

ARTS NEWS, April and May 2021

South Northamptonshire area, West Northamptonshire Council



**West
Northamptonshire
Council**

Welcome to the first **Arts News** of the new **West Northamptonshire** unitary authority, compiled by the Arts Development Officer of what was SNC's Healthy Communities team (which hasn't changed). The intention remains the same, providing arts news for the south of the county and nearby.

n.b. Links to websites and emails will show when you hover your cursor over underlined words – click or press to open.

Visual Arts

The Heseltine Gallery

The gallery team of volunteers and Project Manager are celebrating a very productive year, moving the exhibitions online a year ago, developing a huge new social media community in addition to the Friends and preparing for reopening the actual gallery with new signage and a programme of exhibitions from September, including an Open Exhibition for local artists. If you prefer information by email or post, email friends@theheseltinegallery.org.uk to become a member.

- **Continuing to 10 April:** online exhibition [HANDS. FACE. SPACE. Find Your PLACE](#) has themes of *Friends & Family, Impact & Mental Health* and *Animal Companions*. Artists and young aspiring artists are invited to exhibit: express your feelings through **portraiture**. Paint, draw or capture someone's face, or your own and show us how they or you are feeling. 'Find your place' - express yourself through art, let off some steam and enjoy the therapy that art can bring.
- **#LOVEArt** blog has two new personal stories of art journeys and self-expression, by painter [Roger Shapley](#) and textile/multi-media artist [Lis Mann](#). Be inspired yourself with the themes suggested in [SPARK THE ART](#), or by the artists [In The Spotlight](#).

Vitreus Art, Towcester

Gallery shop at Bell Plantation is open and workshops with restricted numbers will recommence in May. Classes with places available (as of end of March):

21 May - Printing Without a Press with Clare Tebboth for Beginners

22 May - Stained Glass Copper Foil 3d 1-day course for Beginners

23 May - Scented Candles for Beginners

More in June. [All classes and courses](#)

[Yardley Arts](#), Yardley Hastings

Reopening for art and craft classes and workshops from 18 May. Open the link for details. Numbers will be restricted so book soon!

Flower T Pot

New art group coming to Nether Heyford, just as soon as lockdown is over!. An opportunity for local people to draw, paint and share their interest in art with others in a friendly

environment. Get those brushes and pastels out and join us for three care-free hours on Thursday mornings to enjoy the artistic zone together. £15 per session, includes coffee/tea and homemade cake. Baptist Rooms, Nether Heyford, 10am -1pm. Please contact Veneeta Rayner (veneetar@icloud.com) or Clare Slater (slaterac33@gmail.com) for information and to reserve your place: 07729 105584 / 07716 410344.

Forge Coffee, Culworth & Evenley

1 – 30 April: Paintings by **Jenny Le Blique** at Culworth (open 9am-4pm Monday to Saturday, 9am-3pm on Sundays) and by **Alexa Roscoe** at Evenley, jewellery too (open 9am-4:30pm Monday to Friday, 9am-4pm on Saturdays and 9am-3pm on Sundays).

1 – 31 May: Lizzie Coulter and Liz Dixon joint exhibition of mixed media work, etchings & jewellery at Culworth. For more information go to the events page: <https://www.forgecoffee.co.uk/whats-on>

1 -23 May Oxfordshire Art Weeks

Art and craft to enjoy and for sale across Oxfordshire and online.

Performing Arts

Steve Knightley Live Online – Saturday 17 April

Firebrand Music & Shutlanger Music Events present a live customised Shutlanger concert from Steve Knightley's studio, with a zoom "meet and greet" afterwards for those who would like to talk to him. YouTube download option. What's more it's a request show and if you would like a mention then he will do that as well. [Tickets](#) with a donation option to [Northamptonshire Music & Performing Arts Trust](#). Queries and requests: office@djsmithbookkeeping.co.uk.



