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# The Hidden Art of Barnsley

Autumn 2013

Volume 2, issue 1

## Achievements

### Classes in primary schools

150 children have discovered that a hidden artist lived on their family's doorstep.

### Local artists researched

Horizon Community College in collaboration with Maureen Wilkinson of the Hidden Art of Barnsley and Joseph Locke Primary School have worked on a project to explore the research about local artists associated with Barnsley. Maureen went into Joseph Locke to work with Mrs Brock's Year 5/6 class. The chosen artists were the Mellor family, who were weavers who produced three generations of landscape painters. The first of them, Joseph Mellor, lived in Castlereagh Street, then Pitt Street and finally on Racecommon Road, all very near to Joseph Locke School. Visit Horizon's website at [www.horizoncc.co.uk](http://www.horizoncc.co.uk) to see all the Year 8 and community activities.

They heard about stage coaches and glass making hundreds of years ago; linen weaving and paper sculpture.



They learned that **Barker Fairley** (1887-1986) is famous in Canada but unknown in his birth town; and how **Ernest Moore** (1865-1940) did his portraits with oils and easel.

BAYD volunteers visited seven\* primary schools with Horizon Community College link workers to reveal stories about an artist from their area.



### Discovering the wonderful art of William Tate

By **Ben Allam** and **Holly Dunsford**, Barugh Green P.S.

On Tuesday 15 and Wednesday 16 January, Year 2 at Barugh Green Primary School were very lucky because Mr. Polehampton and Mr. Woodhouse came into our class and told us about the Tate Family.

Mr. Polehampton is a researcher and Mr. Woodhouse works at Horizon Community College.

We learnt about William Tate and his wonderful art. He really liked to draw and paint pictures

of people which included members of his family.

After learning all about William Tate, we drew some of the pictures that he painted and we were also interviewed for Horizon Community College's Podcast.

Year 2's class teacher, Miss. Broomhead said, "The two sessions were fantastic. The children really enjoyed working with Mr. Polehampton and Mr. Woodhouse and the art work they produced was superb."

Everyone thought that the sessions were brilliant and really enjoyable!

Children learned about the artists by copying them and making a podcast. They impressed the volunteers with their care, skill and creativity. We will seek to visit more primary and also secondary schools soon.

### Meeting Graham McLusky

The grandson of **Kenneth L Graham** (1900-1979) had a lot of memories to share in an interview recently at the Cooper Gallery when he came to see his grandfather's 1930's drawings of old Barnsley and Experience Barnsley.



Graham McLusky with his grandfather's self portrait

KLG had always kept his Yorkshire accent even though he had later moved to London. He seemed to have been quite dismissive of 'modern' art. Graham's mother Sheila Graham was also a Barnsley designer.

## Dodworth Family Fun Day

In June, after the memorial to miners killed at work was unveiled at Dodworth, families came to see what we had under our gazebo.



Miner artist **Gilbert Daykin** (1886-1939) had tragically died in a pit accident in Nottinghamshire, aged 53. His father had worked at Hoyland Silkstone colliery. We told his story. We had on show images of his paintings of miners doing hard graft underground.

**Fred Thompson** drew many young people's portraits to inspire different age groups to enter our drawing competition, our quiz and or just shelter under our umbrellas.

The winner of the under 8 competition was in our last issue and here is the winner in the 8-11 age group, **Bradley Hodgson**.



## Revealing hidden stories

Slowly and surely we are writing booklets that will tell the amazing stories about the 26 past artists. Thanks to Paul Stone & Emily Green.

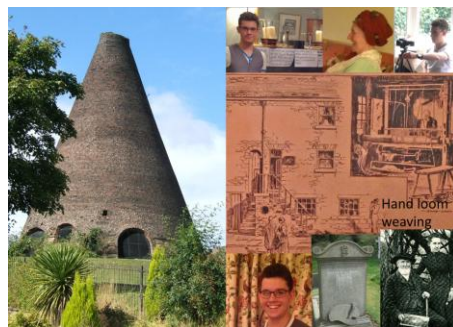
What has gone on in Barnsley's past always seems to fascinate: brave exploits, travels afar in Russia, India, Morocco, Italy; scandals; a rise from poverty by painting; friendships with famous international artists and even an artist blowing his house up. As an example, Worsborough History Group invited us for a second time and gave such enthusiastic feedback to our talk on local artists **Gilbert Daykin, K.L Graham, J.W.Shortridge** & others.

