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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

**Chloe aged 7 wins our portrait competition;**

**Artist's great grandson contacts us;**

**Get ready for our competitions!**

Barnsley Art on  
Your Doorstep

# The Hidden Art of Barnsley



Summer 2013

Volume 1, issue 4

## Readers support exhibition plans



Portraiture contrasted 1765-1985

One of the five themes of the exhibition

In the last issue we asked for views about our exciting exhibition plans. Thank you to those who have given us detailed feedback.

We asked 'What information about the artists would you particularly like to see at the exhibition?' People said:

- History and background of the individual artists and how they became inspired; where they

were in the district and how Barnsley influenced them, and especially their engagement with key events in Barnsley's history.

- Their successes and how they were viewed in their own time and now.
- Their experience of other locations including travels abroad.
- Their exhibition history, with details of their work in Barnsley and elsewhere and whether they made a living from art.
- Information to help the viewer appreciate their art.

Suggestions included creating a local trail for visitors to follow, and having the artists' equipment to view. Another suggestion was to publicize where each artist lived: "Come and meet the artist from your village".

We asked what people thought about the five themes we had proposed: **Industry and Art** (glass making, linen

weaving and coal mining), **Portrait Painting**, **The Outdoors** (landscape, old buildings of Barnsley, sporting activity, travel), **Decorative arts** and **Mystery and Worship**.

Nearly 90% of people positively liked the themes. Individual comments included:

- Industry and art will be the most popular section.

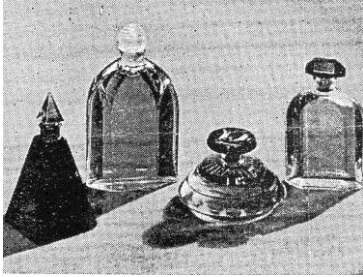


Markham's ponies by Gilbert Daykin (by courtesy of the Science Museum) 1928

- Portraits illustrate history and make a contrast with everyone's photos in their homes.
- Maps would be useful. (We have two map making competitions.)

- The outdoors theme is useful to highlight changes in the landscape.

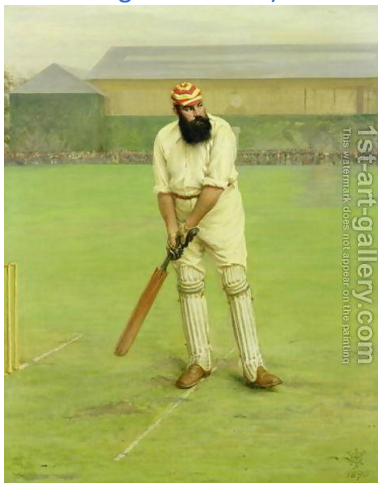
One person felt that Decorative Arts covered an enormously wide range of subjects and might need splitting up. We recognize this but we are focussing on two Barnsley artists who contributed to this theme (William Neatby and Kenneth L. Graham) and this should make it digestible.



Coty bottles designed by Kenneth L. Graham

Additional themes were suggested:

- Sport and leisure. We can include these as part of The Outdoors (e.g. Archibald Wortley's images of shooting and cricket).

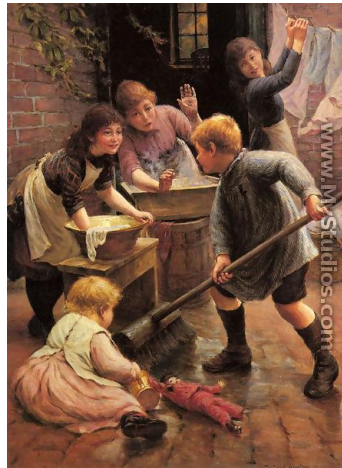


W.G. Grace by Archibald Stuart Wortley (MCC)

- Nature. We can show this within The Outdoors (e.g. birds' nests by the Hold family).
- Literary links. There are links for some of the artists and we can show these (e.g. George Gissing and the artist John W. Shortridge).
- Images of Barnsley and the District. We will show examples of these (e.g. drawings by Kenneth L. Graham);

- Foreign views. We have plans to show several of these (e.g. Russian views by Thomas W Atkinson).
- Everyday life. There will be examples (e.g. The Postman by Thomas Liddall Armitage).

