

# \*artsinfo

The quarterly newsletter for Slough's growing arts community

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## Creating New Horizons

1500 year nine pupils from each of the secondary schools in Slough will be invited to meet more than 50 creative professionals ranging from chefs to ceramicists, dancers to DJs at Thames Valley University as part of the annual Creative Horizons week.

The event aims to give young people the chance to learn about the wide range of exciting career opportunities that are available to them in the arts, cultural and creative industries. The week consists of three strands: Creative Careers, the Young Entrepreneurs Competition and the Creative Industries Business Showcase and it has been running successfully for four years in partnership with Creative Partnerships, Thames Valley University, Slough Enterprise Hub, Creative Academy and Arts Development.

The Creative Careers event, organised by Creative Partnerships will be taking place between Tuesday 15th and Thursday 17th November and artists from a variety of artforms will take part in demonstrations and seminars, discussing their experiences of working in the creative industries and

sharing details of what inspired them to choose their career paths.

The Young Entrepreneurs Competition organised by Slough Enterprise Hub, gives young people aged between 16 and 30 the opportunity to develop their creative ideas into a business plan and submit it to a panel of business start-up experts. Awards will be presented at a ceremony on the 17th November held at the West Wing.

The Creative Industries showcase event, also held that evening, will be a unique opportunity for emerging creative professionals and businesses to witness the diverse breadth of talent developing within Slough. This year's showcased events will include a screening of the highly successful short film 'Stain' produced by Dominique Oliver of Resource Productions and directed by Asham Kamboj of Paperknife Productions and a performance by Fusion Dance Company. There will also be a preview of the programme from Slough's new Youth Music Action Zone. For more information on Creative Horizons contact Arts Development on 01753 875667.



## Local Arts

### ★artsinfo

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### ★artsinfo

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[www.artsinslough.org.uk](http://www.artsinslough.org.uk)

### Tell us your news!

What's happening in your area?

Send in your articles, news stories

and pictures to

[artsinfo@slough.gov.uk](mailto:artsinfo@slough.gov.uk)

*Title photos: Creative Careers at Thames Valley University, 2004, Brian Tollington.*

## Slough Youth Festival

With two music stages, a funfair, sports area, arts and crafts and multicultural arts this was an event not to be missed. Coloured by live performances, interactive demonstrations and workshops, Slough Youth Festival aims to promote social harmony amongst diverse groups of young people.

Live on stage alongside celebrity performances by Raghav, and Bushkin from Heartless crew, the dhol drummers, a jazz band and Irish fiddle players entertained the audience with sounds from around the globe. However, the event was bought to life by

the performances from local artists and young people between the ages of 11-30 who gave vibrant performances.

Despite the temporary setbacks, Slough Youth Festival took place on Sunday 4th September in Upton Court Park. MA Dreams hosted the event with funding and sponsorship from supporting bodies including Slough Borough Council, Masterfoods and the Observatory Shopping Centre. Minaz Ali, Project Manager said, "I would really like to thank everyone for their support and encouragement, it has been a tough journey, but when I saw the smiles of the young people when they saw the stage they would be performing on, it made it all worthwhile." Over the years this annual, not for profit voluntary organisation has helped to raise the aspirations and skills of thousands of young people from Slough.

*For more information please contact Minaz Ali on 01753 824003 or e-mail [sloughyouthfestival@btinternet.com](mailto:sloughyouthfestival@btinternet.com).*



### ★artsinfo NOVEMBER 2005 – JANUARY 2006

★artsinfo is published four times a year and is free of charge. The publication aims to raise the profile of the arts, artists and creative industries in Slough.

To receive a copy regularly, please call: 01753 875667  
minicom: 01753 875030  
email: [artsinfo@slough.gov.uk](mailto:artsinfo@slough.gov.uk)

Articles and pictures for inclusion in the next ★artsinfo must be submitted by 23rd December 2005.

While every care is taken with submitted material, the editor regrets that no responsibility can be taken for material that is lost or damaged. The views expressed in ★artsinfo do not necessarily reflect the official SBC policy. The editor would like to thank everyone who has submitted articles for inclusion in ★artsinfo.

