



# HAPPENINGS

September / October 2006



To encourage and facilitate the furtherment and enjoyment of the Arts and Crafts  
within the community



## **WELCOME**

Hello all and a big welcome to the latest news letter of the Newbiggin by the sea Arts forum HAPPENINGS. This edition covers both the September & October meeting so there's plenty to read & get involved with.

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## SEPTEMBER MEETING

Singing workshop – Ann Suggatt 20,000 voices 01665 606280  
[info@20000voices.org](mailto:info@20000voices.org) [www.20000voices.org](http://www.20000voices.org)



Ann Suggatt & colleague led a singing workshop. Almost everyone at the meeting took part the general feeling was on intense nervousness at the thought of singing in front of other people. The workshop began with some loosening up exercises & breathing exercises. We then moved on to making simple noises & getting

used to the sound of noises coming out of our mouths. Ann wisely chose a verse that most of us recognised – “Swing low sweet Chariot” which we all sang together. To start us off Ann gave us the key note & asked us to try & match it but not to worry if we could not. A slightly sceptical group got stuck in. We then sang a verse of “When the saints go marching in” .

Once we were comfortable with that and as our confidence grew we then learned a verse which was new to most of us “I’m going to sing”. By this time people had relaxed & were smiling, laughing & the energy levels were flowing. This then led to final stage as we split into 3 groups & sang each part at the same time. I happened to leave the group for a couple of minutes on my return I was amazed

at how good it all sounded & I was not the only one. A passer by had stopped in his tracks to listen & was clearly impressed.

The workshop was a massive success & exceeded everyone's expectations. If you were not there please talk to someone who was they will tell you it was great. You will find details of courses run by 20,000 voices below. There has been some discussion about the prospects of the Arts Forum becoming involved in a Community choir – if this something that you would like to get involved with please contact us [enquiries@newbigginartsforum.org](mailto:enquiries@newbigginartsforum.org)



More information can be found on our website at [www.20000voices.org](http://www.20000voices.org) or please get in touch if you require any further details.

#### Vocal Study Day

Leader: David Murray and Eileen Bown

Saturday 21 October, 10.30 – 5.30

Venue: Biddick School, Washington

Fee: £22 / £20 concessions

20,000 Voices presents this workshop for choral singers, which will look at early 17th century music including works by Purcell. The study day will include careful study of the music, a brief introduction to the life and work of Purcell, and will

culminate in an informal performance accompanied by strings and harpsichord. There will be opportunities for a few singers to take a solo line. For information and bookings contact 20,000 Voices – 01665 606280, [info@20000voices.org](mailto:info@20000voices.org) , [www.20000voices.org](http://www.20000voices.org)

Children's Singing Workshop  
with Glenn & Alyson Chaney  
Friday 27 October  
Venue: Prudhoe West First School, 2.00 – 4.30  
Fee: £4 first child, £3 additional siblings

20,000 Voices presents a lively and imaginative workshop packed with warm-ups, actions, and lots of exciting new songs to sing. If you are aged 7-13 and enjoy singing come along and join in the fun. For information and bookings contact 20,000 Voices – 01665 606280, [info@20000voices.org](mailto:info@20000voices.org) , [www.20000voices.org](http://www.20000voices.org)

Family Singing Workshop  
with Glenn & Alyson Chaney  
Saturday 28 October - 10.30 – 1.00  
Venue: Prudhoe West First School  
Fee: £10 for one adult plus one child or £15 per family group (max 2 adults, 4 children)

20,000 Voices presents a singing workshop where the whole family can get involved. Glenn & Alyson know lots of fun songs, and you'll have a great time learning to sing them together. Suitable for children aged 6-13 and adults of any age! All children must be accompanied by an adult. For information and bookings contact 20,000 Voices – 01665 606280, [info@20000voices.org](mailto:info@20000voices.org) , [www.20000voices.org](http://www.20000voices.org)

Mend Your Voice  
with Susan Hollingworth  
Saturday 11 November, 10.30am – 4.30pm  
Venue: Mowbray First School, Guidepost  
Fee: £22 / £20 concessions

This 20,000 Voices workshop is an introduction to improving singing technique and developing good habits to improve vocal production. It is suitable for all singers who sing regularly and want to make the most of their voices.

