

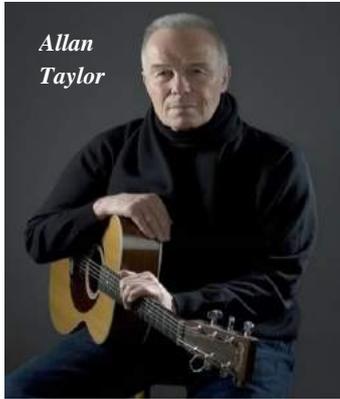
Folk at the Foxlowe

Leek's own Cuckoo's Nest Folk Club, which has been running in the town for decades, has a host of renown music stars visiting the Staffordshire Moorlands for the Folk At The Foxlowe slots. On Thursday September 14, the club will play host to an evening with Allan Taylor who has been travelling the world for more than 40 years performing at festivals, concert halls and clubs.

He is considered to be the foremost singer-songwriter and guitarist in his genre.

Meanwhile on Thursday October 12, professional folk singer, dancer and musician Pete Coe will be taking to the Foxlowe stage with his folk songs and ballads with melodeon, bouzouki, banjo, guitar, and dulcimer.

Tickets for the Folk At The Foxlowe events are £12 and available from the Foxlowe. Doors open at 7.30pm for 8pm start for each gig.



Allan Taylor



Phill Jupitus



Kirk Fletcher

Big names at the Foxlowe

We have some big music and comedy names heading the Foxlowe's way this autumn! What with the nationally renowned comedian Phill Jupitus performing on November 4 and with the Kar-Pets led by former Inspirial Carpets frontman Tom Hingley on October 21 – it's all going on at the Foxlowe!

Following a summer break, Leek's very own comedy club, which is now in its 12th year, is back on September 7 with comedians Steve Harris, Jose Pugh, Wayne Beese, Kiran Morjaria, and compere Barry Dodds. The following Leek Comedy Club will take place on Thursday October 5 with comedians Dan Nightingale, Ray Badran, Simon Lomas, Jamie Hutchinson, with compere Lou Conran. Tickets for Leek Comedy Club evenings are £10 each and doors open at 7.30pm for an 8.30pm start.

Musically, there is a wide variety on offer at the Foxlowe over the next two months with alternative rock, folk, blues and Americana, and comedy too. First up will be radio and television presenter, musician and writer Mark Radcliffe who will be making a welcome return to the Foxlowe Arts Centre on Sunday September 3. Expect stories and songs of middle aged angst and more. Next up will be The Situation Presents' Musicians Against The Homeless gig on Saturday September 9 with a host of bands doing their bit for charity. The Foxlowe Arts Centre will once again be joining many other venues across the town in taking part in this year's Leek Blues and Americana Festival.

In association with Biddulph Up In Arms, singer and songwriter Slaid Cleaves will be at the Foxlowe on Thursday September 28, while the soulful Kirk Fletcher will perform on Friday September 29. After the main festival has ended, the Leek Blues team will be offering another gig at the Foxlowe – this time with Rodney Branigan on Saturday October 14. To find out what else is going on in the town for the ever-growing Blues and Americana Festival, go to www.leekblues.co.uk. The lovely music promoters of 'The Situation Presents' have enlisted The Kar-pets to perform at the Foxlowe Arts Centre on Saturday October 21. The Kar-Pets are an Inspirial Carpets tribute band, but with a notable difference from other tribute bands in that the Kar-Pets feature the former lead singer of the Inspirals, Tom Hingley. Tickets for this gig, which will be supported by Leek's very own The Tetley's, are priced at £12.50.

Further information about Foxlowe gigs: www.foxloweartscentre.org.uk

Funny and intimate show for new theatre season

Our new season of theatre shows start towards the end of October with 'Team Viking' from Tangram Theatre.

Two friends have made a drunken pact that, whenever one of them has to go, they'll have the full Viking funeral they had always dreamed of. And then, sooner than expected, one of them has to go.

Acclaimed by *The Scotsman* as a "a funny, intimate show", full of "magnificently clever" (Guardian) comedy theatre, it's described as an ode to death and friendship: deeply personal with a tender poignancy and comic touches of sheer brilliance. James Rowland, who wrote the show and performs in it, has worked in theatre, radio and television, and 'Team Viking' won The Origins Award at London's Vault Festival earlier this year.

Described by 'The Stage' newspaper as "Joyous – heart-lifting and incredibly moving", 'Team Viking' is at the Foxlowe on Wednesday 25 October at 7.30pm. Advance tickets for this Live and Local show are £11.



Foxlowe Cafe & Catering for Private Functions

Welcoming and relaxed ambience Monday-Saturday 10am - 4pm

First Sunday monthly 10am-4pm

Good selection of vegetarian meals and daily meat option.

We cater for all kinds of private parties.

Contact the Centre Manager, Vicki Heath: 01538 386112



The Foxlowe Arts Centre is a Limited Company by Guarantee: 07757326 and a Registered Charity: 1144382
Trustees : Peter Kent-Baguley (chair), Dave Bell, Marc Briand, Colin Broome, Faith Cleverdon, Belinda Hargreaves, Andy Norton, Paul Osbourne and Chris Thompson.