[www.slough.gov.uk](http://www.slough.gov.uk)  
**Slough**  
Borough Council

## Prehistoric creatures stir in the town



As dusk falls, each evening, a mammoth will appear in Slough Museum, its huge shadow filling one of the windows. Artist Maggie Ellenby has created this shadow artwork for the Museum. The coniferous forest that covered the Thames Basin 8,500 years ago and mammoths that roamed the grasslands around 200,000 years ago are brought back to the present in an inversion of the time line.

Maggie has drawn inspiration from Slough's past and objects in the archaeology collection in the Museum, many of which were found in the Thames Basin. These include a

prehistoric fossilised mammoth tusk found at the Orchards in Ditton Park Road in 1963 and a Prehistoric fossilised mammoth tooth found in Taplow Gravel Pit in 1964.

This is one of a number of temporary artworks commissioned by Art at the Centre, Slough, the scheme to re-landscape Slough High Street. The mammoth will be inhabiting the Museum from November – 29th January 2006.

Slough Museum is open Wednesday – Saturday 11.30 – 4.00pm. For information contact Slough Museum on 01753 526422.

## West Wing opens its doors

The West Wing was officially opened by Mayor Latif Khan on 24th September 2005. The day started with a Chinese Dragon performance from Tien Wah and was followed with entertainment for all including a Punch and Judy show, henna painting, clowns and Bollywood dance workshops and shows during the evening.



>> Highlights from the day

## Art at Slough's Libraries

Drums, Tambourines and the sound of children singing might not be the first thing you would expect to hear at a library, but music time is just one of the ways that Slough's Libraries are using the arts to involve people in Slough with library services. Activities range from creative writing courses, multi cultural storytelling to fabric painting and with the youngest participant at music time just 8 months old, they cater for all ages. The strategy of engaging the community with the Library through arts activities seems to be working, with lending rates well above the national average.

Yvonne Cope Head of Libraries, Arts, Information and Heritage at Slough Borough Council says: 'The Library staff are recognising the potential that the arts have to increase participation and learning. The Library is a safe environment for people of all ages to

come and share in new experiences and broaden their horizons and when children attend events like music time the parents talk to each other, they feel less isolated and can access other information and services that benefit the whole family.'

The Library, which earlier this year hosted the Art at the Centre exhibition, has a long history of using the arts to create a cultural hub of learning and involvement and is home to three permanent pieces of public art. Slough Library was also the first in the country to form an innovative partnership with Creative Partnerships, an Arts Council initiative that works at putting creativity at the core of the curriculum, and with the proposal for a new library recently selected by local people as part of the Heart of Slough project, the future looks bright for the arts in Slough's Libraries.

## Local Focus

### Fun in the sun

This summer, for the third year running, Slough Crossroads was able to provide activities during the summer holiday for young people with disabilities.

With funding from the Berkshire Community Fund, youngsters participated in pottery sessions under the guidance of local artist, Susan Day. With the able assistance of the many volunteers who joined their group, the children produced a wonderful circus scene, which included all the fun of the big top. The colourful and lively work of art was displayed at Slough Library during Family Learning Week in October.

Crossroads provides activities for young people with disabilities and young carers and can be contacted on 01753 525796.



### Join the Slough Arts Development marketing list

*Under the Data Protection Act 1998 we are required to gain your "informed consent" to add your name and details on to our marketing list.*

*We would like you to join this list so that we can send you **★artsinfo** and information about funding programmes/events/performances/workshops and training organised by Slough Arts Development, other Slough Borough Council departments, other local or regional community/arts/education organisations we think are relevant.*

*We will also use the information we will hold to assist towards statistics used to promote the Arts.*



Rebecca Cairns

Yasmin Gurreeboo started working at the West Wing earlier this year as Programme Manager and has recently been appointed Venue Manager.

## What is the West Wing?

The West Wing is an arts, events and conference venue, with a 250 seat auditorium showing quality theatre, music, dance, comedy and film. This season has featured some great performances from artists such as the Irven Lewis Dance Company, RIFCO Arts' "The Deranged Marriage" and still to come the Reduced Shakespeare Company's "Completely Hollywood".

