

+ The Old Sunday School Banners

A lovingly redeveloped piece of local history rewards itself with a beautiful set of unique banners picking up the backdrop of its breath taking surroundings in the Weardale Valley



Gilmore Chapel Sunday School



1849 Built by the Primitive Methodists as their first place of worship and learning in Stanhope. Left ruined for 40 years ready to fall apart



+ Take your time!

“Like the redevelopment of this building it is important not to rush key decisions on which paintings to use to create the banners”

- Perry Childs

We bought this Primitive Methodist Sunday School in May 2010, located in the Wear valley. Working closely with our architect Eric we hoped to bring this fabulous building back to life and make it a welcoming home for the Childs' family.

It soon became apparent to us as we near the end of our project that our wish to keep the décor modern and unassuming would be a challenge. There were specific areas where we really wanted to add colour but still in keeping with the building's history.

In particular we had a wall in our stunning top lounge that needed to create a contrast to the rest of the modestly decorated room.

We knew paintings and photos would be lost on this vast canvas and in consultation with our artist friend Diane King hit upon the idea of using cotton prints in the form of hanging banners.

This is when the fun really began with many discussions between client and artist.

[The Commissioning Process](#) ↘

The
Opportunity



The Commissioning Process

As a fine artist I am always working to develop skills. Presently I am exploring textiles in practice and digital print.

Perry approached me while he attended one of my watercolour holidays in Greece to commission some paintings for his recently redeveloped Sunday School in Stanhope.

When he mentioned he had a fantastic wall space in his lounge that he wanted to use to frame some very large paintings – but wasn't sure if his budget would stretch to such large commissions.

I suggested using extracts from the paintings I was about to paint for him based around the Weardale area.

Step 1

It is very important to visit the space and advise as to painting and hanging arrangements.

At any onetime I have a series of acrylics, watercolour and mixed media paintings which my clients can view on my website so they are able to articulate their preferences – It is a great way to kick-start the process and everybody can join in.

Based on my client's feedback and



preferences I begin the process by either painting the commissioned watercolour or acrylic, or clients may select pieces from my web site to base the textile piece on. Thus ensuring the work is an original painting by myself.

Step 2

The challenge of creating the textile banners is not to replicate the whole painting but to take a carefully selected slice/section of the painting that will work to the size the client requires for their wall surface.

This is achieved by spending long hours in front of the PC screen with Adobe Photoshop working with the

[http://www.
djkingwatercolours
.co.uk](http://www.djkingwatercolours.co.uk)

Absolutely
Original

Challenging



Meticulous



Stunning Art



textile printing specialists to create the right balanced abstractions.

Step 3

The choice of the material on which the banner will be printed can vary depending on finish and budget. The textile ground for printing I have used and have examples are canvas, poplin (strong plain weave fabric), silk and wool.

A series of test print samples are critical to ensure correct colour tones, correct printing system and dyes produce the colours as vibrant as the originals.

Step 4

Working side by side with the print technicians we convert the digital image to a format that will be suitable for textile printing. We then print to size using the highly specialized inks and grounds.



Step 6

I personally deliver the finished works of art and advise on the various hanging options to ensure the finished pieces are shown to their full affect.

I am happy to negotiate commissions which include both the original painting and textile piece or simply the large textile wall hanging designed from my work.



Step 5

Once printed the print is framed with stitching matched with the dominant colour from the banner to secure the edges and provide a space at the top of the banner for hanging. I fully inspect the printing for any defects and sign as an original piece of art.

[The Artist and her work](#) ↘



Diane King



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Diane's artistic career has developed over the last ten years around working in Education and Children's services. Describing herself as a "Colourist". Over the last three years she has developed a Professional Portfolio. Her highly prized work is currently featured in National and International exhibitions. She works mainly in watercolour, acrylic and mixed media, threading her experiences of visiting places as far apart as Africa and Scotland into her work, where the light in each place is so very different.

Diane enjoys the privilege of offering tuition and workshops to other artists and runs a painting school on the beautiful Greek island of Skiathos, also tutoring

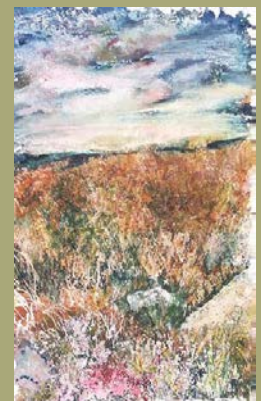
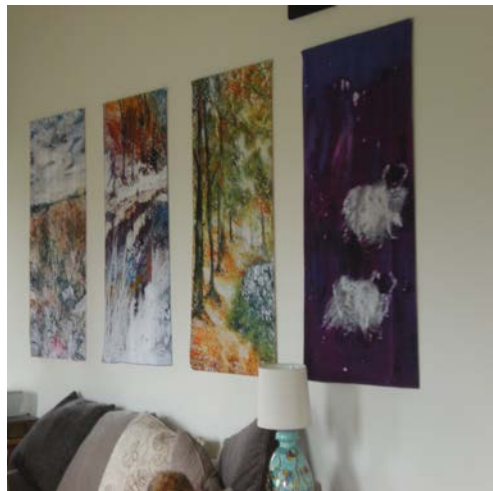
painting holidays in the French Alps and the Cornwall. She has completed commissioned work by the world famous cruise companies P&O and Cunard and offers tuition during the cruises. Her paintings capture the range of sailing experiences from the Norwegian fjords to the Caribbean islands.

Diane is an appointed member of the Professional Artists team of the Society of All Artists (S.A.A). Her work has featured in the publications "Paint" and "The Artist" and often features on the Painters on line web link. She is presently enjoying studying at Manchester School of Art where her focus is exploring Textiles in Practice



Courses, Workshops and Paintings Holidays

Diane's tutoring style combines demonstration with one to one support and encouragement in a friendly environment



Dawn in Dales



Autumn Walk



Winter in the Vale



Mo and Hair