

The Birmingham Boys

Walter Langley and his fellow Birmingham
Newlyn School artists

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1



Jean-François Millet (1814 – 1875)
The Gleaners, 1857
Oil on canvas
Musée d'Orsay, Paris

2



Jules Bastien-Lepage (1848 – 1884)
Pas Mèche, 1881
Oil on canvas
National Galleries of Scotland



Jules Bastien-Lepage (1848 – 1884)
Saison d'Octobre, 1878
Oil on canvas
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia

3



Stanhope Forbes (1857 – 1947)
A Street in Brittany, 1881
Oil on canvas
National Museums & Galleries on Merseyside
(Walker Art Gallery)

4



Stanhope Forbes (1857 – 1947)
Letter to his Aunt Alice, 1883
Private collection

5



Caroline Burland Yates (1854 – 1945)
Newlyn Harbour, c.1879
Oil on canvas
Gwavas collection

6



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
*Scene in a Cornish Fishing Village
 – Among the Missing, 1884*
 Watercolour
 Penlee House Gallery & Museum

7



Stanhope Forbes (1857 – 1947)
Fish Sale on a Cornish Beach, 1885
 Oil on canvas
 The Box, Plymouth

8



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
*Musing on the Roaring Ocean
 Which divides my love and me, 1879*
 Watercolour
 Private collection



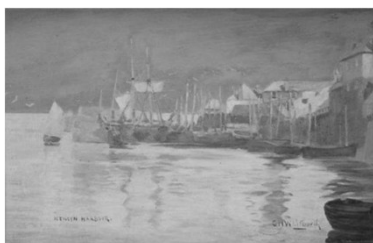
Walter Langley (1852–1922)
A Breton Peasant Girl, 1881
 Watercolour
 Private collection

9



Frederick Mercer (1850–1939)
September, Low Water, Newlyn, 1876
 Watercolour
 Penlee House Gallery & Museum

10



Charles Henry Whitworth (1855–1933)
Newlyn Harbour
 Oil on paper
 Birmingham Museums Trust

11

**William Arthur Breakspeare
 (1855–1914)**

**William Arthur Breakspeare
 (1855–1914)**
Self portrait, 1876
 Oil on canvas
 Ashmolean Museum, Oxford



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William Arthur Breakspeare (1855–1914)
The Maidservant, 1881
 Oil on canvas
 Tameside Museums and Galleries
 Service: The Astley Cheetham Art
 Collection

13



William Arthur Breakspeare (1855–1914)
Resting
 Oil on canvas
 New Gallery, Wallsall



William Arthur Breakspeare (1855–1914)
Roses
 Oil on canvas
 Museum of Croydon

14

**William Banks Fortescue
 (1850–1924)**



Fred Hall (1860–1948)
Caricature of William Banks Fortescue
 Tate archive

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William Banks Fortescue (1850–1924)
The Fish Fag
 Oil on canvas
 Atkinson Art Gallery

16



William Banks Fortescue (1850–1924)
Old Newlyn Harbour, 1891
 Oil on canvas
 Penlee House Gallery & Museum

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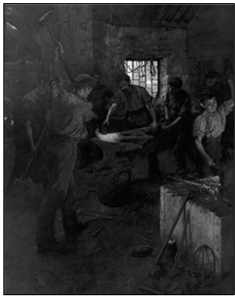


William Banks Fortescue (1850–1924)
By Hammer and Hand All Arts Doth Stand
 Oil on canvas
 Penlee House Gallery & Museum



William Banks Fortescue (1850–1924)
The Village Smithy
 Oil on canvas
 Bowerman Collection

18



Stanhope Forbes (1857–1947)
Forging the Anchor, 1892
 Oil on canvas
 Colchester & Ipswich Museums Service



Stanhope Forbes (1857–1947)
The Little Smithy, 1894
 Oil on canvas
 Amgueddfa Cymru National
 Museums Wales

19



William Banks Fortescue (1850–1924)
The Ploughing Match, Cornwall, 1891
 Oil on canvas
 Private collection

20



William Banks Fortescue (1850–1924)
The Fleet in the Harbour at St Ives
 Oil on canvas
 Private collection

21

**Frank Richards
 (1863–1935)**



Frank Richards (1863–1935)
Fisherman reading, 1890
 Oil on canvas
 Cornish Masters Fine Art

