



Proof that it is the thought that counts, artist Kaye Parmenter says her vivid and expressive paintings start with study and research, with each new piece the evolution of an idea.

From animals to sports, she says she loves painting “many different subjects ... the inspiration for me is more to do with capturing the essence of the moment rather than the subject itself”. A Somerton resident since the early 1990s, Kaye been a professional artist for 11 years after taking a watercolour course. That is her main medium, though she uses heavier acrylic paint for certain works, such as dramatic images while resident artist for British Polo Day. But how does a painter seize such fleeting moments?

Photographs and sketches help the painting’s two dimensions contain polo’s explosive pace: “Much thought and experimentation goes into my sporting paintings to try and achieve the impression of speed and movement.” Each artwork is completely individual, requiring its own approach in composition, medium and brushwork.

Mother-of-two Kaye is generous with her talent, as charities have found with donated artwork attracting vital funds: “It’s usually the paintings that dictate to me who I support. If I am inspired to paint something and I can see a charity that would benefit, I usually try to find a way to help.” The “terrible” floods affected Kaye’s creative drive: “Painting the flooded levels has always been a favourite subject for me but during this time, I found it hard to paint them knowing that they were creating so much misery. The biggest creative element of the floods for me is the reflections in the water and I know I will return to painting this subject again soon.”

Not all her work will please everyone: “I have recently been introduced to fieldsports for my art and, while I do appreciate that some may find these topics controversial, I do try to keep an open mind. I did try some clay pigeon shooting earlier this year and believe it best that I don’t give up the painting!”

Kaye’s paintings are on display at Somerton’s Courtyard Café, the Yandles 303 Gallery, and at London’s Queen’s Club, while two prize winning works will appear within a series of iArtBooks, published through Apple’s iBookstore, featuring art from around the world. For more information and images, and details of a forthcoming online tutorial, visit