

Newbiggin Arts Centre Newsletter

Issue #18 | 12 October 2021

A Message from our Chair

It looks like we are well on the road to providing those arts services that we promised at the AGM!

For example, we are pleased to welcome Ted Taylor as Newbiggin Arts Centre's 'Resident Professional'. Ted has already started his first teaching sessions and we are looking at others with him.

In addition, we have lots more to look forward to! Christine Watson will soon be starting her Pastels Club and George Stoker is looking at what can be offered in printing and other diverse art activities. We are also working with some major local organisations to provide a 'Reading for Wellbeing' service (details below).

I am also looking into obtaining funding to help pay visiting professional artists to come here for demonstrations and workshops and for a full-time 'Studio Manager' to help the committee to run the two centres. This all should help take some of the load off your committee members (especially Keith and myself!). If you want to get involved and/or have anything further to offer, please get in touch with me.

P.S. Do you like the new shutters at the Gibson Street Community Centre? The new shop sign is ordered and should be fitted soon!



It's all about learning!

Ted Taylor's 'Introduction to Art' course commenced on Friday the 8th October. It is currently fully subscribed, with a waiting list. Ted has offered to run another similar course for those on the waiting list who couldn't get a place on Friday and anyone else who may be interested. It will be held on Monday afternoons at Front Street.

Please email to register an interest. Priority will be given to the seven people already on the waiting list. It is sure to be oversubscribed, so 'first come first served'; get the email in quickly (even if you are already on Steve's waiting list).

With Ted's support, we are looking into running sculpture classes at Gibson Street. advising which days (preferably afternoons) would best suit you (excluding Monday, when Ted will be at Front St and Wednesday when we have the craft club at Gibson Street).

If you remember, Christine Watson had an exhibition at Front Street last month, and if you saw the pastels which Christine exhibited, you will be as excited as we are to hear that she will be running a 'Pastels Club' where we can learn from her experience and expertise. The sessions will be held at Gibson Street on alternative Wednesday mornings (1st & 3rd Wednesdays of the month).



Please let us know...

If you are interested in signing up for, or expressing an interest in any of our upcoming sessions, please send us an email (contact information below).

While most of our existing clubs and classes are fully subscribed, please let us know if you are interested in attending them as we can add you to a waiting list and let you know when a space becomes available....which leads us to ask...if you are signed up for a session and no longer want to attend, or are unable to attend for any reason, please let us know so we can free up the space for someone else. Thank you!



Supporting our community

One of our key aims is to help develop our community, and therefore, we are really pleased to let you know that starting next week, we will be supporting an exciting new one-year scheme, "Reading for Wellbeing". It is funded by Ann Cleeves (the best selling author of the well-loved TV drama Vera) and involves the Northumberland Library Service and Northumberland County Council teaming up with Public Health England, Newcastle and Northumbria universities, and community organisations, to see how reading can improve the health of people with chronic pain, anxiety, depression and for those who may be socially isolated.

These reading sessions will start next week at both of our locations:

Family Storytime and Friendship sessions at Gibson Street—2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month, from 10:30 – 11:30.

Stories & Friendship sessions at Front Street—every Tuesday, from 10:30 – 11:30

Refreshments are provided.

If you are interested or want more information, please call Jane or Sarah: 07966 330372 or email: read@northumberland.gov.uk



Contact Us

01670 708269 or 07766 856365

<u>admin@newbigginartscentre.org</u>

<u>www.newbigginartscentre.org</u>

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Contact Us

01670 708269 or 07766 856365

Children's Group: 078 58 447 090

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Need some art supplies? You don't have to go far to get them. Our shop in the Front St. studio is continually expanding and if we don't have what you're looking for, please let us know and Steve will get them ordered for you—usually a next day delivery (when he is not on holiday or away on business!) we'll do our best to get it for you.





Key Dates

Art exhibitions

For the first week of every month, you can pop in to our Front St. studio to enjoy one of our local artist's exhibitions displayed on our exhibition wall

Just to give you a 'heads up' next month:

November—Rob Thompson

Our artists are finding that their paintings are selling well from the Studios at Front Street. Keith is always on the lookout for some more good paintings to add to our display. If you have any, please bring them along to Front Street next time you are there.