



WELCOME TO OUR Monthly Newsletter

AS SPRING EVOLVES...



I can hardly believe how quickly this month has passed — preparing for a new season already feels like a distant moment.

April has been filled with fresh and exciting beginnings: new workshops, inspiring projects taking shape, the welcome return of familiar faces, and that unmistakable sense of the season gathering momentum once again.

There's also a growing sense of anticipation as the World Pilot Gig Championships begin on May 1st. This will be our very first year open at The Apothecary, and we're looking forward to offering a calm, colourful, and serene space for visitors to pause and unwind amidst the energy of the event.

↓ In this newsletter you will find:

The progression of the early season, fresh workshops and the build up to 'Gig Weekend...

The Workshops...

NEW ENERGY AND THEMES...

I was really excited to introduce a series of fresh workshops this month, drawing inspiration from the Spring season as well as my current collection of work.

One of the highlights was delivering a bespoke workshop for a lovely group of visitors. Some had very little experience and had never taken part in a creative workshop together before, which made it all the more special. It was truly wonderful to see how they embraced the process and enjoyed the experience as a group.

It never ceases to amaze me how, even when everyone begins with the same theme, each person interprets it in their own unique and beautiful way.

Here are some of their lovely creations...



The Workshops...

NEW ENERGY AND THEMES...

Of course, our gorgeous coastline will always be the heart of my inspiration. It offers studio guests the chance not only to explore and celebrate its beauty, but also to experience precious moments of mindfulness.

There's a gentle shift as they begin to notice, to absorb, and then to express what they see in their own creative language. It's a truly special process to witness. As their host, I see the quiet transformation — the stress and pressure seem to melt away as they become fully immersed in their work.



The Workshops...

NEW ENERGY & THEMES...

Collage continues to be one of my favourite mediums to teach. There's something so freeing in the process — layering, tearing, and composing — much like the shifting textures of the shoreline itself.

It's both enjoyable and deeply rewarding, inviting a sense of play and experimentation that people naturally fall into. The outcomes are always a delight, each piece capturing a unique interpretation and quietly telling its own story.



The Workshops...



The Workshops...

NEW ENERGY AND THEMES...

I was so excited to deliver the Textures and Tides workshops, having recently fallen in love again with working with surfaces and textures in my own practice. Although this process is wonderfully tactile and a little messy, there is something so calming and freeing about moving paint so intuitively — echoing the natural rhythm of our tides and the way they shift and flow.

I feel such deep gratitude for everyone who comes to my workshops, and it truly means the world when people choose to return again and again. As a practitioner, I always aim to offer something fresh — a new experience and an additional skill to add to their growing creative repertoire. While I won't name individuals, I do want to warmly acknowledge and celebrate those who have returned across the seasons — especially those who first joined in Winter and have come back again in Spring. Thank you. I feel so lucky to work with you!

This month, I also had the pleasure of welcoming back returning studio guests who first joined workshops last July and September. It's a real joy to see familiar faces again at The Apothecary, and I'm so grateful they chose to share another creative experience here.

Here are some of the gorgeous outcomes from the Tidal Textures workshops...



