

City's heritage is captured in new photographic show

Pictures: BILL SMITH

By EMMA KNIGHTS

Norwich's heritage captured on camera is the theme for a new exhibition in the city.

The show My Heritage, My Norwich is at The Forum and features 30 shortlisted photographs which were entered into the annual photographic competition run by Norwich Heritage Economic and Regeneration Trust (HEART).

Norwich Market, The Forum, St Stephens subway and Eaton Park were among the many subjects in the images to be shortlisted from nearly 300 entries.

Michael Loveday, chief executive of Norwich HEART, said: "We really like running the photography competitions because they really engage local people and discover incredible local talent. We are always amazed by the standard of entries.

"It is great how people can just point a camera and create something quite exciting, and it was a really hard job judging the entries.

"It was fantastic that there was so much variety in the entries including some traditional images and some off-the-wall ideas as well."

Derek James, the Sheriff of Norwich, attended the opening night of the exhibition on Monday, when he presented prizes to the two winners and the runners-up.

Photographer Alan Bennett, 45, from Old Laundry Court, Norwich, won the over-25s category for his image of the ruins of St Bartholomew Church, off Heigham Street.

He said that it was a terrific feeling to be recognised for his photography and that the competition was a great way to give exposure to Norwich's heritage.

About his photograph he said: "I actually live close by the St Bartholomew Church ruins, so I have seen it on many occasions throughout the seasons.

"I took this particular image on a very cold and misty February morning, with a hint of warmth from the rising sun illuminating the tower. It was the best view of the tower that I had seen and I had to photograph it quickly before the light changed."

City College Norwich student Maisie East, 16, from Back Street, Reepham, won the under-25s category for her picture of the Out of Time record shop in Magdalen Street.

She said: "I wanted a vintage feel to my photos so I went to Anglia Square



AWARD WINNERS: The Sheriff of Norwich, Derek James, with photographers Alan Bennett and Maisie East.

because of all the record shops. I tried to portray that although we're in the 21st century, Norwich is still very old looking and unique."

Isobel Bailey, from Norwich, was the runner-up in the under-25s category, while Amy Wragg, from Norwich, Julia Cameron, of Norwich, Kerry Heaney, from Bracon Ash, and Tom Oldfield, of Stowmarket, were runners-up in over 25s category.

The Norwich HEART competition ran from September 1 to October 31 last year and entries had to reflect the photographer's own interpretation of heritage in Norwich.

It was the third annual photography competition run by Norwich HEART. ■ The free exhibition is at The Forum until Thursday, March 10. It will be at Gressenhall Farm and Workhouse from April 11 to 17 and it may be at other venues later in the year.

Visit www.edp24.co.uk to see more photographs from the exhibition. ■ emma.knights@archant.co.uk