Friday 16 to Sunday 18 April

[Folk Weekend Oxford](#) brings you a jam-packed weekend of top-notch folk music and dance, all available to be beamed straight into your very own living room through the sorcery of the internet. Over 30

hours of music streamed from our [Facebook page](#) (see the line-up [here](#)), regular video drops throughout the weekend on our [YouTube channel](#), and sessions on all three days on our dedicated session channel. See the programme and book tickets [here](#).

Jazz @The Walnut

Weekly Sunday lunchtime jazz recommences at The Walnut Tree, Blisworth, on **Sunday 23 May 23**, with **Dave Browning's Jazz Cats**. High energy traditional and New Orleans jazz. Tickets £15 in advance. Call 01604 858549 or email tadjazzfriends@gmail.com to book and for further details. All sessions are 12.30-3pm. Up to 2 households per table of 6.

Royal & Derngate

Now taking bookings for the new season of live performances starting in May. Read the information about seating arrangements before booking, or phone the Box Office on 01604 624811.

[Activities](#) and resources for young people, during lockdown and beyond.

Warts and All Theatre Company Spring Sessions for Young People

WAAT are working in Partnership with Northamptonshire County Council to deliver a series of **FREE** workshops for young people aged 11 to 21 around the impact of COVID 19 on their communities. From [Journaling](#) and mindfulness to [TikTok](#) films and a [Politics Game Show](#), there is something for everyone! Click on the links for information and bookings.

[Brackley Youth Theatre](#)

Airlie Scott's classes return to Egerton Hall, Brackley on Wednesday 21 April for all groups apart from Seniors who meet on 14 April to continue rehearsing their NT Connections' piece "The IT" - smaller roles still available in this production. Classes: Minis (5-7 year olds) 5.15-6.15pm, Juniors (8-11 year olds) 6.30pm-7.30pm and Seniors 7.45-9.15pm. Spaces are filling up for the Summer Term, so book on <https://byt.class4kids.co.uk> now if you are interested as they are limited to just 15 places in each age group under the current guidelines. Two free trials for new students.

The People's Show Choir

A new choir for people who love musical theatre songs will be starting as soon as is permitted, in Turweston. Contact Rey Lear for further information about joining: reylear7@gmail.com.

Literature and Libraries Plus

Towcester Library

is operating a 'click and collect' book service and offering a variety of online activities and reading suggestions for all ages, including the Book Club, Storytime, Rhymetime and more on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/towcesterlibrary>
Link to [Libraries information on the new website](#).

[Oundle Festival of Literature](#)

Online (zoom) author events to enjoy without having to travel to Oundle. Book using the link above. All 8pm – 9pm. Tickets £6. Any queries call Helen on 07743988181 or email oundlelitfestival@hotmail.co.uk

- Tuesday **13 April**: Roger Morgan Grenville: *Liquid Gold; Bees and the Pursuit of Midlife Honey*. After a chance meeting in the pub, Roger Morgan-Grenville and his friend Duncan decide to take up beekeeping. Their enthusiasm is matched only by their ignorance; they are pitched into an arcane world of unexpected challenges.
- Thursday **13 May**: Corinne Sweet: *Everyday Self-Care for Busy Lives series*.
- Tuesday **25 May**: Janet Skeslien Charles: *The Paris Library*.

FILM

[Northampton Filmhouse](#) is currently closed but offering films through a streaming service until live screenings can be restarted.

Community advice and funding sources

The latest information can be found on [South Northants Volunteer Bureau website](#) and you can sign up for the regular newsletter.

Arts information, opportunities and funding: [Arts Council England website](#). Sign up for the newsletter for updates so you don't miss new grant opportunities which have short response deadlines. Also details of how to enjoy many exciting cultural activities and projects from around the country.

[Voluntary Arts](#) is a good source of information, including guidelines on restarting group activities.

[The Culture, Health and Wellbeing Alliance](#) also has a wealth of resources and information.

Our **Healthy Communities web pages** can still be access via the new website from <https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/health-leisure-and-parks> - click on 'Leisure Centres and Sports Clubs', then 'South Northamptonshire'.

Information is current at the time of issue. Please check all organisations' updates, especially if there are changes to government guidance which affect public opening and activities.

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