

Letter From the President

Thank you to everyone who entered our Virtual Spring Exhibition and also to Exhibition Secretary, Jean Willis and Petra Rohr-Rouendaal our Publicity Secretary for pulling it all together and posting it on our website.

We had a great response, with some very impressive artwork being submitted and some worthy prize winners.

Our independent awards judge Martyn Harris said that it was an honour and privilege to be asked to judge the Spring Exhibition and he was impressed with the quality of the work submitted. Because of the high quality it did not make the selection process easy and he congratulated all of the artists for their contributions.

He wished us all a successful exhibition and gave his congratulations to all the Award Winners and to those who were Highly Commended.

The Exhibition went live on our Website on Saturday the 8th May. Remember to vote for your favourite painting and encourage your family and friends to visit the exhibition and cast their vote as well.



I've noticed how busy the garden centres have become as people feel more confident about going out and buying plants for their gardens. So for this month the challenge is 'Nature in Bloom'. Take inspiration from your garden or walks and send in your paintings by 16th June in time for the next Newsletter.

If you have been creative in other ways, like Debi and Glynn, who were featured in the last Newsletters, I would love to hear from you, so just email pictures of your artwork to geoff.stubbins@btinternet.com and I will endeavour to publish them in the next Newsletter.

Be creative and stay safe.

Geoff Stubbins

Martyn Harris our Awards Judge

Martyn was born in the Black Country in 1960, has 40 years experience as a painter and has gained a reputation for his landscape and portraiture work. His style has been developed to represent nature with expressive brush work and texture.

As a young artist he was introduced to W R Jennings a respected international landscape artist who agreed to mentor and developed his style of painting.

Martyn is a resident artist at The Art Yard, a member of the Birmingham Art Circle and has regularly exhibited at the Royal Birmingham Society of Artists (RBSA). A Winner of the Society of All Artists (SAA), Professional Artist of the year 2020 and a winner of the BAC "Presidents Award" in 2019.



He also took part in the Portraits for NHS Heroes project initiated by Tom Croft and featured in a hardback publication for the Project. *Shown above*

His work is available through Independent galleries and has work in private collections in the UK and overseas.

Website:- www.martynharris8.com

Contact number:- 07954306223

Spring Exhibition Award Winners



Ratcliff Award for Best Painting in any Medium went to Linda Hudson for 'Vase of Orange Flowers'. Linda also received a Highly Commended for 'Geese at Guédelon' in the Best Animal category.

Emily Smith Award for Best Water Colour went to Keith Ripley for 'Tool Storage'. Opposite:



The Mavis Mottram Award for Best Landscape went to Anthony Reeves for 'Mouse Hole Harbour 2'

The Turner-Hilton Award for Best Textile went to Carolyn Bradburn for 'Stiched Selfie'.





The Ashwood Veterinary Award for Best Animal Painting went to Len Roberts for 'Feeding Time'.



SCSA Award for Best 3D exhibit went to Petra Rohr-Rouendaal for 'Gossip'.



Vesey Arts & Crafts Award for best Flora Painting went to Mathe Shephard for 'Iris Purple and Blue in the Sunshine'.



Helen Willis received a Highly Commended 3D award for 'Mikado'.

Tony Sawbridge received a Highly Commended for his 'Bedtime Story' in the Best painting Category.



Una Smith is awarded a Highly Commended for 'Eco Floral 2' in the Vesey Arts & Crafts Best Flora painting category.



Margaret Fairhead received a Highly Commended for her 'Harlequin Rhythms' in the Turner-Hilton Award for Best Textile.



Geoff Stubbins is awarded a Highly Commended for 'Morning Light - Dartmouth' in the Best Water-colour Category.



Jean Willis received a Highly Commended Award for 'Blackthorn Tunnel' in the Best Landscape Category.

Thank you for all your wonderful entries for the Spring Exhibition. They will all be posted on our website for friends, family and the public to admire and vote for their favourite.