

Title: Brian Robinson & Beryl Burton OBE
Artist: Julie Cope
Location: 114 High Street

J

Title: I Can See the Worlds End From Here!
Artist: Shirley Vine
Location: 12 Castlegate

E

Title: Zoo
Artist: Julie Cope
Location: 16-18 High Street

I

Title: Alms for the Poor
Artist: Peter Kearney
Location: 1 Castlegate

D

Title: Look out below!
Artist: Shirley Vine
Location: 53 Kirkgate

H

Title: Local Hero
Artist: Peter Kearney
Location: 5 Gracious Street

C

Title: Queen Philippa
Artist: Ray Mutimer
Location: 35 Market Place

G

Title: Play Us a Tune
Artist: Peter Kearney
Location: 19 Market Place

B

Title: Second Chances
Artist: Julie Cope
Location: 5-7 Brigate

F

Title: Artist in Residence
Artist: Julie Cope
Location: 4 Castlegate

A



The Trompe L'oeil Trail is a collection of public art that uses *trompe l'oeil* paintings to create windows around the town.

This guide introduces Knaresborough's "The Trompe L'oeil Trail", a collection of public art works illustrating characters and events from the town's long and rich history.

The art works use the technique of trompe l'oeil - a painting style that sets out to 'fool the eye' into seeing a painted picture as something real.

Knaresborough has dozens of blank windows in older buildings of the town. They are a feature of Georgian buildings and were blocked to avoid window tax or incorporated in the building's design to provide symmetry.

"Town Windows" reinstate the windows by installing paintings on panels, and they are in place all year round. So, whenever you visit, we hope you will take the time to explore our streets and discover them.

This guide will help you find them all. While you walk around the town be sure to look up and take in the historic architecture of the town. You may well be struck by the number of blind windows around the town or by other interesting features.

This project has been devised and managed by Renaissance Knaresborough (RK), a community group, set up to identify, develop and deliver projects that improve Knaresborough. For more than a decade RK has identified, supported and collaborated in a range of innovations to meet this aim. Visit our web site to get the full story www.renaissanceknaresborough.co.uk

RK welcomes support and membership from individuals and organisations who support our aims.

In addition to the 'windows' on the map, paintings commissioned by other organisations can be found at the train station, The Hub at St. John's church, The Library and the Centre on Gracious Street.

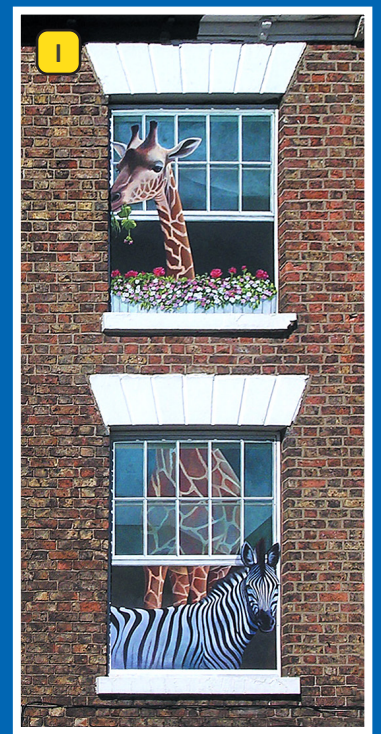
The Trompe L'oeil Trail Knaresborough



Welcome to Knaresborough

an historic market town in a magical setting
The Trompe L'oeil Trail was supported by the following organisations





Take the Trompe Loeil Trail



Key

A As a contrast to the heritage themes that make up most of our paintings, these pictures take a more light-hearted approach. The artist has put herself in two self-portraits showing her working precariously on site and enjoying a well-earned break above.

B **Blind Jack** was born John Metcalf in 1717. He contracted smallpox at the age of 6 and lost his sight. This certainly did not stop him leading a long and full life. He played music and was an accomplished fiddle player. He is perhaps best known as a pioneering road builder, constructing around 170 miles of roads in the early days of the turnpikes. Here he is seen playing the fiddle to customers in the pub that now bears his name.

C **James "Ginger" Lacey** was born in Wetherby and attended King James's School, Knaresborough, before going on to be one of the best known fighter pilots of World War 2. The 18 planes he shot down was the largest number of any RAF pilot in the Battle of Britain. His total at the end of the war was 28 planes shot down.

D **King John** has a bad reputation, especially compared to his brother King Richard. However, he had a significant relationship with Knaresborough. He strengthened the castle and used it as a base for hunting in the Forest of Knaresborough. The first known Royal Maundy took place in Knaresborough on 5th April 1210 when King John distributed gifts to 13 poor men. We show him personally distributing alms.

E **Mother Shipton** is probably Britain's best known witch and prophetess. Thought to have been born in Knaresborough in 1488 the truth and legend of Mother Shipton has become mingled over a long time. The dangling items reflect the connection with the Dropping Well that has become associated with the legend, perhaps because of its apparent "magical" petrifying properties.

F **Guy Fawkes** was born in York, but spent his teenage years in Scotton, outside Knaresborough, after his widowed mother remarried. His step-father was a Catholic and introduced him to Catholicism. As a member of the Gunpowder Plot Fawkes tried to assassinate King James I and the members of the House of Lords at the Royal opening of Parliament in November 1605. In our pictures we have presented him with a second chance to carry out the Plot in Knaresborough.

G **Knaresborough Castle** was given by Edward III to his wife as part of her marriage settlement. She lived there intermittently from 1332. She restored the Parish Church of St. John's (The tapestry has her coat of arms, and she is shown giving a casket of money for this purpose). One of her sons was The Black Prince, (shown as a child with a wooden sword). The Black Death (represented by the black rat) first came to Knaresborough in 1349.

H **The English Civil War** divided Knaresborough as it did many communities across the country. Knaresborough Castle was held by Royalists. After the Parliamentary victory at the Battle of Marston Moor in July 1644, the castle came under siege until December. When the walls were breached on 20th December the Royalists surrendered. The castle was dismantled in 1648, after the war.

I **Knaresborough had a zoo**, founded in 1965, in the grounds of Conyngham Hall. It was famous for its lion, elephant and snakes. However, the conditions became increasingly out of favour and in 1985 the zoo closed after being refused a licence. Our virtual zoo on the High Street has no such concerns and our giraffe and zebra seem to be happy with their conditions.

J **Top: Brian Robison** an English former road bicycle racer of the 1950s and early 1960s. He was the first Briton to finish the Tour de France and the first to win a Tour stage. His success as a professional cyclist in mainland Europe paved the way for other Britons.

Bottom: Beryl Burton OBE, Beryl worked and rode locally and dominated women's cycle racing in the UK, winning more than 90 domestic championships and seven world titles, and setting numerous national records. She set a women's record for the 12-hour time-trial which exceeded the men's record for two years.