

## “Griff” – Wildlife Artist. 30 November 2007



Over 40 members and friends were treated to an exhibition of splendid paintings, work in progress and a fascinating talk by Ian Griffiths.

It will be remembered that Griff kindly donated the print of his “Spirit of Choughs” as the only raffle prize to the earlier talk by Pete Rock on Gulls so it was of particular interest to meet the man and to hear about his background and aspirations.

He, a Yorkshireman (but we will not hold that against him!), describes himself as “An artist who prefers to paint wildlife especially birds”. After many years in various positions in the tourist industry around the coast of the UK, he decided a year ago to become a professional artist. This turning point in his life followed an amateur artist career that spanned the years from, at an age of 13, he first tackled acrylic painting to interpret wildlife and birds in particular.

Two years later, at only 15 years and after his first exhibition, his talent was quickly spotted and encouraged by Sir Peter Scott. Over the years he has traveled around the UK, Europe and the USA recording his impressions in acrylic, watercolors and gouache. He has exhibited widely and in 2002 was asked by Professor David Bellamy to illustrate several conservation projects. More recently Griff has been helping businesses promote wildlife by providing illustrations for nature trails.

He, his Cornish wife and family now live in Helston and he has his own web-site [www.artbygriff.com](http://www.artbygriff.com).