

News release: 18th October 2008

Local artists collaborate to support Berkhamsted youth project

Three Hertfordshire artists are contributing a unique piece of art to October's Lions Club of Berkhamsted fund-raising concert.

The piece is the result of a collaboration between three artists: Sara Wickenden, Stuart Grieve and Jenny Timms of Vitreus Art.

The picture, including elements of digital photography, layers of opalescent paint and beads together with fabric and stained glass, will be auctioned at the Lions Club musical evening on Saturday 25th October at the Centenary Hall, Berkhamsted.

The proceeds will go to support Berkhamsted's Swan Youth Centre - a popular destination for the town's youngsters.

The three artists, members of the Art in Berkhamsted group, exhibited recently as part of the Hertfordshire Open Studios season, where the idea first came together.

Jenny Timms commented "The Swan is a real treasure for Berkhamsted's kids. It's a safe place for them to meet up in a relaxed but grown-up environment where their parents will know they're not getting into trouble!"

Sara Wickenden, one of Art in Berkhamsted's founder members, added, "We wanted to make something as artists that could be auctioned to support the Swan project. As our exhibition was called 'Layers & Light' we agreed that building up a picture with many layers would be perfect."

The Lions Club fund-raising event is always a major feature in the calendar; this year those lucky enough to get tickets will hear leading soprano Kathryn Jenkin perform a selection of operatic arias and songs, accompanied by Jeanette Ager (alto), Simon Davies (tenor), John Bernays (bass) and Peter Jenkin (piano).

This year's concert will be the ninth the Lions Club has organised in Berkhamsted, and tickets are sought-after. The centenary Hall offers great visibility from all seats and excellent acoustics, making the annual concert a great night out for music lovers.

The picture to be auctioned started out as a stylised photograph of a masked reveller at Vienna's Carnival. The original image was then developed digitally, before layers of paint, lace, beads and other artist's materials were added. Completing the distinctive piece, sections of glass were added to highlight parts of the picture and provide a further subtle element of layering to the final work. The picture is framed and ready to hang.

- Ends -

About the Swan Youth Centre

The Swan Youth Centre's main aim is the provision of a safe, drug free and alcohol free environment where young people aged 12 – 18 years can meet informally and participate in a variety of social education programs and activities which promote their spiritual, mental and physical well being and enrich their lives. The Centre is equipped with a pool table, DJ booth, table football, Internet room, play station, Chill-out room, Drum Kit,

The Co-ordinator also works with the Berkhamsted Youth Town Council members to run existing and new initiatives for young people in Berkhamsted. For further information, contact the co-ordinator, CLARE MUIR on 01442 384349.

About Lions Club of Berkhamsted fund raising event

Doors open at 6.30pm; the Charity Concert starts at 7.30pm. Tickets at £12.50 (student concession £8) can be obtained by calling the box office on 01442 864411, or at the door.
<http://www.berkhamsted-lions.co.uk>

About Art in Berkhamsted

Art in Berkhamsted is a small local art group originally founded to exhibit as part of Hertfordshire's Visual Arts Forum Open Studios season, and planning more local exhibitions and art workshops.

The group includes art styles as diverse as photography, digital art, acrylic and encaustic painting and contemporary stained glass.
<http://www.artinberkhamsted.co.uk>

Issued by Vitreus Art on behalf of Art in Berkhamsted.

Jenny Timms & Mike Caddy
07879 256115 / 07778 837471
art@vitreus-art.co.uk