

Disability Arts, Outsider Art, art, artists and art lovers, organisations and venues.

issue 32

All change for 2017
Year of the Red Fire Chicken.



Create, make art, tell your story; the year awaits...



LinkUpArts Newsletter, January and February 2017

Welcome

2017.

Coincidentally, but wonderfully appropriately, Writer Angie Street_ <https://angelastreetwriter.wordpress.com/> has created the colourful Rooster featured on our front cover – 2017 will become , as the 27th January morphs into the 28th and the new Lunar year begins, the year of the Rooster.

Last Rooster year, I drew an image of a disabled chicken. A one-legged bird on crutches with the comment: 'the family was devastated to discover the bird was disabled and soon fierce fighting broke out over who would get the single drumstick' It offended a lot of my meat eating acquaintances...

And a lot of people declared I needed some disability awareness training; so I'm delighted to point out the FREE sessions (see Inaccessible Access) being offered by LinkUpArts and led by Hayley Davies.

A lot of remarks about chickens come to mind as I contemplate the stage on which 2017 will play out, but this time I'll stick with wishing you a creative and productive year.

-By Gini

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Artwork in this issue:

Front cover: Rooster by Angie Street
Page 3: Inaccessible Access workshop

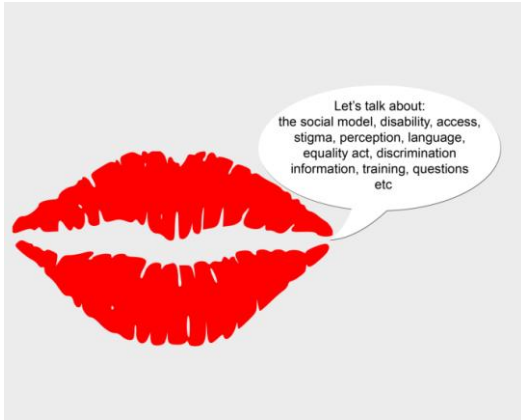
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INACCESSIBLE ACCESS

**Join us for our last Inaccessible Access Workshop on 27th January
2-4pm**



LinkUpArts are running a pilot project which will provide Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) training through the arts to local businesses, other organisations and individuals from any background. We aim to facilitate a shift in thinking and begin a conversation specifically around Disability Equality in Salisbury.

To launch this new training service, we have secured funding to provide a free 2 hour Disability Equality Training workshop, which are being held in the media space at Salisbury Arts Centre on 27th January 2-4pm

This will include topics such as the social model, stereotypes, and the law, as well as an opportunity to talk freely and ask questions that are relevant to you or your organisation and possible ways to address them. These workshops are for everyone who would like to know more about the subject.

To book a place email workshop leader Hayley Davies at admin@linkuparts.org.uk

Access Audits:

LinkUpArts are offering four free Access Audits to organisations in Salisbury throughout February.

Access Audits allow you to establish how well a building or environment performs in relation to access and eases of use by a wide range of potential users. It will also provide a number of recommendations for any improvements needed.

For more information or to book an Access Audit email Hayley Davies at admin@linkuparts.org.uk

YOUR TIME YOUR PLACE

The sounds and sights of bonfire night put me in a reflective mood this year, as I travelled home from a wonderfully creative poetry workshop, hosted by LinkUpArts and Kingfisher Poets at Salisbury Arts Centre.

This one-day workshop, funded by Wessex Watermark was facilitated by poet Grace Gauld who works regularly with Kingfishers and explored the lives and heritage of those living in Stonehenge times, along with our personal experiences as 21st Century humans.

Upon arrival I was offered a comforting slice of hot buttered toast which warmed the heart and set the creative juices flowing! Then, it was time to let my pen take me to lands far and near, and allow my mind to be lost in the written word!

Our morning was spent on a 'virtual' trip to Stonehenge, exploring artefacts and photographs from the Loan Box which is available for community groups to borrow. To begin with, we each chose an artefact and after studying it carefully, were asked to write down what we believed the item was used for in Neolithic times. I chose a wide-mouthed pottery pot, adorned with many lines and dots, which I guessed to be a flowerpot, but turned out from the accompanying description to be a drinking vessel.

