

Paul Silvester's CV

Dear Deborah and other,

My artistic bio is rather different than my surgeon bio. Over the years I have had to fit around the latter, but both are artistic in their own right. I loved art at school and university, but kept to painting posters and ball decorations.

In Nepal, I was inspired to paint, and draw, and weave in acrylics, pastel, ink and wash and woollen fabric. I was cheered by the colourful wall frescoes, and the gorgeous portraits.

Since 1990 I have done regular backdrops and three-dimensional sets for Thames Operatic Society. What I most enjoy is obtaining a sense of depth on a two-dimensional mural. Anything on a backdrop is larger than life, but complements the stage setting.

Three years ago, I was asked to develop a mural for the Thames Hospital adjacent to the cafeteria. So I produced the word picture that literally spells out the hills of Thames and the story of the town. Two senior art students contributed to the painting.

Next project under way is a tribute to artist John Hovell who was too ill to start his commission. It is no surprise that he and I like using the bold primary colours from Resene's palette.

I would be proud to judge the children's designs, and perhaps supervise the painting of the mural.

Best wishes,

Paul Silvester
(Retired surgeon and mural artist)