

Katharine Holmes (b.1962)



Katharine Holmes working, and High Barn Cottage, Malham (May 2009)
(Photography: Jerry Hardman-Jones)

Katharine's inherent creativity was nurtured in her home at High Barn Cottage, and strengthened at Skipton Girls' High School, where her art teacher was Michael Leeming, and at the University of Newcastle, where she took a degree in Fine Art. She returned to live in the Dales in 1990, and moved back to live at High Barn Cottage in 2007, after her father's death.

Philippa Holmes (1921-1999)



Above left: left to right: Philippa, Constance, Margaret and Mary (Courtesy Pearson Family Archive)
Below left: Philippa painting with the young Katharine (Courtesy Pearson Family Archive).
Right: the pantry at High Barn Cottage. (Photography: Jerry Hardman-Jones)

Born in Aberford, Philippa was the third of Constance and Sidney's four children. She was a student at Bradford School of Art during the Second World War, and started her career as an occupational therapist. She later trained as a teacher in Art and English at Bretton Hall College near Wakefield, but gave up teaching when she married Ted Holmes in 1957. They moved with their only child, Katharine, to live with Constance at High Barn Cottage in the mid 1960s.

Constance D. Pearson (1886-1970)



Constance Pearson setting off to paint from High Barn Cottage (Courtesy Pearson Family Archive) and the bedroom at High Barn Cottage (Photography: Jerry Hardman-Jones)

Born in Leeds, Constance Damaris Carter attended the Quaker School at Rawdon, and afterwards attended Leeds School of Art - where she met her future husband, Sidney Pearson. They lived in Thornton (where Sidney taught at the grammar school) until the early 1940s, when they moved to Malham and settled at High Barn Cottage. This is the house that Constance lived in for the rest of her life, and which has passed down through the generations - to Philippa and in turn to Katharine.