



## **Newsletter Number 12 – March 2021**

Where was the February newsletter, I hear you say. Well, things have been a bit busy in the Wilkie household over the past six weeks, what with various hospital visits for my mum and a bit more refurbishment at the Centre. But, to be honest, the main reason is that I didn't have much to say! Even now, you will find this a nice short newsletter.

So, I have even managed to do a bit of painting. I've been working on the 'Eye of the Miner' painting. But the urgency has gone, since the exhibition at the Woodhorn Museum has been postponed until 2022 because of COVID. I hope that you all have been managing to do at least a little bit of painting, if only just to keep your hand in.

Anyway, I hope that you are all keeping well; that those who are defined as vulnerable and those over 70 have all had your vaccinations; and those of you, like me, who are over 65 have received notification about your jabs. It is all progress towards us getting back to the new normal. Keep taking the precautions and Stay Safe!

So, we're slowly coming out of this lockdown. 😊 But, it looks like it will be 17<sup>th</sup> May until we can get back together at the Arts Centre, do some socialising and perhaps a little bit of painting too! Let us all keep our fingers crossed that everything goes according to Boris's plan.

### **COVID Workshops**

Rest assured that we will be opening again as soon as the restrictions have been lifted sufficiently. We will let you all know by email, Facebook and the NAC website as soon as we are able.

### **Committee Meeting**

Due to the restrictions, we haven't held a committee meeting since the one just before Christmas. But, we are all working in the background (and at the Centre) to sort things out and get ready for the re-opening.

The 'pay by card' system is all installed and working. We have the whole shop inventory on the system. It has identified where we have some deficiencies and, as soon as SAA have another decent discount, I will be placing an order to fill the gaps. If any of you need, or want, anything specific ordering, please let me know by email or phone and I will get it at the same time.

### **Fundraising**



NEWBIGGIN ARTS CENTRE

Heather Peel is following up on a few more grant applications.

Meanwhile, courtesy of Her Majesty's Government and via Northumberland County Council, we have managed to get a COVID relief grant for this lockdown which will cover the cost of rent and utilities until we can open again and bring in some income from the workshops, classes and shop sales.

### **Sell your paintings on the NAC website**

The offer to display, and possibly sell, your paintings is still available. If you want further details, please get in touch with me.

Note, if you can't manage to produce your own electronic copy of your painting, let me borrow the original and I can either scan it on my own new personal A3 scanner/printer, or photograph it if it is larger than A3 – all part of the service!



**Stay safe and healthy!**

**Steve Wilkinson**

[admin@newbigginartscentre.org](mailto:admin@newbigginartscentre.org)

**077 66 856 365**

**1<sup>st</sup> March 2021**



Newbiggin Arts Centre Charity Number 1163002

Committee members:

Christine Davison	
Sue Nicholson	
Fiona Rowley	
Diane Gough	
Valerie Hearn	- Communications
Heather Peel	- Fundraising
Keith Robson	- Exhibitions
Sue Case	- Secretary
Steve Wilkinson	- Chairman and Treasurer

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