



Celebrating our Tenth Birthday!

2010 - 2020

www.crowborough-arts.org.uk

Did we mention that 2020 is our 10th birthday? To celebrate our decade, we've got lots of great events coming up! Our first concert, from The Leon Quartet, is already nearly fully booked, but on April 4th, there's the chance to experience a unique and exciting band: **Stepling**. If you think you know folk music, think again! Stepling's show is inspired by English traditions but is a vibrant blend of music, dance and song, featuring fiddle, guitar, percussion - and a champion step and clog dancer. They've had rave reviews wherever they've performed and we're lucky to have them on the final night of their spring tour.

We share our special birthday with the 150th anniversary of the death of Charles Dickens, and this year's murder mystery evening at the Kings Arms features 'A Dickens of a Murder', which features some characters that will seem almost familiar! Don't miss this one!

Coming up in September, the fabulous ZRI Band returns with "Adventures with Charlie Chaplin". Part concert, part film screening with live score, this is a show for all ages. More details follow, and information about booking will be available soon.

On top of all that, we have 'Art in the Garden', our re-launched Open Studios at the beginning of September, lots more music, our garden party and regular exhibitions and monthly art, book and play-reading sessions.

It's going to be an exciting year, with more announcements due as our plans develop. We hope to see you soon!

Saturday, 4th April, 7.30

The United Church, Croft Road, Crowborough, TN6 1HA

STEPLING

A unique and exciting blend of music, step/clog dance & song inspired by English traditions.



Pre-booked **Tickets** £10 (members) | £12 (non-members) | £5 (children & students)

Call 01892 853294 or email gaye.jee@clara.co.uk

Step up for a Unique Music & Dance Experience

This is an opportunity to witness a truly inspiring and vibrant evening of music and dance. Stepling's richly varied performances combine traditional and original material – from high energy competition clog to carefully crafted arrangements, many with foot percussion. Stepling features fiddle and vocals from Deb Chalmers, guitar from Adrian Lever, percussion from Jo May and percussive dance from champion clog dancer Toby Bennett.

Many Crowborough Arts members will already be familiar with the work of percussionist Jo May, who has performed at several of our events, including 'Leading Ladies' (with fiddler/vocalist Sarah Matthews) and 'Face to Face' (with Flamenco guitarist Matt Sullivan). Jo has mesmerised our audiences with her performances on the balafon and her virtuosity on the spoons, as well as more conventional percussion instruments.

Stepling have performed to appreciative audiences at many leading UK folk festivals and their debut album 'Leap' was released in 2018 to great acclaim. Book now to avoid disappointment!

See Stepling in action at www.Stepling.org.uk

CROWBOROUGH ARTS OPEN STUDIOS

September 5th & 6th 2020

Don't forget: the final date for entries is **31st March!** Don't miss out — the application form is live on the website now.

Go to Crowboroughopenstudios.co.uk for more details, or contact:

Jane: janemanchoo@icloud.com

Maggie: bill.austin@sky.com

The Leon Quartet: Last Chance for Tickets

The Leon Quartet performs a selection of classics from Handel, Mozart, Vivaldi, Boccherini etc on Sunday, 15th March. We are nearly sold out, but call 01892 664534 or email angelavb@waitrose.com if you're interested in coming along.



Art in the Garden at Penshurst Place



A bird's eye view from Penshurst's Solar Window

Once again, Penshurst Place has invited our visual artists to draw and paint for free in the estate's formal gardens. Artists are welcome to visit the 11-acre garden any time during the 2020 season and are especially invited for Glorious Gardens Weekend, 6th and 7th June. This is when the garden is expected to be at its best, with the 100m long peony border in full bloom. And Penshurst is doing its bit to help Crowborough Arts celebrate its 10th birthday, by offering a free private house tour at 10 am on Saturday 6th. This will be conducted by CA Steering Group member Gaye Jee, who has been a guide at Penshurst for over 15 years. Numbers will be limited for the tour, and you will need to obtain your Art in the Garden Pass to be eligible,

so please email gaye.jee@clara.co.uk or call Gaye on 01892 853294 to arrange for a pass to be sent to you and to register your interest in the tour.