22



Frank Richards (1863–1935)
End of the Day, Newlyn, 1891
 Oil on canvas
 Private collection, courtesy Cornish Masters Fine Art

23



Frank Richards (1863–1935)
Lizard Lighthouse
 Oil on canvas
 Cornish Masters Fine Art

24

**William Wainwright
(1855–1931)**

William Wainwright (1855–1931)
Self portrait
Watercolour
Private collection



25



William Wainwright (1855–1931)
Thomas Cooper Gotch and Caroline Gotch, nee Yates, 1882
Watercolour
Penlee House Gallery & Museum

26



William Wainwright (1855–1931)
Waiting for the Return of the Fleet, 1884
Watercolour
Private collection

27



William Wainwright (1855–1931)
The Old Pilot, 1884
Watercolour
Penlee House Gallery & Museum

28



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
An Old Pilot
Watercolour
Bowerman Collection

29



Langley



Wainwright



Harris



Wainwright



Wainwright



Harris

30



William Wainwright (1855–1931)
The Old Burgomaster, 1884
 Oil on canvas
 Birmingham Museums Trust

31



William Wainwright (1855–1931)
The Drunkard, 1889
 Oil on canvas
 Private collection

32



William Wainwright (1855–1931)
The Jester
 Private collection

33

**Edwin Harris
 (1857 – 1915)**



Fred Hall (1860–1948)
Caricature of Edwin Harris
 Tate archive

34



Edwin Harris (1857 – 1915)
A Normandy Peasant
 Oil on canvas
 Russell-Cotes Art Gallery & Museum

35



Edwin Harris (1857 – 1915)
The Fisherman's Rest, 1885
 Oil on canvas
 Private collection, courtesy
 Cornish Masters



Edwin Harris (1857 – 1915)
Old Fishwife
 Oil on canvas
 Private collection

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Edwin Harris (1857 – 1915)
Miles Away
Oil on canvas
Courtesy Cornish Masters Fine Art



Edwin Harris (1857 – 1915)
Mending the Nets, 1903
Oil on canvas
Bowerman Collection



Edwin Harris (1857 – 1915)
The Lesson, 1889
Oil on canvas
Penlee House Gallery &
Museum, Penzance



Norman Garstin (1847 – 1926)
Two Heads are Better Than One, 1889
Oil on canvas
Bowerman Collection



Edwin Harris (1857 – 1915)
Old Love Letters, 1887
Oil on canvas
Bowerman Collection



Edwin Harris (1857 – 1915)
By the Fireside
Oil on canvas
Courtesy Cornish Masters
Fine Art



Edwin Harris (1857 – 1915)
Words of Comfort
Oil on canvas
Bowerman Collection



Edwin Harris (1857 – 1915)
A Summer Afternoon, 1885
Oil on canvas
Private collection, courtesy
Cornish Masters



Edwin Harris (1857 – 1915)
The Draw Well, 1886
 Oil on canvas
 Private collection,
 courtesy Cornish Masters

43



Edwin Harris (1857 – 1915)
Study of a boy
 Oil on panel
 Private collection



Edwin Harris (1857 – 1915)
Study of a girl
 Oil on panel
 Private collection

44

**Walter Langley
 (1852–1922)**



Fred Hall (1860–1948)
Caricature of Walter Langley
 Tate archive

45



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
The Water Carrier, 1882
 Watercolour
 Private collection

46



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
Sketchbook study of a Cornish lane,
 c.1880
 Pencil on paper
 The artist's estate

47



Walter Langley (1848 – 1884)
Wandering Thoughts, c.1881
 Watercolour
 Private collection



Walter Langley (1848 – 1884)
A Nautical Question, c.1882
 Watercolour
 Private collection

48



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
*Time moveth not,
 Our being 'tis that moves, 1882*
 Watercolour
 Penlee House Gallery & Museum,
 Penzance

49



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
*But men must work and women must weep
 Though storms be sudden and waters deep
 And the harbour bar be moaning, 1882*
 Watercolour
 Birmingham Museums

50



Frank Bramley (1857 – 1915)
A Hopeless Dawn, 1889
 Oil on canvas
 Tate

51



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
Never morning wore to evening but some heart did break, 1894
 Oil on canvas
 Birmingham Museums

52



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
In a Cornish Fishing Village – Departure of the Fleet for the North, 1886
 Watercolour
 Penlee House Gallery & Museum, Penzance

