



**YOUNG ARTIST:** Keiron Williamson is an art prodigy at the age of eight.

HOLT/LUDHAM

## 'Mini Monet' picks up a new brush

Schoolboy art prodigy Keiron Williamson is wielding a different kind of brush as he helps paint the walls of a new family house in Norfolk bought with the proceeds of his talents.

The eight-year-old from Holt took the art world by storm last year – earning him the nickname “mini Monet” – with stunning landscapes which are selling at between £3,500 and £20,000 each, snapped up by art lovers and investors.

Now the family is moving to Ludham in the Broads having used £150,000 of Keiron's picture sales to buy the former Barclays Bank building in the village.

They are converting it, ready to move in at the end of May, and Kieron has put down his artist's brushes and picked up the emulsion pot to lend a hand.

Dad Keith said: “He was painting a ceiling last weekend and really enjoys it. People ask if he doing murals on the wall, and maybe he will one day.

“The house will be his when he is 18, and we are holding in it trust until then. He has worked hard for it, and it is good to see one of your children set up with a house and no mortgage – even if he ends up in a mundane job and doesn't want to paint any more,” said Mr Williamson.

Kieron took up the hobby two years ago while on holiday. Now his work is hot property. Six of his paintings put on a gallery website in the West Country for a charity show in May have sold instantly.

The family were planning to move to Cornwall at one stage but were gazumped on one house, and discovered another was in village prone to flooding. So the search fell back to Norfolk, said Mr Williamson, who felt it was fate.

Ludham is a fitting choice being the home village of Keiron's painting hero Edward Seago.

## GREAT YARMOUTH

### Three fire crews called to flat

Three fire crews attended a blaze at a ground-floor flat in Great Yarmouth yesterday.

Two crews from Yarmouth and one from Gorleston were called to Middle Market Road at 5.38pm.

Peter Harris, Yarmouth station manager, said: “It was a fairly standard fire in the lounge. No one was in the flat at the time.

He said a thermal image camera was also used at the scene.

It is believed that neighbours had tried to put out the blaze before crews arrived.

Norfolk Fire Service is investigating the cause of the blaze, and the flat was sealed off following the fire.

## COSTESSEY

# Fair to say it's not just fishing and shooting...

By DAVID BALE

Thousands of people enjoyed two days of family entertainment at the East Anglian Game and Country Fair at the weekend.

The annual event, run in association with the EDP, was held at the Norfolk Showground in Costessey, near Norwich, and boasted some world-class attractions with more than 250 shopping stands.

While the numbers attending on Saturday were slightly down on previous years, yesterday's weather was better, attracting some of the biggest attendances ever seen at the show.

It was a great day out for families but also for pets with dog agility and jumping competitions, and the popular Terrier and Lurcher Show, which was a qualifier for all major championships as well as the East Anglian championship.

Canines of all shapes and sizes could then cool off by leaping into a large pool of water and there were also sheep, dog and duck displays.

Organiser Andy Grand said: “It's been a buzzing weekend with a brilliant atmosphere.

“I think so many people have been looking forward to coming out after a long winter and it's great to see so many different animals.

“I think the reason why our event is such a success is that there's so much for people to get involved in.”

The total number of people at the show will not be known until later, but Mr Grand said that yesterday was especially busy.

He added: “On Saturday there were fewer people than we normally get. Saturday was quite overcast, and even at a country type event, people do look at the weather forecast.



**FLOATING HER BOAT;** You're never too young to try fly fishing.

“But Sunday was one of the busiest days we have had in the eight years the event's been running.”

This year, organisers introduced new attractions and an appearance by Savage Skills, the UK's leading freestyle mountain bike stunt team, was particularly popular, Mr Grand said.

He added: “We don't attract just the



**VERY POPULAR:** High-flying action from one of the Savage Skills team.

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Organiser Andy Grand

fishing and shooting people. We always try to bring something new to the show every year, and I think the mix we've got now is just right, as people seem to enjoy it.

“These are hard times for people with the recession, but we do offer a great day out for a family of five at very reasonable prices, and we will continue to do so.”

Some of the world-class draws on offer included six times FITASC Sporting world champion, European champion and English Open champion John Bidwell, who performed his off-the-hip shooting demonstration.

Other attractions included Hunstanton Watersports with their powerkites and there were scores of other demonstrations, displays, rides and even helicopter flights.

Norfolk Poultry Club attended the show for the first time with its exhibition of purebred poultry, waterfowl and eggs.

The Mid Norfolk Gun Dog Club was also at the fair and ran the Gun Dog Scurry competitions and “have a go” events over the weekend.

■ See a picture gallery from the show at [www.edp24.co.uk](http://www.edp24.co.uk)  
 ■ [david.bale@archant.co.uk](mailto:david.bale@archant.co.uk)



**TIME TO COOL OFF:** Diving in at the Dock Dogs.



**IN THE PINK:** The West Norfolk Hunt hounds parade.