

Douglas Houzen Pinder

Douglas Pinder was the father of Ruth who married Ted Robinson and lived her married life in Port Isaac.

Douglas Pinder painted in oils and more frequently in watercolour. He favoured coastal views, moorland landscapes and desert scenes.

Born in Lincoln in 1886, his father died when he was young, so his mother moved to Newquay, where she established a small school. Douglas was articled to a local architect in the early 1900s. He then turned to painting full time.

In the First World War he was a conscientious objector. He had to attend a tribunal at Bodmin, where he stood by his strong religious convictions. He worked as a postman, which was accepted as a contribution to the war effort. Later he was sponsored to go to Egypt to paint a number of Desert Scenes from a base at Port Said.

For about two years Pinder lived at Horrabridge on Dartmoor, where he painted moorland scenes which he often signed "Ben Graham". or "A.P.Shepherd". He also lived in Plymouth for a while. By 1930 he was back in Newquay, painting and selling art in his own gallery, at 80 Fore Street.

He did not drive a car, but used a bicycle, heading off to many locations along the north Cornish coast. He had a special carrier attached to the crossbar in which he carried his painting equipment.

He usually painted seascapes, often including detail which allowed the location to be clearly identified. He did not exhibit with art societies, preferring to handle his own work in Newquay.

He had a view of Polperro exhibited after his death, at the Plymouth Art Society (1950).

