

Ted opens his doors for a tour of family history past and present

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Ely artist Ted Coney is opening his house again from Sunday April 10 for his eighth season to give guided tours around his work.

All his paintings are about family life and family relationships and Ted has been working on the same theme for nearly 50 years.

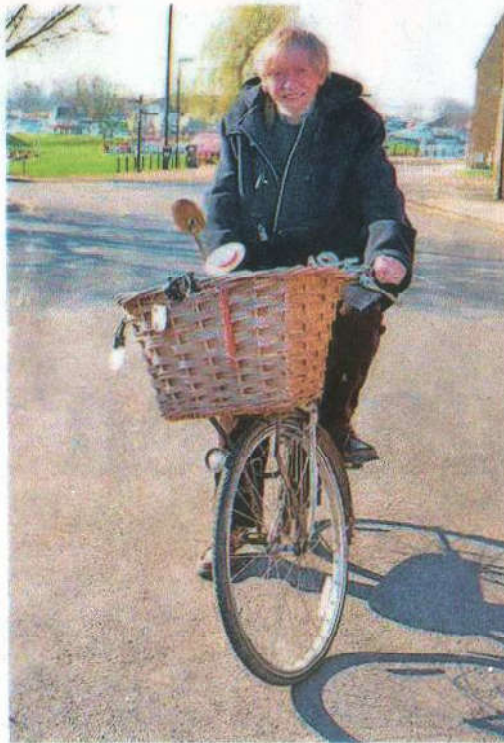
"Don't worry, I only talk about seven paintings on each tour," said Ted. "Each tour lasts about an hour and begins with a short film to introduce the work and ends in the studio to see the latest painting in progress."

This year's painting, entitled 'Bicycle Thieves', is about marriage and the changing attitudes to it since the Second World War.

Ted made drawings of his 1940 bicycle and uses it in a symbolic way in the painting. He has owned the same bicycle for the last 40 years and still uses it to travel to work.

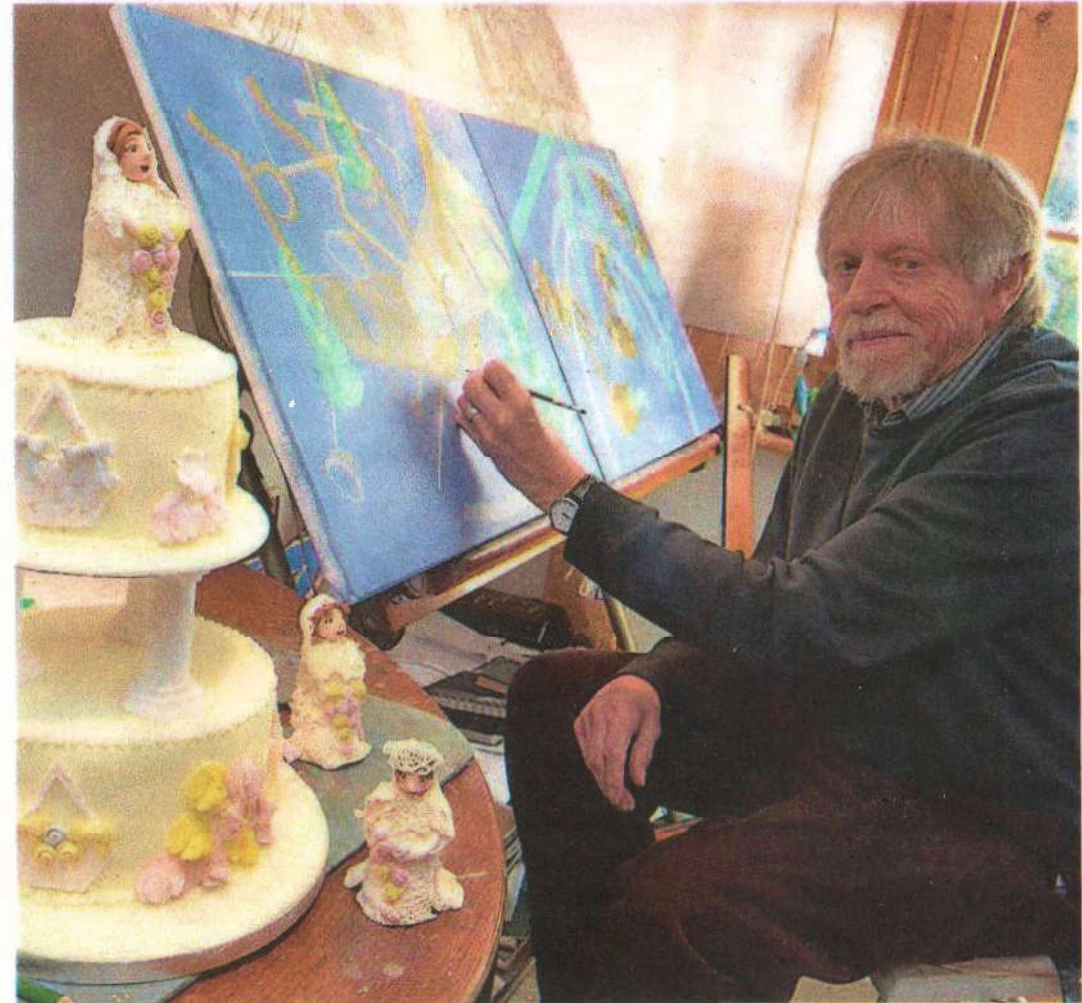
"It did actually get stolen in Cambridge several years ago," said Ted. "But after five days I managed to track it down."

The bicycle is also going to be featured on Cambridge TV, in a film



being made about Ted's work as one of six arts programmes to be shown in the near future.

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■ **To book your tour at Ted Coney's Family Portraits and get more details visit www.tedconeyfamilyportraits.co.uk or email tedconey@btinternet.com or phone 01353 650038.**



■ Ely Artist Ted Coney, preparing for his new exhibition,

Pictures: HELEN DRAKE