

## Letter From the President

I hope this finds you well and you are staying alert as the Government starts to ease the lock down. I have spoken to a number of members who are keeping busy and managing to still be creative despite the worrying circumstances we find ourselves in.

Many of us have been increasingly using technology to keep in touch with friends and family and to interface with the outside world. Our 'virtual' Spring Exhibition is a good example of how we have used the internet to overcome the closure of our usual venue to display your artwork to the public.

The Spring Exhibition has attracted over 2000 visitors to our website and has received very positive feedback from members and the public. The artwork has been judged by an independent Artist and awards given in the usual categories, in addition I have given a special award to Debi Lane for her amazing portrait of 'Capt Tom' which she has used to raise money for the NHS charity. A big thanks to Jean Willis and Petra for setting up the virtual exhibition on the website.

Last month, to help you pass away the time and be creative, I set a 'Painting Project' as a challenge by asking you to send in paintings of your garden or views from your window.

I am pleased to see that a number of you have put brush to paper and have sent in a photo of your paintings already.



If you have not yet risen to the challenge there is still time, just send a photo of your painting with title and medium used to my email address: [geoff.stubbins@btinternet.com](mailto:geoff.stubbins@btinternet.com) by the end of May. I will publish as many as I can in the next Newsletter.

A big thank you to Petra, who in the absence of our scheduled Saturday Appraisal, gave a friendly online critique of paintings that you were unsure about. I hope you found it useful.

As the Government continues to ease restrictions, your committee will review our programme to see what activities may be possible and I am optimistic that our Summer paintings days out may go ahead as planned. Chris Bowden is looking to see what outdoor venues would be suitable.

Be creative and stay safe.

*Geoff Stubbins*

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## Spring Exhibition Awards 2020

Local Artist Tim Griffiths had the difficult task of judging the Exhibition online with approx. 50 entries to look at including 3D work. The 7 award categories, which are detailed in your Membership Programme, required careful thought, made harder by it not being easy to compare scale or see texture of the work when viewed on screen.

The Award for Best Painting in any medium along with Best Flora painting went to Linda Hudson for her 'Sunflowers at Hillside Allotments', shown opposite.



Well done to everyone who sent in their entries for the Spring Exhibition, I hope you have enjoyed seeing your work online and also that of your fellow members. Congratulations to the amazing award winners shown below :

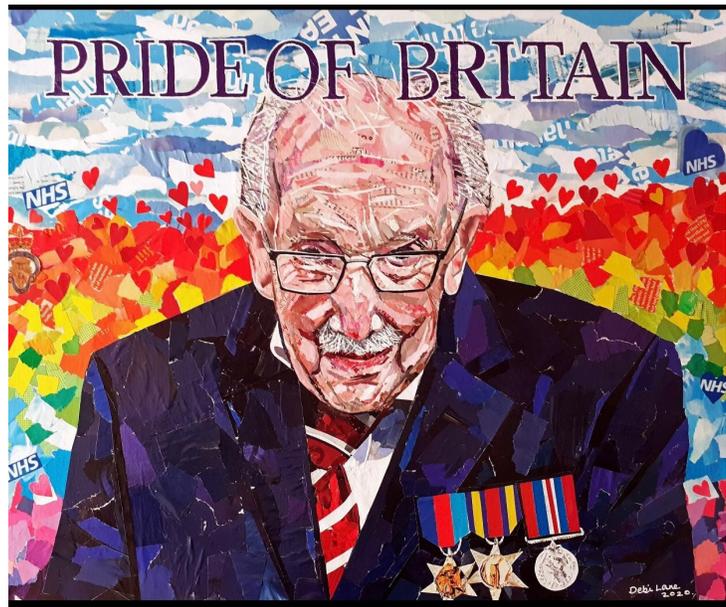


'Be Gone'

Highly Commended Animal painting -Acrylic by Wendy Griffiths



'Reflections of Trees in the River'  
Best Textile by Margaret Fairhead



'Captain Tom Moore'  
Presidents Special Award - Collage by Debi Lane



'Crown Daisies'  
Highly Commended - Watercolour by Carol Kelly



'Hellebores'  
Best Watercolour by Pat Pagett



**'Bulbous'**  
Best 3D Stoneware by Helen Willis



**'Three Blue Boats, Cornwall'**  
Best Landscape - oil by Anthony Reeves



**'Porlock Weir'**  
Highly Commended Watercolour by Roy Neil



**'Ears in the Sun'**  
Best Animal Painting - Pastel by Francella Jean



**'Rockabye Baby'**  
Highly Commended 3D Bronze Resin by Petra-Rouendaal



**'Gondolas'**  
Highly Commended  
Oil by Deborah Hodgson

**STILL TIME TO  
VOTE FOR YOUR  
FAVOURITE ART-  
WORK ON THE  
WEBSITE....!!**



**'Agapanthus'**  
Highly Commended  
W/C & Textile by Una Smith