For information and bookings contact 20,000 Voices – 01665 606280, [info@20000voices.org](mailto:info@20000voices.org) , [www.20000voices.org](http://www.20000voices.org)

100,000 Voices – a celebration  
with Benny Graham, Johnny Handle and Mouthful  
Saturday 25 November, 10.00am – 5.00pm  
Venue: Woodhorn Museum, Ashington  
Fee: £25 / £23 concessions

20,000 Voices celebrates reaching 100,000 singers. There'll be a choice of workshops – led by Benny Graham, Johnny Handle and members of the a cappella quartet Mouthful (Bex Mather, Katherine Zeserson, Sharon Durant and Dave Camlin) – plus performances and a 'big sing'. Join us for a great day of singing for fun.

For information and bookings contact 20,000 Voices – 01665 606280, [info@20000voices.org](mailto:info@20000voices.org) , [www.20000voices.org](http://www.20000voices.org)

## **OCTOBER MEETING**

Drawing workshop



As part of the nationwide Arts campaign “The Big Draw” we held a drawing workshop. This was introduced by Pete Seddon & facilitated by Claire Cooper /Keith Tait & Alan Driver. The workshop was based on the concept of vanishing points and their use in order to create accurate perspective. It was made clear that this is a technique which can help you to produce drawings with more realism, but it was also made clear that unless you wanted to produce a technical drawing then some leeway should be taken into account.

Despite the conundrum as to the artistic merit the results for those involved were excellent & for some people who did not believe they could draw they were able within the 30 minutes we took to produce a recognisable picture of a row of houses. A great place to start. If you were one of those who took part, why not try & apply the theory to produce another drawing & bring it along to the next meeting.

## Speakers

Brenda Longstaff – Wansbeck Hospital – “Community”  
[Brenda.Longstaff@northumbria-healthcare.nhs.uk](mailto:Brenda.Longstaff@northumbria-healthcare.nhs.uk)



Brenda returned to give us more information about a collaboration project to put our art work into Wansbeck hospital. We have been asked to think about producing work with the theme of “Community”. It is hoped that a full brief will be available at the November meeting which will set out exactly what is required. We will need around 30

images to choose a final 15 from. It is a very prestigious offer & I hope we can rise to the occasion.



Nicholas Baumfield Cultural Services Manager, Leisure Services department, Wansbeck District Council. Email: [n.baumfield@wansbeck.gov.uk](mailto:n.baumfield@wansbeck.gov.uk)

Nicholas gave us a very informative talk which included a brief biog of his experience covering his dissertation & including some poetry which was well received. Nicholas has been very supportive of the forum since its inception and indicated that he would like us to

get involved in hosting a Wansbeck wide community arts group conference – details to follow. If anyone is interested in facilitating or taking part in this, please contact Eddie Galvin [enquiries@newbigginartsforum.org](mailto:enquiries@newbigginartsforum.org)

## **NEXT MEETING**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November

For the next forum meeting as you will see from the next workshop will be a Christmas Crafts workshop

## **ACTIVITIES**

### **Upcoming events**

### **Future trips**

Sunderland Glass Centre Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November Newbiggin Sports centre 10.00am returning around 4.45 /5.00pm We will be looking to take a deposit on the night, so for future meetings, make sure you have some change available. Please note that if you are unable to make the trip the deposit is non-refundable.

### **Publicity**

Please find attached details of the first Newbiggin Arts Forum Fayre & the flyer for our meeting in November. I would ask that you publicise these meetings as widely as you can & in particular that you try & come to the Arts Fayre & bring someone with you. Entry is free, there are refreshments available and the work available will be by local artists. Can you put a copy of these flyers in your window at home. I believe it's a great way to promote the forum to our neighbours & to show just how many of us support the arts in Newbiggin. If you would like to exhibit your work at the fayre please contact me as soon as possible.

