

President's Piece: nov/dec '23

We're coming to the end of another exciting year in Poole and East Dorset Art Society and it's time to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year.

I realise I haven't been very communicative lately, but I have been busy with Trustees and other colleagues planning for our centenary year in 2024. I thought it was an achievement to celebrate 75 years in 1999, but 100 years of Poole and East Dorset Art Society is another level of spectacular altogether.

But before that we have another Upton Country Park/Gallery Upstairs OPEN exhibition to look forward to. I'm sure Roger Dell Seddon has selected an impressive array of art for the event and I'm looking forward to seeing them next week. I think the OPEN is an important landmark every two years and it puts us on the map for a group of artists who are new to the gallery and to us.

Congratulations to those who are selected.

Don't forget to come along to the Private View on Saturday 2nd December, in The Gallery Upstairs at 11:00.

One of the projects I have been working on is the Archive. Pat Burnham has done most of the sorting work and with the expert advice and assistance of Steve Smith, formerly archivist at B&P College, we have organised it to a manageable collection. Steve Smith will be our Archivist, keeping the paper records and answering the occasional enquiry we get.

You'll find more about the Archive in the Blog, but we do need your help to track down some documents and catalogues that are missing. It's a surprising number as you can see. So, if you have or know somebody who might have these missing items, please get in touch with me or Pat Burnham.

I just want to thank everyone on the Trustees' Committee and the managing group for The Gallery Upstairs. They all work very hard to keep the club working for us with a stimulating series of events throughout the year.

Here's to a new and challenging world of creativity in the coming year.