

Art and Crafts Exhibition

Whitchurch Village Hall, 14th-15th November 2009

Peter Smith, Chairman of the Whitchurch Society, reflects on this year's event:

Where have all the children gone?

The major talking point at this year's Whitchurch Society Art and Crafts exhibition was the continuing decline in the number of children's entries. For the third successive year the number of entries in all classes under 18 years of age was in decline. Was there insufficient publicity? Perhaps, but adult numbers were as high as ever. Was there insufficient prompting from parents and School? Or is it simply that the laptop generation finds computer games more fun?

Fortunately, the number of adult entries continued at its recent high level, and the quality of all entries, both adult and junior, was extremely high. The three schools in the parishes – Whitchurch Primary, Whitchurch Pre School, and The Oratory Preparatory School – all produced colourful displays, showing much individual talent.

Pride of place must go to the Swann and the Holland families, where mother Romilly Swann and children Nephele, Keiri and Thalia were all successful in various classes, and Mike Holland and his daughters Amy and Evie reaped rewards in others.

Gill Goodwin responded to the Chairman's challenge by producing an imaginative installation piece, which duly won the Chairman's prize, and Robin Giddings produced a whole series of greatly admired crafted birds. Stevie Hughes' pointed but splendidly humorous commentary on the Bridge controversy brought a smile even to the face of a representative of the Bridge Company!

Other principal prize winners were Harry Butterworth in the Craft section, Claire Scott in Art, and Gary Forster in Photography, and also starring amongst the young people were Amelie Steen, Tarla Collier and Isobel Heath.

A good year, then, but next year let's see more children!

For PRIZE WINNERS see next page.....

Prize Winners 2009

Under 7 Category

1 st Prize	Art – Under 7s	Jasmine Heddle-Bacon
1 st Prize	Craft – Under 7s	Amelie Steen
Overall Winner	Under 7s	Amelie Steen

7-10 Category

1 st Prize	Art – 7-10	Thalia Swann
2 nd Prize	Art – 7-10	Robert Thatcher
1 st Prize	Craft – 7-10	Pierre-Brieuc Steen
2 nd Prize	Craft – 7-10	Maia Harby-Guincho
Overall Winner	7-10	Thalia Swann

11-14 Category

1 st Prize	Art 11-14	Nephele Swann
2 nd Prize	Art 11-14	Melanie Steen
3 rd Prize	Art 11-14	Keiri Swann
1 st Prize	Craft 11-14	Isobel Heath
2 nd Prize	Craft 11-14	Evie Holland
Overall Winner	11-14	Nephele Swann

15-18 Category

1 st Prize	Art 15-18	Amy Holland
1 st Prize	Craft 15-18	Amy Holland
Overall Winner	15-18	Amy Holland

Photography 18 and under

1 st Prize	Photography 18 and under	Amy Holland
2 nd Prize	Photography 18 and under	Evie Holland

[More prizewinners over the page...](#)