Grace led us through a series of timed exercises, which were an excellent way to get 'stuck into' our writing. I had not written any poetry since our workshop with Penny Pepper last year, and do not usually work from visual stimuli. However, it was fascinating to hold the replica artefacts and connect with their history and the lives of those who would have used them, and I soon began to think like a Stone-age woman:

We kneel at the riverbank awaiting our turn.

My mother and the village elders gossiping, laughing.

What news? What news?"

There is nothing new to report – the same thing happens each day –
we work, we cook, collect our daily ration,
Each day, down by the river.

We girls stop bathing and look across the way.

The men are at work,

collecting their nets -

Ready to catch from the river.

At the end of an exhilarating morning the Loans Box was put to one side

and after a short break and a sandwich lunch, we took up our pens once again, to explore what 'home' means to us.

This time, our stimuli were poems by contemporary writers, (one written by Grace). Strangely, I found myself returning to my theme from the morning, and I realised that rivers and water were in fact a huge part of my own life too:

Weekend water, boats, the river calling,
Horrible Rottweilers send us hurrying along the towpath –
under the bridge
Shouting, calling. Our voices echoing
"Hello? Hello! Who's there?"

The smell of seaweed. Back in London waking each morning
Off to the park we'd go.
Rush to the pond, feed the ducks,
Then race ahead – ice-cream calling.

Holidays by the sea,
Cold Anglesey sand beneath our feet
Led me to another beach, another park.
Bournemouth, my home.

I thoroughly enjoyed my workshop with Grace exploring the Kingfisher way of working and further establishing the bond between our two groups. Having not visited Stonehenge in person since a child, and rarely taking the time to reflect back creatively on my own life in terms of ancestry and heritage, it was fascinating to discover how important certain 'forgotten' places and memories were, in making me who I am today!

By Tam Gilbert

They are only sleeping.

Our ancient forefathers came to this land that we now know as home.

Many battles were fought for this precious ground,
People from many diverse nations invaded
Each claimed parts of this Island for their people.

Evidence is scattered around us on the plain,
Wonderful weaponry and jewels
Exquisitely patterned pottery shipped or made here.

Along with glorious gifts came magnificent skills,
Nation learning from nation
Handed down to us with love.

Our ancients are still with us,
Sleeping in the ground we walk upon
Their spirits swirl around in mists, guarding us.

They must be happy to see us all living and working together,
Proud their offspring have settled their differences
And spend time searching for them with metal detectors.

Now we must help our offspring
To learn and make ready for the future,
To a time when our spirits stand watch.

Lost and found

Can you know the wonder
Of finding a coin or artefact?
That someone two thousand years ago lost
Hold it in your hands close your eyes and visualise
What that person was like, kind or cruel?

If they got into bother for losing the item
Was it precious financially
Or cheap to make?
Chute staters of gold
Still look as good as they did
when a treasurer buried them.

Buried two thousand years ago
When a glorious King lived among us.
Many people have lost faith
At a certain time
This precious gift will be found again.
It will be restored by an ancient King
Never to be lost again. amen

- **Josie Smith**

BRUSHSTROKES!

Brushstrokes' is looking for Stroke Survivors to come along and take part in some art and craft activities!

We are a new group run by The Stroke Association held in Tesco Community room, Tesco extra, Southampton road, Salisbury. The group is held on the first Friday of every month from 10 am-12 noon. It is a very relaxed group and extremely enjoyable too, we can accommodate any needs.

We understand that after a stroke, individuals may lose self-esteem, confidence, and the desire to socialise and engage in activities. As adults it is too easy not to take time to relax and express ourselves- this group allows us to do this within a supported comfortable environment.

Early in 2016 the Stroke Association ran two successful Batik flag workshops. Many personal achievements were made, such as the use of a weakened hand, socialising within an unfamiliar group and confidence in returning to an art or craft since their stroke. For those with communication difficulties art can act as a mean of communication, often those with aphasia will draw pictures to help them communicate more effectively.

Quotes from the Batik workshop:

"A friend realised they could use their hand affected by the stroke!"