## What inspired the programme?

I tried to create a balanced and diverse programme reflecting the richness of Slough's community. I actually had quite a free reign as there was no precedence. I built on the work already done by the Arts Development team by engaging local groups, promoters and artists. We had great support from local groups at the launch. Tien Wah opened the event with a Chinese dragon performance and we had Slough Musical Theatre Company and Colnbrook Amateur Stage Theatre there too.

are working in partnership with Aik Saath and Slough Co-operative Film Society on a film festival. We are also really pleased to have received funding from the Arts Council to showcase East Asian Arts. This season we established a good link with Tien Wah and would like to explore this further as well as showcase other artists from this area. I am really keen to develop the workshops next season. I am planning some adult drama classes, which will incorporate different disciplines such as movement, improvisation and mime and over Easter we are planning various children's workshops.

## Do you have any new projects planned?

I am currently developing two pieces of work, which I hope will be performed at the West Wing next season. The first is about Muslim women and is in partnership with Lucy Bradley from RIFCO Arts. The performance will consist of a series of seven monologues and will hopefully challenge the perception of Muslim women. The other show I will be directing is a mask piece of theatre about being lonely in a crowded city environment and will be a visual experience inspired by Commedia dell'Arte. Again we will be working with local groups to bring the show to the West Wing.

## Is the West Wing proving popular with local people?

We have had some really positive feedback. Once people have seen a show they are hooked. We are building up a regular audience and not just from Slough. People have been excited by the programme with some booking five shows in a row. We are going to have a brainstorming session for our regulars next year to find out their opinions about the venue. We are really lucky to have found four brilliant volunteers but we are still looking for more local people who can commit a regular amount of time each week.

## What is so special about the West Wing?

The West Wing is exceptionally special as it is Slough's first dedicated arts space in over 20 years providing quality entertainment for all of Slough's communities.

## What can we expect in the next programme?

The next programme will run from the end of January and will of course feature the same variety and quality. Some companies will be returning next season with different productions. We

*The West Wing  
Stoke Road*

*Slough  
SL2 5AY*

*Box Office*

*01753 823710*

*Administration*

*01753 476651*

*e-mail*

*westwing@slough.gov.uk*

## Marketing List - Entry form

Please complete in CAPITAL letters

First Name

Surname

Position (If applicable)

Organisation (If applicable)

Address

Postcode

Tel No

Fax No

Email

Website

Professional Artist  Voluntary Artist

Professional Arts Org  Voluntary Arts Org

How would you like to receive information from us:

Post  email

Please tick the box if you would like us to share your details with other relevant organisations as detailed overleaf.

Please tick the box if you would like us to join the West Wing's mailing list.

Please return the marketing card to: Arts Development,  
Slough Borough Council, FREEPOST (SCE 8944),  
SLOUGH, SL1 3BR

## artsinfo online is moving

artsinfo online, the website for the arts in Slough is moving to a new address. [www.artsinslough.org.uk](http://www.artsinslough.org.uk) will be the new home for artsinfo, the first port of call for the arts in Slough. Look out for new developments to the site over the next few months.

## Community Arts Training in Slough

Bookings are now being taken for the annual Community Arts Training in Slough, run by Arts Development, Slough Borough Council and visual artist Christine Wilkinson. CATS is a free four day practical training course that aims to equip participants with the skills and knowledge needed to set up

and run arts projects in the community. It has helped many of the projects that appear on these pages to exist and is now being copied as a model of good practice by local authorities across the South East. The course is for anyone living or working in Slough and no previous experience in running projects is necessary.

*For further information contact Arts Development on 01753 477176.*

## Mayor's Arts Awards

Nominations are now open for the annual Mayor's Arts Awards, which celebrate the arts in Slough. The Awards give recognition to those

## Arts Development

individuals and organisations that have increased people's involvement and participation within the arts in Slough. There are six categories: Project of the Year, Individual Artist of the Year, Arts Group of the Year, Arts in Education, the Mansell Award for Best Newcomer and the Ranjit Mann Award for Women in the Arts. The closing date for nominations is the 14th February 2006.

