

WINCHESTER PORTRAIT EXHIBITION
in association with
The Peter Cooper Motor Group and Paris Smith LLP
@ The Great Hall, Winchester 26th April – 2nd May 2017

The Winchester Portrait Exhibition displayed photographs of people who have made an impression on local life through their work and activities and who live in, or come from, Hampshire. The portraits were taken by photographer Michael Butters and the event was organized by local artist Nadine Collinson and the photographs were accompanied by some of her artwork and sculpture.

The exhibition was held at The Great Hall, Winchester from Wednesday 26th April – Tuesday 2nd May supported by Eileen Berry, the Mayor of Winchester 2014/2015. All money raised will be donated to Winchester Cathedral, PICU (Pediatric Intensive Care Unit) at Southampton University Hospital and The Murray Parish Trust's #2millionsteps Campaign. The exhibition was held in association with The Peter Cooper Motor Group and Paris Smith LLP.

The private view to open the exhibition was attended by public figures, celebrities and many of the portrait subjects; Nigel Atkinson the Lord Lieutenant, Gilly Drummond OBE, John Illsley (founding member of Dire Straits), Dr Sandy Lerner, founding patron of Chawton House Library, Dr Hilary Jones, Robert Hillier OBE VHM, Lawrie McMenemy, Alan Lovell DL Chairman Hampshire Cultural Trust were among the guests. The evening was compered by Alastair Stewart OBE and there was an address by Geoff Holt MBE DL.

A second evening event on Thursday 27th April was attended by more guests including the Mayor of Winchester Jane Rutter, The Hon Virginia Lovell and Jean Ritchie QC. The evening was compered by Ali Sparkes, children's author and patron of Friends of PICU, with talks by Kelly Marks, the horse whisperer and Alex Lewis, interior designer and motivational speaker.

The exhibition raised c. £10,800 for its charities. A special announcement was made by James Murray from The Murray Parish Trust that a further donation of £10,000 was made directly to the Murray Parish Trust as a direct result of the exhibition. This donation was match funded by the Barker Mills Foundation and then this combined amount will be match funded by the government to add an incredible £40,000 to their #2MillionSteps campaign.

The book accompanying the exhibition, which includes the portraits and articles about the portrait subjects and their diverse and fascinating stories, is still on sale through the website www.winchesterportraitexhibition.co.uk.

The funds raised will be presented to the three charities Winchester Cathedral, Friends of PICU and The Murray Parish Trust at Lainston House Hotel on Friday 29th September 2017.

Quotes:

The Murray Parish Trust – James Murray, co-founder:

“The WPE was the most unique and creative fundraiser the Murray Parish Trust has had the privilege of being part of. Thanks to an incredible £10,000 donation from an anonymous guest, this meant our charity actualised a massive £40,000 due to match funding from government and the Barker Mill foundation, money desperately needed for a new paediatric Emergency Department for the South of England.”

Winchester Cathedral:

“Congratulations to Michael, Nadine and all those involved in the portrait exhibition. It’s a wonderful celebration of so many of the people that contribute to Hampshire’s rich cultural, charitable and community life, and will become a fascinating historical document. Winchester Cathedral is proud to be a beneficiary of this project and grateful to all those who have helped make it such a success.”

Friends of PICU - Mark Hilder, charity secretary:

"Friends of PICU are absolutely thrilled to have been part of the Winchester Portrait Exhibition and to receive this donation from the results of its success. Featuring in this unique exhibition, and raising awareness of our charity and the children's intensive care unit, is just wonderful and very kind of Nadine Collinson and Michael Butters to include us.

The money received has been used towards the new children's retrieval ambulance. The £148,000 vehicle, including new additional medical equipment, will cover 35,000 miles per year collecting emergency patients from 27 hospitals across the South of England and the Isle of Wight, including Winchester and Basingstoke. This retrieval facility is key to the PICU and the treatment of the children and operates 24hrs a day, 365 days a year.”

For further information, please contact Nadine Collinson 07714 245335

www.winchesterportraitexhibition.co.uk

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