Parlour Games



Our Christmas production, 'Come Into My Parlour' at The Green Lane Music Room was a slightly tongue-in-cheek take on those Victorian gatherings populated by overbearing aunts and downtrodden spinsters, where everybody gets up to do their 'party piece', whether the audience likes it or not! Luckily, the audience **did** seem to like it and songs and readings old and new created a suitably festive atmosphere for the beginning of December.

Taking part were several CA regulars: Julia Ball, Alice Barnard, Gaye Jee, Christine Roberts, and Angela Vernon Bates. Embodying the Wicked Uncle without which no Victorian production would be complete, was Peter Claridge, who charmed everyone with his sinister depiction of the spider in "The Spider and the Fly"; sinister at least until his moustache fell off to hilarious effect! Master Benjamin Pearce reminded us all not to play with dangerous toys with his performance of "George" by Hilaire Belloc, and musical accompaniment was ably provided by Peter Land. Lavish costumes were provided by Angela, who raided her wardrobe of beautiful hand-made Victorian dresses.



"Music ... can name the unnameable and communicate the unknowable" - Leonard Bernstein

On April 24th, Crowborough Arts Bursary recipient Alice Barnard talks about bringing music to people with special needs.

After several years performing professionally as a singer, Alice is now working with young adults with learning difficulties. She will talk about her experiences so far, and perform songs inspired by this work.

Friday, 24th April, 7.30, St John's Road, Crowborough

Pre-bookings only, £5. Contact gaye.jee@clara.co.uk or call 01892 853294

Dates for Your Diary:

Monday, 3rd March, 10.00 - 12.00: Portrait drawing

The United Church, Croft Road, Crowborough, TN6 1HA
Contact Mike on hmar@tiscali.co.uk

Thursday, 12th March, 9.30 - 12.30: Life Drawing

The United Church, Croft Road, Crowborough, TN6 1HA
Contact Richard on 01892 852681 or email richard.nottingham@btinternet.com

Sunday, 15th March, 5 pm: The Leon Quartet

The Green Lane Music Room
Members £15, non-members £18
Call 01892 664534 or email angelavb@waitrose.com

Monday, 23rd March, 9.30 - 12.30: Life Drawing

The United Church, Croft Road, Crowborough, TN6 1HA
Contact Richard on 01892 852681 or email richard.nottingham@btinternet.com

Saturday, 4th April, 7.30: Stepling: Step/clog Dance and Song inspired by English traditions.

The United Church, Croft Road, Crowborough, TN6 1HA
Members £10, non-members £12
Bookings: call 01892 853294/email gaye.jee@clara.co.uk

Monday, 6th April, 10.00 - 12.00: Portrait drawing

The United Church, Croft Road, Crowborough, TN6 1HA
Contact Mike on hmar@tiscali.co.uk

Thursday, 9th April, 9.30 - 12.30: Life Drawing

The United Church, Croft Road, Crowborough, TN6 1HA
Contact Richard on 01892 852681 or email richard.nottingham@btinternet.com

Friday, 24th April, 7.30: Bursary Recipient Alice Barnard talks about bringing music to people with special needs

St John's Road, Crowborough. Pre-bookings only, £5
Contact gaye.jee@clara.co.uk or call 01892 853294

Saturday, 6th June, 7.30: Murder Mystery Supper

The Kings Arms, Rotherfield, TN6 3LJ
Tickets £35 members/£38 non members
Contact gaye.jee@clara.co.uk or call 01892 853294

Sunday, 7th June: Daniel Tong & Sara Tickler play Schubert

The Green Lane Music Room
More details tba

Adventures With Charlie Chaplin

Saturday, 24th October

As our special Birthday Event this year, we had invited the Monks of the Tashi Lhunpo Monastery to perform at the Community Centre, but unfortunately, due to illness their UK tour for 2020 has been cancelled.

However we are excited to announce that we have now booked the wonderful ZRI band in their special show, *ZRI's Adventures with Charlie Chaplin*. Part concert, part film screening, the audience is transported to the exciting melting pot of early 20th Century New York where jazz, klezmer and classical music intertwine in film soundtracks. ZRI match the wit, virtuosity and sheer brilliance of Chaplin



in his creative prime as they perform live alongside his early classic 'The Adventurer'. The show brought the house down at The Royal Albert Hall, so we know it'll be a night to remember here in Crowborough.