"It was well organised, and it so helped us all to gain in confidence and to enjoy a new experience"

"Didn't think we could do it! - Amazed how it turned out – Had a whale of a time"

We encourage any stroke survivors to come along and give it a go!

For any details please call Beth Hall on 07717275782/01722 329053 or email Beth.hall@stroke.org.uk

JOBS & OPPORTUNITIES

Programme and Events Co-ordinator, Wiltshire Music Centre (1 Year Maternity cover) Closing date: Monday 23rd January 2017.

Join our busy friendly team and help to run a 300 seat concert venue. We need an energetic and self-motivated person, good at dealing with people to co-ordinate all the arrangements for over 100 concerts a year. You will support the Artistic Director in liaising with our world-class artists (including Grammy and Mercury nominees and other prize winners) and agents, and doing everything from drafting contracts, to arranging accommodation organising piano tuning and getting the concert on the stage.

Full time, some evening and weekend shifts possible.

Salary: £ 20,800 p.a.

Interviews: Friday 27th January 2017.

Please see the full job description and complete the application on the website <http://www.wiltshiremusic.org.uk/jobs>.

Marketing Officer, Pound Arts, Corsham - Closing date: Monday 30th January 2017, 12noon.

Pound Arts is seeking a dynamic, motivated, organised and imaginative Marketing Officer. We are a thriving arts organisation, based in north Wiltshire, delivering a year round programme in our arts centre, staging two festivals (The Blue Sky Festival & Magic and Mayhem) and working across South Gloucestershire and Wiltshire through Rural Touring. The post would suit an experienced marketer, though we would also be keen to hear from exceptional recent graduates who can relate their experience to the role.

Salary: £15,000-£17,000, dependent on experience.

For more details and a job information pack, please email admin@poundarts.org.uk (preferred) or telephone the box office on 01249 701628.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Cafe LUA: 8th February, 8th March and 12th April 2-4pm at Salisbury Arts Centre

Café LUA is a social get together for disabled artists, an informal, open space for inspiration and discussion. However you are involved with or interested in the arts, do come along and meet us, find out about us, and about Disability Arts. We'd love to meet you and hear more about your arts practice or interests.

We usually meet in the café area, but specific projects can mean we are in one of the work spaces, do ask at the Box Office if you are in any doubt. Come and join us and find out about more about current and future projects.

South West Theatre Symposium 2017

After the success of last year's symposium, Salisbury Playhouse, Theatre Bristol, Take Art and Activate are coming together again with a host of artists and industry professionals from across the South West to celebrate theatre making in the region. We would love to invite anyone working in theatre in the South West to be part of a day of meaningful conversations about how to make even more brilliant work for audiences across the region.

THE D WORD. This day will focus on practical conversations about an urgent national issue – what are we doing in the South West to ensure that there is diversity and equality (of all forms) in the arts? How can we as a region drive change and together come up with practical solutions which we can incorporate within our own practice?

We don't want this to be an event where everyone just talks and then nothing changes. This will be a chance to problem solve with leading practitioners sharing case studies, exploring useful learnings and ways to move forward. We want to enable a space where practitioners are inspired to think around corners and can leave with practical actions to make within organisations or individual practice.

Date/times: Friday, 10 February 2017 10am – 6pm at Salisbury Playhouse, Malthouse Lane, Salisbury SP2 7RA

Tickets: £15 (your ticket price includes lunch, refreshments and ticket to rehearsed readings)

To find out more, and book your ticket, visit the Salisbury Playhouse Website

At the heart of LinkUpArts:



For more information about the career artists
In LUAN: linkupartistsnetwork@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER FORMATS

You can receive this Newsletter in print form,
it is available in bigger type and an audio cassette. You can also download it
from salisburyartscentre.co.uk -> Resident Companies ->LinkUpArts



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LinkUpArts and Salisbury Arts Centre work together for the benefit of both organisations. LUA advises and consults with Salisbury Arts Centre on its Disability Arts programming and helps to promote the events. Salisbury Arts Centre gives LUA its home and provides marketing and administrative support. LUA is a strategic creative partner in Salisbury Arts Centre's Creative Family.

Registered office: Salisbury Arts Centre, Bedwin Street, Salisbury Wiltshire, SP1 3USt.
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