



# Summer Newsletter 2006

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tees valley arts

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# It's great to see the sun shining... at last.

However, the long cold winter was temporarily warmed up in the Tees Valley by what turned out to be a vibrant celebration of World Music at the 'Winterfest' in February - it managed to create light and energy in the darkest month of the year. Tees Valley Arts would like to thank all those people and organisations who helped make this event a roaring success.. More next year.. and more inside from Rowena...

We've had a busy time here at TVA spending lots of time building new partnerships with regional and sub regional bodies and subsequently devising some very exciting new programmes. The Drugs Intervention Programme at Government Office North East is working with TVA to develop a regional model for using the arts as a form of therapeutic support for substance abusers in rehabilitation programmes. Our pilot action research project DARE (Drugs, Arts & Rehabilitation) will start shortly; the focus will be a group of Middlesbrough Crack Cocaine users who will work toward developing skills in drumming and creative writing. This programme will go forward as part of our main community programme; INSPIRE which will also initiate a partnership with the Youth Justice Board (YJB) and the National Association for the Care & Resettlement of Offenders (NACRO).

In addition to our community work, our education programme continues to thrive... one of several new partnerships to note is with the North Yorkshire and Tees Forestry Commission through the development of the Coatham Community Woodland project. This project will focus on developing educational activities using creative writing and stone carving in the Long Newton area.... Janette expands on her plans.

July will see the national recruitment of five graduate Higher Arts Management Trainees who will engage with a unique 12 month programme of work experience opportunities across the Tees Valley... read more inside...

TVA also returns to the Public Art arena with Middlesbrough Council's commission to manage the development of an exciting new gateway feature for the A66/Cargo Fleet Lane roundabout. This high profile initiative will link conceptually with the Middlehaven corridor through a national design competition in collaboration with the Landscape Institute. See more inside...

So, drawing breath over the Easter break was welcome as you would imagine!

Here's wishing you all a fantastic summer and for those partners who will be away for the summer recess - we will be working hard in preparation for your return..



Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rosi Lister'.

**Rosi Lister**  
Director



# A66/Cargo Fleet Lane Roundabout

## Spring 2006 saw a welcome return to Public Art for TVA's portfolio.

Middlesbrough Council's Regeneration Team, under the supervision of Richard Dowson commissioned TVA to manage the design and installation of a new Gateway Feature for the south east A66 Middlesbrough corridor.

The A66/Cargo Fleet Lane Roundabout will consequently be the focus of a high profile national design competition which will be open to all members of the Chartered Institute for Landscape Architects (now known as the Landscape Institute). The winning design will conceptually link this roundabout with the following roundabout at the entrance to the Middlehaven development, thus providing an ambient passage way for motorists approaching the town.

Expressions of interest will be sought from members through the next issue of the Landscape Institute's journal. A steering group has been convened to develop the selection criteria with representation from Commissions North, Streetscene, Middlesbrough Cultural & Regeneration Teams and TVA.

The successful design will be selected this autumn with a planned installation programme in the spring of 07. Christian Barnes is coordinating the project on behalf of TVA.

In addition to this project, a dramatic new arts in health commission is on the horizon... watch this space for more details...

Please contact Rosi Lister at [info@teesvalleyarts.org.uk](mailto:info@teesvalleyarts.org.uk) for more information about Public Arts projects.



## Higher Apprenticeship in Arts Management (HAAM)

This summer will see the extension and development of what was previously known as the Tees Valley PAMI (Performing Arts Managers Internship) developed and commissioned by the Tees Valley Strategic Arts Officers Group.

Now operating as a more general higher level work based Arts Management scheme, the HAAM model is currently unique because of its graduate and work based character; and is subsequently attracting lots of interest regionally and nationally. Working on the principle of Individual Learning Plans, the scheme will be tailored to the needs and interests of the five lucky recruits who will receive a bursary for their training. Work experience opportunities will be offered as a menu and will include 'shadow residencies' in thematic art form or issue based projects in community and educational settings, as well as Local Authority Arts Development teams. A comprehensive training/seminar programme will include Arts Policy, Project Management, Quality Assurance, Arts Administration, Fundraising, Event Management and Financial Control. Accredited assessor training opportunities in the Young Peoples Arts Award will also be available.

