

The Wilkes Head16 St Edward Street Leek
presents

Monday Nights 9pm

**ACOUSTIC
NIGHT**(Longest running
session in town!)
All Kinds of Music

All Welcome

Leatherbarrow & Lovatt

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For the person who has almost everything you are likely to find something useful, quirky or decorative amongst our wide range of quality goods**The Foxlowe cafe uses ONLY Fairtrade tea, coffee, chocolate, sugars, cocoa and wines.****As far as possible we purchase from local retailers.****All Car Exhausts & Tyres Ltd**52 Broad Street
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01538 385822 / 399265*High quality service at competitive prices***Show this ad on your next visit to ALL CAR EXHAUSTS & TYRES 52 BROAD STREET****People exhibition****Five artists capture glimpses of the seemingly infinite spectrum of the human condition**

FOUR SELF-PORTRAITS of the disembodied artist, stripped of hair, signs of clothing and even contextual clutter in an effort "to keep the work as timeless and relevant as possible" are Duncan Sproat's contribution to the Foxlowe Gallery's second exhibition. What he offers is a full-on focus of the person (himself here) as perceived.

Opposite, not only in the gallery but in approach too are Nick Shelton's five life-size biro-on-board portraits, replete with mistakes and notes. The materials may be off-beat but the people portrayed encapsulate an engaging magic and mystery.

Further along the same



wall are the six head and shoulder portraits by Johnny Bermudez, and compared with the previous two artists' work by far the most conventional.

At last, with Charlie Walker's nine portraits, we are given the chance to purchase exhibits.

Bold, bright colour celebrate

naked people all of whom appear to be at ease (happy even?) with their skin whereas Margaret Brothwell's twelve portrayals of individuals or small groups of people reveal perceived unease, sadness even. *Yesterday's Notes*, shown here, reminds one of Arthur Berry's portrayals of working men, worn, contemplative, discarded. Margaret Brothwell said: "Inspiration for me is being so moved by something that I am compelled to paint it." She must have been incredibly moved when she painted the man shown. Her paintings may be the smallest in the exhibition but arguably the most emotionally charged. (PKB)

Foxlowe's Fairtrade Fortnight**Monday 27 February - Sunday 11 March 2012**

It can be a simple step, like swapping your tea to Fairtrade, or a bigger step, like asking everyone in your family, work place, community group, church, sports club or wherever, to take a Fairtrade step too. Remember, every step counts for millions of farmers, workers and their communities in developing countries who urgently need a better, fairer deal from trade.

The Foxlowe Arts Centre is fully committed to Fairtrade but during the Fairtrade Fortnight the cafe will be baking extra-special Fairtrade



goodies. We can easily think we have more than enough to cope with struggling with the cut-backs since the banking crisis created by the greed of a relatively small number of people. Well, pause a moment and try to imagine what people

in developing countries must think when they see the fruits of their labours being sucked out of their family, community and country by grossly unfair world trading rules.

In an era of abundance it is a scandal that millions live on the breadline, suffer malnutrition, needless illnesses for the want of medical care and consequently early death. It's not easy being creative on an empty stomach.

**Thank you...**

...to the anonymous pledger for the recent extremely thoughtful and generous donation of bouquets of flowers for each of the trustees and co-ordinators in recognition of their efforts in bringing to life the Foxlowe Arts Centre.

Funding Foxlowe**One by one new pledges arrive**

The trustees continue to be encouraged by the steady flow of new pledges at the rate of about half a dozen each week.

The cafe is developing well and proving very popular with most if not all our visitors. Although we take heart from those immortal words of Abraham Lincoln about not pleasing all the people all of the time, we do nevertheless respond seriously to our critics.

The Gallery's opening exhibition was a sure-fire winner

with paintings by David Hunt, Jonathan Walker and Anita Hill, A total of 37 paintings sold.

Music events have been launched successfully and films, talks, poetry performance and Foxlowe Youth Theatre are each on the threshold of being launched.

The trustees, the team of co-ordinators, volunteers and the increasing numbers of visitors have high aspirations. Help us all to realise our ambitions with more pledgers.

Foxlowe film season every TUESDAY evening starts 28th February

Foxlowe films

A small group met to discuss the possibility of bringing films to the Foxlowe on a regular basis. Initially we plan to run screenings on a Tuesday night for a 10 week period.

Veteran Leek film maker Gerald Mee, a founding trustee of the Stoke Film Theatre, has kindly offered to loan his own equipment and present these initial screenings on a Tuesday night so that we are not faced with an immediate capital financial challenge.

A grant from Leek Arts Forum and an anonymous donation has enabled Foxlowe Films to get off the ground and help with rental of the initial film.

This pilot period will give us the opportunity to assess what the interest is and to work out problems or areas needing work. We can also gather information for funding bids to establish Foxlowe films as a sustainable enterprise.

If you would like to get involved, either helping to run film events or in volunteering on film nights, please let us know or fill in a feedback questionnaire at one of the films. If you have



ideas about what films you'd like to see or about future planning, then please get in touch.

Starting on February 28th our programme may include titles from the following list: *Jane Eyre*; *True Grit*; *We Need to Talk About Kevin*; *The Inbetweeners*; *Midnight in Paris*; *Chico and Rita*; and *In The Hands of the Gods*.

So, we are starting from small beginnings. Comfort and multiplex it will not be! We will be screening in the refurbished first floor function room, initially with around 70 untiered seats - bringing a cushion might be an idea (and a blanket if you're nesh)! Bear with us in these early stages; it is unlikely to be perfect to begin with but we are determined as a group to do what we can to bring films regularly to Leek.

Tickets will be £4; concessions £3.

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The joys of creativity for all ages at Foxlowe

Young people aged 8-12 years will have the chance to widen their skills and translate their ideas into physical reality at a morning workshop in March.



Run by two members of the Spinners, Weavers and Dyers Guild the versatility of weaving sticks will be introduced

and the young workshop members will be shown how to weave three dimensional animals. If all goes to plan each youngster will go home with a hairy caterpillar, snake, rabbit or cat.

The workshop will be limited to ten people so that each can have the maximum individual tuition. To make sure of your place, email Ruth at: ruth2tex@yahoo.co.uk The cost of the workshop is £3.



For older people, two stained glass workshops are being offered in March and April. Make your own A4 leaded stained glass panel using traditional techniques, with step-by-step guidance from

experienced local artist, Jenny Newall. The two-day weekend workshops will be held on 24th/25th March and 21st/22nd April. All materials provided For full details, telephone Jenny Newall: 07894 262 103.

Moira McCourt, our volunteer co-ordinator, would like to hear from you if you have time to spare weekly or monthly to help with a whole range of tasks.

We urgently need extra help in the kitchen and the cafe.

Moira's number is: 0774 605 5095

CRAFTY KIDS AT FOXLOWE ARTS CENTRE

Workshop for 8-12 yrs old
 Saturday MARCH 17th 9.30-12.30

WEAVING ANIMALS

Cost £5

Booking required: contact
ruth2tex@yahoo.co.uk

Organised and run by members of the Guild of Spinners, Weavers & Dyers



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