

Sherwood Community Centre Newsletter

Issue 3

August 2014

Recent Events

Sherwood Arts Week and the Remarkable Recycling Gala



Sherwood Arts Week - Saturday 21st - Sunday 29th June 2014 - is a community event organised entirely by volunteers and sponsored by local businesses. Art, craft and performance events and exhibitions were located in and around the heart of Sherwood, and aimed to celebrate the creativity of people in Sherwood and encourage a sense of community by providing opportunities to showcase local artists' work and give people a chance to make their own art. Sherwood Community

Centre became involved by hosting **The Remarkable Recycling Gala** which took place on Sunday 22nd June 2014, from 11am - 4pm. It aimed to highlight the issues of waste & recycling through the medium of art.

The day involved artists selling recycled arts & crafts, workshops on reusing everyday materials, poetry, theatre, and music. Jill Gregory also gave guided tours of the Centre - Woodthorpe House - which is our "recycled" building.



The weather stayed warm and dry, so many activities took place outdoors. Refreshments were provided by Christine's Community Cafe.

Many people came from the local community and one comment on Facebook was that "I really enjoyed it because it was ... well it was remarkable"

Other events and more pictures inside.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW TREASURER

Hi, I'm Alex and I volunteered to be SCA's Treasurer a couple of months ago.

I recently returned to Nottingham, a city I had lived in when I studied psychology at the University of Nottingham. I have been living in London where I was a project manager working on community based projects for London boroughs, governmental bodies such as Transport for London and independent community organisations. I primarily undertook short term contracts and consultancies which allowed me to indulge in my love of travelling. I have travelled to many places such as Cuba, Mexico, Canada, Egypt, Dominica and have most



recently come back from a three month trip to Ethiopia.

I was only going to stay in Nottingham for a while but after discovering the vibrant community life that Sherwood has to offer, meeting up with old friends, taking part in many community events and classes, such as Matt Swain's art class and Jill Gregory's School of Dance, I have decided to make my stay more permanent.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as Treasurer, so far everybody has been very welcoming and friendly, and I am very happy to be able to use my community skills within my own community.

Office Space

We have some office space to let. If you or anyone you know may be interested please contact the office.

Raffle Prizes Wanted

We are always looking for donations for raffle prizes. If you have anything to donate please bring it in to the office (open Monday to Friday 10am to 2.45pm) or contact us on 0115 962 1153.

Important News

Becoming a CIO

At a Special General Meeting held on Monday 19th May, a proposal was put forward to members that we apply to become a Charity Incorporated Organisation - a CIO, and a new model Constitution was agreed by a majority vote. The application has been made to the Charity Commission.

Becoming a CIO means we can have a leasehold agreement with the City Council (we no longer have a service level agreement with them), and can apply for funding and grants from the Council and outside organisations.

Various policies and procedures will need to be updated and work has already started on this.

Christine's Community Café

Looking for somewhere new to meet up for coffee or lunch? Close to the centre of Sherwood, with car parking and a relaxing atmosphere and pleasant scenery, Christine's Community Café at Sherwood Community Centre (opposite Woodthorpe Park) was opened on April 23rd by Christine Batchelor.

Christine was involved in running a community café in Lenton and this gave her the interest and passion to run her own establishment, but still working within a community. She enjoys meeting people and creating a welcoming space, a place where people can relax, read, bring their children whilst enjoying a coffee or delicious meal. She likes the interaction between different groups of all ages and the feeling of being a part of the community. She has recently taken on an apprentice as she believes in running the café as part of a social enterprise.

The café is open Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 4.30pm serving fair trade tea and coffee with hot food until 2.30pm inclusive. Oven baked Jacket Potatoes, Macaroni Cheese, Pasta and Pesto, and snacks such as cheese or beans on toast and sandwiches are some of the items on the menu. Seasonal foods include home-made soups and fruit crumbles in the Autumn and salads with homemade coleslaw, and fresh fruit salad with ice cream or yoghurt in the Summer. Fresh fruit, smoothies, homemade cakes and chocolate bars are also on offer.



Christine's Community Cafe is available for private party bookings with possible off site catering too.

For further details contact Christine at christine_batchelor@hotmail.com

www.facebook.com/Christine'sCommunityCafe or come in and speak to her at the centre.

We would appreciate any donations of good quality mugs without logos - please contact Christine.

FUTURE EVENTS

Annual General Meeting 15th September 2014

The Annual General Meeting of the Sherwood Community Association will be held on Monday 15th September at 10am. We hope as many people as possible, both from the groups who meet at the centre and the local community, will attend.