### **Ambassadors**

As we grow, it is important that we all act as ambassadors for the arts in Newbiggin. This will be a very busy month for us and as a group it's important to us to be as inclusive as possible. I would ask you to talk to your friends, neighbours, colleagues & family and tell them about the forum, tell them about what we do the workshops, trips & invite them along to the arts fayre. The more people we can get involved the better it will be for the whole village.

### **Groups**

## Newly appointed Small Groups Co-Ordinator



Keith Tait has been appointed to work with the groups within the forum. Specifically Keith's role will be to work with individuals who want to set up their own groups to pursue their interests in more detail including organisation, venue booking, & publicity. Anyone who has an idea for a group please contact Keith at

[enquiries@newbigginartsforum.org](mailto:enquiries@newbigginartsforum.org) or at the next meeting. We are particularly keen to start groups in performance art/drama, needlecraft/textiles and music.

\*\*\*\*\*We are very keen to develop a performing arts group – this will cover a wide variety of activities including drama / shadow theatre/ juggling / pantomime and loads more – if you would like to get involved drop me a line\*\*\*\*\*

### Photography group

We are trying to arrange photo essays with The Newbiggin WI & the RNLI dates to be confirmed. We have also been asked to visit the painting group their next all day meetings which run from 10.00am-4.00pm are on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October or November 25<sup>th</sup> (this is also the St.Barts Christmas Fayre). One date I can confirm for the diary is the Newbiggin Sailing Club competition on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> of December at the QEII park. I suggest we agree a time to meet on each day. More details at the November meeting. Contact Eddie Galvin [enquiries@newbigginartsforum.org](mailto:enquiries@newbigginartsforum.org)

### Painters Group

The Painters group continues to go from strength to strength they meet every Tuesday from 12.00 until 4pm & the last Saturday of the month from 10.00am until 4.00pm at the Healthy Living Centre/ People's house. Everyone is welcome no experience necessary. If you enjoyed the drawing workshop, you should come along - they have been known to try & paint music – with surprisingly good results.

## Children's Art Competition

With the considerable help of Claire Cooper, Newbiggin Schools & Newbiggin Library we have launched a children's art competition. The hope is that we will then be able to use this as a springboard to launch a Kids Art forum probably starting in early 2007. If you know if anyone who might want to enter this, please pass the details on. If you feel this is something that you want to get involved with, we are hoping to hold a planning meeting on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November

## Volunteers Needed



### Arts fayre 26/11/06

Members of the group are invited to submit work for the Fayre a £7.50 deposit which is returnable is required to book exhibition space. Unfortunately we cannot provide any insurance on the pieces submitted.

Anyone wanting to volunteer to help with this November's arts fayre

should contact Laura Matheison - [MthsnLaura@aol.com](mailto:MthsnLaura@aol.com). The Fayre is on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November we will be opening up to artists from 10.00am & the public from 11.00am until 4.00pm. Volunteers will need to be there at 10.00am.

## Surestart

Sure Start is a Government programme which aims to achieve better outcomes for children, parents and communities by:

- increasing the availability of childcare for all children
- improving health and emotional development for young children
- supporting parents as parents and in their aspirations towards employment.

We have been asked to take part in Family Learning week by running art based activity sessions for parents with their children on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October from 12.45- 2.45pm, Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October am from 09.30 - 11.00 and Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October from 09.30-11.15.

My email is: [Marjorie.Charrada@nch.org.uk](mailto:Marjorie.Charrada@nch.org.uk)

Julie Ayres email is [Julie.Ayre@nch.org.uk](mailto:Julie.Ayre@nch.org.uk)

Surestart – if anyone would like to offer help with running small arts workshops for 1-5year olds please contact me or Alison Cross - ([Allison.Cross@nch.org.uk](mailto:Allison.Cross@nch.org.uk))  
These are simple activities and we would need you for a couple of hours on an ad hoc basis. They hope to run Christmas crafts workshops every Tuesday afternoon for the next 10 weeks, so if you can spare the time and want an excuse to do some finger painting & glitter activities, get in touch.