We asked 'What we should do for different ages of children and young people?' There were many excellent suggestions; we are considering them in detail.



Washing Day by Thomas Liddall Armitage (private collection)

- An observation quiz;
- A loyalty badge;
- Paint, paper, aprons available for their own art work;
- Dissecting a number of the portraits;



The Sanderson family of Ossett, near Wakefield by William Tate (Holburne Museum of Art, Bath)

- Ideas to capture their interest in artists' character and life - something to relate to;
- Small hand mirrors and drawing materials so children can do their own portraits;

- Learning from portraits - styles of dress; from landscapes - building and country activities;
- Classes about the style of the artists and let the children paint their own;
- Involve them in research to give a presentation; for the older age, competitions;
- Use IT to create engaging searches or game;
- Clothing and/or jewellery of the figures could be recreated as paper clothing and accessories for a paper doll template;
- Workshops - make a collage - ideas chosen from paintings.



Kenneth L. Graham by courtesy of Graham McLuskey

We asked for 'other comments'.

- One person made a plea for us to show female artists so that it isn't dominated by males. There are a small number of women artists whom we have discovered. We will highlight the important role women played in the careers of male artists.
- Is there a way of involving contemporary artists from Barnsley?

Whilst the project is about past artists, we want to involve present artists too.

- Make contact with schools and colleges.

We have engaged with schools and colleges in successful initiatives and will increase these.

**Thank you to all those who made comments.**



**New volunteers are very welcome!**  
Join us in spreading the word about fascinating lives, inspiring art and fine achievements.

## Welcome to Jen Kiernan

We are delighted to welcome Jen Kiernan whom we appointed recently to support the core volunteers as part time project administrator. We were impressed by her approach and look forward to her work with us.

Jen will be setting up task groups for volunteers to work on several competitions, an 'I spy' type booklet, the digital model of Gawber Hall Glass House, Trails, a Yurt and Evaluation.

## Unfurling stories of the artists part four



(Courtesy of Hugh Polehampton)

We asked who the painter and sitter were and which the correct painting was. It was William Thorp, of Gawber Hall (1695-1774) glass maker by William Tate (attributed) and the correct image is on the bottom right.

## PROGRESS NEWS



Drawing of Kenneth L Graham by Chloe Alexander aged 7, winner of our under 8 competition on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2013 when we had a remarkably popular stall all day at Dodworth Miners' Memorial unveiling (thanks to Steve Wyatt) to remember Gilbert Daykin (1886-1939) the coal miner artist who died in a roof fall.

We spoke to Staincross Ladies Group, and were at Barnsley College's Equality and Diversity day.

**John Wood Shortridge** (1852-1921) in childhood was in Sackville Street and Dodworth Road, Barnsley. We asked why he ran away to sea as a teenager. Thank you to his great grandson in New Zealand, who was able to quote from JWS's diaries. He had been indentured as an apprentice to a firm of Engineers but by the age of 16 he did not seem happy and had left the firm; an early diary entry reads: 'Left employment at Messrs Piggot and Farrar to run away to sea'.

To the Porter Brook Gallery in Sheffield, many thanks for the donation of paintings done by a Barnsley artist.

A painting by Abel Hold junior in the USA is for sale; we have not seen work by him before.

In May, we broadcast two one hour programmes on Barnsley's Horizon Radio pilot broadcast consisting of eight 8 minute slots.

New volunteers joined the project.

Pauline Gould, Sally Hayles, Anne and Ken Nicholls, Hugh Polehampton, Fred Thompson, and Maureen Wilkinson have written booklets on artists:

1. The Tate brothers-Richard Tate 1736-1787 and William Tate 1747-1806;
2. Thomas Witlam Atkinson 1799-1861;
3. Archibald Wortley 1849-1905;
4. John Spence Ingall 1850-1936;
5. Ernest Moore 1865-1940;
6. Kenneth Leslie Graham 1900-1979.
7. Brian Fitzpatrick 1932-1974

## Contact Barnsley Art on Your Doorstep

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Facebook: please like us there!

