

# Portrait of a Dorset Artist

Alan Morris relocated from London to Swanage almost a decade ago and finds the rugged Dorset landscape inspires his paintings.

"I love the sea and the cliffs," he says, adding that the intention was to move back to Devon where he grew up but he and his wife moved to Swanage instead.

The only gripe Alan has is that he would prefer the harbour to be more of a working one like Weymouth or West Bay.

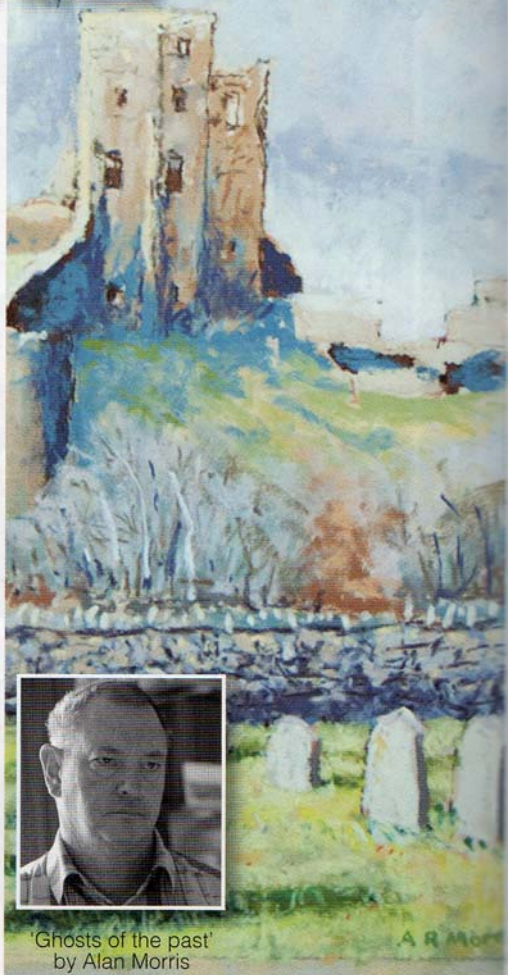
Living in Swanage provides him with access to the South West Coast Path. "For a few years I have been walking it," he reveals. "I have walked from Sandbanks to Zennor in Cornwall which is 391 miles. I haven't walked it in one go but a bit at a time and my wife tends to collect me at the end of a stretch after visiting museums."

Alan has painted most of his life and studied A-level art at school in Staines. He strives to capture atmospheric landscapes and seascapes with a real sense of place and is particularly interested in the effects of *contre jour*. "I am inspired by maritime and coastal subjects, particularly by the diverse landscapes of the Isle of Purbeck and those of South West England," says Alan, who has exhibited in open exhibitions in London and Dorset. His paintings are in private collections in England, Scotland and Eire. He grew up in Devon just a few miles from the sea and now lives and works in Purbeck. Alan has spent his life being fascinated by the light and atmosphere of just being near the sea.

"I got a place on a graphic design course but my dad didn't let me go. I ended up as a quality manager for a plastics company and from there fell into IT looking after systems and networks."

He usually exhibits as part of Purbeck Art Weeks in May.

<http://www.creativecoverage.co.uk/artists-page/item/387-alan-morris>



'Ghosts of the past'  
by Alan Morris



## Wired Donation!

To bolster Ferndown Rotary's donation to the Dorset Blind Association, club president Derrick Powell and fellow member Gordon Lewis took to the zip wire at Bournemouth Pier. The pair raised a further £250.00 through sponsorship and handed over a cheque for £1250.00 on the day to the Dorset Blind Association.

Before hooking on for their 'high wire' ride, Gordon Lewis (left) and Derrick Powell, both from Ferndown Rotary club, present the cheque for £1250.00 to Jaya da Costa, fund raising manager at the Dorset Blind Association.

