



## Oyez Oyez! Bill says Thank You

**A Moorlands town crier has hosted a 'thank you' event for the people who have supported him during his role – and he held the event at the Foxlowe Arts Centre.**

Bill Lomas has been Leek's Town Crier for more than three years and hosted an event in the function room recently to thank all those who have helped him through his volunteer role.

The evening also saw Bill hand out his latest donations to charities – funds which he raised as Santa over the festive period. The charities, which each received £500 each, were: The Dougie Mac, The

Beatrice Charity and Leek's @21 Youth Group.

Bill also sang a 'Thank You' song and held a charity raffle in aid of the Donna Louise Trust, which raised a total of £342 for the Donna Louise. Bill said of the event: "It was a great evening for which I would like to thank everyone who attended and supported the event.

"It's possible that I could repeat this event next year, hopefully."

Bill said of the total £1,842 he gave to charity on the evening: "It's all down to the generosity of everyone who has supported me - I'm very proud of the people of Leek."

## From the Netherlands and the USA to the Foxlowe

**A Moorlands born yoga teacher, shiatsu practitioner and counsellor has returned to her home town to offer her services – which includes Yoga classes at the Foxlowe Arts Centre.**

Paula Charnley grew up in the Staffordshire Moorlands but spent many years living in The Netherlands, and also studied in the USA, before recently moving back to Leek.

Paula said: "My background is in airline operations and personal development training.

"I started to practice yoga as an antidote to stress in a demanding work environment.

"I felt yoga to be so beneficial to my mental and physical health that I wanted to share this with others. A redundancy provided me with an opportunity to study at the Kripalu Centre in the USA."

"I now run yoga classes at the Foxlowe Arts Centre in Leek.

"My yogis are experiencing the transformational power of yoga in dealing with chronic pain, feeling calmer, and enjoying the health benefits of deeper breathing."

Paula also runs a shiatsu massage clinic and offers one-to-one counselling at her practice in Leek.

She added: "It's been an exciting and extremely rewarding journey to get to where I am today.

"I'm loving being back in Leek with its great community spirit and thriving cultural scene."

For further information contact Paula Charnley on 07484 839238..



## Live & Local on stage

**The next Live & Local performance to be welcomed to the Foxlowe Arts Centre is by New Perspectives Theatre.**

Friday, April 26 will be the date for the performance of 'The Man without a Past' which is a new stage adaptation of Finnish film-maker Aki Kaurismaki's fascinating Cannes award-winning film, described as a Finnish 'melancomedy'.

Featuring a cracking live soundtrack, this part melancholic love story, part deliciously deadpan comedy takes you on one man's extraordinary journey from anonymity to unexpected salvation. We meet our anti-hero near a shoreline, abandoned with no memory of his name or past life. Taken in by an eccentric community, with a disused shipping container for a home, he begins an accidental romance whilst adapting to his new way of life. But the past doesn't leave him alone for long...

A professional theatre show brought to us by Live&Local, supported by Arts Council England and Staffordshire Moorlands District Council. Tickets are priced at £11 in advance or £13 on the night; and £6 for students. There will be a licensed bar, soft and hot drinks available from 7pm with the show starting at 7.30pm.

## Positive performances by students

**The Foxlowe Arts Centre has provided students with a stage for a college project.**

The Performing Arts Department at Leek School of Art (Buxton & Leek College) took to the function room stage recently to perform a theatrical show with music.

Performing Arts lecturer, Teresa Pattison, said: "We are very grateful to the Foxlowe Arts Centre for the support and encouragement given to the students during their Community Arts

Project.

"In November, we were lucky enough to work with Borderland Voices who gave us their thoughts on stereotyping and the effect it can have on people.

"Some of their writings informed the dialogue the students devised and also contributed to an exhibition.

"The students shared some personal stories and also entertained an audience with physical theatre and music.

"The reaction and feedback was so positive that the students did two more performances including another visit to The Foxlowe the following week when they performed to a full audience.

"Special thanks to Vicki for her help and support with the arrangements and lighting."