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



Photo by Sally Hayles of Wortley village 2013



Painting by the famous artist Whistler (courtesy of Smithsonian Institute)

We asked on facebook who did the above painting and where. James Abbott McNeill Whistler (1834-1903) the American-born, British-based artist was staying at Wortley Hall; he was a friend of **Archibald Wortley** (1849-1905).



Coming soon....

## Your chance to contribute to our 'Hidden Art' project!

From this September, BAYD will be launching **four competitions** to enable schools, community and youth groups, and members of the public based in the borough of Barnsley to contribute to our project on **'The Hidden Art of Barnsley'**. The competitions will each have a different theme, reflecting the different aspects of the 'Hidden Art' project. The winning entries from the competitions will be publicly displayed either before or during our 'Hidden Art' exhibition. Read on to find out more.

### COMPETITION 1: DESIGN A POSTER TO PROMOTE BAYD'S 'HIDDEN ART' EXHIBITION

**BRIEF:** Entrants will be asked to design a poster to advertise the 'Hidden Art' exhibition, which will take place at the Cooper Gallery next summer. Entrants will be informed about what information needs to be included on their posters when the competition opens.

**OPEN TO:** Individuals of all ages. Entries will be judged in age-based categories and a winner will be selected from each category.

**VISIBILITY:** The winning entry from each category will be professionally printed and displayed in locations across Barnsley Borough next spring and summer.

### COMPETITION 2: PRODUCE A SHORT FILM ILLUSTRATING WHAT LIFE WAS LIKE FOR A BARNSELY CHILD WHOSE FAMILY WORKED IN COAL MINING, LINEN WEAVING OR GLASS-MAKING

**BRIEF:** These three industries had a huge influence on what life was like for many generations who grew up in Barnsley Borough and some of the 'hidden artists' we have uncovered came from families who worked in them. Entrants to this competition will be asked to produce a short film (lasting 2-5minutes) exploring what life might have been like for a young aspiring artist whose family worked in one of these industries. Information on the lives of the 'hidden artists' who came from these backgrounds will be provided for inspiration.

**OPEN TO:** Teams of four or more members, at least two of whom should be under 18. Entries from schools and youth/community groups will be welcomed.

**VISIBILITY:** The winning films will be shown in the Cooper Gallery during the 'Hidden Art' exhibition.

### COMPETITION 3: CREATE A MAP OF BARNSELY BOROUGH SHOWING SOME OF THE LOCATIONS WHICH WERE SIGNIFICANT IN THE LIVES OF THE BOROUGH'S 'HIDDEN ARTISTS'

**BRIEF:** Entrants will be asked to produce an A1-sized (90cm x 64cm) map of Barnsley Borough showing some of the locations which were significant in the lives of Barnsley's 'hidden artists'. The map should be an artistic impression of the area rather than a precise scale-map and information will be provided concerning which locations should be included and why. A sheet of A1 paper will be provided for each team.

**OPEN TO:** Teams of all ages. All entries should be worked on by a minimum of four people.

**VISIBILITY:** The winning entry will be displayed at the Cooper Gallery as part of BAYD's 'Hidden Art' exhibition.

### COMPETITION 4: PRODUCE A MAP OF CENTRAL ASIA SHOWING THE ROUTE TRAVELLED BY THOMAS WITLAM ATKINSON IN THE 19TH CENTURY

**BRIEF:** Thomas Witlam Atkinson is one of the artists whose work will feature in the 'Hidden Art' exhibition. Much of his work was inspired by his travels in Central Asia. Entrants to this competition will be asked to produce a large map of Central Asia showing the route that Atkinson took. The map should be an artistic impression of the region rather than a precise scale-map. Entrants will be provided with information on Atkinson's travels and appropriately-sized paper.

**OPEN TO:** Individuals and teams of all ages.

**VISIBILITY:** The winning entry will be displayed in the Cooper Gallery as part of the 'Hidden Art' exhibition.

To register your interest in any of these competitions, email [bayd2014@gmail.com](mailto:bayd2014@gmail.com). We will then alert you when the competition you are interested in opens and send you an entry pack.