

November
2021



▲ Jack Howarth 'Churchgate in the 50s' Acrylic.



David Halliwell
'Nottingham Victoria in the 60s'
Oils.

EDITOR'S FOOTNOTE
Items for this publication should be sent by mail, email, or by hand to the Editor, David Halliwell, 32 Redwood, Westhoughton, Bolton, BL5 2RU. email hallid47@talktalk.net

Bolton Art Circle

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75 Years of Bolton Art Circle

This year marked 75 years since the start of our Art Circle. We have seen an awful lot of change in those years, non more so than the last two. As the circle slowly gets back on its feet it is worth looking back at some of the significant events that have happened in those 75 years. One of the biggest, if not the biggest, was in 1996 at the 50th anniversary. The club organised an exhibition with almost 1,000 entries, the biggest event of its kind ever held in Bolton and probably the north west region. The concept was one of encouraging and promoting art in Bolton and the surrounding area. Particular emphasis was to be laid on beginners and school children, and with this in mind, all Bolton's 130 primary and secondary schools were invited to submit two artworks to be displayed without further judging. Bolton Metro encouraged the club to open up the catchment area and soon the decision was made to go National and even invite the twin towns of Paderborn and Le Mans to participate

There were two first prizes of £1,000 each plus over a staggering £2,700 of other cash prizes! The exhibition was held in the Albert Halls from 13 July until 21 July 1996. Current member Roland Arthur, Hon Secretary at the time, played a big part in the organising as did George Hull, Ted Holden, Roy Parkinson and Paul Gerrard. A fascinating A5 booklet exists, of which I have a copy, that gives a brief history of the Art Circle's first 50 years from 1945 - 1995 and I shall be using edited highlights from it in future newsletters.

D. Halliwell
Editor

