



Arts News



Issue 16

January 2011

Welcome to the first Arts News of 2011.

We hope you all had a great Christmas break and are launching into the New Year refreshed and ready to go. Despite the general doom and gloom there's a huge amount of really exciting projects going on around the County. We hope you'll find this edition interesting, please pass it on and spread the word, the arts in Worcestershire is thriving, so why not get involved.

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Worcestershire has its dancing feet on with two large scale projects linked to the Olympics.



12 Moves: has brought in a huge amount of external funding into the County, provided employment for 4 local dance tutors and inspired a vast range of local people to take up dancing for the first time through a program of free workshops.



The dance-leaders work each Wednesday in the Wyre Forest, with local groups who may not normally have the opportunity to experience dance. We hope that these people will continue to dance and get involved in the large scale performance which will happen in 2012 as part of the Olympic Celebrations.

To begin to raise awareness of the project SDNA TV created a website <http://www.12moves.com/> and began a series of projections around the County in December.

Click on the link below which will take you to the Shuttle Newspaper article on the projections which happened in Kidderminster on the 11th of December.

http://www.kidderminstershuttle.co.uk/leisure/8734403.Dance_group_projects_images_in_Kidderminster/

The project also has its own facebook page where people are uploading pictures of the projections.



You can find out more about the project on Dancefest's website, http://www.dancefest.co.uk/index.php?12_Moves

How can you get involved, either come to a workshop or if you are a member of a group why not give us a call and we can get you all involved by holding workshops at your venue.

Our timetable for workshops is full until March, we've had a tremendous demand. We will be able to offer local groups workshops after this time, if you would like further details please call Loz Samuels at arts development 01562 732928 or email arts@wyreforestdc.gov.uk.

All workshops in the Wyre Forest are on a Wednesday and free at the following venues:

For young people aged between 11 and 19 years.

Kidderminster Youth House, Bromsgrove St, Kidderminster, DY101PF: 5th of Jan then every Wednesday to 16th of Feb. 7 – 8.30pm. Where you can learn routines and create your own, in this relaxed open street dance session. For further info. please contact: Ben **O:** 01562757600 **M:** 07846730025 **E:** bbennett@worcestershire.gov.uk

For under 5's and their grown ups

Creative games to improve and encourage interaction between parent and child. Also chance to learn and perform short sequences to their favourite music.

Riverside Children's Centre: Stourport Road, Bewdley, DY12 1BL

12th of Jan to 16th of Feb every Wednesday at 3.30 – 4.30pm

For further info. please contact: Sarah Gormley 01299 409169

Rainbow Children's Centre: St Mary's

5th of Jan then every Wednesday to 16th of Feb at 2 – 3pm.

For further info. please contact: 01562 742991

Treetops Children's Centre: Habberley, St Johns Hall. 2nd of March then every Wednesday to the 30th March at 10 – 11am. To book a place call: 01562 514980

Rosie Kay dance project

The Great Train Dance transports you into a world of dreams where reality and fantasy confuse. For one day this summer, Rosie Kay Dance Company and 300+ local dancers will take you on a magical journey where nothing is as it seems. As you enter a different time, watch for clues and solve the puzzle.

This event is part of the West Midlands' Culture Programme for London 2012.

See www.rosiekay.co.uk for more details and how to get involved.



For general information on dance in the Wyre Forest go to:

http://www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk/cms/pdf/dance%20directory_issue%201.pdf

If you run any dance classes we can also add you to the directory, just drop us an email with details and we'll be happy to promote your work.

The Horsefair Public Art Project

The commissioning process is progressing with input from residents and stakeholders.

Stakeholders from a range of local organisations and Councillors met on 22nd of November to shortlist from 18 artists who had applied for the commission. The group chose four artists who they thought would respond to the brief most appropriately.

Artists were marked out of 10 and the four with the most points have now gone forward for public ballot. The first ballot box appeared at the Churchfields master plan consultation event where a large number of people voted on their favourite artist. You can read more about this in Wyred in the new residents online paper click on the link.

http://www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk/cms/communications/wyred_in.aspx

The ballot boxes also appeared in Nisa, the Peacock pub, St. Mary's and St. Georges Schools and at the Friends of St. Georges meeting. A total of 139 votes were cast, with 50% going to Tom Hill and joint second went to Peter Walker and Michael Johnson who had 19%. You can see information that appeared on the ballot boxes at

<http://www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk/cms/communications/news/2010/december-10/horsefair-art-project.aspx>

Subway Deluxe Part II



Good News for our Subways.