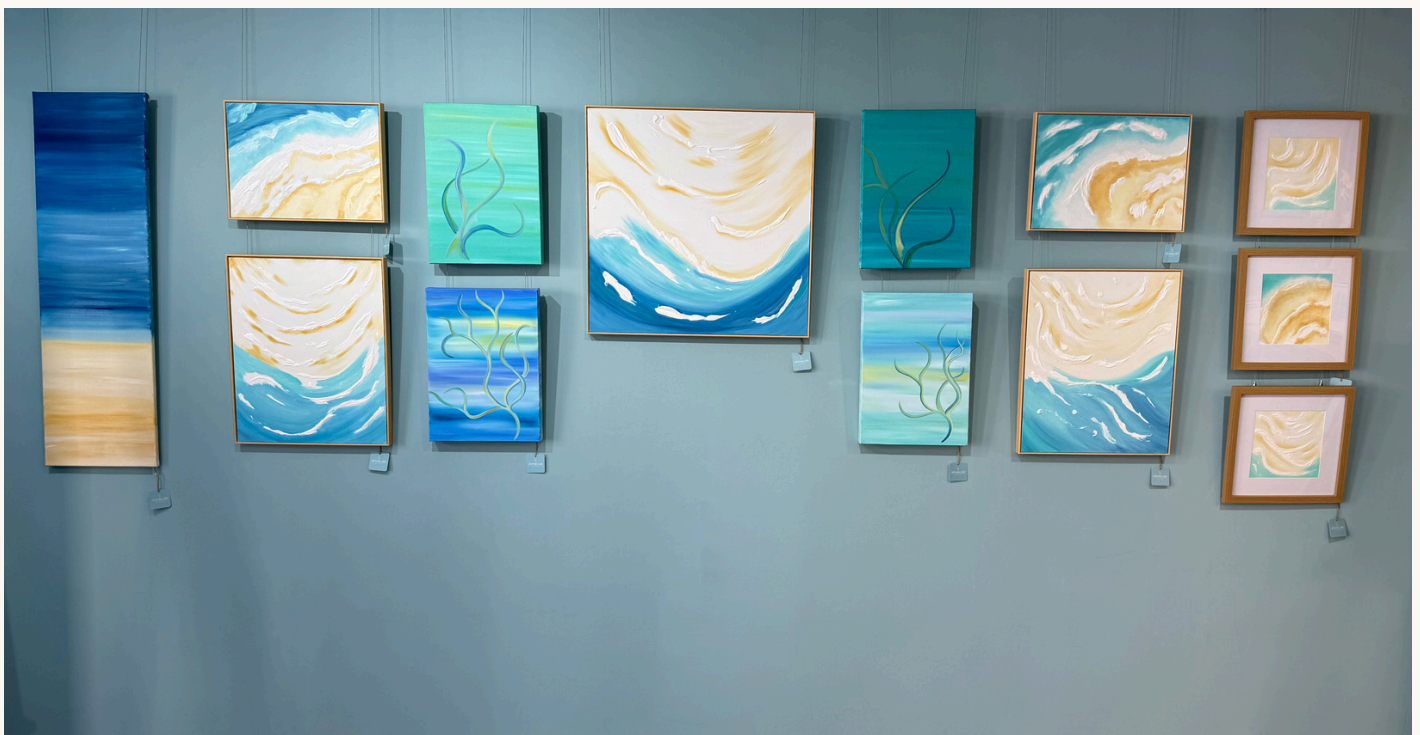
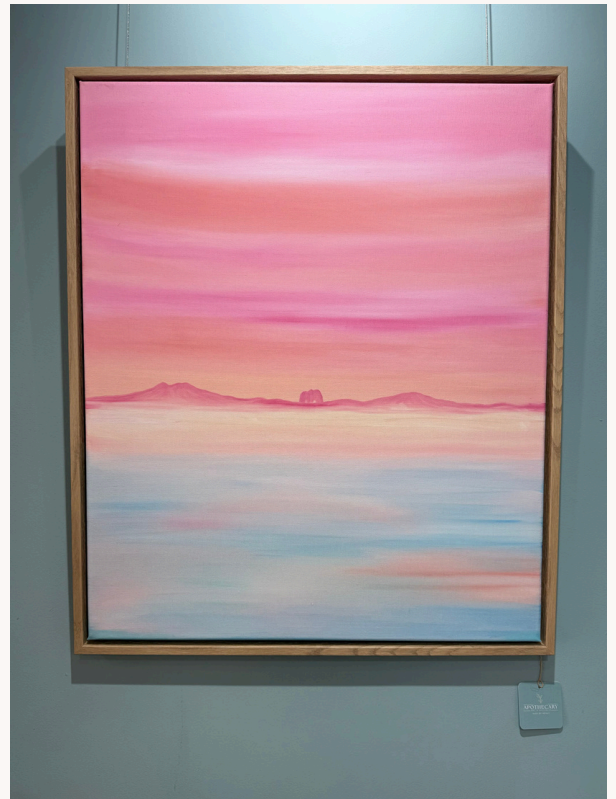
The New Collections...

FINALLY FRAMED...

If you know much about the Isles of Scilly, you'll be aware of the freight challenges that come with ordering supplies from the mainland. This Winter, continuing into Spring, has perhaps been one of the most testing yet.

While I would have loved to reopen with all my new collections framed and ready for the gallery wall, delays in receiving materials meant everything took much longer than expected. So when the frames finally arrived, it genuinely felt like Christmas Day — such a moment of excitement opening everything up at last.

Now they are here, it feels wonderful to finally bring a fresh new gallery wall together at The Apothecary. It feels especially fitting after a month of new workshops and returning creative energy in the space — everything beginning to settle into a rhythm again as the season unfolds.



New Projects ...

PREPARING FOR THE SPRING SERIES...

It was time to reunite myself with my Lino Fishies, as my card display was looking rather empty. The beauty of lino printing is that you can reprint years after the original design has been cut. So although these pieces were carved over five years ago, they still produce such wonderful, fresh prints.

There's something really satisfying about bringing them back into circulation again — like rediscovering old favourites and seeing them come to life once more.



New Projects ...

PREPARING FOR GIG WEEKEND...

I've created a range of charms and aromatherapy gift sets for the rowers taking part in the World Championships — a meaningful keepsake they can treasure long after the event, with a little moment of calm woven in.

My favourite blend, Relax & Unwind, felt like the perfect pairing for these sets, offering a gentle way to soothe nerves and restore balance amidst the intensity of competition.



New Projects...

WEARABLE ART...

I'm excited to start expanding my range into wearable art, and earrings feel like a gentle first step into this new creative direction.

I love working with polymer clay and gold leaf, shaping and layering them into coastal-inspired forms that echo the textures and light of the shoreline.

Here is my first collection, and I love seeing them sitting alongside my Layers of Coastal Calm paintings — they feel like a natural extension of the same quiet, coastal language.



Looking Ahead...

I'm really looking forward to May — the warmer, longer days always bring so many more opportunities to get outside and gather inspiration from the coast and landscape.

I'm especially keen to be offering a series of calming, focused drawing and painting workshops throughout the month, creating space to slow down, observe, and respond creatively.

I'll be sharing more details and updates with you next month...

APOTHECARY
THE ARTS SOCIETY
ISLES OF SCOTTY

WORKSHOPS

MAY 2026

MAY 6	Coastal Calm
MAY 9	Coastal Impressions
MAY 15	Shoreline Sketches
MAY 20	Shifting Shores
MAY 23	Shoreline Sketches
MAY 25	Coastal Impressions
MAY 26	Coastal Collage

10-12.30PM
£45, includes all materials & refreshments
Children must be accompanied by an adult

@apothecary_ios | apothecary.ios@gmail.com

WWW.ARTOFGEMMA.COM