

APRIL TO JUNE 2016

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1.Features

Update on Romsey to Abbotswood community based public art project

Nicola Henshaw is a New Forest based artist commissioned by Test Valley Borough Council to work in Romsey on a public art project 'from Romsey to Abbotswood'. Nicola's brief was to engage with and celebrate the Romsey community including the newly established residents of Abbotswood and create public art to link the two communities together.

Designs for work along the barge canal path are now complete and Nicola is hard at work creating the pieces which will be installed this summer. In the green space between the canal and the railway line there will be two benches inspired by memories.

There will also be a series of panels which will form into a mural, and which Nicola is now busy working on in vitreous enamel. She has introduced artwork created during the various community workshops run in Romsey over the past few months, and the panels also include the Romsey community poem.



Trash to Treasure events a runaway success!

Hundreds of people visited Transition Town Romsey's successful Trash to Treasure exhibition and workshops held at Romsey Abbey in February and March. The public drop-in sessions used everyday household waste materials to create fabulous new objects.

If you missed the exhibition the 'recycling' sculptures will be on display at Earth Fest on 22 May at Minstead Study Centre.

Anyone who was inspired by the event and who would like to be involved in future Transition Town Romsey's Recycled Art Projects please contact:

Pamela@shadow26.plus.com for more information.

2.Workshops

Community workshops coming up at The Lights:

As part of our Arts Council England supported Public Art projects, The Lights is offering a series of FREE drop-in workshops over the coming months:



Community Arts Workshop Saturday, 23 April, 11am – 1pm

Come and share your memories from a decade of creativity, entertainment and community at The Lights. Join us to kick-start a special community arts project to celebrate our tenth anniversary. Get creative with illustrator Emily and photographer Richard as they capture your special moments, memories and hopes for the future of The Lights and its role at the heart of the arts scene in Andover.



Our Andover – Community Photography Workshop **Thursday, 2 June, 11am – 2pm**



We will be photographing 'Our Andover' on Thursday 2nd June from 11am - 2pm.

We want to capture what Andover means to you as part of our tenth birthday celebrations for The Lights. So, we'd like you to bring along any images you have from the past decade that you want to share which show a changing Andover (electronic or printed). We will also

be running a photography workshop to create a series of images illustrating 'Andover today and into the future'.

We'll have props and equipment on hand, and the workshop is designed for all ages to get involved.

The session will mix photography and illustration and will be led by artists Emily Harper and Richard Wisby.

New Spoken Word café opens in Stockbridge

On Sunday, 24 April a new spoken word café will be launched in Stockbridge at the Grosvenor hotel. Organisers Cat Randle and Gavin Ketchin based this café format on the successful Teapoet Café in Romsey.



Spoken word cafes are based on the 'jam not slam' model. It is a supportive, easy going afternoon where people are encouraged to have a go. The café suits budding poets and experienced performers. Spoken words

of all styles including jokes, flash fiction, short stories, shaggy dog tales, ballads, haiku and banter are all welcome.

Open Word will be running from 1.30pm to 4pm on the following Sundays throughout 2016: 24 April 'New Beginnings', 22 May 'The Monarchy', 19 June 'Mythical Beasts', 24 July 'Families', 28 August 'Driving', 25 September 'Autumn Hues & Blues'.

Children's Half Term Workshops at The Lights



The Lights Theatre in Andover is more than just a venue aimed at adults; it also provides a range of activities and shows to introduce children to the magic of theatre, dance, drama and live performance in a bright and modern environment.

There are a range of workshops aimed at children ages 2-12:

Wednesday, 1 June, 10:30am
MacDonald's Farm – Movement workshop for children aged 2-4
£4 (ticket price inclusive of accompanying adult, older siblings welcome)

Thursday, 2 June, 9.30am & 1pm
The Very Hungry Caterpillar – Story-telling workshop for children aged 2-5
£5 (ticket price inclusive of accompanying adult, older siblings welcome)

Friday, 3 June, 10am
Rock & Roll, Jump & Jive – dance workshop where children aged 8-12 years can learn to jive like the rock n roll stars of the 1950's.
£8.50

Wednesday, 1 June, 10.30am – 3.30pm
Creature Feature – animated movie making workshop for ages 7-11
£18.50

Thursday, 2 June, 1 – 3 pm
Inside the Toybox – dance workshop
Dance workshop – can you dance like a dolly or rock like a robot? Learn new skills. For children aged 5-7
£8.50

Friday, 3 June, 10am
Junk Storytelling – The Owl and the Pussycat
Let your creativity out and make something out of junk and create a puppet show. For ages 5-7 years.
£10

3.Events



Art in the Park, Romsey War Memorial Park 9 July

Organised by Friends of Romsey War Memorial Park as part of the Beggar's Fair, artists/art clubs or groups can book a length of fencing in the park which will take approximately 6 medium size paintings. The exhibition will run from 10am – 4pm. There is no fee, but a donation towards Romsey Festival expenses (2017) will be much appreciated.

For enquiries or a booking form please contact Dorothy Baverstock: 01794 517552 or email: dorothy.baverstock@btinternet.com

Space is limited and an early response would be appreciated.

