

ALTON  
GAZETTE  
OCTOBER 16<sup>TH</sup>  
1985



Pupils of St. Lawrence School, pictured with the collage that won them second place in the children's section of Alton Art Society's annual show

## Gordon ventures further afield for his winning inspiration

**VENTURING** a little further afield has paid handsome dividends for Alton artist Gordon Trimming.

Gordon is best known for his Hampshire woodland and water-side scenes, bluebell glades, country cottages and streams sparkling in shafts of sunlight.

But he went to Belgium on a long weekend in the history-steeped canalside city of Bruges to find the inspiration for the painting that has won him Alton Art Society's coveted "Exhibit of the Year" award.

"Waterway, Bruges" won most votes in the competition judged by visitors to the Society's annual show at Alton Assembly Rooms.

And it was a popular choice too among his fellow artists, particularly as he was runner-up last year.

The painting, which had a price tag of £65, was one of the first exhibits to be snapped up — and Gordon admits to some regrets about selling it.

"On the other hand, if you are going to exhibit, I believe you should try to find something which is likely to please others as well as yourself," he said.

Largely self-taught, he "discovered" his gift as an artist less than ten years ago and has continued to develop his own style.

"I'm not particularly prolific; I'm not a professional," he said.

Gordon received the award, presented by Jack Riviere, the blind sculptor who died earlier this year, from Society Chairman Mr. Patrick Edwards.

In second place was Faith Harris's pastel portrait "Louisa" and third was "Selborne Woods," by Eric Street, winner of the competition when it was introduced three years ago.

Mr. Edwards thanked everyone involved in yet another successful exhibition, particularly Engelmann & Buckham, its first time sponsors.

Prizes were presented for the children's classes, which, he

said, were exceptional this year. A special award went to Medstead Guides for their corn dolls and the other winners were as follow:—

Under fives — 1, Four Marks School; 2, St. Lawrence's. 6-8 years — 1, Stephen Jones; 2, Debbie Caira (St. Lawrence's). 9-11 years — 1, Timothy Alison (Four Marks School); 2, Nicola Tidy (St. Lawrence's). 12-14 years — 1, Karen McBane (Eggar's School); 2, Karen Marchant (Alton Convent). 15-17 years — 1, Sean Stanley (Eggar's); 2, Gavin Atkinson.



Award winner — artist Gordon Trimming pictured with his "Exhibit of the Year," a painting of the Bruges waterway



Three of the winners in the children's section of Alton Art Society's Show—Timothy Alison, Stephen Jones and Sean Stanley