

## 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 16th March 2016 7.30pm**  
**MAKING A FILM FOR PEANUTS**  
**Lynne Payne & Patrick McConnell**

Lynne & Patrick's first play, *A Story for When We're 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. Lynne and Patrick will talk about the process of making each of the three professional films they have produced, made with passion rather than money, illustrated with excerpts. They will conclude with a Q & A session.

**Wednesday 20th April 2016 7.30pm**  
**AN EVENING IN GAMBIA**  
**Elicia Gardener**

Elicia Gardener is a teacher at Portland School and Specialist College, for students with social, emotional and mental health difficulties in Stoke-on-Trent and she is a volunteer for the charity, *Affecting Real Change*, which has partnered with the school for the past three years. To date Elicia has led six volunteering expeditions to Bakau in Gambia, creating exciting arts projects for marginalised children in Gambia and these projects will be the focus of her talk..

**Wednesday 18th May 2016 7.30pm**  
**MEET THE MUSIC MAKERS:**  
**ERIC & JANE MOULDER**

Founders of the Renaissance Music Group, PIVA, Leek residents Eric and Jane will give a fascinating talk which takes you on a journey that explains how and where instruments were made and played in the sixteenth century.

**Wednesday 15 June 2016 7.30pm**  
**MEDICAL CASUALTIES OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR**  
**Lt Col Eric Hunter, QARANC, RMN, RGN, BSc, MA, TD.**

Eric worked for over 40 years in the NHS and was a member of the Territorial Army Medical Service at the same time. He was Matron of 207 Field Hospital and managed the military hospital in Iraq. He was also mobilised to Bosnia and Kosovo and since his retirement Eric has worked as a volunteer with the homeless. He is currently studying for a First World War history degree.

The casualties of WW1 had the potential to overwhelm the entire national medical facilities. Eric's talk will consider how a casualties wounded at the front made their way through the chain of evacuation and ended up at an Auxiliary hospital like the Foxlowe. The talk will also cover how staff were recruited and trained.

**PAULINE HART reports calls for the successful Foxlowe Burns' Supper to be an annual event**

The first Foxlowe Burn's Supper and Ceilidh held on Saturday 23 January was hailed a huge success. There was a great atmosphere at the sell-out event. Everyone enjoyed the speeches, poetry readings, toasts, traditional Scottish three course meal, Queen of the Moorlands Whisky and Ceilidh.

Alwine Jones had the idea to hold a Burn's Supper in Leek and chose the Foxlowe as the perfect venue and with the support of friends, Pauline, Jan, Sue, Linda, Diana, Ian and John the idea soon became a reality. Catering Manager Vicki, embraced the opportunity to bring something different to the Foxlowe. With a great team of cooks, volunteers, waitresses, kitchen staff, bar staff, Cuckoo's Nest and caller Sarah Clough and piper Steve Plumb the night was a truly authentic Burn's Supper. The tables looked beautiful with traditional pots of heather, a dram of Queen of the Moorlands Whisky and the thoughtful touch of a thistle or red rose button hole for diners along with a beautifully designed informative programme.

Following amazing feedback there have been calls for the Foxlowe Burn's Supper to be an annual event.

### *The 3rd Annual Fabulous Foxlowe Fashion Show Thursday 21 April 7pm*

*On 24th April 2013 1,133 people were killed and 2,500 injured when the eight-storey RANA PLAZA clothing manufacturing building collapsed at Dhaka, Bangladesh.*

*To mark the tragedy and inspire non-exploitative clothing production so that westerners can have cheap garments, Carrie Summers, Ashbourne-based Fairtrade campaigner and proprietor of Patchacuti initiated Fashion Revolution Day which we mark every year at the Foxlowe.*

## Wednesday Documentaries

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

**2nd March**

### *The War You Don't See*

*(12A) UK 2011 97min*

*We screen this film to mark the centenary of the Military Service Act that introduced conscription in the face of organised national opposition and which came into force on this date in 1916. This film looks at the role of propaganda promoting warfare during the twenieth century*

**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

**FOXLOWE TEAMS UP WITH LOCAL GROUP THE BIRDS CARERS TO RAISE MONEY FOR MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES (MSF)**

**March 16<sup>th</sup> 7 for 7.30pm £5**

Legendary local group *The Bird Scarers* are hosting an evening of music to raise funds for Medecins sans Frontieres (MSF), which delivers emergency medical aid to people affected by conflict, epidemics and disasters. 90 percent of MSF's income comes from individual donations, allowing it to stay independent, neutral and impartial. 85 percent of money raised from MSF's fundraising goes to its medical projects with just five percent being spent on administration and staff costs and the rest being reinvested in fundraising. *The Bird Scarers* have been hugely popular favourites on the North Staffordshire folk scene for a number of years. The group features three generations from the same family; grand-mother Val Williamson, her daughter Jane and her grand-daughter Rosie, (Jane's daughter). Great songwriting, sublimely uplifting harmonies and a lot of fun. They have invited some of the best local musicians including Pete Shirley, ('*absolutely terrific songs...*' Mike Harding): Esther Brennan and Ian Buchana, startlingly original songwriting: the mesmerising Kate Ridley and Rick Ford, '*Great homegrown folk music as it should be.*' R2.



The middle of the three token collection boxes for community groups was for the Foxlowe's GatewaySHED in January and yielded £212 for the project. Many thanks to Waitrose.

**Gateway  
SHED**

## Food Hygiene Inspection

Foxlowe Chair of Trustees, PETER KENT-BAGULEY, reports the immediate and positive response following the 11 January inspection.