## Media and publicity

BAYD volunteers have learned about interviewing people and editing. In May, **Horizon Community Radio** put on air our 8 short programmes on ten artists and their lives.



**Conor Ramskill** from Barnsley College, previously of Horizon Community College, is working hard with other BAYD volunteers editing the brilliant film footage about nine of the artists. This will help us to make people more aware of our competitions & the artists.



The process has often been fun, always instructive and, as for all film making, very time consuming. Thank you so

much to over 20 volunteers and to **Jen Kiernan**, our project administrator, for her organization.

Writing has had to be tight, lines have had to be learned, costumes unearthed from the back of deep wardrobes and the director obeyed.



By John Wood Shortridge from his family Over 100 people worldwide have liked our **Facebook** page. It has helped artists' relatives to contact us from even as far away as New Zealand (**John Wood Shortridge** 1852-1921).

An Australian **Abel Hold** relative has generously donated an early portrait for permanent display.

## Spying Decorative Art

How many have spotted the fine decorative art all over town?



We gave young people at the YMCA six related practical sessions as part of making a booklet that will urge shoppers, workers, students, children to look up and spy decoration on buildings. Barnsley born **William Neatby** (1860-1910) decorated very many buildings nationally. 100 people helped us choose images for the booklet at a recent event at the library. Thank you.



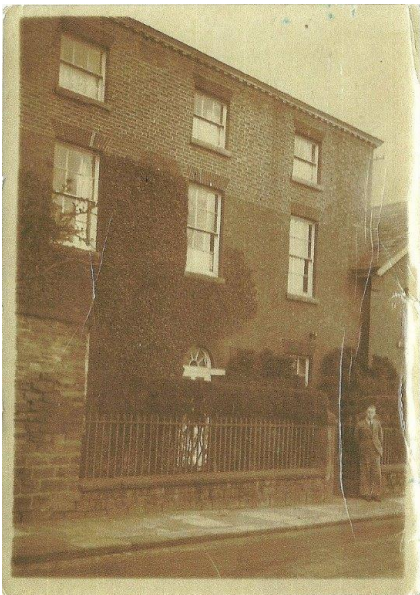
## Competitions

Full details will soon be available of the four exciting competitions we announced in the last edition:

- designing a poster;
- making a short film about a budding artist in industrial settings;
- making a map of Atkinson's Russian travels;
- making a map of where Barnsley artists lived/worked.

We hope that individuals, schools and community groups will all participate. This will be a wonderful way of learning about the different artists as well as contributing images for other people to enjoy. Some support will be available.

## Unfurling stories of the artists part five



Can anyone tell us where this house was in the District? The photo came from the relatives of **John Wood Shortridge** (1852-1921) from their family album in New Zealand. It was called the Red House and the man in front is David. Any ideas?

## Autumn Quote

“Wow! Names that are so familiar from my childhood in Barnsley – Cawthorne, Stanhope, Wortley – men who had connections with the pre-Raphaelites and the Churchills, MP's and education at the best of establishments, terrible accidents, tragic deaths, vows never to sit astride a horse or walk simply for the sake of walking (I sympathise with that) and bigamy – and wonderful art – in my home town. Brilliant!”

**Dame Jenni Murray on the draft booklets on Archibald Wortley and Thomas W Atkinson.**



This is Oxford Villa on Dodworth Road. The house relates to the Shortridge family - can anyone tell us about the history of this house and the symbol near the top of the house?



**John Roddam Spencer Stanhope's** niece, **Evelyn de Morgan**, the pre Raphaelite painter, painted two beautiful tall panels which are in Cawthorne Church. She was at Cannon Hall

New volunteers are very welcome!

Join us in spreading the word about fascinating lives, inspiring art and fine achievements.

Assist with workshops;

Distribute packs for the competitions;

Help on hidden artists' trail; Collect feedback.

\*Barugh Green, Dodworth St John's, Gawber, Joseph Locke, Queens Road Academy/Pipers Grove, Summer Lane and Worsbrough Common Primary Schools

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<https://www.facebook.com/Barnsleyartonyourdoorstep>

for Christmas 1883 where her mother (JRSS's sister) and young sister were staying. Wilhelmina, her sister, wrote on Christmas Eve "Evelyn's angels were put up in church either side of the communion table". Evelyn is not a Barnsley artist.



Barnsley painter **F. Milner's** watercolours of Barnsley scenes donated by the Porter Brook Gallery in Sheffield are now on show in the café at Experience Barnsley. They are St Mary's Church, sketches of building work including flats in Duke Street.

If any one has any information about the artist, please do contact us.