

About the Artists

Clark Atkinson

Clark Atkinson lives on the North and is currently chair of the village hall committee. He has been a keen photographer since borrowing his mother's Olympus Trip for a school exchange visit to France. He enjoys all genres of photography, particularly portraits and street photography. He is also a member of the Forest of Dean camera club.

Jen Bannister

Jen Bannister (brush name "Effie") lives on the North, having followed her work here from central London. She has been drawing from an early age and painting since she got her first wage cheque at the age of 18 and could afford to buy oil paints. Main media are oil paints and soft pastels, but she also enjoys working with charcoal and oil pastels. For many years she belonged to Angela Palmer's Life Class in Brockweir and to The Wye Valley Art Society, exhibiting regularly with them.

Emily Harling

Emily lives in Pen-y-Fan where she has her ceramic and glass studio, looking out over the Wye valley. Emily creates decorations from fused glass including her seasonal ranges of hanging Christmas and Easter decorations. She also sculpts realistic ceramic animals – anything from dogs to tortoises, polar bears and otters to red pandas

Jago Harling

Jago lives in Pen-y-Fan and is studying engineering at Swansea University. His acrylic paintings are inspired by his travels in the north of Scotland, the Lake District and, of course, around the Gower peninsula and Swansea Bay. His landscapes allow him to combine his passions for art – and for mountain biking!

Jean Lloyd

Jean Lloyd is a freelance artist living and working in Wolverhampton. A keen walker, she is a regular visitor to the Wye Valley and the North. Jean is a member of the Wolverhampton Society of Artists, specialising in portrait painting.

See more of Jean's work: [jeanlloydartwork](#)

Derek Rainsford

Derek paints in oils and acrylics and has recently been exploring a semi abstract approach to landscapes as demonstrated in the "Fractured Woodland" canvas shown today. It was during the 1970s, whilst living in North Yorkshire, that Derek started painting regularly and there he studied for a time with Ron Pawson, a well known Yorkshire professional artist of the day. Derek was a regular exhibitor with the Wye Valley Art Society and a number of his paintings are also currently on display at the Trellech and St Briavel surgeries.

See more of Derek's work on his Instagram account @derekainsford.

Julia Sykes

Julia Sykes is a professional artist based in the Forest of Dean who works in oils and acrylics. She paints portraits and still life, and has also recently sold landscapes as commissioned works. In

2020/1 she produced a series of abstract paintings for the Local Equality Collective which hang in their offices in Newnham.

See more of her work on Instagram [@juliasykesart](#)

Jack Verhaeg

Jack's hyper – real drawings have sold originals and prints across the UK, but most of his sales come from Los Angeles, Arizona and New York. His latest piece, entitled *King of the Jungle*, is listed for \$2,995 (about £2,254) as an original drawing on an American interior design site www.chairish.com

His background is not fine art, but English literature and film studies. This education often informs his work through an exploration of cinematic imagery.

Paragon Gallery, Montpellier Street, Cheltenham

Jack is now creating new pieces to fund his master's degree at the National Film and Television School.

See more of Jack's work: jackverhaeg.com
www.paragongallery.co.uk