The Community Safety Partnership has awarded us a grant to create a project over half term. Plans are in development to complete the remainder of the Comberton Hill subway. Subway Deluxe part II will again bring nationally known urban artists but this time you will be able to get involved. We will run workshops during February half term and would like to hear from young people aged 16 plus. If you would like to be involved please email arts@wyreforestdc.gov.uk

with Subway Deluxe in your subject box. Check out the Subway Deluxe page on Facebook for ongoing updates.

[facebook](#)

Opportunities for artists

Imaginary Friends

Deadline for applications: 7th Feb 2011

Whalley Range All Stars are looking for 6 people to be involved with their exciting new outdoor theatre project, Imaginary Friends.

Imaginary Friends - 10 performers each with their own doppelganger, a full size puppet version of themselves.

We are looking for energetic, open minded people with making skills as well as performing skills, singing included, chosen people will be expected to build their own puppet as well as perform with it (help will be available, if needed).

Training will be included in the rehearsal and devising process.

This project will have a number of outings at festivals throughout summer 2011 and we are looking for maximum commitment to rehearsal and performance dates.

Rehearsal dates: 22-27 Mar, 12-17 April, 29 April - 4 May, three blocks of 6 days residential at the Lanternhouse in Ulverston.

Auditions will be held on February 23 (round one) and Feb 24 (round two) 2011 at our workshop in Bury.

Rates of pay £500 per week for rehearsals. Performances will be paid at a different rate depending on number of days.

Please send expression of interest with CV to Sue Auty : sue@wras.org.uk or by post to Gollinrod Farm, Gollinrod, Walmersley, BURY BL9 5NB.

Call for new writers Self Service and This is Tomorrow are piloting a mentoring scheme for new writers, which offers an opportunity for a new or emerging writer to develop skills in critical writing for publication.

The scheme intends to encourage writing practice within the West Midlands, giving a platform for new writers to gain public exposure, experience and professional development, whilst simultaneously promoting arts activity in the region to a wider audience.

The writer will receive 3 half-day mentoring sessions from the This is Tomorrow team:

- James Smith (focus on research, planning and editorial).
- Lorena Munoz-Alonso (focus on artists interviews / features).
- Josephine Breese (focus on reviews and writing style).

In addition the writer will have two half-day mentoring sessions with Sally O'Reilly which will focus on writing practice. The writer will be expected to produce three pieces of critical writing (as detailed below), which will be published on www.thisistomorrow.info and www.weareeastside.com

-A review of Flatpack or Fierce Festival (500words), March 2011

-An interview/feature on a West Midlands based practitioner or artist-led organisation (1000 words), June 2011

-A review of all, or a part of The Event 2011 (1000 words), October 2011

Applicants should send:

-A short letter of application stating why you have applied for this opportunity and what you hope to gain from it.-Two examples of critical writing (around 500 words each).

-An up to date CV to: james.smith.lon@googlegmail.com Deadline: Friday 14th Jan 2011

Worcestershire Arts Trail 2011

We're launching the county's first Open Studio Arts Trail in 2011 and we need YOU. Whether you're a painter, jeweller or blacksmith we're looking for artists and crafts people from across the county willing to open their studios to the public on:

27th - 30th May 2011

10am - 5pm Friday to Bank Holiday Monday

We're also looking for Worcestershire Galleries to join the trail selling local and national Art and Craft.

As part of the event you'll receive: A colour image and written entry in the catalogue which will be widely distributed throughout the county. Signage to direct people to your studio/gallery throughout the weekend. A listing on our website. The opportunity to market your work to a whole new collection of customers.

To join the trail please download an application form from www.worcsartstrail.org or email the Trail HQ at worcestershireartstrail@live.com to request one.

Closing Date for Applications is the 31st of January 2011

What's On – WFDC Events – workshops – performance



Severn Valley Samba Band Workshops with Glamba: at Areley Kings Village Hall. Come along to these fun and informal Workshops and using a wide range of instruments learn how to make an unforgettable sound. The workshops are open to people of all ages (over 8yrs) and no musical knowledge is required – just plenty of enthusiasm! An ongoing fortnightly workshop, with occasional practice sessions in between at Bishops Wood. £3.00 per person, your first session is free. Saturdays or Sundays around 10 am to 12 noon, these times are subject so slight change. Call for more information. For more information call 01905 821447. You can also find them on facebook under Severn Valley Samba Band.

facebook



Painting: Classes commencing on the 12th January 2011.

Wednesdays between 4pm and 6pm. £4.00 per week or £3.00 concessions. If you are interested in improving your techniques or you are just starting out and would like some guidance just turn up at the venue and talk to Malcolm or call the Arts Team at Wyre Forest District Council on 01562 732978. Please note classes are becoming full so we recommend paying on a termly basis to guarantee your place.



