



Newsletter Number 10 – December 2020

Well, I was early last month with the newsletter. So, I am sure that you will all forgive me for being a bit late with this one. It is even later than I expected because my computer crashed yesterday and I lost the newsletter before I could send it. So, here is version 2! ☺

I hope that you are all still well, keeping safe and still observing all the Government Guidelines, despite the additional restrictions of Tier 3.

COVID Workshops

Well, with the advent of Tier 3, we have had to suspend the new COVID workshops which had been going ahead with some success.

Rest assured that we will be re-opening as soon as the restrictions are lifted to Tier 2 or better. Hopefully we will get good news from Boris on 16th! We will advise you the details by email, social media and the website.



We have carried out a thorough trial of the new booking system with the committee members and it has proved very successful and easy to use. However, we will hold back on launching the system until you have all received a briefing (and if necessary training) on how to use it during the first few weeks of workshops after the re-opening.

Ready for the re-opening, I have an updated rota which reflects what I have heard from you. If you haven't yet confirmed that you want to keep your old slots, or you want to join us on one of the sessions, please get in touch with me at the soonest opportunity, as there are only a few slots available (one each on Tuesday morning and Thursday evening and two each on Wednesday afternoon and evening).

With changing situations, places will inevitably become available from time to time. So, if you are interested in joining us at any time, please let me know (admin@newbigginartscentre.org) and I will put you on the reserves lists and let you know as and when any places become available.





Christmas Windows



If you have passed by Gibson Street when the shutters have been up, you will have seen the marvellous displays in both windows. I must express my thanks to Keith, Diane, Wendy and Sue for the windows dressing and to everyone who helped supply Christmas decorations.

Judging of the Traders window competition was held on Saturday. But, we don't know yet if we have repeated our winning streak from Halloween!



Committee Meeting

Using the latest technologies, we held our first live/virtual committee meeting in November. Those who couldn't attend because of COVID could join us from home on their computer or phone. The TV donated by Sheila really came into its own to give us lovely pictures of the remote committee members.



Don't forget, you can review the minutes of your committee's meetings by going to the NAC online repository
<https://newbigginartscentre.org/elementor-repository/>

Fundraising

Heather Peel, who is leading our fundraising activities hasn't received many inputs and she still needs your ideas to help her on two aspects:

1. If you know of any sources of grants, sponsorship, or other fundraising mechanisms, please let Heather know on fluffypinkturkey@yahoo.co.uk or 01670 855426
2. If you have any ideas on things NAC need, or any other facilities or equipment which we should have at the Centre, for which we should be applying for grants or other funding, please let Heather know.





Sell your paintings on the NAC website

I am still surprised at how few of you have offered your paintings for adding to our website portfolio page <https://newbigginartscentre.org/portfolios/>

If you want further details, or need help uploading your paintings, please get in touch with me.

Remember, you don't have to want to sell them; just get them online and all your friends and relatives can view them from all over the world! If you do want to sell, then obviously the website gives you a much bigger audience than the gallery at Gibson Street (especially during the COVID closure! ☺)



NAC Logo



OK, so I have put an alternative logo at the top of this newsletter this month. Your committee reviewed all the offerings at the last meeting. The one above seemed to be favourite, to date.

However, Keith undertook to try a few new ideas based on Val's communications plan brief. We will keep you in touch.

NAC Shop

When we re-open after the lockdown, we should be able to take payment by card (VISA, Mastercard and American Express) for all your purchases from the shop – and even for your workshop or lesson attendance.

It is taking a lot of sorting out to load the inventory onto the system, but I am sure that it will all be worthwhile. It is a good job that we have had the lockdown to give us time to set it up – see, there has been *some* good come from COVID!

Additionally, we have opened a charity PayPal account which will allow us to safely pay all our suppliers, such as SAA. It will also allow us to take money remotely from customers and benefactors.



If I don't get the opportunity to see you beforehand, on behalf of your NAC committee and myself, I would like to wish you and your families and friends a **VERY**



And a **HAPPY** (and COVID-free) **NEW YEAR!**



Stay safe and healthy!

Steve Wilkinson

admin@newbigginartscentre.org

077 66 856 365

24th October 2020

Newbiggin Arts Centre Charity Number 1163002

Committee members:

Christine Davison

Sue Nicholson

Fiona Rowley

Diane Gough

Valerie Hearn

Heather Peel

Keith Robson

Sue Case

Steve Wilkinson

- Communications

- Fundraising

- Exhibitions

- Secretary

- Chairman and Treasurer

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