

# HAPPENINGS

January 2008



## **Welcome**

Jason opened the meeting by welcoming everybody and wishing them all a Happy New Year.

Rebecca McCready announced that there was an exhibition at the Peoples' Theatre in Newcastle and invited members to attend the private view on 21st January at 6pm. If anybody wants a lift home afterwards please see Rebecca in advance.

Subscriptions are now due (£2 per year) and Jason and Rebecca emphasized that early payment would be greatly appreciated.

Jason informed the meeting that Laura Mathieson had been awarded a First Aid Certificate from the Great North Ambulance Service and was now qualified to mend broken people! Eddie Galvin reminded us that he would be available throughout the evening and at the next meeting also if anybody wanted to produce a family tree as part of the Woodhorn project which Ira Lightman had previously demonstrated.

The monthly showcase consisted of six pieces of work, one by Laura Mathieson which she later went on to explain.

Claire Cooper announced that she was going to do another "paintathon" - date and venue to be announced - in order that she and her family can go to China to support the charity which she talked about at a previous meeting. She invited sponsorship for this event.

Jason stressed that the next meeting was the AGM at which we would have to elect new officers. We would, as a minimum, need **a chairman, a secretary and a treasurer**. Nominations for these posts should be given to the present secretary (Rebecca McCready) as soon as possible. We are urgently going to need a treasurer since Alan Vinters is not seeking re-election.

## **Groups**

**Photography Group** Wednesday  
January 16th - 6.30pm Pride of Northumbria.

**Writer's Group** Thursday January 17th -  
6.30pm The New Ship, Gibson Street.

**Reading Group** Wednesday January  
23rd - 7pm Newbiggin Library.

**Painting Group** Tuesdays from 1pm until  
3pm in the Salvation Army Hall, Robinson Square.

**Next Meeting Monday  
4th February at  
7.00pm**

**AGM  
&  
A Touch of  
Percussion**

## **Kid's Forum**

At the Kids Arts Forum we did Columbian Rock Art this month & also awarded an MP3 player for the best crayon drawing which was won by an image of a Sea King Helicopter. Next month we will be doing decoupage – making Valentine Cards.



## **Pot Glazing**

After a brief explanation about glaze painting members were invited to glaze the pots they had made at a previous meeting. Some pots were not claimed so volunteers glazed them so that they would not miss the kiln firing. It is hoped that they will be ready in time for the next meeting in February.

## **Wansbeck Matters**

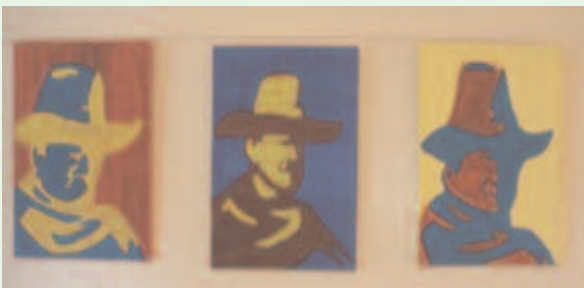


Jason introduced Carol Fife who explained that she represented the Wansbeck Matters who demonstrate “proggy” and “hooky” at Woodhorn Museum on Thursdays from 12 to 2pm and at Bedlington Community Centre on Mondays from 1 to 3pm. She distinguished the two by saying in proggy you work on the back to produce a shaggy front but in hooky the front and back both look the same. She said that work could be very traditional or could be more “wacky”. She explained where the materials that were used came from, how a lot of them are dyed and how these days the process is called ‘recycling’ where once upon a time it was called ‘making do’. In her sample bag of materials she would have wools, fleece (jackets), utility blankets, etc. She made suggestions about where to collect materials and how to amass various sources. Sometimes what is done is determined by the materials available but could include rugs, mats, and practical things like stool covers. She showed us a selection of different works including Caspar (a silk worm?), pictures and a selection of fashion show proggy bags made by young children. She mentioned that the boys tended to take to the process more enthusiastically than the girls. Carol’s talk was interesting and illuminating and presented with great enthusiasm and an obvious concern for recycling and the environment.

## **Shepherds Dene Exhibition**

Pete Seddon gave a brief account of what had been happening during the day at Shepherds Dene. He had been helped by Alan Vinters, Richard Starkie and Eva Hartley.

All the work submitted for the exhibition had been hung and will now remain until April 6th (or thereabouts). An Open Day has been arranged for Sunday 24th February 2pm until 5pm. Refreshments will be available and Shepherds Dene invites contributions rather than making a charge. They also have a large guest invitation list to which they will add any guests we wish to invite. So if you wish to invite anybody to the Open Day please let Pete Seddon have their names and addresses as soon as possible. We are hoping to hire a minibus to take a party of us to the Open Day. There will be a small charge to cover the cost of bus hire and fuel. If you wish to reserve a place on the minibus you must do this at the February meeting. Eva Hartley was one of the helpers and had taken some quick snapshots of the exhibition which were showing on a laptop. It is intended to go back to Shepherds Dene to take a more comprehensive collection of photographs which will be shown in due course. Anybody wishing to travel to Shepherds Dene independently note that the address is Shepherds Dene, Riding Mill, Northumberland, NE44 6AF (From the A1 take the A68 and turn left onto the A695 for Riding Mill. Turn left in Riding Mill for Shepherds Dene (signposted).) It is 38 miles from Newbiggin.



## **AGM**

The February meeting is the AGM and we really need to have considered the position of committee members by then. If you wish to be considered for a position on the Steering Committee or you wish to nominate somebody who you think will do a good job this really needs to be done urgently. Proposals and seconds are needed for the Chair, the Vice Chair, the Secretary, the Treasurer and up to three committee members with specific responsibilities such as PR and Representative on the CAP. If you wish to nominate somebody please make sure they are willing to stand. There is a form at the end of this newsletter that you may wish to use. Please let Rebecca McCready know before the February AGM meeting.

## **Contacts**

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**Pete Seddon** - Newsletter & Exhibitions  
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**Rebecca de'Wessington** - PR -  
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# ***PROPOSAL FORM for Election of Committee***

***Nominee      Proposed by      Seconded by***

**CHAIR** \_\_\_\_\_

**VICE CHAIR** \_\_\_\_\_

**SECRETARY** \_\_\_\_\_

**TREASURER** \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBER** \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBER** \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBER** \_\_\_\_\_