Rosi Lister is currently in conversation with the Arts Council, the Creative & Cultural Skills Council and Creative Partnerships National Office about how this initiative might be further developed and sustained regionally. This initiative is supported by the Tees Valley Investment Fund and the five Local Authority Arts Development Teams.

Rosi Lister is working with Caroline Pearce in the Middlesbrough Arts Development Team on this initiative. Contact Rosi in the first instance for more: [info@teesvalleyarts.org.uk](mailto:info@teesvalleyarts.org.uk)

# WinterFest 06





WinterFest 06 was organised by Tees Valley Arts in collaboration with the African Arts Association to showcase and celebrate the talents of the diverse communities now living in the Tees Valley, to bring together diverse audiences, and to demonstrate that there is a welcome and an appetite for all of the above - a lot to achieve through having a good time!

This not for profit pilot version WinterFest took place over a weekend in March, and was comprised of three events - on the evening of Friday 17th, there was an acoustic night, upstairs at Sassari's, on the afternoon of Sunday 17th there was a 'World Party' in the crypt of Middlesbrough Town Hall, and that night there was the 'Big Night Out', in the magnificent Town Hall Theatre.

The acoustic night featured local poets, singers and musicians from diverse backgrounds and cultures and had a fantastic atmosphere of sharing different traditions, and of people working together in new combinations.

The World Party showcased musicians and performers representing different groups here on Teesside, including the amazing smallworld:BigDrums, which is a collective of people with various physical and learning difficulties who perform world-inspired music, and the excellent Young Riders - young rappers of mostly Zimbabwean origin who came with their own fanbase of about fifty teenagers who stayed throughout the event and gave us all hope for the future!

The Big Night Out offered Sakoba Dance, the Steven Wright Reggae Band, the Dede Saint Prix Band and Transglobal Underground - all of whom were just knockout.

The audience reactions at every event were universally positive, and the stand out comment for me was 'I can't believe this is Teesside, it's like another world' - which was meant as a great compliment, but is also kind of funny - because it was Teesside, and it represents how Teesside is now...



Of course, the big question is 'next year?' Audiences, participants, partner organisations, and performers all seem to feel that WinterFest 06 established a brand so clearly, that following years must be even bigger and better. This means a lot of thinking, organising and fundraising.



There are many factors to think about, from programming through to transport and ticketing, and it certainly was a lot of work. However, the overwhelming fact and memory is that there was a discernible sense of joy at all of the events - that something different was happening in Teesside, that new audiences were being recruited, that different communities and constituencies were coming together and enjoying themselves, and that new and positive developments locally (eg the large and ethnically mixed teenage support for the Young Riders band) were being celebrated and reinforced.

WinterFest 06 received its main funding from the Northern Rock Foundation, with an additional grant from Arts Council England North East, with support from Middlesbrough Borough Council, Middlesbrough PCT, Thistle Hotels, Streetbroadcast, Middlesbrough Primary Care Trust, Sassari's Continental Café and Arts and Business.

Special thanks are also due to Pigpen Sound and personnel at Middlesbrough Council.

**See you all next year!**

Rowena Sommerville, Maurice Dezou  
Festival Organisers

## Art:works South Bank Primary School

Beechgrove and Cromwell Road schools have recently amalgamated to become South Bank Primary School.

Children from reception to Year 5 worked with artist Kerrie Page creating a wonderful mosaic. The mosaic was inspired by a poem written by children based on The Heartstone Project and depicts themes of friendship, multi-culturalism, healthy living and mutual respect.

The mosaic is a welcoming and colourful sight, greeting pupils and visitors in the reception area of the new South Bank Primary School and was completed in time for the children's first day in the new building.

There are three Art:works projects taking place over the summer term; children at Dormanstown Primary are set to create felt banners with a rain forest theme, children from Yarm Preparatory School will work with four artists during an arts week in June and pupils from Gillbrook Technical College are working on another exiting animation project.



