

## Letter From the President

I hope this finds you well and you are staying safe as the Government starts a month of lock down measures. 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. Art is a good example of how we can use the internet to overcome the closure of our usual art group venues to continue to display and share our artwork and take inspiration by watching online tutorials.

Our 'virtual' Autumn Exhibition is now online with 79 entries and has received very positive feedback from members and the public. The artwork has been judged by independent Artist Kara Strachan and awards given in the usual categories. A big thanks to Jean Willis and Petra Rohr-Rouendaal for setting up the virtual exhibition on the website.

Remember to vote for your favourite art work and also encourage friends and family to view the exhibition and vote as well. The art work is best viewed as a slideshow, so just point your cursor over the picture to enlarge and then scroll though the amazing entries and enjoy a virtual tour.



To help you pass away the time during lockdown and be creative, I have set a 'Painting Project' as a challenge by asking you to send in paintings of Autumn, based on views from your walks in the park or garden that capture the glorious colours of nature at this time of year.

Just send a photo of your painting with title and medium used to my email: [geoff.stubbins@btinternet.com](mailto:geoff.stubbins@btinternet.com) by the end of November. I will publish as many as I can in the next Newsletter.

Thank you to all members that took the time to vote in our 'virtual' AGM. All the resolutions were approved and a full account of the meeting will be sent out in a separate email by Chris Bowden.

Be creative and stay safe.

*Geoff Stubbins*

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## Autumn Exhibition Awards

Lichfield Artist Kara Strachan, shown here in her studio, had the difficult task of judging the Exhibition online with 79 entries to look at, including 3D work. The seven award categories required careful thought, made harder by it not being easy to compare scale or see texture of the work when viewed on screen. Kara said:

*"I always use a certain format when critiquing artwork but most of all I listen to my heart first and then look into technical ability, story telling and values etc. and I think that's how art should be viewed. With that in mind, you will notice that some of the exhibits have received more than one award- in my opinion they deserved to do so."*



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



Keith Ripley Best Painting and best Portrait award for 'Me by me'.

*"A truly wonderful piece of art that instantly told me a story and maybe the story the artist wanted to tell. A wonderful atmospheric piece and a magnificent portrait of subtleties!"*



Ken Walker Highly Commended for 'Alan'

*"This portrait gave me a feeling of happiness. Wonderful techniques to show expression used by the artist. How lovely to evoke an emotion through your art!"*



Geoff Stubbins Best Watercolour for 'Evening Light at Thurlestone'

*"This painting struck me straight away with its creative mark making in the foreground. The subtle marks and tonal qualities in the background drew me into this piece."*



Alan Hunt Highly Commended 'Building Project'.

*"Super use of technique in painting figures and bringing them to life. Thoughts of special family memories to whoever views this painting."*



Geraldine Foster, Highly Commended for 'Amber Eyes'.

*"A vibrant and exciting portrait of an elephant. Lovely bold marks in oil pastel. Really enjoyed looking at this characterful painting."*

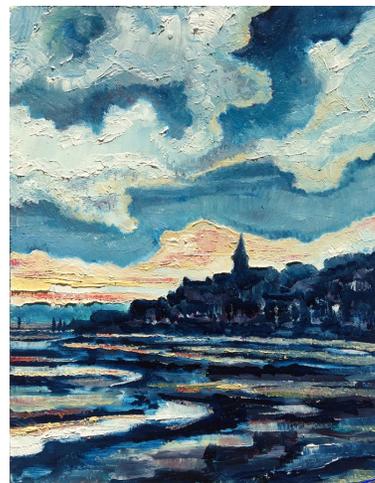
Deborah Hodgson (below) Best Pastel for 'Seat at Blackroot Pool'



*Wonderful tonal qualities, mark making and colour wheel observation, really loved this piece.*



James Ware, Best Landscape award for 'Sunset at Bosham'



*"Wonderful texture and mark making. An atmospheric painting I would love hanging in my home."*

*"A striking and thought provoking image. A sense of raw emotion and movement. Wonderful!"*



Petra Röhr-Rouendaal with her award winning 3D sculptures. 'Weather the Storm' (left) and 'Tulela' (right)

*"A serenity about the posture of this sculpture captured my emotion, particularly the way the dress fell from behind. Lovely textures and colours."*

*"Striking, fun and talented use of mixed media. Representational and exciting to view."*

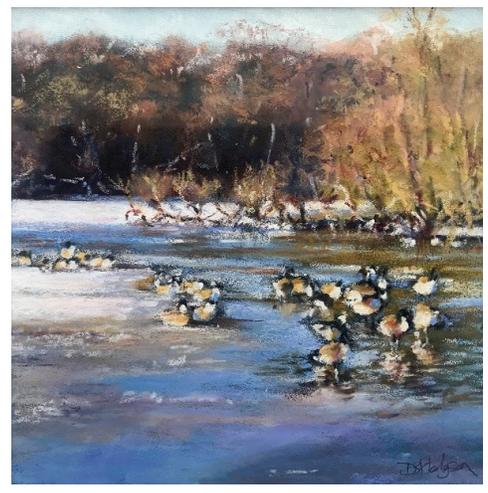
*"Soft and careful use of mixed media to create an atmospheric painting."*



Bob Pagett with his Highly Commended mixed media painting 'Boats at Lyme Regis'



Debra Lane Mixed Media award for "Sergeant Pepper"



Deborah Hodgson's highly Commended 'Geese on Wyndley Pool'

*"Subtle use of light and colour to create a stunning lanscape with energy and life. One of my personal favourites!"*

**REMEMBER STILL TIME TO VOTE FOR YOUR FAVOURITE ARTWORK ON OUR WEBSITE...!!**