Sure Start Programme Co-ordinator  
Sure Start Childrens Centre Newbiggin  
Cleveland Avenue  
Newbiggin by the Sea  
NE64 6RR  
Tel: 01670 812751

PUMPKINS - IS IT ART??????????

On Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October at the People's House / Healthy living Centre – Woodhorn road we will preparing Pumpkins for a passionate about Wansbeck event to be held on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Anyone interested in helping out please let me know otherwise it's just going to be me & a spoon!!!!!! If you come along you can also join the ceramics / painting group so why not spend a day being arty!

RNLI – FUNDRAISER

You are all cordially invited to a Quiz night on Saturday October 7<sup>th</sup> at Newbiggin Sailing Club for The RNLI. Teams of six people cost only £4.00 per person which includes Pie & Peas. If you fancy a challenge why go along. If you like the facilities then you can also become a social member of the sailing club for only £5!!!!!!!!!!!!

Temporary Address

A month long visual arts event 30/09 -29/10 in Ashington Details from the library

Temporary Address is a one month contemporary art event taking place in Ashington and Blyth in October 2006 being curated in each town by a group of artists based in the region; in Ashington by Disco and in Blyth by rednile. Each artists' group is curating a programme of contemporary art, including new temporary public art commissions, and working with young post 16 art students. It aims have been to develop critical awareness of art in public places by residents in Blyth, and Ashington; to invest in young artists' creative talents and to provide an inspirational learning experience for all those involved.

Seven Stories Centre for Children's Books

Ouseburn Valley [www.sevenstories.org.uk](http://www.sevenstories.org.uk)

**Seven Stories, the Centre for Children's Books is now open to visitors of all ages.**

Seven Stories is where our rich heritage of British children's books is collected, explored and celebrated. Books are our inspiration for all kinds of exhibitions, activities and events, for seeing and hearing, making and doing, writing and drawing, music and drama and much more.

Groundwork Northumberland

Central Park

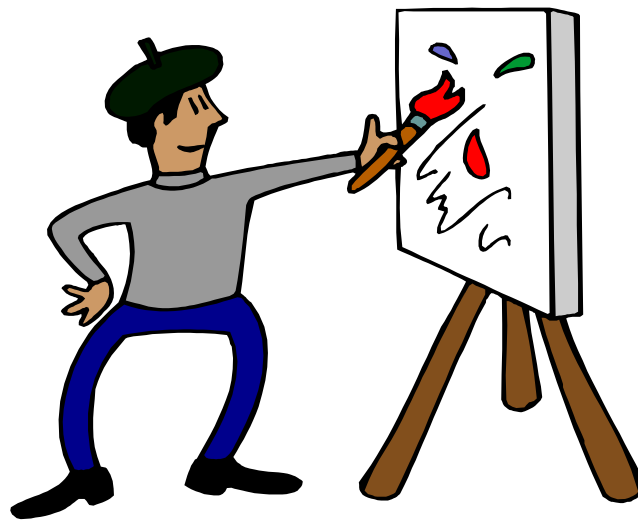
Come along & try your hand at a variety of free craft activities, see what you can make to take home! There is also the chance to have your say about your local green space. You could even join the Wansbeck Environmental Action team & help improve Wansbeck's green Space.

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November 11.00am -3.00pm Marquee behind Newbiggin Sports Centre

# Art



# Competition



## Get Arty! have a go!

Draw, paint, photograph, write, sculpt, collage, sew – it's up to you!

Open to children and young people living in or studying in Newbiggin.

More details and application forms from:-

The website <http://www.newbigginartsforum.org>

Your School, The Healthy Living centre, Newbiggin Library

Or contact Claire Cooper [claire@newbigginartsforum.org](mailto:claire@newbigginartsforum.org) /

01670811215