

## Letter From the President

By now I hope most of you have received your inoculation against the Covid virus and a good number of you have also had your second jab. With the successful vaccination rollout across the country and the reduction in Covid infections, we can take a tentative step towards normality and return to doing some of the things we have sorely missed.

As I mentioned in the last Newsletter we will be holding a Virtual Spring Exhibition in May and our Exhibition Secretary, Jean Willis has since sent out the exhibition schedule to you with details on how to enter. The last submission date is **Tuesday 4th May**, so don't delay, start preparing and send in your artwork now. The Exhibition will go live on our Website on Saturday the 8th May.

I also mentioned in the last Newsletter, that apart from painting, some of our members have been creative in other ways during lockdown, such as crafting and poetry writing. I featured Debi Lane's canal boat sign writing challenge last time and this time I am pleased to feature Glynn Wells, who has created a facsimile of a Bronze age 'Nebra' sky disc, as shown below.



Thank you to all the members that have taken on the monthly 'lockdown challenges'. Once again I have been very impressed with the great variety of entries received for the 'Spring' painting challenge, set in the last Newsletter. All the entries are shown below and can also be viewed on our website. There is no 'Lockdown Challenge' this month due to the Spring Exhibition.

If you have been creative in other ways, like Debi and Glynn, I would love to hear from you, so just email pictures of your artwork to [geoff.stubbins@btinternet.com](mailto:geoff.stubbins@btinternet.com) and I will endeavour to publish them in the next Newsletter.

Be creative and stay safe.

*Geoff Stubbins*

## Glynn's Sky Disc.

The option of 'alternative' creativity during this trying time has obviously lent itself to a number of interesting opportunities!

As a long established arts/craft enthusiast I took the opportunity to create a 'facsimile' of the 3,600yr old (Bronze age) 'Nebra' sky disc discovered several years ago in N.E. Germany. The original design was made from an amalgam of German Copper and Cornish Tin.

The design was intended to portray the (then) night sky when crop plantations were most favourable.

The project required the procurement of a 9" cake board, Gold plated beads, and cut polished Brass plate on a painted metallic base.

I am also an experienced straw craftsman and have been for over 40 years. Two of my recent straw designs are shown opposite. If anyone would like further information about straw craft, I can be contacted on my Craft mail site [barleycorn888@gmail.com](mailto:barleycorn888@gmail.com)



# Lockdown Challenge : Spring



Bluebell Wood - Keith Ripley



'Not Much Good at Flower Arranging'  
Alan Hunt



Squirrel - Paul Bayliss



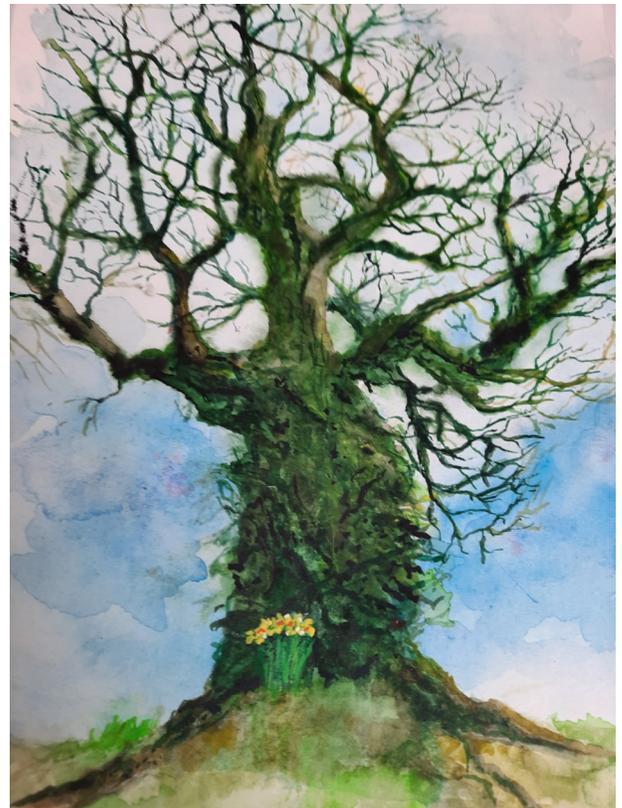
Spring has Come - Götz Jeran



Poppy Field - Deborah Hodgson



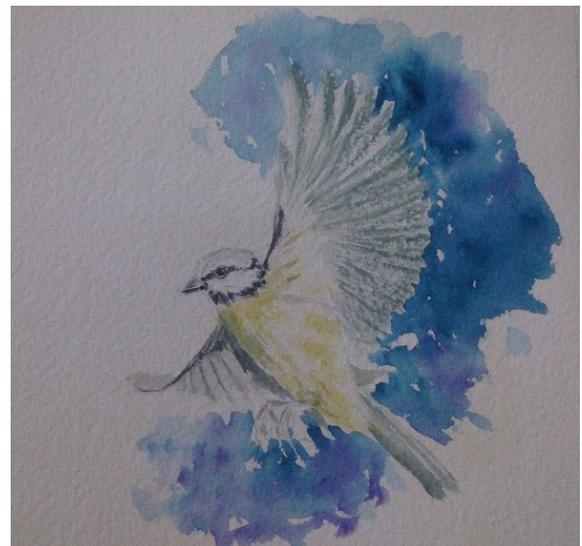
Brief Encounter - Chris Holloway



Daffodils under the Old Oak Tree  
Chris Bowden



Sweet Dreams - Gilley Saviker



Bluetit - Wendy Griffiths



Spring Morning Mist - Len Roberts



Straw Dolls & Eggs - Glynn Wells



Colours of Spring - Bob Pagett



Spring - Raku - Petra Rohr-Rouendaal



Spring Morning Light - Geoff Stubbins

**Thank you for all your wonderful entries for the March 'Spring Lockdown Challenge'. They will all be posted on our website for friends, family and the public to admire.**