Dance: A Chance to Dance: If you are 55 years plus and would like the opportunity to increase flexibility, build strength and learn dance sequences to music from past and present, incorporating moves inspired by rock 'n' roll and salsa dance. You don't need a partner and you can drop into the course whenever you like, men and women welcome. Both sessions are £2.50 per person. You can join the course at any time.

Rock Village Hall:

Classes commence on Monday 10th January 2011 & run until Monday 4th April 2011 (12 weeks) no classes Monday 21st February (half term) More details to follow. **Followed by an optional creative dance class for the more adventurous**, Creative Chance to Dance – make new dances in a structured class 11.15am – 12.15pm

Areley Kings Village Hall:

Thursday 13th January 2011 until Thursday 7th April 2011. 10am to 11am with an hour to socialize afterwards. £2.50 per session.

You don't need to come from the outset to either of these sessions, join the class at any time, you will be made to feel very welcome.



Shindig will bring warmth to your New Year, you'll be surprised at what's on at your village hall! You can pick up a program in most public buildings, The library, The Hub, the Town Hall and many more.

Local shows include:

Saturday 29th January at 7.30pm - **Tom McConville Trio in Concert** at The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster. Call 01562 743745 to book

Sunday 13th February at 7.30pm – **The Atlantics Rock and Roll Party** at Clows Top Victory Hall. Call 01299 832637 to book

Under 5's



Under 5's: Music and Movement – Early Ears is a monthly session run by Craig Trafford at: **The Corn Exchange in Kidderminster Town Hall** on The first Wednesday of each month between 10.30am and 11.30am. First session starts on 5th January 2011. Craig brings his unique brand of music, songs and movement for £3.00 per child, grown ups go free.

Sessions also run at **Lickhill Community Centre, Stourport on Severn**. Sessions are on the third Friday of every month. All details are the same as above. Email Karen.haynes@wyreforestdc.gov.uk for more information.

*****NEW**** NEW**** NEW**** NEW**** NEW**** NEW****

Tots in Motion is a magical dance experience, for under 5's to explore various ways of moving their body. Each session will be filled with fun ways to learn dance through popular themes, using a variety of props and visual aids.

13th January 2011 - 17th February - 17th March - 10.30am until 11.30am

Corn Exchange, Kidderminster Town Hall. £3.00 per child. **Adults go free**



Funding info

Worcestershire County Council give grants to artists, there are three arts grant schemes available:

- **Grants For The Arts** for organisations who play a major role in the artistic life of the county be it through running a venue or by running an extensive series of activities.
- **In Roads** for one off arts projects aimed at professional artists or those seeking to work for professionals.

You can find more information at

<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/leisure-and-culture/arts/grants-and-funding.aspx>

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS FRI 28th JANUARY 2011 at 5pm

What's On - Other organisations

Did you know you can advertise your events at www.whatsonworcestershire.co.uk free of charge. The site is easy to use and one off events also go onto the Destination Worcestershire website automatically.

Distributing leaflets:

You can have your leaflets for arts and cultural activity distributed for you to all the major public buildings in Worcestershire, at very competitive prices. You can even select which areas you'd like to distribute to and get advise on what type of publicity would work best. Call 01865249473 or email info@direct-publicity.co.uk for more information.

Tourist information: You can also find out what's on and list your own events on the Tourist information list which goes out to a huge list of people interested in events in the Wyre Forest. Email bewdleytic@wyrforestdc.gov.uk to let them know what you are up to or find out what's on in the coming month.



The Arts Matter Worcestershire have produced a strategy to support the arts in Worcestershire, to have a look go to

<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/pdf/The%20Arts%20Matter.pdf>

A range of organisations are involved in the partnership who will deliver and monitor the work. You can find more information about them on facebook, just type Arts Matter Worcestershire to find them.

[facebook](#)

Recommended websites

Did you know the County Council give grants to artists, they also host a directory where you can register which may help you find work with local organisations Why not take a look?

<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/leisure-and-culture/arts.aspx>

IF you have an event or project you would like to promote please contact us by 1st March, please keep your information brief. If you would like to discuss this please give us a call. This newsletter now reaches about 500 people through direct mailing. The Wyre Forest District Council Arts and Play Development team are: Loz Samuels and Karen Haynes. Contact us at: arts@wyreforestdc.gov.uk or call 01562 732928
www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk /Arts Development

Wyre Forest District Council is inviting you to receive 'WyredIn', our new online magazine for residents. It will be published twice yearly - summer and winter. If you would like to automatically receive it please email communications@wyreforestdc.gov.uk with the phrase WYREDIN SUBSCRIBE in the subject box.

Check out the first edition by clicking on the link below

[PDF version of the latest issue.](#) (4163K) 

