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## **NEWS RELEASE** November 2006

### **Paintings record Marlborough High Street for posterity**

Future generations will know how Marlborough High Street looks today thanks to a set of new paintings that will be on show at The White Horse Bookshop, 136 High Street, Marlborough, from Friday 24 November until Christmas Eve.

The exhibition will complete a marathon art project that began in May this year when Michael Pooley, owner of The White Horse Bookshop, asked local artist Colin Palmer to capture the High Street's charm for posterity. The result is 28 paintings in pen and watercolour that show painstaking attention to detail and Colin's great affection for Marlborough.

The White Horse Bookshop is turning the paintings into postcards, which will be unveiled with the paintings at a special exhibition preview at the bookshop on Thursday 23 November, 4pm to 7pm. Colin Palmer will be at the event to sign prints of his work and to explain how he tackled the High Street project.

"Marlborough is famous for its width and the lovely view along the High Street," said Michael, who acquired The White Horse Bookshop in Marlborough High Street in 1973. "We are lucky that so many attractive buildings survive from past centuries, but the number of independent shops in the High Street is dwindling. When I saw the style and quality of Colin's work, I realised he could help me to create an artistic 'snapshot' of the High Street's special character in 2006."

**More.....**

## **Paintings record Marlborough High Street for posterity .....2**

Colin says the High Street project has been one of the most exciting commissions of his 25-year career as a professional artist. "I have always wanted to create a portrait of the whole High Street, but could never afford the time to do so. Michael's project has enabled me to achieve a major ambition."

Postcard versions of Colin's 28 High Street paintings are available from The White Horse Bookshop on 01672 513700. Full-size, limited edition signed prints of some of the original paintings are available from Colin on 01672 515052, and he displays examples of his work on his website at [www.colinpalmer-illustration.co.uk](http://www.colinpalmer-illustration.co.uk).

### **Picture caption:**

Artist Colin Palmer (left) and Michael Pooley with examples of Colin's paintings of Marlborough.

### **Ends**

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