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Foxlowe Arts Centre Co-ordinators

All co-ordinators are volunteers. Each has a number of volunteers helping with work in their area. Volunteers are always welcome at the Foxlowe Arts Centre. However much time you are free to offer, your help will be most welcome. Whatever your skills there will be a task to match! Please contact the Volunteers' co-ordinator Marion Fenton: 07974 063674 or email Marion via: volunteers@foxloweartscentre.co.uk

Building Maintenance

Cliff Deighton
07789 362 179

Exhibitions:

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Jane Leigh

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Ground Floor

Pat Bennett

01538 384167

Films

Maureen Wiskin

01538 385799

Gardens

Alison McCrea

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GatewaySHED

Cliff Deighton

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Health & Safety

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Marketing

Marc Briand

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Music & Theatre

Andy Norton

07974 063 674

Talks

Cathryn Walton

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Marion Fenton

07938 226 469

Web Site

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Minutes of the meetings of the trustees, copies of the trust's annual accounts and past issues of ST13 are available for reading on site in the box files in the first floor vestibule of the Heritage and William Morris Rooms.

Foxlowe trustees gratefully acknowledge the financial assistance of Leek Town Council, the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Architectural Heritage Fund, Leek Lands Trust and County Councillor Charlotte Atkins.

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Newsletter

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Developments at the Foxlowe



Gallery review and preview - Page 3



Summer 2011



Summer 2017

When the three original trustees of the Foxlowe Arts Centre took on the initial lease in August 2011 and then the mortgage to purchase the Foxlowe in August 2014, they were well aware that to restore and maintain the building and adjoining grounds while developing a community arts centre would be a major financial challenge.

Over the past six years considerable work has been undertaken, including many urgent repairs: two dozen burst pipes, the replacement of all three central heating boilers, the re-slating of the front half of the roof of the Georgian house, and many of the roofs on the rear buildings, mostly paid for from our own resources. Committed volunteers have painted acres of walls, ceilings and woodwork, brought the garden brought back to colourful and productive life, regenerated the car park.

Faith Cleverdon was appointed to the Board of Trustees in March 2016 to develop major grant applications. During this our sixth financial year we were awarded £15,000 towards the cost of professional studies of the building, £8,500 from Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and £4,500 from Architectural Heritage Fund (AHF).

Local architects, ctd of Clerk Bank, won the tender to produce detailed drawings of the building, a Condition Survey to identify repairs and give a rank order of urgency, and an Options Appraisals indicating possible ways of enhancing our facilities, and finally budget estimates indicating the likely costs.

An application for a, HLF grant of £100,000 HLF will be submitted shortly with a view to funding the cost of the urgent works, namely re-slating the rear roof of the Foxlowe, re-rendering the rear wall of the Foxlowe, the replacing of a number of windows in the Function Room and other small but important repairs.

The HLF bid includes an Activities Programme of additional events and activities to complement the already comprehensive programme. Fortunately the HLF's definition of 'heritage' is a broad one, and almost any activity relating to the arts, history, or the environment is grist to their mill. To facilitate this, we would like to establish a special group, co-ordinated by Faith Cleverdon and Jane Leigh. If you would like to contribute ideas and be actively involved with the development of the Activities Programme please contact Faith: faith.cleverdon07@btinternet.com or by telephone: 01538 382755.

In the meantime, work projects by volunteers will continue to refurbish the Foxlowe Arts Centre.

The next project, to be co-ordinated by trustee Chris Thompson, is to redecorate the bar and function room areas. Anyone interested in being a part of this particular work party can contact Chris by email at chris@warmigloo.net.

The volunteer behind The Great Foxlowe Bake-Off

Volunteer Pam Ramsay, lovingly known at the Foxlowe as 'Pam Cakes', has been working hard behind the scenes at the centre for two years in baking a lot of the Cafe's scrumptious culinary delights for the sweet-toothed.

Pam first started baking at the age of just seven-years-old and later took to the baking helm for her family and it has remained a hobby ever since.

On an average day of volunteering at the Foxlowe, 59-year-old Pam creates around ten large cakes which generally include: 4 x Bakewell tarts, 2 x Victoria sandwich cake, 2 x lemon drizzle tray bake, 1 x coffee and walnut sponge cake, two trays of flapjacks or 2 polenta cakes as well as a pile of scones.

Pam, who lives in Ipstones and is a mum of four and grandmother of seven, said: "I do try to vary things slightly, but have come to realise that it is same old, same old.

Other than ship loads of mince pies in December, the variety of cake remains unaltered throughout the year. I am told that the lemon sponge cake is the most popular."

As for why Pam gives up a certain amount of time each week to volunteer at the Foxlowe, the retired PA and Office Manager said: "It was the history of the Foxlowe that first interested me when I popped in for a coffee one time, then picked up the leaflet about volunteering and thought it was a place I was prepared to give my time to.

"I was made very welcome from the very first time I arrived and the biggest reason I enjoy volunteering is being part of a team again, which is what I miss most with not going out to work."

Anyone interested in volunteering at the Foxlowe can contact Marion Fenton on 07938 226469, or pop in the venue for an information leaflet.



Just some of Pam 'Cakes' scrumptious creations.