

FOXLOWE TALKS

The speakers 'gift' their talks to the Foxlowe, for which we thank them. Admission is free, with a Bucket Collection for the Foxlowe funds, for which we thank you.

Talks Co-ordinator: ERICA BROOK

Wednesday 20th January 2016 7.30pm

MAKING SPACES INTO PLACES

John Bishop

John Bishop invites us to engage with the opportunities offered by the **spaces** which become **places** "from the creative contributions made by people who occupy those spaces over time." On taking retirement, John Bishop's work experience as architect and tutor led to him to set up *makingspacesintoplaces* in 2015.

John states: "The need to compose and enrich our environment is a fundamental part of our play as children and remains, often dormant, with many of us as adults. Along the way I hope the creativity and advocacy of the children we meet will show us how, as adults, we have the potential to fulfill our own creative role as 'place makers', assuming we are not doing that already! For us to see the potential of the Market Place in Leek becoming the giant open-air classroom and creative atelier space that it could be!"

Wednesday 17th February 2016 7.30pm

ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSIONS in the FORMER YUGOSLAVIA and the UKRAINE

John Mills

In February, we will experience a different challenge when John Mills, former Deputy Returning Officer at Staffordshire Moorlands District Council, will share his observations of democracy in action on Election Missions in the former Yugoslavia and Ukraine, possibly giving us insights into how we in the UK might become a more democratic society.

Wednesday 16th March 2016 7.30pm

MAKING A FILM FOR PEANUTS

Lynne Payne & Patrick McConnell

Lynne & Patrick's first play, *A Story for When Were Grandads*, won the Best New Writing award at Buxton Fringe Festival and was nominated for best production. It was later transformed into a screenplay; now a completed feature film, under its new title, *How Not To Work And Claim Benefits... & other useful information for wasters*, has recently been picked up by a distributor in LA.

Wednesday 20th April 2016 7.30pm

AN EVENING IN GAMBIA

Elicia Gardener

Wednesday 18th May 2016 7.30pm

MEET THE MUSIC MAKERS: How Instruments were Made & Played in the C16th
Jane & Erica Moulder

Wednesday 15 June 2016 7.30pm

THE ARMY MEDICAL SERVICES IN THE GREAT WAR

Eric Hunter

Gateway SHED

The brilliant logo for the Foxlowe's latest development, the GatewaySHED workshop was

designed by ROB BARKS, full time lecturer at the local campus of the Buxton & Leek College. Rob is a keen supporter of the Foxlowe, being both a pledger and a volunteer. With them minimum brief of the two words, the second being in upper case, Rob effortlessly (it would seem) produced a range of variations of the one selected. It was Rob's stroke of genius to introduce the tools and the Fox appeared at the request of the GatewaySHED workshop Co-ordinator, Cliff Deighton. Many thanks indeed Rob.

Popping your GREEN TOKEN

into the MIDDLE BOX at the Waitrose cash-out supports Foxlowe's fund-raising to pay for the installation of electricity at the GatewaySHED workshop



FASHION REVOLUTION DAY 2016

On 24 April 2013, the Rana Plaza factory building at Dhaka in Bangladesh collapsed.

1,133 people died and another 2,500 were injured; the fourth largest industrial disaster in history.

Speaking about her Fair Trade Asbourne-based clothing business in Foxlowe Talks programme on 15th January 2014, Carrie Summers revealed her inspirational idea to initiate Fashion Revolution Day. The Day was duly inaugurated later that year on the 24th April to mark the Rana Plaza disaster and to be a continuing, growing, global campaign to radically change the fashion industry.

The Day has always been marked at the Foxlowe and once again Liz Bradshaw and Pauline Hart are co-ordinating and enthusiastic team to mount another splendid fair trade Fashion Show at the Foxlowe on Thursday 21st April 2016



The collapsed Rana Plaza, a far cry from Fairtrade working conditions

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

The national annual event begins on Leap Day, Monday 29th February and the launch will be marked by a special ALL DAY FAIRTRADE BREAKFAST on the Foxlowe Cafe menu. For the sweet tooth, there will be an extra-special Fairtrade cake on offer along with all the usual Fairtrade drinks.

Wednesday Documentaries

free admission - bucket collection at the exit films start 7.45pm

3rd February

Make More Noise (PG) UK 1899-1917 80min

This is a British Film Institute compilation on "Suffragettes in Silent Film" ranging from Emily Davison's storming of the 1913 Derby to films of suffragette protest and comedies taken from silent movies of the time.

2nd March

We Are Many

(12A) UK 2014 110min
booking to be confirmed

The global protest against the Iraq war on 15 February 2003 was a pivotal moment in recent history. We are proud to screen this important film 100 years to the day after the introduction of conscription in recognition that increasing numbers of people are opposed to war.

6th April

The True Cost (12) USA 2015 92min

In the run up to Fashion Revolution Day (24 April) this film asks us to consider who really pays the price for our clothing that has been decreasing for decades while the human and environmental costs have grown dramatically

FOXLOWE ARTS CENTRE

Market Place Leek ST13 6AD
01538 386112

The Human Condition

ERICA BROOK anticipates FRAGMENTS, the first exhibition of 2016 at the Foxlowe's Upper Gallery, will delight and disturb.

There are no easy words to describe and engage with the challenge and complexity of *Fragments* which is presenting the installation/sculptural pieces of Tracey Cartlidge and Danusha Komar.