Following the inspector's report the repairs, renewals and enhanced working practices were completed within two weeks. Both record-keeping and staff re-training have been refined and systematic regular monitoring established.

I exercised what is called our Right to Reply, which is on the SMDC website along with the new rating because I wanted the inspector, who has been helpful and courteous throughout the process and the general, public to know that the report was treated with the utmost seriousness and the responsibility for the plummeting Rating from 5 to 1 ultimately rested with me as chair of trustees. My Right to Reply, in full, follows:

*"With the benefit of hindsight the major review of catering staff we carried out last November should have been conducted and implemented much earlier making way for the fundamental revision of working practices in the kitchen.*

*We are grateful for your most conscientious inspection and the provision of helpful guidance, which prompted an immediate, thorough and comprehensive response to all the issues raised in your Report. The attachment lists point by point the actions we have taken to bring our procedures and practices in line with guidance.*

*Although we understand that we cannot seek a re-inspection for three months, we are confident that we have responded positively to and rectified all critical procedures and practices and we would be happy to share the full report and our detailed responses with any of our many customers and members of the public in general.*

*We are a responsible body of people striving to deliver the very best Community Arts facility in Leek. We have not always been best served by paid management but as President Trueman famously said: the buck stops here."*

We shall exercise our right to seek a re-inspection after the lapse of the statutory three-month period. As the regulations state, the time lapse "allows officers to have greater confidence in management that improvements in food hygiene could be maintained over time."

We hope we shall continue to enjoy the support of all who wish the Foxlowe a successful and sustainable future.

We are also taking the opportunity to review the menu and make sure that we have regular special dishes which match the sparkle the exhibitions on the cafe walls give to the cafe.

The Lady in the Van (12A) 22<sup>nd</sup> March

**SOLD OUT**

## Foxlowe Films Tuesdays 7.45pm

**Difret (12) 1<sup>st</sup> March**

A rare film from Ethiopia, *Difret* is based on a real life challenge to the traditionally tolerated practice of forced marriage, illuminating a shocking violation of the rights of young women in some rural areas. It tells the story of Meaza, a tough lawyer from a women's legal aid practice who fights for the rights of a 14-year old girl, Hirut, facing a death sentence for accidentally killing the man who has tried to force her into marriage. Meaza changed the law in Ethiopia and this film gives a delicate and inspirational portrait of the power of sisterhood and grassroots activism.

**Departures (15) 8<sup>th</sup> March**

When a Tokyo orchestra goes bankrupt, its cellist, Daigo (Motoki), decides to move back to his old hometown with his wife to look for work. He answers a classified ad entitled "Departures" thinking it is an advertisement for a travel agency only to discover that the job is actually for a "Nokanshi" or "encoffineer" a funeral professional who prepares deceased bodies for burial and entry into the next life. This beautiful film follows his profound and sometimes comical journey with death as he uncovers the wonder, joy and meaning of life and living. *Japan 2008 130 mins (subtitled)*

**Brooklyn (12A) 15<sup>th</sup> March**

Based on the novel by Colm Tóibín and expertly adapted for screen by Nick Hornby, *Brooklyn* is one of the art house hits of the year. The film follows Ellis Lacey (a captivating Saoirse Ronan) as she leaves 1950s Ireland for brighter work prospects in New York. Initially she is homesick and reticent to the possibilities of her new home's charm. The pleasures of work and an unexpected romance buoy her as she settles into her fresh surroundings. As home ties pull her painfully back to Ireland, she is forced to choose between two men, two countries and two futures. A warm and affecting drama at the heart of which lies the universal dilemma between the ties of home and family, and the painful process of forging one's own identity. *Ireland/UK/Canada 2015 111 mins*  
**Priority sales are for £15 Meal Deal tickets for this film & must be booked in advance. Film-only tickets will be on sale only 1-2 weeks before the screening.**

## Garden News

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

Spring must definitely be on its way, as the snowdrops below the Scots pine are providing a cheerful show and other bulbs are starting to appear elsewhere.

We are eagerly anticipating the beautiful red and purple of fuchsia flowers in the summer, now that we have been able to plant an array of them in the bed beside the ramp. The willow has been trimmed, revealing the beautiful design woven for us by a supporter last year and we are looking forward to watching it become even more stunning as the new green shoots come through. Some of the branches have been saved for use in the garden and local basket-maker Rachel Evans has taken the rest, so nothing is wasted.



The compost made from kitchen vegetable scraps has been put to good use on the bed beyond the Gateway Shed. This had been a haven for rampant perennial weeds but has been dug over in preparation for two currant bushes, one red and one white, to join the blackcurrant already there. As an extra protection from the weeds, the whole area has been sheet-mulched, with a layer of cardboard under the compost. We will cut through that to plant the bushes and hope that by the time the cardboard has ultimately decomposed, the weeds will be smothered by ground cover plants.

The 13<sup>th</sup> February saw the first of our monthly Seed Swaps, with broad beans as the Pulse of the Month. Despite the cold there were plenty of 'early birds' keen to get ready for the coming season but no shortage of all sorts of vegetable seeds to share.

There were also several sets of busy fingers working on the collage pictures made with different coloured pulses. Our next event will be on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> March, when we will continue to swap seeds and also celebrate the pea, with heritage peas grown in the Foxlowe garden being given away and with pea-related family activities.

**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](mailto:volunteers@foxloweartscentre.org.uk).**

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