

ARTS NEWS, December 2021

South Northamptonshire area, West Northamptonshire Council



**West
Northamptonshire
Council**

Links to websites and emails will show when you hover your cursor over underlined words – click or press to open.

On now to 27 January: Two Local Printmakers

Original handmade prints by Iain Hodgkinson & Lindsey Graham for sale, Towcester Library The Forum, Moat Lane, Towcester, NN12 6AD. Mon. – Friday 9-6pm, Sat. 9-5pm.

On now to Thursday 16 December: [The Heseltine Open Exhibition 2021](#)



Visit the Heseltine Gallery for a treasure trove of unique art, including paintings, mixed media work, photographs, sculpture, ceramics, textiles & paper craft and more, all hand created by artists and crafts specialists based in the south area of Northamptonshire, North Oxfordshire or nearby.

The Heseltine Gallery, Archery Rd, Middleton Cheney, OX17 2QR. Open Sunday to Friday each week, 10am to 4pm. Free entry. **Meet the Artists on Sundays.** *Collection of purchased exhibits: Thursday 16 or Friday 17 December (see below).*



Weds 1 – Fri 24 [Old Masters – Maritime and Landscapes](#)

Pre-loved C19th and C20th paintings for sale, exhibited by Paul Wharton. [Forge Coffee](#), The Green, Culworth

Fri 3 [Amahl and the Night Visitors](#)

Charity performance of Gian Carlo Menotti's popular Christmas opera (in English) performed by Opera Anywhere's troupe of professional singers, supported by a local student orchestra. Proceeds to Brackley Town Mayor's chosen charities, Mental Health Brackley and Brackley Youth Engagement. Egerton Hall, Juno Crescent, Brackley, NN13 6GN. 7:30pm. [Tickets](#) or 0333 666 3366.

Sat 4 [Towcester Handmade Fayre](#)

Towcester Town Hall, 9:30am-4pm. Information from [Town Council](#).

Sat 4 [Art & Photography Selling Exhibition](#)

One day only - art and photographic prints by Zoritza Williams. The Chantry House, Market Square, Towcester, 10am – 5pm.



Sun 5 Meet the Artists



Artists exhibiting in the Heseltine Open Exhibition (see p1) will be in the gallery to meet visitors, answer questions, explain or demonstrate how they make their work. Featured artists: **Lis Mann** (pictured) and **Alison Ranson**. The Heseltine Gallery, Archery Rd, Middleton Cheney, OX17 2QR. Open Sunday to Friday each week, 10am to 4pm. Free entry.



Sun 5 David Horniblow's Vitality

Sunday lunchtime weekly **Jazz @ The Walnut Tree**, Blisworth. 12.30-3pm. Ticket reservations: 01604 858549.

Sat 11 Carols on the Piazza, Brackley

Brackley Jubilee Choir sing seasonal music, 11am to noon.

Sat 11 *On Christmas Night* – concert

[Towcester Choral Society](http://towcesterchoralsociety.org.uk) feature a Christmas story sequence of carols by Bob Chilcott and other seasonal music. St Lawrence Church, Towcester, 7:30pm. Tickets 01908 542815 or tickets@towcesterchoralsociety.org.uk

Sun 12 Meet the Artists



Artists exhibiting in the Heseltine Open Exhibition (see p1) will be in the gallery to explain or demonstrate how they make their work. Featured artists: **Maureen Smith** (pictured), **Anna Steiner** (also demonstrating fun Animal Kits) and **Peter Buchan-Symons** (origami). The Heseltine Gallery, Archery Rd, Middleton Cheney, OX17 2QR. Open until Thursday 16th, 10am to 4pm. Free entry.



Sun 12 Alan Haughton Quartet

The Great Jazz Pianists Part 2. Sunday lunchtime **Jazz @ The Walnut Tree**, Blisworth. 12.30-3pm. Ticket reservations: 01604 858549.

Thurs 16 Carols on Towcester Market Square

All welcome to sing along with Towcester Studio Band. Towcester Market Square, 6:30pm.