Danusha's work, produced by using modern technology to present hard-edged structures, with colour from the prismatic to pieces of gentle subtleties, demands exploration and possibly innovative thought processes in the viewer.

Danusha's delight and dexterity in the handling of her 'tools' which through manipulation and play, produces a great range of work from a 'Science Future' vision to other-worldly textiles and accessories. The indicators are that this is a young creator whose progress will be an interesting trajectory of her intriguing work.

In extreme contrast, Tracey's work reveals every process in the construction of her three dimensional sculptures. Basic materials, which many of us would consign to the bin, are sewn on to splinters of wood allowing just sufficient support for the growing complexity of her structures where she seems to present 'drawings' in wire hinting at the human or animal figure, deeply sensitive, and always vulnerable, with the occasional suggestion of the comic.

There was a twenty year gap in Tracey's life, when she did not engage with any art work. It could be argued that what we see here today would not have arisen without that time of lived experience. Creativity is always from the inside out, a necessary force which explores with the many layers of our being and connects to the wider, often tragic - with the polarities of the ugly and beautiful - human/animal condition, enabling the creator to share and heal.

This is an exhibition to delight and disturb, to cause reflection and response. The Foxlowe Gallery is privileged to have the opportunity to show two such exhibitors.

Preview 7pm Friday 8th January. Exhibition ends Saturday 13th February. Open 10am-4pm Wed-Sat and first Sunday in February 11am-4pm.



(left to right): Sue Prince (exhibitor), Leek Mayor Cllr Ben Emery, John Pursaill (Gallery co-ordinator), Sue Blatherwick (exhibitor)

Seasonal Showcase

We were particularly pleased to welcome Councillor Ben Emery, Leek Mayor, at the special preview evening of the Christmas exhibition on Friday 27 November.

The Mayor and other guests had the opportunity to meet some of the twenty talented exhibitors displaying their work at what is always a highlight in the Foxlowe Gallery calendar.

Visitors responded enthusiastically to the impressive range of paintings, ceramics, works of glass, wood, found materials and jewellery on show.



Shared creativity and skills at the Christmas wreath-making workshop produced an impressive variety of designs.

Garden News

Foxlowe Garden co-ordinator, ALISON MCCREA highlights a final flurry of activity before winter dominates.

National Tree Week was well and truly celebrated at the Foxlowe in late November last year, with the ceremonial planting of our six sponsored apple trees. Lots of helpers, of all ages, turned out to help. We are very grateful to all of them and also to the lovely people who sponsored the trees.

We will not let the trees fruit next year (sorry about that), to divert growth back into the plants but in a couple of years' time they'll be looking great and hopefully tasting wonderful. However, we'll grow some tall peas between them while they are still small, probably Latvian Christmas Grey and Purple Podded, which looked so pretty this year.

The gardeners also hosted a Christmas wreath-making workshop in early December, providing much of the foliage and willow stems for the circular bases. We were most impressed by the creativity of our participants, who we understand will be using their skills to decorate the building for this year's forthcoming Burns Night event.

Early December also saw the screening of *Dirt! The Movie*, in a collaboration with Foxlowe Films to mark the UN International Year of Soils. This was a powerful and entertaining film about the importance of soils and how we need to protect them. It proved to be the most popular documentary film of the year, gaining mainly 5 star ratings in the audience feedback and with several people telling us they were planning to buy copies as Christmas presents. For those who missed it (or didn't receive a copy for Christmas), the full film can be viewed online.

The garden team are currently planning the new year's plantings and activities, which will include extending the vegetable bed in front of the greenwood fence and introducing planters to the patio for growing salad leaves and other decorative edible plants. We are being supported by Gateway Shed volunteers, who are already helping with turf removal and will also be making the planters.

The first of this year's seed swaps will be in early February. In addition to the usual swaps, we will be giving away free heritage pea and bean seeds to celebrate 2016 being the International Year of Pulses.

If you would like to become involved with the garden or contribute plants, please contact Alison McCrea (07753 172564) or e-mail volunteers@foxloweartscentre.org.uk.

Details of news items can be found on the Garden page of the Foxlowe Arts Centre website.

Boxing, Booking & Bucketing

Sales of books surplus to requirements in the William Morris room yielded £305.50 last year; bucket collections at the nine Talks during the year £407, and the two donation boxes (in the Hall and the Bar) produced a total of £769. Thus a total of £1,481.50 was raised from these three new and vital sources of income.

Foxlowe Films : the one that slipped through the net

A number of people walked out of the screening of WHITE GOD on the 8th December because of the cruelty and violence which had not been flagged up in the publicity. In fact the programme notes were totally misleading.

Foxlowe Films Co-ordinator, Maureen Wiskin, made the following statement to ST13: "Lessons have been learned. When finalising the programme we were struggling to secure the films we wanted because of ongoing delays to distribution times. We'd been approached by someone from Dog Rescue to show this film and because

a previous 'doggy' film had proved popular we decided to go with it.

This was the only occasion since Foxlowe Films began that no one from the film group had seen the film and we took it on trust.

We regret that the programme notes did not reflect the violent nature of some of the content and have agreed we will revert to our normal practice and make sure we see all films before selecting. You might be interested to know we have declined to screen some excellent films that we are aware won't fit our audience profile so it is particularly galling that this one slipped through the net."