the more active members to enjoy some good walking. In the evenings there will be demonstrations on aspects of painting techniques and time to continue work on the day's painting.

To complement the practical work we shall take time to look at the work of other artists who have visited the area. For example, in the mid-nineteenth century, David Cox regularly visited Betws-y-coed to paint the beautiful surroundings. We have found the study of other artists' work to be beneficial, both on a practical level and as a stimulus to the imagination.
Comments from previous years

What I liked best was...

“The way Jeremy managed to help and encourage everyone.”
“A superb range of venues and environments, I particularly enjoyed staying out almost to dinner time.”
“The trips out to various locations were excellent - the best I have experienced at F.S. Centres”

About the Tutor

Jeremy Yates is a practicing artist who lives and works in Snowdonia. Painting in watercolour, oil and acrylics, he exhibits locally in North Wales and elsewhere. A member of the Royal Cambrian Academy of Art, he has exhibited with the London Watercolour Societies (RI and RWS). For many years he was also a tutor with the University of Wales, Bangor Department of Lifelong Learning, and has for many years taught art history courses with Coleg Harlech/WEA. He has a particular interest in artists who have visited North Wales in the past, such as Turner, Cox and Cotman.

Course times

Course participants are requested to arrive on the first day at our reception for registration from 4.00 - 5.15pm. An introductory talk to the Centre is at 5.45pm. Dinner is at 6pm, followed by an introduction to your course. Departure is after breakfast on the final day.

The non-resident fee includes all tuition, packed lunches and evening meals.

What to Bring

You will need to bring clothing for all weathers - good weather cannot be guaranteed and even fine days can be chilly if you are standing or sitting for lengthy periods. Good shoes or boots are advisable since some locations can be rough or muddy.

- Warm clothing is essential.
- Sun cream and sun hat (hopefully these will be essential!)
- Waterproof jacket and waterproof trousers (can be borrowed from the Centre).
- Outdoor footwear (walking boots and wellies can be borrowed from the Centre).
- Day rucksack, warm hat and gloves (can be borrowed from the Centre).
- A torch, water bottle, thermos flask and lunch box.
Each artist has his or her own preferred medium and materials - oils, acrylics, watercolour, pastel etc. Please bring with you your usual materials, bearing in mind that we shall be working out-of-doors, so weight may be a factor if we have to carry equipment any distance to reach our subject.

A checklist of basic materials might include:

- Pencils, charcoal, crayons or other drawing medium
- Paper: cartridge, watercolour paper or pad, sketchbook
- Board/canvas or oil painting
- Paint - oils, acrylic, watercolour
- Brushes - bristle for oils etc, sable or artificial for watercolours, acrylics etc.
- Drawing board, easel, folding stool, pots/jars and other sundries, rags, tissues, turps etc.

Complete the online form on the FSC website at www.field-studies-council.org, or email us at enquiries.rc@field-studies-council.org, or telephone the Centre on 01690 710494.