

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Examples of the artists' work	2
How are we funding the project?	3
The help we need	3
Unfurling stories of the artists	3

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- We research stories of twenty six artists born in Barnsley or strongly connected to the area.
- We reveal their origins, where they lived, relationships, travels, artistic techniques and their fascinating works.
- We have applied for funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund and local sponsors.

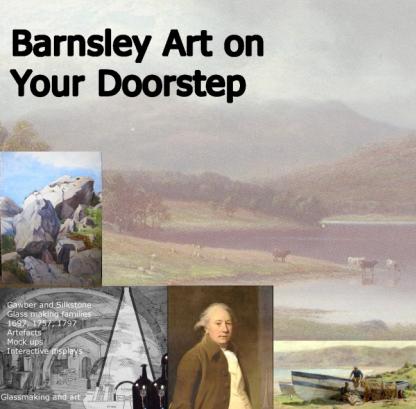
## Barnsley Art on Your Doorstep

# The Hidden Art of Barnsley

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## Remarkable lives revealed



Social mobility from errand boy to artist, glass maker's sons make good, a linen weaving family reinvents itself, aristocratic patronage, friendships with the famous artists of the day, extraordinary adventures in Central Asia.....

All these and more have come to light as we research hidden artists of Barnsley.

This is the first newsletter to share our progress in revealing and celebrating Barnsley's past artists.

### What is Barnsley Art on Your Doorstep?

We are a voluntary group passionate about the artistic heritage of Barnsley.

### What do we do?

- New research
- Talks about our findings
- Develop the Hidden Art in Barnsley project
- Seek funding, sponsorship, supporters and volunteers to make it work

### What is the project?

- A learning programme with schools, colleges and community groups

- Volunteering opportunities
- Publications and resources
- An exhibition at the Cooper Gallery - June to August 2014

### Who are we working with?

- Local history groups
- Heritage Silkstone
- The Civic Trust
- The Adult Learning Service
- Barnsley MBC
- Experience Barnsley
- The Cooper Gallery
- The Archives and Local Studies Centre
- Darton College
- Horizon Community College
- We will be contacting many different community groups

## Examples of the work of the Hidden Artists of Barnsley



## How are we funding the project?

We have applied to the Heritage Lottery Fund for a grant of £50,000. This will fund our exciting learning and activity programme across the borough. Loans of pictures from UK galleries will bring fine original work to the Cooper Gallery. For some artists, this will be the first time they have been seen in Barnsley.

Volunteers will be able to help.

Few of the artists have had their story told. We will produce booklets and online information.

The decision will be made in late October 2012. We will apply to other grant making trusts in case this is not approved.

So far we have six themes: Artists and Industry (glass, linen and coal); Painting Portraits; Decorative Arts; Travel and Adventure; The Outdoors; Mystery and Worship. These can change.

We are writing to private individuals and companies to ask for sponsorship of different parts of the project. Maybe a company would like to sponsor the costs of bringing the work of a particular artist to the town. Maybe a specific activity could be sponsored like having a story teller during the exhibition. Maybe.....

## Unfurling stories of the artists

We want to share amazing stories about the artists. Here are a few.

Kenneth Leslie Graham, artist, glass designer, writer, during World War II was said to be 'somewhere in England on essential work of a scientific nature'. Mysterious.

Thomas Witlam Atkinson, born in Cawthorne, after travels in Central Asia, was living in St Petersburg during the 1853-56 Crimean War. Was this under the Czar's protection?

A painting called 'Rejection' is held by Sheffield City Art Gallery. It may be a self portrait of a Barnsley artist in his own Sheffield studio. We are researching what kind of rejection he met. His name is Ernest Moore, his father the local station master.

William Tate, portrait painter, son of a Gawber glass maker, may have met his teacher and lifelong friend Joseph Wright of Derby in Liverpool around 1768. Joseph was lodging with brother Richard Tate then.

Or not? Joseph Wright painted portraits of the Brooke family in Doncaster in the 1760's and had an important patron in Wakefield (John Milnes). He did famous paintings of a Top Forge. Could he have met the Tates in Barnsley?

We now have a long list of glass makers at Gawber Glass House 1735-1821, including family names like Morton, Green, Williamson, Wroe and Fowweather. Are there any other artist sons or daughters? We intend to find out!



Ernest Moore and Archibald Worley knew each other professionally. They both knew Whistler. Ernest exhibited his work in the same gallery as Whistler in New York in 1908.

John Shortridge ran away to sea as a teenager. Why? He later had amazing travels and complicated family relationships. Who was the popular 19th century novelist he struck up a friendship with? His grandfather built the Wicker Arch in Sheffield.

Did John Spence Ingall really meet the Kaiser in Tangier or is this hogwash?

Who was the Barnsley born artist who designed the tiles in Harrod's Meat Hall?

Pictures of John Roddam Spencer Stanhope, and Carmela and John Shortridge.

## The help we need

Immediately we are looking for people to help research the artists.

We need help with fund raising.

In the future we will have other projects to help with.

If you would like to help us why not give us a ring or an email, or message us on Facebook.

## Contact Barnsley Art on Your Doorstep

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