

Charity art auction appeal receives first donations

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Roger Harrington, SBW's Managing Director (right), presents the first two art auction pictures to Pete Cadogan of WaterAid Dorset Support Group

An appeal for paintings for a charity art auction has got off to a flying start with organisers receiving their first two pictures.

The WaterAid Dorset Support Group is hoping to raise hundreds of pounds when a selection of artwork goes under the hammer on October 1.

Sembcorp Bournemouth Water (SBW) has donated two framed paintings of the River Stour at Longham by local artist Stuart Hindle.

Organisers are now appealing to artists and members of art clubs and groups to follow SBW's lead and make a similar donation or even paint something specifically with WaterAid in mind.

Pete Cadogan, of the WaterAid Dorset Support Group, said: "We're hoping to have up to 100 paintings available for auction.

"It could be a discarded picture in the loft that used to be a favourite or, perhaps, a painting from one of the many excellent artists in this area. Either way we warmly welcome any donations."

The professionally conducted auction is to be held at Church House, Wimborne, on Saturday October 1. Viewing is from 7pm and the auction starts at 8.30pm. Tickets cost £10 and include a wine and finger buffet.

Proceeds will go to WaterAid which transforms lives by improving access to safe water, hygiene and sanitation in the world's poorest communities.

Roger Harrington, SBW's Managing Director, said: "In the UK we take a safe and reliable supply of drinking water for granted.

"However, nearly 900 million people in the world don't have access to safe water and we believe it very important to support the work of WaterAid in whatever way we can.

"This is a great way for the charity to raise money locally for the benefit of those who are not as fortunate as us."

Paintings and pictures for the auction – either originals or quality reproductions – should be handed in by September 1.

For more details go to www.wateraid-dorsetsupport.org; email wateraidsg@yahoo.co.uk or ring Pete on 01202 884176 or Phil on 01202 880198.