

# Enchanting Embroidery



*'Inspired by Leek Embroidery' by Loraine Roseli.*

An array of beautiful embroidery is currently on display in both the Cruso Room and Gallery within the Foxlowe Arts Centre.

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A new local branch of the Embroiderer's Guild is currently being formed within the area. Anyone interested in getting involved can contact Pam Keeling on 01332 523469. For further information visit: [www.embroiderersguild.com](http://www.embroiderersguild.com).



*Volunteer Chris Bowers cleaning up the front of the Foxlowe.*

# Community-spirited Spring Clean

A band of 18 volunteers gathered at the Foxlowe Arts Centre recently to take part in a Big Spring Clean at the Georgian building. The four-hour long initiative took place on the afternoon of Sunday May 28 and saw valued volunteers tackling areas with feather dusters, pressure washers, and polishing cloths.

The cleaning initiative was organised by Foxlowe volunteer Jane Leigh. She said: "I and my band of 17 volunteers spent four hours on the "big clean" on 28th May.

"Windows were cleaned inside and out, carpets deep cleaned, and woodwork polished."

Areas tackled included the main entrance area, stairs, the function room and bar areas, along with the cinema room and workshop area, to name but a few.

Jane added: "Our list was endless but we got nearly everything done. Our youngest volunteers were aged just eight, 13 and 15 years old and volunteers came from as far away as Warrington and Northampton. I think it's made a massive difference and brightened spaces up for both regular and future customers.

"A huge, huge thank you to everyone who came along to help."

It is the aim to have a second 'Big Clean' at the Foxlowe Arts Centre in the Autumn. Anyone interested in helping can contact Jane on [jane.elizabeth1106@gmail.com](mailto:jane.elizabeth1106@gmail.com).



*'When we're cleaning windows'. Pictured from the left anti-clockwise: Alison Dodd, Nigel Williams, Helen Maynard and Jane Leigh.*



Keep up-to-date with what's happening at the Foxlowe Arts Centre's facebook page.

## Gallery Views

July 1st saw the end of another successful exhibition in the gallery featuring paintings, photography and ceramics by Frances Naggs, Paul O'Donnell with guests Sue Fox, Sue Blatherwick and Nick Marsh, as well as with work by Sue Law Webb who sadly passed away before the exhibition took place. "Between the seeing and the knowing" was the exhibition title, taken from song lyrics written by Frances.



Frances Naggs

The next creative display to grace the Foxlowe Gallery will open with a preview event on Friday July 7.

Entitled 'The Human Form in 2 and 3 Dimensions', the exhibition is set to include works by Charles Walker, Nick Grew, and David Walton.

Charles, who runs a series of Life Drawing groups, is an award-winning artist. He states that life drawing and painting and portraiture have never lost their appeal. Nick, an Associate of the Royal Birmingham Society of Artists, is a sculptor who works mainly in clay cast, into bronze or resin. His work includes portraiture, figurative and abstracted works. Meanwhile, David draws and has recently developed some of his work into lino cut prints. He is a member of the Royal Birmingham Society of Artists.

The Human Form in 2 and 3 Dimensions will run until Saturday August 12. The Foxlowe Gallery is open Wednesday to Saturday: 10am-4pm and the first Sunday of the month: 11am-4pm. For further information go online to [www.foxloweartscentre.co.uk](http://www.foxloweartscentre.co.uk).



*Pictured above are examples of the work set to be displayed in the new exhibition.*

Any local artists looking to exhibit work at the Foxlowe Gallery are welcome to submit samples of their work (application forms are available from the gallery) with applications being put before the selection panel for 2019 exhibitions now.

## Garden News

ALISON McCREA, Foxlowe Garden co-ordinator, reports on the latest green-fingered developments.



*Above and below: Earthworm count in the Foxlowe Garden.*



*Below: Foxlowe plants to go.*



The gardeners held their Plant Share near the end of May and on the day we had enthusiastic young volunteers to help with our Citizen Science earthworm count. The experiment was testing the hypothesis that earthworms like soil better if it has compost materials above it than if the surface is bare. Our volunteers' expert counting recorded 35 worms under soil that had been covered by Foxlowe veg peelings for a month and only nine under the surface that had been left bare. It will be interesting to see how our results compare with all the others on the national survey. Many thanks to all involved.

Despite the rain, the Plant Share saw many plants exchanged and lots of donations coming to the Foxlowe. All the leftover hardy plants were left on a 'Plants to Go' stand on the patio for visitors to take away in exchange for a donation. More tender plants have been added since and we also welcome donated ones, although the stand may disappear during very dry spells or if there are no spare plants. If anyone has spare half size modular plant trays, we'd be very glad of them for bringing on new seedlings.

The date for our annual Apple Fest is now confirmed as Saturday, 21st October. There will be the usual apple juicing, now with electric apple mills to prepare the fruit, and also the chance to taste or buy a range of unusual apples from the National Fruit Collection at Brogdale in Kent, plus many other appley games and activities - more details in the next ST13. If you expect to have lots of apples to juice, now's the time to start collecting screw-top wine bottles (with their tops).

In the last issue I said it was a race between the plants and the slugs to see which moved fastest in the cold weather. Now the weather is hot, it's a race between us and the squirrels to pick the strawberries. So we're inviting all our visitors and supporters to take part and help themselves to both large and alpine strawberries if they get there first.

*If you would like to become involved with the garden please contact Alison McCreA (07753 172 564) or e-mail [volunteers@foxloweartscentre.org.uk](mailto:volunteers@foxloweartscentre.org.uk)*

## Yoga in the Rainbow Room

A Leek-born Yogi has followed her dream of sharing yoga with her community after setting up a class in her home town.

Angela Riley, aged 38, currently teaches at Pure Yoga in Macclesfield but is now bringing her knowledge to Leek with a weekly class at the Foxlowe.

The style of yoga taught by Angela is accessible to all ages and physical abilities. Angela's 75 minute classes at the Foxlowe run every Wednesday morning at 10am (during term time) in the Rainbow room. Classes cost £7 and participants are advised to take their own mats as only a limited number are available to borrow.

For further details contact Angela on 07837 253161 or [angelajayneriley@icloud.com](mailto:angelajayneriley@icloud.com).

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One of the valued stalwarts of the Foxlowe Arts Centre, Derek Tatton, joined the board of directors of the newly formed Foxlowe Trading Company Limited in March 2013, and took a keen and active interest in the development of the art centre's wholly owned trading subsidiary. An important legacy is the management committee or ManCom which Derek initiated and meets with the manager weekly, usually with a different trustee co-ordinating the brief but business-like meetings which focus on the practical issues of the past week and forthcoming events and issues. In noting his commitment and helpful counsel at their June meeting the Trustee Board recorded a fulsome vote of thanks to Derek.

A profile of Paul Osborne, a business change manager, who joined the Board at the June meeting will appear in the next issue of ST13.

For almost four years, Erica Brook was the Foxlowe Talks co-ordinator. During that time, Erica developed a stimulating series of programmes, neatly summarised in six monthly printed programmes which she designed herself. Erica took great care to ensure everything went smoothly on the night, usually meeting with the speaker prior to the date to make sure all the speaker's technical needs were catered for. We are deeply indebted to Erica for her conscientious approach and offer our grateful thanks for her efforts to enhance this aspect of the Foxlowe's programme of events.