Anyone willing to become a Trustee/Honorary Officer please contact the office for a nomination form. These positions will be voted on by the membership. If anyone is interested in joining the support committee or one of the various sub-committees please let us know via the office. We need more people to become involved, new ideas and opinions.

Community Centre Open Day Sunday 14th Sept 11am - 4pm

The Open Day is an opportunity to find out about the various groups, clubs and activities that take place at Sherwood Community Centre. Also to find out what facilities we have to offer. There will be taster sessions from groups such as the Gregory School of Dancing, Zumba, Yoga and martial arts, art classes, exhibitions, demonstrations and information from other clubs and self help groups that meet here. There will be guided tours of the Grade II listed building, an opportunity to learn about it's history.

There will be a class to learn a simple tap dance in preparation for a Children in Need event here in November. This will be a Tapathon to break the world record for the number of people performing the same dance at the same time in multiple venues. This would be suitable for anyone with good co-ordination or who has done Zumba, Line Dance, Latin or other types of dance, as well as Tappers.

All users wishing to showcase their group please contact the office. This is an opportunity for all users to let the local Community know more about us and we need more help with both organisation and on the day itself.

MacMillan Coffee Morning 26th September 2013

The Community Centre, together with The Community Café and Care2quals, who have recently moved into the Centre are holding a coffee morning to raise funds for MacMillan Cancer Support on Friday 26th September from 10.30am until 1pm.

Donations of cakes, biscuits etc, whether homemade or bought will be greatly appreciated. Please put the date in your diaries and support the event which is part of MacMillan's national coffee morning fundraiser. Anyone available to help on the day please speak to Christine at the Community Café.

Events from Dec 2013 to August 2014

Pot Luck Supper - December 2013

In late December twelve people came to our third Pot Luck Supper. It was an enjoyable and relaxing occasion. Some members and their friends and family enjoyed a 2 course meal prepared by some Events Committee



members and raised approximately £80 for group funds at the same time.

We hope to have another one soon, or alternatively your group could hold one of their own.

The Jill Gregory School of Dancing

Lara Sas has been awarded two Platinum Awards by the British Theatre Dance Association) for Diplomas in Professional Dance Practice in Modern Jazz Dance and Tap. Her result in Jazz was the highest the school has known - 97%. Lara, who had her 18th birthday since



the dance exams, has a place at The Musical Theatre Academy in London, to start in the Autumn. Rachel Greenwood also passed the Diploma in Jazz, and she and Bronwyn Stevens have passed Advanced 2 Ballet with Merit. 8 dancers

have also passed Intermediate Tap (2 Distinction, 6 Merit), and 3 have passed Advanced Foundation Tap with Merit. The dancing school has held 7 exam sessions during 2014, with pupils taking Graded exams in Ballet, Tap, Modern and Acrobatics and Medal Tests in Singing.

Younger pupils performed at Arnold Carnival and Sherwood Festival. The younger pupils had a country theme, with English Country Garden, Butterflies and Bees, Ballets de Village and the singers sang a medley from musicals.

Yarn Bombing Sun 29th June 2014

As part of Sherwood Art Week and to decorate the Community Centre grounds for the Remarkable Recycling Gala a group of Centre users took part in Yarn Bombing, a form of street Art where knitting, crochet and other yarn based creations are used to brighten up the local environment.



Jill's crocheted Woodthorpe House



Some examples of Yarn Bombing



Joyce Killowe, (mixed media arts and crafts provider) ran a series of Yarn Bombing sessions in Christine's Community Café. Basic tuition was given in knitting, crochet and weaving.

She said:



"A Big Thank You to everyone that took part in the Sherwood Community Centre Yarn bombing sessions and also to people that where working from home, for helping out with displaying our creative works around Sherwood Community Centre Garden, Mansfield Rd and the Woodland Walk. All was ready in good time to celebrate the launch of Sherwood Art Week/ Remarkable Recycling Gala 2014."



If you would like to be involved in Yarn Bombing the Community Centre as part of SAW next year please leave your detail at the Centre office.

Roberta Dewa wins First Prize at the Djanogly Summer Exhibition.

Roberta Dewa is a member of the Sherwood Art Class led by Matt Swain which meets on Thursday mornings at Sherwood Community Association.

Roberta is an experimental artist and works with bleach, ink, string and photographic negatives to create compelling abstract images.

Roberta or Robbie as she prefers to be known exhibited during Sherwood Art Week at the Methodist Centre and, following this successful showing, applied to exhibit at the Djanogly Exhibition Centre based at the University of Nottingham Campus. This exhibition is open to people who have a connection with the university in that they have either worked or studied there before.

