

# HAPPENINGS

September 2007



## Welcome

Jason Thompson hosted the September Forum meeting and began by thanking everybody who helped with the Summer Spectacular. He drew attention to the Wansbeck Heritage Weekend, the Pitman Painters play in Newcastle, the forthcoming concert at St. Bartholomew's Church and reminded us of the various meetings whose dates appear elsewhere in this newsletter. He also announced that Eddie Galvin had resigned as chair of the Forum to avoid conflicts with his NEArts business. Jason reassured everybody that Eddie would still be an active member of the Forum and Jason hoped to continue in his role as vice chair until elections could be held at the AGM.

## Summer Spectacular

The Summer Spectacular on September 2nd was a great success, despite the weather! The Sports Centre provided the venue and saw a steady stream of visitors all day.

More than 500 people attended to take part in a range of events including painting a community mural, glazing a pot in the Raku workshop, dancing with Tribal Fusion and singing with 20,000 Voices. There were stalls, giant games and face painting, plus an impressive exhibition of work produced by members of the Forum during the last year.

The newly formed KEAP group of artists featured prominently, with various members running workshops and volunteering

for the Forum.

When the mural is finished it will be on display around Newbiggin. Many thanks to all the volunteers and to Alcan who sponsored the event.



## **Music at St. Bartholomew's**

Arrangements are already being made for next year's programme of summer Concerts. The following have agreed to appear and further details will be published as soon as possible.

**The Blyth Music and Theatre Company Singers, Heavenly Harps, Werca's Folk, The New Tyneside Orchestra, A selection of local talented young musicians, previous winners of the Wansbeck Music Festival and North Wind.**

## **Groups**

The next **Creative Writing Group** meeting is on Thursday 20th September at 6.30pm at the New Ship, Gibson Street.

The next **Photography Group** meeting is on 20th September at 6.30pm at Pride of Northumbria.

The next **Adult Reading Group** meeting is on Wednesday September 19th at 7pm at the Library. Bring your favourite book.

The **Painting Group** will continue to meet every Tuesday from 12 noon until 4pm at The Healthy Living Centre. (Peoples' House).

The next **Kids' Arts Forum** meeting is on Monday October 1st at 5pm in Simonside Hall.

## **Arts Forum Major Art Exhibitions**

The Arts Forum has negotiated with **Woodhorn Museum** to have an exhibition from September 2008 until January 2009. We are still negotiating with **Shepherd's Dene** - further details to come later. The following have expressed an interest in exhibiting. If you are interested and your name is not on the list below please let Pete Seddon (01670 817029) know as soon as possi-

ble and in any event before the end of September.

Claire Cooper  
Ian Robinson  
Margaret Field  
John Fox  
Barbara Clough  
George Hart  
Alan Keilty  
Patricia Wilson  
Alan Driver  
Pip Driver  
Pamela Shears  
Eva Hartley  
Keith Tait  
Alan Vinters  
Peter Seddon  
Stephen Williamson  
Linda Brash

You will be contacted soon with further details.

## **One Day For Newbiggin**

The big day has been and gone and you are asked to submit your photographs before the end of September. We have negotiated an exhibition at **Woodhorn Museum** from June 2008 until September 2008. We are also hoping to have an exhibition at the **Newbiggin Sailing Club** in the last week of November. A selection of the photographs already submitted is on the One Day For Newbiggin website ([www.onedayfornewbiggin.co.uk](http://www.onedayfornewbiggin.co.uk)).

## **Batik Workshop**

Claire Cooper demonstrated one way of producing a piece of Batik and invited everybody to have a go. The following pictures illustrate the enthusiastic approach of Forum members.



## **Visiting Speakers**

This was Claire Cooper night. Claire talked about her recent visit to China and illustrated her talk with a slideshow and a couple of videos. She drew our attention to the charity International China Concern working with Eagles Mount Adventures. The charity provided help to mainly abandoned children (usually as a consequence of disabilities) by providing a camp for a few weeks. The camp included arts and crafts, sports and games. Claire explained the background of some of the disabled children. The survival rate was now up to about 80% but the workers are stretched to the limit. She asked for sponsorship when she "Walks the Wall" on September 29th.

**Next Meeting**  
**Monday 1st October**  
**at 7.00pm**  
**THE BIG**  
**DRAW**

### **Contacts**

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