Andover Farmer's and Crafts Market

Andover Farmers' and *Crafts Market*

Dates for 2016

- Sunday 20 March
- Sunday 17 April
- Sunday 15 May
- Sunday 19 June
- Sunday 17 July
- Sunday 21 August
- Sunday 18 September
- Sunday 16 October
- Sunday 20 November
- Sunday 18 December

The Andover Farmers' and Crafts Markets will run throughout 2016, and are part of a broader programme of events planned to encourage people to visit Andover High Street and support the town.

These markets are an important part of the calendar of events in Andover High Street. They involve local farmers and traders within our community and encourage people to keep things local.

Test Valley
Borough Council



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www.testvalley.gov.uk

2016 dates listed here, pitches available at £10 per month, contact hwhittam@testvalley.gov.uk or call 01264 368814.



Spring Art Show at King John's House, Church Street, Romsey with work exhibited by Leo Deville, Richard Paul, Neal Griffin and Eri Urushidani.

Summer exhibition at The Garden Gallery, Broughton,

To celebrate the 2016 tercentenary of the birth of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown, VisitEngland is promoting the 'Year of the English Garden', and the Garden Gallery in Broughton is running a special focus in the indoor gallery on new work by Charlotte Mayer FRBS. The exhibition will open on Saturday, 14 May (Private View 11 – 5) and run until 9 July on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 11 – 5. More information is available from www.gardengallery.uk.com



Quiver by Charlotte Mayer FRBS (bronze, photo: Steve Russell courtesy Gallery Pangolin)

Live, Laugh, Love Test Valley

Live, Laugh, Love Test Valley is a new community photography project, launched by Test Valley Arts Foundation, which aims to share the beauty of the borough and serve as a platform for aspiring and professional photographers.

The project also aims to unite the towns of Andover, Stockbridge and Romsey and the surrounding villages by depicting their natural beauty and varied history. The project will provide a central location where photographs of Test Valley can be posted and shared. In addition, it is hoped that vintage family photos will provide a fascinating glimpse into the past.

Test Valley Arts Foundation will launch the project at The Lights, Andover, on Wednesday, 27 April from 6pm to 8.30pm. Guests will be able to view some of the project's photographs on the new Live, Laugh, Love Test Valley website: www.livelaughlovetestvalley.com/ as well as take part in photography workshops. Sue Morris, an award winning wildlife photographer, will be the guest speaker at the event.

If you would like to reserve a ticket for the launch, please visit www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/live-laugh-love-test-valley-launch-tickets-23040218915 or email Sue Messa: sue@testvalleyarts.org at Test Valley Arts Foundation.

4. Opportunities

Public Art Commissions with Test Valley Borough Council in 2016

There are a number of exciting projects in the pipeline at Test Valley Borough Council that we thought we'd share with you now. We are looking for artists and arts companies that might be interested in delivering projects in the summer of 2016 in Andover to register their interest with us now.

There are a few projects lined up that we are awaiting confirmation of funding for before we proceed, but in the mean time would like to start seeing who's out there that might be interested in getting involved. These projects include:

Urban Realm

Urban Realm will be a new public art commission that highlights the pedestrian route from The Lights Theatre in Andover to the town centre. We are looking for a lead artist who is experienced in public art projects that work with light and colour, as well as leading participatory work with communities as this will form a key part of the commission.

There will also be an opportunity for an artist to be mentored and take a role in the participatory programme. Closing date **Friday 20 May**.

East Anton Public Art Commission Test Valley Borough Council wish to commission two public art works for the significant new East Anton housing development in Andover. The works of art will draw on the heritage of the site as ancient agricultural land, create a landmark meeting place that is integrated into the landscape and provide focal points for communities to come together and explore. Closing date **Friday 29 April**

For more information please visit:

www.testvalley.gov.uk/resident/communityandleisure/artsandculture/publicart/public-art-commissions/

If you or your arts company would like to know more about these projects, and to make sure that you receive the artist briefs and full application details then please send us your email now and let us know which of the projects you are interest in: hwhittam@testvalley.gov.uk

CALLING ALL ARTISTS, CALLING ALL COMMUNITIES AND COMMUNITY GROUPS... 25 EVENTS TO CELEBRATE 25 YEARS



This year, Test Valley Arts Foundation (TVAF) is celebrating its 25th anniversary and is planning a whole host of activities from 1 September until 17 November. The Arts Bus will tour the borough providing 25 days of art activities acting as a hub for any number of different events: workshops, masterclasses, musical presentations, poetry, drama, arts and crafts and more. The bus can visit you for a morning, an afternoon, an evening, or all day.

The bus is already booked for 4 days at Mottisfont as part of their Artist at the Observatory exhibition and the closing event will be a Gala Night at The Lights in Andover on Thursday 17 November. It is also planned to exhibit works of art produced at these events at The Lights.

TVAF are issuing a call to all local artists who would like to participate to contact us to let us know how and what they can contribute.

Communities/community groups: if you would like the bus to visit you to host events in your town, village, community or school, please also contact TVAF to add it into their calendar.

They are anticipating a huge response so to participate in the TVAF 25th Anniversary celebrations please contact them via their website, www.testvalleyarts.org

Have we got your correct contact details?



We share this newsletter directly to our **Test Valley Creative** email database of artists and arts organisations and also via Facebook and Twitter. If you would like to make sure you are on our list and that we have the correct email address for you then please drop a note to:

tmckenzie-robinson@testvalley.gov.uk

Please send any items for inclusion in the next edition by Friday, 8 July, to Tracey McKenzie-Robinson, tmckenzie-robinson@testvalley.gov.uk