

# Secretary's Challenge

The last person to win a Secretary's challenge was Neil Williams way, way back in November 2019! So this is the first one since then and another step back to pre-covid days. The subject will be anything related to Christmas in any medium you choose. The winner will be chosen by members at one of the Christmas parties, details will be in the November newsletter. All entries to be in by Monday Dec 6th. The picture with the most votes wins. Don't sign your entry, write your name on the back.

The winner will receive £10



## Member raises over £600 for local charity

During the lockdown, member Bill Usher raised more than £600 for Bolton Hospice after painting 2 old photos depicting snowy days of the past. Bill said: "I belong to a few Facebook groups and one of the local Westhoughton ones put a photo of a tram that had got stuck in a snow drift. One of the admins said that I should have a go at painting it. "I got a lot of positive comments and I decided that as a lot of people liked it, I would put it up for auction.

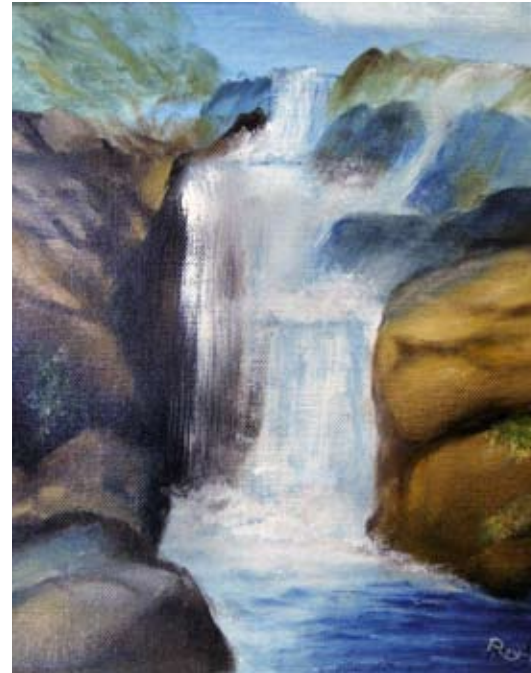
"I wanted the money to go to a good local charity and settled on Bolton Hospice."

After deciding to auction it for the the hospice, he was inundated with bids from keen buyers. Bill noticed that two bidders were battling it out for the painting and so proposed an alternative solution to the pair.

He told them that he would create another one using a similar photo from what appeared to be the same blizzard. He added: "I found a photo and asked her if she would prefer for me to do that one and she said yes please. So she paid £310 for it, which is what the other man paid - as well as £10 for good luck. So the paintings raised £630 for the hospice." Bill finished the photo just before New Year and the bidder pointed out an incredible connection - one of the children in the photo/painting was her dad!



One of the paintings Bill auctioned. A tram stuck in the snow on Hunger Hill



▲ Roy Parkinson 'River Wharfe' Oils

## Picture Post EXTRA



▲ Sam Leigh 'Pet Portrait' Pastel Pencil

Jean Faulkner ▶  
'Sunrise  
over the Thames'  
Acrylic