Robbie spent four years researching her PhD at the University of Nottingham and her thesis 'Linguistic Analysis of Anglo-Saxon Poetry' inadvertently formed the basis of her winning image 'Word-Fall 1'. The piece is one of a series of photographs that Robbie took of her thesis as she burnt it in her garden. She thoroughly enjoyed burning a copy of her thesis, it expressed her relief at the completion of a process which she had found boring and lonely. 'I learnt that I was not an academic!' she said 'It was incredibly exhilarating when it (the thesis) went up in smoke.' However her four years of study were not in vain as it qualified her to acquire a part-time teaching position at the University of Nottingham, led to the production of a highly acclaimed art work and cemented Robbie's identity as a bone fide artist.



Alex Meade

Cash For Your Community

The Nottingham Post and Nottingham Building Society's Cash For Your Community campaign gives away a share of £35,000 to up to 150 groups in need of a helping hand. The amount received depends on how many coupons each group collect. This year we received £283.29, more than in previous years. A big Thank You to everyone who collected coupons for us.

We bid for the money to help refurbish the floors in the Centre. An original wooden floor was discovered under carpet and lino by Ameet Malhotra, who hires the room for The Yoga Village, during a recent refurbishment. He said it took around two months to restore. It is believed to date back to the 1800s and there are other floors which would look as beautiful when restored in an attempt to bring the Grade II listed building, the first building in Sherwood, back to its former glory.

Donations towards the refurbishment may be put in the 'toilet' in reception.



Valerie - , who co-ordinated the collection and Alison

Restarting in September

Sprouts

Sprouts, have been running their creative and fun drama sessions for children from 4 to 13 at Sherwood community Centre for over 5 years.



Helen Barton

Helen Barton, the owner and creator of Sprouts, has been involved in theatre and drama since her teens. She studied at Guildford School of Acting, and then went on to work in children's theatre before becoming a workshop leader.

She says;

"At Sprouts we love to play, and at the centre of all our activities is an emphasis on fun and freedom, but within the exercises lie useful skills that children can build on and take into other areas of their life; in the classroom, in the playground and in new social situations. Our focus is on the process, rather than the product, and as they progress through the classes, we look to help them become independent actors; able to think and create their own work, as well as understanding how to look at scripts to bring them to life in their own unique ways."

"I love being able to give back a little of all I have learned through drama. It's great when you meet young children who have such an obvious love for creativity and play, and you're able to give them a place to explore that, and learn more about it. It's also very satisfying to see their journey with us as they move up the older groups and start making their own creative decisions, and be proud of what they've created."

Helen is also part of the Community Association, a Committee member, who helps to fund-raise, and organise events for the local community.

Summer 2014

The children worked on a drama based on Shere Khan and Jungle Book



Sprouts' weekly sessions run after school at the centre, during term time on Mondays. Their sister company 'Sprouting Out' also run fun holiday courses during the Christmas, Easter and Summer breaks.

Classes will run weekly for the Autumn term from 9th September-6th December with no class during half term For further details tel. 0115 875 8036 or visit our web-site www.sproutsdrama.co.uk

Sherwood Playgroup

Sherwood playgroup, established in 1961 is the longest running playgroup in Nottingham. Children start from the age of 2 with a maximum of 26 children per session. There are many different toys, jigsaws, a home corner, dressing up as well as sand and water. Outside is an enclosed play area with tricycles, cars, slides etc. Mid-way through sessions children come together for a story and singing followed by a snack of milk and fruit. Children are encouraged to participate in a range of activities including painting, sticking, playdough and drawing. Stating in September sessions run Mon - Fri 9.30am to 12.30pm and Tues, Wed, Fri 1pm - 4pm.

Further details website www.sherwoodplaygroup.co.uk or tel. Playgroup on 0115 955 3152

PLEASE WE NEED YOUR HELP

Fundraising affects everyone and every group in the Centre both financially and socially. If you can offer help or join the fundraising committee please contact the office staff 0115 9621153 or the Secretary on 07899938425

Sources of funding are frequently being cut back or disappearing in the current financial climate.

It means that Fundraising will become much more important to **everyone** who uses the Centre.

Your Groups

If you want any news about your group going in the newsletter, then hand it in to the office or put it in the secretary's pigeon hole in reception.

I hope to feature groups who meet here in future newsletters so any information or photos you can send me would be appreciated. This can also publicise and give information about your own group to anyone interested. The Newsletter will be going to the Library, The Place, local Churches and other centres and on the website and Facebook.