Pete

Pete Upham describes himself as an amateur artist who enjoys drawing more than anything else. He always carries a little sketch pad in his backpack when travelling around and going music festivals. Before he retired, he was a storeman for 40 years at Unipart in Oxford.

What does creativity and culture mean to you?

I dunno, it's a big question. It is exciting! I get satisfaction from drawing little things. And there are a lot of new things that I don't know about.

What creative achievement are you most proud of?

I suppose doing pop-up cards. I got a couple of books to try to find out exactly how they work.

When my grandkids were little, I didn't make pop-up cards, but I used to look at all the cartoons they watched and comics they read, and make cards for them from that. Weeks before Christmas I'd get the latest comic that my grandkids were into and put the characters in a Christmas scenario. I used to draw the characters giving something to somebody. The front of card said "Happy Christmas from Thunderbirds" or something.

Pete is one of Age UK Oxfordshire's Age Friendly Creative Ambassadors and also a member of AUKO's Age Friendly Creative Network (OAFCN). Some of his creations have been featured in the OAFCN e-news.
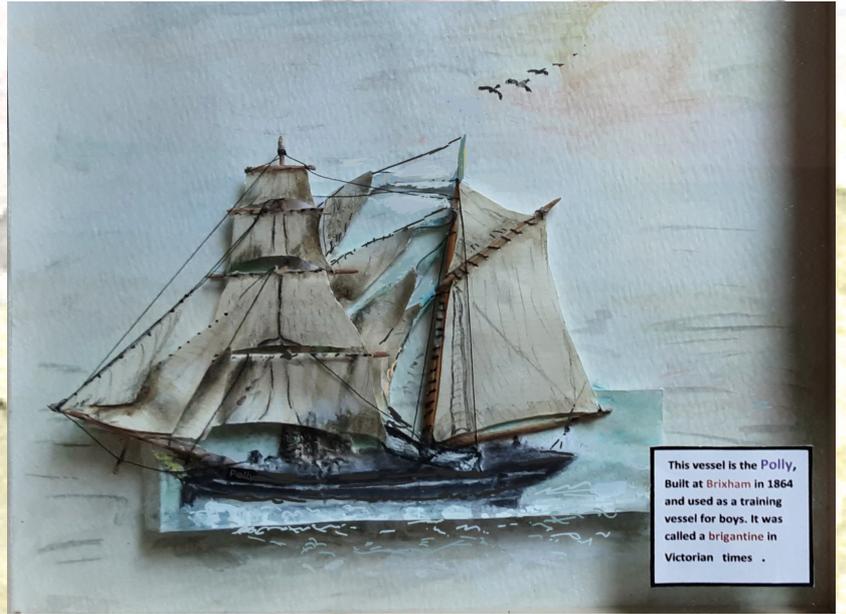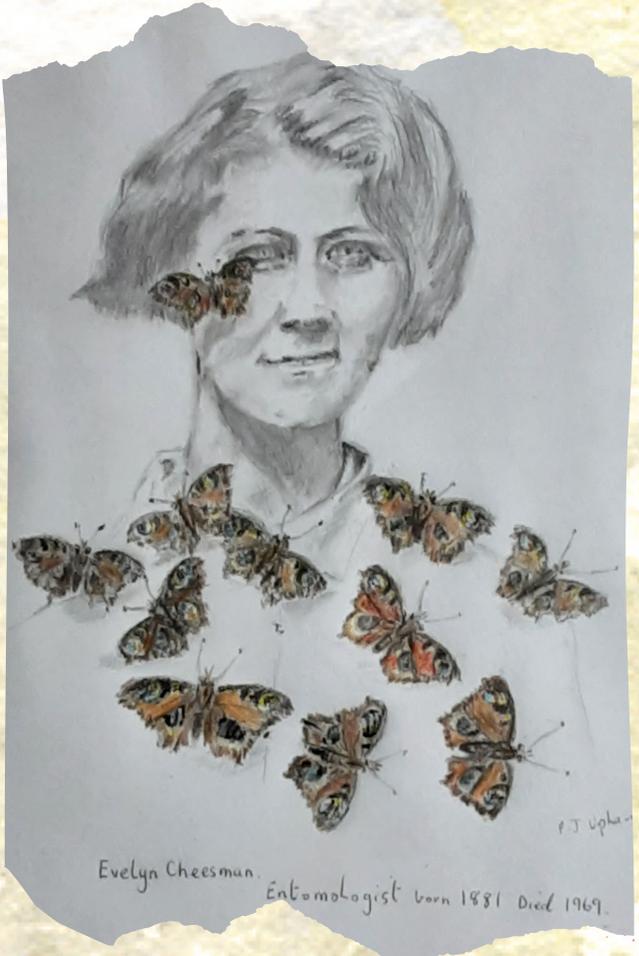
Pop up card for May Day

The Butterfly on My Hand

This was copied from a sailing ship book I have. It's all Victorian & Edwardian black & white photos.

My Granddaughter drawn at the Art Group at the Town Hall in Oxford in 2017.

Pete recommends going to local events and attending groups at local venues. He enjoys the Ashmolean, Oxford Natural History Museum and the Museum of Oxford.

Design for an age-friendly bus

Evelyn Cheeseman, Entomologist & Explorer born 1881-1969. This is a copy of a black and white photograph from the 20's or 30s l think. l coloured the Butterflies in to make it colourful.