

Fans flock to see Rolf Harris in Yarm

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BY **Teesside Live**

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Much-loved artist and TV presenter Rolf Harris made a guest appearance at Platinum Gallery on the High Street where guests were invited to meet him and get his autograph.

Aussie Rolf also unveiled some original artwork and revealed two pieces had been sold.

His visit last night was part of a national tour when his book - A Life in Art - was also available.

Rolf, now 80, said of Yarm: "It's lovely here and the owner is very enthusiastic. It's been wonderful to meet everyone."

"I've sold two originals tonight which is absolutely wonderful and both of them which I love."

Rolf sat in front of a display of artwork by Yarm School pupils who have been inspired by him as he met fans, many of whom had memorabilia for him to sign.

Among the fans who got the chance to speak to him was Catherine Sills, from Yarm. she wouldn't give me her age

She said: "It's really nice to get the opportunity to meet somebody who we normally see on television and it's great to have the opportunity for him to come up to the North-east - it's fantastic."

Platinum Gallery is owned by Andy and Maureen Close.

Speaking of Rolf's visit Andy said: "It is absolutely amazing."

He added: "We are very proud to come from this region, it speaks volumes that Rolf Harris wants to come to us."

Although Rolf's originals were only in Yarm for one night the prints will be on display at the gallery for a week.

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