53



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
*Scene in a Cornish Fishing Village:
 Among the Missing, 1884*
 Watercolour
 Private collection

54



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
Disaster!
Scene in a Cornish Fishing Village, 1889
Watercolour
Birmingham Museums

55



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
Disaster! Scene in a Cornish Fishing Village, 1889
Charcoal on paper
Private collection

56



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
Waiting for the Boats, 1885
Watercolour and pencil
Private collection

57



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
The Fisher's Daughter, 1885
Watercolour
Private collection

58



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
The Sunny South, 1885
Oil on canvas
Penlee House Gallery & Museum

59



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
Memories, 1885
Watercolour
Private collection

60



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
My youngest son, Cecil, 1886
Watercolour
Private collection

61



Walter Langley (1852 – 1922)
Betrayed, 1887
Watercolour
Private collection



Walter Langley (1852 – 1922) and
James Dobie (1847–c.1923)
Betrayed, 1887
Etching
Penlee House Gallery & Museum

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Walter Langley (1852–1922)
Breadwinners, 1896
Watercolour
Penlee House Gallery & Museum, Penzance

63



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
Breadwinners, 1896
Oil on canvas
Bowerman Collection

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Walter Langley (1852–1922)
The Orphan, 1889
Charcoal drawing
Private collection



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
The Orphan, 1889
Watercolour
Private collection

65



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
Motherless, 1895
Oil on canvas
Bowerman Collection

66



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
*In faith and hope the World will disagree,
 But all mankind's concern is charity* 1897
 Oil on canvas
 Private collection
 Tolstoy's favourite painting

67



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
A Fisherman's Son, 1884
 Watercolour
 Private collection



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
Daydreams, 1884
 Watercolour
 Private collection

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Walter Langley (1852–1922)
Newlyn Fishergirl
 Watercolour
 Private collection

69



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
Knitting, 1890
 Watercolour
 Private collection

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Walter Langley (1852–1922)
Self Portrait, 1897
 Oil on canvas
 Uffizi Gallery, Florence

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Walter Langley (1852–1922)
A Little Dutch Girl, 1905
 Watercolour
 Private collection



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
An Old Inhabitant, 1905
 Watercolour
 Private collection

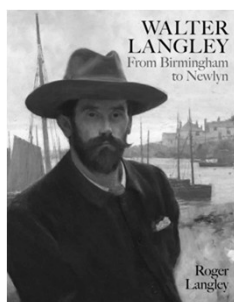
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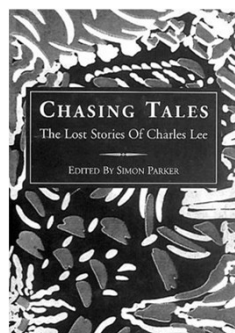
Walter Langley (1852–1922)
Between the Tides, 1901
Oil on canvas
Warrington Museum and Art Gallery



Walter Langley (1852–1922)
Memories, 1906
Oil on canvas
Private collection



Further reading:
Walter Langley: From Birmingham to Newlyn
by Roger Langley
Still available from Sansom & Company at £24.95
[Walter Langley: From Birmingham to Newlyn – Sansom & Company](#)



Novel mentioned:
Cynthia in the West
by Charles Lee
Very hard to get hold of, but some of it is reproduced in this more recent publication – ‘Chasing Tales’ published by Giss’on Books, edited by Simon Parker

The Art of the Newlyn School

Touring exhibition of paintings from the Bowerman Collection

Exhibition preview:

Selected dates in April, May, June 2026

Champs Hill, Pulborough – www.thebct.org.uk

October 2026 – January 2027

Penlee House Gallery & Museum, Penzance – www.penleehouse.org.uk

January – June 2027

Nottingham Castle Museum www.nottinghamcastle.org.uk

June – September 2027

Munnings Museum, Dedham www.munningsmuseum.org.uk

September 2027 – January 2028

Williamson Art Gallery, Birkenhead www.williamsonartgallery.org

January – May 2028

Worcester City Art Gallery www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk

May – September 2028

Laing Art Gallery, Newcastle www.northeastmuseums.org.uk/laing



John Shakespeare RBSA (d.2022)
Alison Bevan giving a talk about Dame Laura Knight at Springfield Court, Aughton, Lancashire, 2012
Oil on canvas
Private collection