

A CHRISTMAS BOX

FESTIVE SURPRISES IN WORDS AND MUSIC

Saturday, 10th December, 7.30
St Denys' Church, Rotherfield



*With talented local
performers &
'The Martlets' Folk
Choir & Band*

Reserve your seats now!

Proceeds to the Rotherfield Protection Group

£10.00 members | £12.00 others | £30 family ticket | £5 under 16

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

Some tickets may be available on the door

A recital by

LAURA SNOWDEN

Classical Guitar & Composer

The Green Lane Music Room
Sunday, 13th November, 3 pm



Pre-paid tickets only from angelavb@waitrose.com

£20 members | £25 others

To include a glass of wine or soft drink

Box Clever: Get your tickets now!

Our Christmas production is a bit different this year. We've decided to merge our more traditional festive event of readings and songs with music from our new folk community choir and band, 'The Martlets'. 'A Christmas Box' promises to be an evening full of seasonal atmosphere. You can expect the unexpected with beautiful and unusual carols and traditional English wassails, together with poems and short readings that really capture the festive spirit. Join us for a spine-tingling, humorous, and nostalgic beginning to Christmas in the beautiful setting of St Denys' Church in Rotherfield.

Proceeds from the evening will go to the Rotherfield Protection Group to assist in their work of fighting over-development in this ancient village.

We're expecting to fill the church, so buy your tickets today!

Open Studios 2022

This year's CA Open Studios was extra special: we celebrated the 90th birthday of artist, illustrator and loyal and long-standing CA member, Justin Todd, with work dating from his early career, through to paintings in his more recent style.

According to other artists taking part, there was a greater

number of visitors this year and more sales than before. The weather was kind and we had 38 artists showing their work in 15 venues around the town, in Fairwarp village and at Mark Cross. Some people even managed to visit every venue over the weekend!

We look forward to an even bigger show next year.

Top: Justin and Barbara Todd were presented with a birthday cake decorated with Justin's own illustrations on the cake band.

Below Left: Ceramicist Yolande Beer with her work at Studio No 1.

Below Right: Ceramics in the garden at Ashdown Pottery, Fairwarp.



Max Baillie & Ljubica Stovjanovic



These two talented musicians gave a violin and piano recital on 15th October at Green Cottage.

They played an exciting programme, beginning with music by De Falla - 5 of the Siete Canciones Populares Espanolas - and they brought particular delicacy and fragility to the beautiful Asturiana.

Max and Ljubica followed with violin sonatas by Debussy, Cesar Franck and Janacek.

The energy of Max's violin playing and Ljubica's wonderfully sympathetic accompaniment combined to give a stunning performance.

Both performers have separate international careers; we have enjoyed Max's performances on several occasions, most recently as part of the ZRI band in 'Adventures with Charlie Chaplin', and we hope to welcome Serbian-born Ljubica back to a CA event in the not-too-distant future.

Crowborough Arts is so fortunate to have artists of this calibre playing for us and the Green Lane Music room was packed with an appreciative and delighted audience.

A Lifeline in Music with Alice Rose Barnard

In addition to putting on arts events, Crowborough Arts is proud to support arts practitioners in other ways. Alice Rose Barnard has performed in many of our events over the past ten years. In 2019 she received a CA bursary which she used for a short music therapy course to support the work she was doing with young adults with learning difficulties. In September, she shared her experiences with us at Four Season's Barn.

Alice's case studies included that of a young autistic woman whom she called Tess; she is often disturbed by music, as she has 'perfect pitch'. However, she is enthusiastic about her favourite songs and Alice works with her in sharing her own wide repertoire. Alice also told us about an older lady who has been diagnosed with dementia, whom she met through her work for the charity 'Age Exchange'. Music from her past enables her to temporarily break out of her closed-in world and dance with her partner once again.

The talk was illustrated with both live playing of songs inspired by some of the people Alice has worked with, and examples of audio-visual material. She developed the latter when the pandemic forced her to start using 'Zoom' for her work with The English Folk Dance and Song Society. This was a difficult time for students with learning difficulties and by making these movies of herself, she completely transformed what can be a dry method of teaching, and one unsuited to students with disabilities. We were treated to a great video of the team performing 'Hopping Down in Kent', and another of Alice as different characters singing a humorous song: 'Today's Monday'.

It's a great joy for all those involved in Crowborough Arts to see one of our bursary winners making such good use of that award and sharing a continued career in their field; the many questions posed to Alice by members of the audience showed just how much her talk was appreciated.

Christine Roberts



Alice performing live in 2021

Talking the Mick

On Friday, 4th November, we were lucky enough to have Booker prize short-listed author, Mick Jackson, talk to us at The Green Lane Music Room. Mick talked engagingly and with great humour about the realities of being a full-time writer. He spoke about the inspiration and backgrounds to some of his works and read passages from two of his novels, 'The Underground Man', and 'The Widow's Tale'. It was a fascinating insight into the world of a writer.



The Martlets: Join Our Flock!

With several months of gloomy and wet weather before us, why not do something to cheer yourself up? The Martlets folk community choir will be starting their fourth term early in the New Year and it'll be the perfect time to become a new member! Led by professional musicians, Alessandra Testai and Robin Jeffrey, we focus on learning traditional songs from around England. Tunes are learned by ear, although words and music are provided too. Over the last year, we have performed at St Denys' Church and The Kings Arms in Rotherfield, and twice in the wonderful Baron's Hall at Penshurst Place. We have half a dozen wonderful traditional musicians who accompany us at performances, giving us really special, truly authentic sound. If you'd like to find out more, please check our website: www.crowborough-arts.org, email gaye.jee@clara.co.uk or call 01892 853294.



Dates for your Diary:

Life Drawing

December 8th, January 9th & 23rd, February 9th & 27th, March 9th & 27th

9.30 - 12.30, Scout HQ, Whitehill Rd, Crowborough, TN6 1RJ
£14 members, £16 others.

Details from Richard at richardnottingham49@gmail.com

Portrait Drawing

December 5th (tutored by Jan Moffitt: £16), February 6th, March 6th

10.00 - 12.00, Scout HQ, Whitehill Rd, Crowborough, TN6 1RJ
£12 members, £14 others.

Details from Richard at richardnottingham49@gmail.com

November 13th: Laura Snowden (Classical guitar)

3.00 pm, The Green Lane Music Room
£20 members, £25 others

Pre-paid tickets only from angelavb@waitrose.com

December 10th: 'A Christmas Box'

7.30 St Denys' Church, Rotherfield.
£10 members, £12 others, £30 family ticket, £5 under 16s.
Tickets from: gaye.jee@clara.co.uk or call 01892 853294

Martlets Rehearsals for 2022: dates will be confirmed soon - please keep an eye on the website.

More details of all events at: www.crowborough-arts.org.uk