## The Evolve Programme

Easter marked the end of the evolve residencies with a flurry of performances and filming. A total of eighteen schools from across the Tees Valley worked with a resident writer, dramatist or dancer, delivering target areas of the national science curriculum. Resident artists worked with school teachers to create innovative programs designed to utilise the arts and creativity to engage students in science.

An explosion of creativity in the spring term saw artists exploring a diverse range of science subjects from habitats to electricity; children danced the periodic table, method-acted metamorphosis and waxed lyrical over the digestive system!

Activities have been documented on film to be developed into DVD teaching resources, providing a lasting reference point for schools and teachers for the future.

Evolve artists are currently working with PGCE students from The University of Durham, looking at ways in which to utilise the arts and creativity to deliver the science curriculum in their placement schools in the Tees Valley.

# Silva stars Coatham Community Woodland Project

An exciting new partnership is being developed with North Yorkshire and Tees Forestry Commission to create permanent memorial sculpture(s) at Coatham Community Woods. A sculptor and a poet will design and install a site specific (and site sensitive) sculpture with the local community. It is the intention that the sculpture will enable a clearing in the woodland to become a place of reflection and remembrance, particularly (but not exclusively) for the relatives and friends of Butterwick hospice. The sculpture will feature poetic verse, and incorporate a place to sit quietly.

The sculpture will be designed and made with the help of local children and young people from Long Newton and patients from Butterwick hospice. Intergenerational poetry workshops between the Long Newton Primary School pupils and the residents of Butterwick hospice will be delivered alongside stone carving workshops with the young people from Long Newton Youth Group. A celebration event will mark the completion of the sculpture, the residencies, and the value of Coatham Woodland to its local community.

## Elements

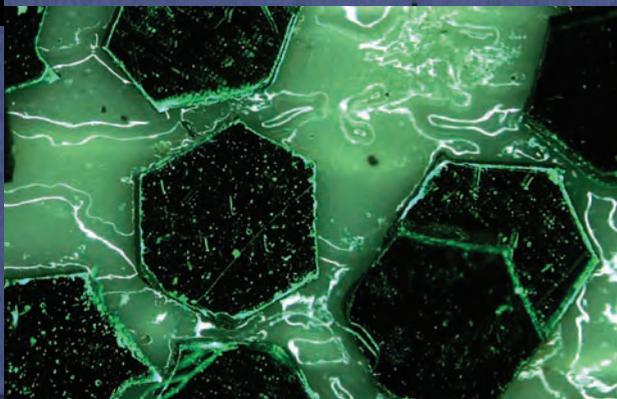
### Education through the Arts in Science and Industry (EASI) Programme

The completion of the Elements project will be celebrated on 21st July at the high profile opening ceremony of Darlington's Education Village, the first to be opened in the UK.

Tees Valley Arts brought together the three schools before they moved to their new site, introducing them to each other's differing abilities and interests. Gifted and talented pupils from Haughton Secondary School joined Year 10 pupils from Beaumont Hill Special School and Year 5 pupils from Springfield Primary School. Together they explored the chemical industries at Wilton.

In partnership with North East Process Industry Cluster (NEPIC), Wilton site visits provided the opportunity for pupils and their artists: a sculptor, dancer, animator and visual artist, to expand their understanding of the history of the Wilton Site and the wider role of the chemical industry. Elements aimed to promote the transfer of pupils' skills across the science, history and geography areas of the curriculum related to one or more of the industries at Wilton and to meet DfES Objectives in relation to Vocational Work and Work Related Learning.

The subsequent artworks created - an animation, dance piece, with set design (which was invited to perform at the Gala Theatre, Durham) and the sculptures are captured onto a DVD, which will be projected as part of the sculptural installation at the grand opening event.



Tees Valley Arts can work with you to plan and set up a programme of creative activities, find a suitable artist, help to frame a budget and secure funding, and then manage the project, both artistically and administratively. If you have an idea you would like to discuss, please contact us:



c/o Tees Valley Arts,  
Melrose House, Melrose Street, Middlesbrough TS1 2HZ  
T: 01642 264 651  
F: 01642 264 955  
E: [info@teesvalleyarts.org.uk](mailto:info@teesvalleyarts.org.uk)  
W: [teesvalleyarts.org.uk](http://teesvalleyarts.org.uk)

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