Thurs 16 & Fri 17 [The Heseltine Open Exhibition](#) Collection of exhibits/purchases



Open Exhibition purchases and exhibits can be collected after the exhibition closes on Thursday, 4 – 6pm, or Friday 10am to 4pm latest.

Fri 17 [Brackley Male Voice Choir](#)

Festive music at St Peter's Church, Brackley. Tickets from Jems Stationers or Old Hall Bookshop.

Sun 19 [Tad Newton's Jazzfriends](#) Christmas Special

Jazz @ The Walnut Tree, Blisworth. 12.30-3pm. Ticket reservations: 01604 858549.

Sun 19 Lantern Parade and Community Carols on the Piazza in Brackley

A chance to come together as a community with festive lanterns and sing your favourite carols. Lantern parade 5pm from Magdalen College car park, along High St to Piazza; carols from 6pm. Information: 01280 702441.

Mon 20 The Brackley & District Band Christmas Concert

Festive tunes from your local brass band to spread some Christmas cheer. St. Peter's Church, Brackley, 7.30pm. Free admission, retiring collection.

Weds 22 Towcester Studio Band Christmas Concert

St. Lawrence Church, Towcester, 7:30pm, tickets on the door.

NORTHAMPTON FESTIVE MUSIC

Fanfares and Carols

Saturday 4 December, Northampton Bach Choir join forces with Rushden Town Band for a festive programme. Cripps Hall Theatre, Northampton School for Boys, Billing Road, Northampton, NN1 5RT, 3pm.

Mr Handel's MESSIAH

Tue 21st December, Northampton Cathedral, Kingsthorpe Rd, Northampton, NN2 6AG
Christmas festivities wouldn't be the same without *Messiah* - a blaze of trumpets and drums with soloists, choir and chamber orchestra in the fine surroundings of Northampton Cathedral. Fiori Musicali and soloists: Katy Hill – soprano, Robert Cross – countertenor, Edmund Hastings – tenor, James Birchall – bass, Penelope Rapson - conductor

More arts and cultural information for West Northants [here](#).

CREATIVE WORKSHOPS, COURSES AND PROJECTS

Dear Me @18

Community project for all ages. Write a letter to your 18-year-old self, either looking forward or back. What would you say? Submit it to the [Renew 169](#) wellbeing café in Towcester (or email to laurahrpatterson@gmail.com) and you can be part of an exhibition in January 2022. Contact Laura for more information.

There are many opportunities to attend workshops and courses around our area. Learn all sorts of arts and craft skills, make gifts of many kinds, or purchase a session as a gift for someone else. Links to local places [here](#).

Adult Learning courses January to March 2022 include many creative subjects, publicised in brochures and [online](#).

FUNDING & ADVICE

West Northants Council Community Funding Grants - [online Expression of Interest Form](#)

We are now taking **expressions of interest** for Community Funding Grants online. The application process is by online form which can be submitted and reopened if the need for amendment, change or additional information is required. Are you planning an arts project that would benefit our communities next year? The Grants Officer will advise, on receiving your form.

The latest information can be found on [South Northants Volunteer Bureau website](#) and you can sign up for the regular newsletter.

Arts information, opportunities and new funding guidelines: [Arts Council England website](#). Sign up for the newsletter for updates so you don't miss new grant opportunities. Also details of how to enjoy many exciting cultural activities and projects from around the country.

Creative Lives supports creativity for all and is a good source of information, including [guidelines on restarting group activities](#).

[The Culture, Health and Wellbeing Alliance](#) also has a wealth of resources and information.

Our **Healthy Communities web pages** can still be accessed via the new website from <https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/culture-and-tourism/local-tourism> or <https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/health-leisure-and-parks> - click on 'Leisure Centres and Sports Clubs', then 'South Northamptonshire'.

Information is current at the time of issue. Please check all organisations' updates, especially if there are changes to government guidance which affect public opening and activities.

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