

## Artist profile: Gillian Nye



I was born and grew up on the Island and returned to retire with my husband Ken in 2005.

Previously, after achieving a Cert HE in Art and Design in Southampton, I tutored Calligraphy at Adult & FE level at both Eastleigh College and Peter Symonds,

Winchester, where I held many exhibitions with my students in and around the colleges and Winchester Cathedral. I then semi-retired to work for Southampton Football Club, a labour of love!

After retiring to the Island and needing a hobby, I was lucky enough to attend Becky Samuelson's watercolour classes. With my Calligraphic attention to detail and love of colour, I had several successful years exhibiting with Bembridge Art Society, Brading Breakaways and The Green Coffee Shop at St Helens.

Since moving to Medham Village, I enjoy being a member of Cowes Art Group, where I was awarded Best Picture voted by the public at the 2014 Summer Exhibition and runner up in 2015 and 2016. I received highly commended at the 2016 Landscapes of the Isle of Wight completion held annually at East Dene, Bonchurch. Recently, I have been honoured to have two of my paintings chosen by Cruse Bereavement Care for use as cards for their charity.

Although my first love remains watercolour, I also paint in oils, with our wonderful Island landscapes and flower meadows a particular joy to paint. Initially I like to work on location if possible, to make sketches, take photos and to feel the atmosphere I want to portray in my finished work. My Island scenes make excellent cards and my work can be seen in private collections on the mainland and as far afield as Italy, France, Chicago and California.

