

Quentin Blake (1932-), illustrator

Quentin Blake was born on 16 December 1932 and lived in Hurst Road, Sidcup, attending Chislehurst and Sidcup Grammar School. He later read English at Cambridge University and attended Chelsea Art College. He lived in Sidcup until the late 1950s.

He has become renowned for his collaborations with Roald Dahl, bringing to life characters such as the BFG, Willy Wonka and the Fantastic Mr Fox. He was named the first Children's Laureate in 1999 and was awarded a CBE in 2005.

A new art block at Chislehurst and Sidcup Grammar School was named in his honour in 2007.

Recently his pictures have escaped from the pages of books as works for the walls of museums and hospitals and other public spaces. An exhibition at Hall Place from March to 31 August 2014 called 'Quentin Blake – As Large as Life' presents work created for hospitals designed to have a therapeutic effect on their residents.

