

# Check out what's going on at the Allen Gallery

# Artist launches greeting cards



Gallery assistant Claire Dunn poses with one of the exhibits. AD11-

EXHIBITS from the Alton Art Society were unveiled at the Allen Gallery at the weekend as their exhibition of paintings and sculptures began. On display are paintings of local scenes, landscapes, portraits, flower painting, still life scenes, animals, all done in oil, watercolour and pastels. Included is an 'amusing pussy cat' painted by Alton Art Society secretary Tony Goffe

and 'fine hair' painted by Jan Harbon from Farnham. There are also a few sculptures including an interesting 'funny bird'. So far the exhibition has been very successful and seen 193 people passing through the gallery to view the local works of around 60 items. The opening night last Friday was well attended with a quarter of the art work being

sold then and work are still going. Alton Art Society has an exhibition at the Allen Gallery every year as well as a spring exhibition at the Assembly Rooms and around five exhibitions a year. The exhibition will be on show at the Allen Gallery until March 31. Open Tuesday to Saturday 10 am - 5 pm.



Pictured at the launch Maggie Edwards, Jan Harbon, Valerie Wilding, Lizzie Bryant-Patch, Sue Jackman, Jackie Slack and artist Alan Roe. AD32-68-01

LOCAL artist Jan Harbon was at the Little Green Dragon book and art shop in Normandy Street last week to launch a new range of greetings cards. Jan, who lives at Passfield, near Liphook, has just published seven limited edition prints and five greetings cards depicting animals and flowers. First seen at this year's Chelsea Flower Show, the cards are now in demand nationwide. Having trained as an illustrator at the London College of Printing, Jan Harbon started a career in commercial art with the Royal Navy before switch-

ing to freelance. A mother of two, she gave up painting for a while due to family commitments, returning to concentrate on botanical subjects. She has exhibited widely with this subject, including at the Society of Botanical Artists and the Royal Horticultural Society. She has already designed more than 200 greetings cards but this is the first time she has published them herself. In addition, she has recently designed a limited edition plate to celebrate the centenary of the Sweet Pea Society. Together with husband,

Geoff, Jan owned Grayshott Gallery until its recent sale. The couple now have a studio and framing workshop at their home address and are both members of the Fine Art Trade Guild. A member of the Alton Art Society, Jan has developed a unique style of painting which will be recognised by those who attend local society exhibitions. She also teaches at adult education centres and will be running workshop and courses throughout the summer, details of which can be obtained from the Little Green Dragon.

70<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL EXHIBITION. SEPT. 01

## Artists' work on display

THE Alton Arts Society will hold its 70th annual exhibition in the Assembly Rooms between Friday, September 28, and Saturday, October 6. The exhibition will display a wide range of work from a large cross section of the society's members. The society was founded by Hugh Curtis of Curtis Museum fame, and it is therefore apt that the museum's current curator Mr Tony Cross is to open this year's exhibition. Mr Cross is also curator of the Allen Gallery which has always welcomed the society to exhibit. The exhibition invites children from local schools to submit artwork for display and to compete for several prizes. The prize-giving will be held in the Assembly Rooms on Sunday, September 30, at 3 pm. Vice-chairman of the society Jean Hedges said: "We are very fortunate to live in such a lovely and varied part of Hampshire with its historic buildings and its rolling countryside, which gives us much scope for our artistic talents." The exhibition runs daily from 10 am to 6 pm.

## Alton Art Society celebrates members' talent



Alton Art Society's chairman, Mary Janaway, congratulates John Hearn for coming second in last week's annual competition, with his entry, 'Lyon'. First place was scooped by Jan Harbon for her 'Sunflower Tryptitch', while third spot went to Bob Taylor for his 'Cloveley Fisherman'. Mrs Janaway reports that this year's exhibition was particularly well attended, with a great number of members choosing to show their work. (photo supplied)