



Some of the young winners in the art society's competition receive their prizes. AD40-28-03.

Much to enjoy at Alton Art Society's annual exhibition

THE 72nd annual exhibition of the Alton Art Society begun at the Assembly Rooms with a private view last Wednesday.

It was formally opened by the Town Mayor, Pam Jones, who was welcomed by the society's chairman, Mary Janaway. On this occasion the mayor had a special interest as she is a member of the society.

The annual exhibition continues to be a major event in Alton's calendar. More than 150 invited guests attended the preview of good, honest works of art produced by a wealth of local artists.

There were no sharks in

formaldehyde or unmade beds! But there are almost 300 water colours and oils, works in acrylics, pastels, pen and ink mixed media, sculptures and ceramics. All works are for sale and at reasonable prices.

A new venture this year was greeting cards produced from members' work.

Mary Janaway, the society's extremely hardworking chairman, was thanked by Michael Cross, the society's Newsletter editor, and presented with a bouquet of flowers for her unstinting leadership.

The Alton Art Society's exhibition is open from 10 am to 8 pm daily and runs until tomor-

row (Saturday) at the Alton Assembly Rooms.

Anyone interested in joining the society, regardless of their level of expertise, is invited to write to JM Lines, Rest Harrow, Wild Road, Medstead, Alton, Hampshire GU34 5NJ.

John Hearn

● Young artists excelled at this year's Alton Art Society Exhibition, providing a source of joy, especially for AAS members who are keen to attract younger blood into the club. The winners of this year's junior competition were as follows:

Reception to Year One: 1.

Constance Evans; 2. Joseph Murrell (both of Four Marks Primary). Year Two to Three: 1. Clara Knight (Medstead Primary); 2. Sarah Lacey (Four Marks). Year Two to Three Group Work: 1. Paper and paste cats by Wootey Junior School. Years Four to Six: 1. Freddie Faulkner (Charston Primary) Years Four to Six Group Work: 1. Maddy Clare, Harriet Gay, Jennifer Beckwith and Charlotte Kirk (Four Marks); 2. Elizabeth Marshall and Pavanjot Matharu (Medstead) Years Seven to Eight: 1. Rebecca Pugh (Eggars) Years Nine to Eleven: 1. Suzy Minet; 2. Neil Sampson (both of Amery Hill) Year 10: Exquisitely beautiful face masks; 1. Karlfe Gould; 2. Rebecca Timms (both of Eggars).

Felines provide source of inspiration



Toni Goffe and feline friend. (c)

LOCAL artist Toni Goffe stages a one-man exhibition of his new miniature paintings at the Allen Gallery throughout October.

The exhibition, called *Minimals*, started on Saturday and runs until November 1. It features a collection of miniature paintings which has taken Toni two years to assemble. Toni produces small paintings as a means of preparation for larger paintings, to make sure that compositions and colours work before launching into the main canvasses.

Many of these feature in the exhibition. The theme for the exhibition has been described as: *Cats and landscapes, cats in landscapes, and landscapes with no cats at all.*

There are about 200 paintings, sketches, folios and cards in the exhibition, which can be seen Tuesday to Saturday between 10 am and 5 pm.

The exhibition will include a demonstration of painting by Toni on Friday, October 17, in aid of Cats Protection UK.

Tickets for the demonstration together with copies of the print and greetings cards are available now from The Little Green Dragon Book and Art Shop in Normandy Street, Alton, on 01420 87801.

And the winners are

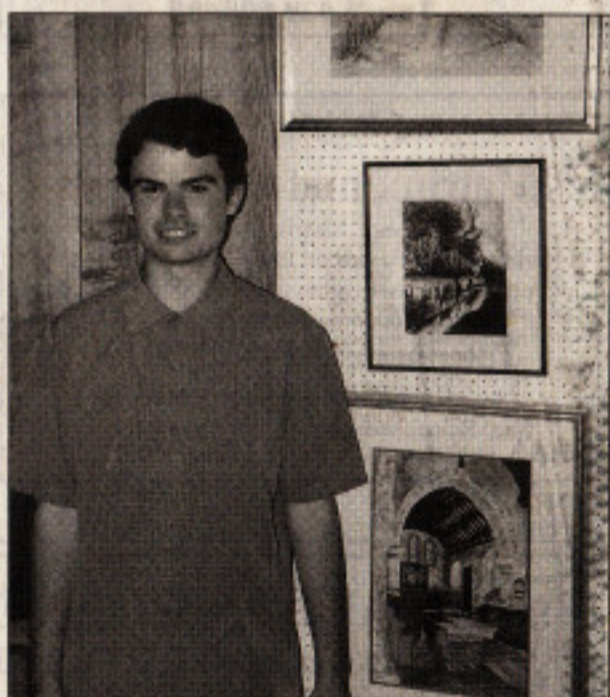
THE Alton Art Society's 72nd annual exhibition at the Assembly Rooms ended on Saturday. A record number of visitors - over 3,000 - came to the show and saw a wide range of paintings in water colours and oils, works in pastels, mixed media, and pen and ink, sculptures and ceramics. And, of course, a remarkable collection of children's art in various forms.

Each year visitors are invited to cast their votes as to which work of art they judged was "Best in Show".

Mary Janaway, the chairman of the Alton Art Society, announced the winners. In first place was Rosemary Miller with her watercolour, an evocative picture entitled *Nets Hasting*.

Rosemary was awarded the trophy - in memory of the late R Briton Riviere - which she will retain for the coming year.

In second place was Sue Bryant with her watercolour painting entitled *Night Fishing* and in third place was *The Gray Mare*, a mixed media study by Jan Harbon.



Young exhibitor Dickon Armstrong pictured beside his painting which attracted much attention. As a previous junior prize winner, Dickon's first contribution as a fully fledged senior member was particularly welcome. (c)

Watercolours on show at gallery

ALTON'S Allen Gallery will stage a double exhibition throughout October, of work by two local watercolour artists.

Linda Adams and Rosemary Miller are well known for their work in local and national exhibitions.

Linda's work is highly acclaimed for the perception of colour in a wide range of subject matter. In the summer months, she organises successful painting holidays with fellow artists to both the UK and France, to acquire new subject matter.

Rosemary is renowned for her variety of subject matter and use of colour. Besides running watercolour classes locally and having had her work reproduced as greetings cards, her paintings can be found in private collections in the UK and on the continent.

The exhibition, named 'Duet', will run at the gallery until Friday, October 31. The gallery opens from Tuesday to Saturday, from 10 am to 5 pm, and admission is free.