

“I really don’t know why people trek off to the Med or goddam Venice all the time” – Peter Brown

Art Gallery to create the main body of the calendar (great news for those who coveted them but couldn’t quite raise the several-thousand-pound price tag these paintings now command.

“I’d just exhibited over 90 paintings of Bath through the seasons, and it seemed to make sense to translate them to a calendar,” says Pete. “On the whole, your strongest work is, hopefully your most recent – so these are all from the last two years.”

However, there will also be paintings that fans may not have seen before.

“I was keen to put in unseen work, and there are three that never reached public view (January, April and August), and this was a good chance to get them to a wider audience.”

Presumably it must have been a tricky task, selecting just one image to represent each month?

“It was a nightmare. I had loads to chose from. I have always had all my paintings professionally photographed, and have a box full of transparencies and CDs to root through. They were not all painted in the right corresponding month, but I tried to make it relevant to the typical weather of that time of year. Lisa [Pete’s wife] pointed out that June was a rainy scene and I thought, ‘yeah, exactly!’”

Speaking of which, does Pete have a favourite type of weather?

“I just love getting up and being surprised. This morning was forecast miserable and grey, but we had a wonderful mist and morning sun which was inspiring. I do however always love snow as it transforms the city so much.”

However, it’s not quite so easy when it comes to choosing a favourite painting.

“Yeah that’s hard. I try not to dwell on them. I am happy enough with them as a group and now I just want to



April - 6.30 am from the Foot Parade



May - Winter Morning from Stochon Cliff

get on with some more. People often ask me at private views which is my favourite painting; I usually point them to the largest and most expensive, but they rarely fall for it. Invariably my favourites are the ones that nobody wants anyway.”

So – we’ve had the exhibitions, the book, the calendar – what’s next?

“More of each. I am just completing my next show which will be at Messums, London in February next year. You can’t escape it. It’s highlighted in the calendar.

“After doing the Bath show I

really wanted to paint anywhere and everywhere – whatever tickled me – and this seemed to turn into an exhibition of the South of England.

“I really enjoy motoring to different parts of the country and discovering new towns and people, and I have a yearning to put it all in a book when I have covered enough – *Brown’s England*, anyone? I love painting this country – there are so many wonderful seaside towns from Deal to the ends of Cornwall. I love our canals and rivers, the downs and the cities. I really don’t know why people trek off to the Med or