

Welcome to the November 2021 edition of the Jack Russell Gallery Newsletter. We hope you enjoy reading about what we've been up to.

Jack Russell MBE

BACK ON THE BOUNDARY AT LAST!

It's been brilliant to get back out on location and paint cricket live and in the flesh again. With a backlog of commissions, it's been a breath of fresh air to get back on the boundary edge to catch up. Thank you to everyone for asking me to paint their favourite grounds and for your patience in waiting for the artist to get his paint in the right place.

I was never lucky enough to play at Sedbergh School. Lancashire CCC have been playing some of their matches there in the last few years and everyone kept telling me what a beautiful ground it is. So you can imagine my delight when I was asked to paint a match there by a former pupil. The venue didn't disappoint. It's an artists dream. The only problem was picking the best view because there were so many!



There is a gorgeous pavilion square of the wicket and a delightful church and trees behind the bowlers arm. All of which are surrounded by the outstanding Cumbrian countryside. Apart from the large painting of the ground, I couldn't resist painting one or two smaller views, in particular the pavilion, which for me was irresistible.

You can see larger versions of all the paintings by clicking on the images:



It was great also to catch up with an old opponent of mine Martin Speight, formerly of Sussex and Durham.

He's been Master of Cricket at the school for a number of years now, and a top painter himself.



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TEDDINGTON CRICKET CLUB

I was asked to paint Teddington Cricket Club. It's situated in the famous Bushy Park in South West London. What an amazing place that is. Not far from the famous Hampton Court it's full of ancient trees and free roaming deer. Sometimes they have "deer stop play!" I feel an excuse to paint deer and cricket coming on, I'll have to go back.



GREENOCK CRICKET CLUB

I was also invited north of the border to paint Glenpark, the home of Greenock Cricket Club, by Ken and Rosa Godsmann of ACT Construction. We had initially agreed a 30" by 20" canvas for the commission but as you can see below, the artist got carried away, again! It's not the first picture I've painted in Scotland. A few years back I painted the famous Hamilton Crescent for my book of all the grounds that I played at with Gloucestershire. That trip, and the time I played there in 1983, is a long story, so I won't spoil it for you just in case you haven't read the book.

Needless to say it was wonderful to be back in Scotland and it was too good an opportunity not to paint some of the magnificent Scottish landscape. As they say, when in Rome! If you would like to take a closer look at the Glenpark painting please click on [this link](#) or on the image below.

If you take a really close look by zooming in you'll see many of the people I met that day on the balcony and around the boundary edge, including Ken himself on the balcony with his wife Rosa and daughter Carla. If you would like to see the resulting giclee print please click the link.



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ARTIST UNLEASHED

In between commissions I've spent as much time as possible out in the landscape. It was good to explore again without the fear of being arrested under COVID rules and regulations! I've been lucky to visit many places over the last few months, too numerous to mention, but you'll see one or two on our original page on our website www.jackrussell.co.uk

One place I did find very inspiring was Dartmoor. Having not been there for quite a few years I'd forgotten what a mysteriously amazing place it is. The light and colours are unique. Very different to Bodmin Moor where I've painted many times. I found Foxtor Mires, near Princetown, which may be familiar to all you Sherlock Holmes fans. It's believed to be the location that inspired Sir Arthur Conan Doyle to include the lethal "Grimpen Mire" in his masterpiece "The Hound of the Baskervilles." Everywhere I turned on Dartmoor there was another painting.



The moor is calling me very loudly at the moment. I'm not sure if it's a hound I can hear or just a little voice in my head saying "paint me please!"

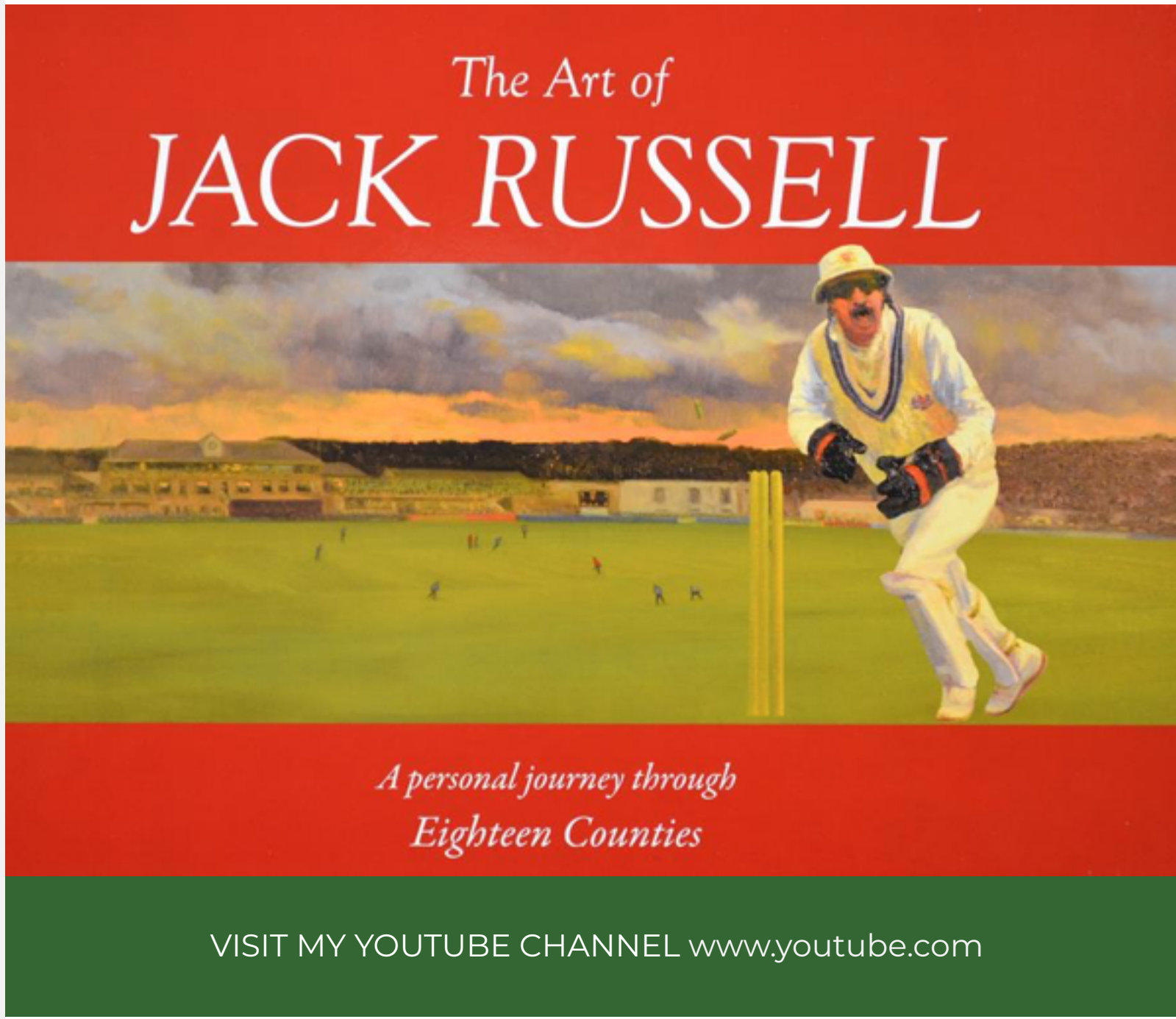
While in Scotland I also fell for Loch Lomond. So, cricket commissions permitting, there will be another trip (or two, or three...) along the "bonny, bonny banks of Loch Lomond."



EIGHTEEN COUNTIES

For those of you looking for a Christmas or birthday present we've updated our website so you can now see a few pages from my book "Eighteen Counties: A Personal Journey." A collection of paintings, sketches and anecdotes showing all the grounds and some of the characters from my playing days with Gloucestershire.

I'd like to deny all the stories and tales inside but seeing that I wrote the book personally, I don't think it would stand up in court! It's not all about cricket. There is some very personal stuff in there. If you haven't seen a copy and would like to view some of the content please [click here](#) or the image below.



THANK YOU

Thank you once again to everyone who continues to support us here at the gallery. Without your passion for art, and cricket, this artist wouldn't be an artist!

If you would like a free copy of our latest gallery brochure please drop me an email at jack@jackrussell.co.uk or give us a call on 01454 329583. Don't forget, you can also get me on twitter: [@jackrussellart](https://twitter.com/jackrussellart), or visit our [website](http://www.jackrussell.co.uk).

Take care everyone. Hopefully we can catch up again soon.

Jack Russell MBE