*Nomination forms can be obtained from Arts Development on 01753 477176 or downloaded from [www.artsinslough.org.uk](http://www.artsinslough.org.uk).*

## Music Composition Project Summer School 2005

This summer saw aspiring composers engage with young London musicians during a music composition course. The residential course for GCSE music pupils took place in July 2005 at The Canolfan Conway Centre in Anglesey, North Wales. The course was completely free to the pupils and was funded by Music 4 Slough, Slough's new Youth Music Action Zone, supported by Slough Borough Council in partnership with Impact Arts and 'Sounds New'. Music 4 Slough is part of a network of Youth Music Action Zones, which has been instigated and funded by Youth Music. The course was a marvellous opportunity for Slough students to work with inspirational composer Errollyn Wallen and a team of musicians from 'Sounds New'. A performance by students of the Royal Academy of Music, London, with whom the young people worked during the Summer School took place on Oct 12th 2005 at the West Wing in Slough.



**Creative Partnerships**  
*exciting minds*

## Science Festival

This autumn Creative Partnerships and Slough Local Education Authority will be supporting schools and creative professionals, including dancers and musicians, to work together to find exciting and creative ways of discovering science. This work will culminate in a Science Festival in January 2006 that aims to use creativity to develop community engagement with the importance of science in our lives and to celebrate local excellence involving science and technology. Festival highlights include a cutting-edge interactive science exhibition at Slough Museum and partnering schools, and a day of public creative science events in and around the centre of Slough on Saturday 28th January. For more details contact John Sparrow, Science Festival Project Manager [john.sparrow@gmail.com](mailto:john.sparrow@gmail.com)

## New project for Art Beyond Belief

Art Beyond Belief's project to take music into Upton Hospital is underway, with funding from the Trusthouse Charitable Foundation, and Arts Council England. Berkshire Community Foundation Global Grants has given its support to a project to teach interview and video techniques to disadvantaged groups, in order to help them gain confidence and relate more relevantly in job interview situations. The project entitled My Story, deals with areas such as mental health, older jobseekers, refugees and those on probation. Art Beyond Belief Creative Director, David Sparrow explains, "As well as working within the interfaith

framework, as we did with the Via Dolorosa project, we were determined to bring compassionate art projects to the vulnerable and stigmatized." *For more information about any Art Beyond Belief projects, contact David on 07958 320684.*

## Local News

### Slough Arts Festival 2006

Slough Arts Festival, founded in 1941, celebrates its 65th anniversary in 2006. Throughout these years the festival has provided opportunities for development and performance across a range of the arts. The 2006 programme will cover Dance, Music, Creative Writing, Fine Arts and Photography. They are at present looking for new members to join their committee in particular those with good organisation skills and an interest in Fine Arts and Photography. Further details and the full programme are available from the Festival office based at Rochfords Youth and Community Centre, Uxbridge Road, Slough, SL1 5NU or telephone 01753 520685.

### SYPC are rewarded for their work with young people

Slough Young People's Centre has secured a runner-up award of £1,000 from the Express/Let's Do It! Awards. Representatives from Barclays and Express Editor Paul Thomas judged the entrants and concluded that the work carried out at SYPC was first-class and

gave a wide range of valuable support to teenagers and young adults.

### Changing Faces

**Yasmin Gurreeboo** has been appointed as Manager of the West Wing, Slough's new and exciting arts venue. Yasmin, who was acting as Programme Manager for the venue, comes from a performing arts background and brings with her a wealth of experience. **Emily Hazell** has joined Creative Partnerships Slough as Team Assistant. She can be contacted at [Emily.hazell@creative-partnerships.com](mailto:Emily.hazell@creative-partnerships.com). **Gurjeet Kaur** has been appointed as Arts Development Assistant and joined the team in June. **Naweeda Naqvi** has started her new position as Capacity Building Manager at Slough Council for Voluntary Service and **Davina Prescott** has been appointed Development Worker. **Annie St-Aubin** has taken on the role of Hub Manager at Slough Enterprise Hub, while **Anne Johnstone**, Hub Director, is on an exciting secondment opportunity at SEEDA.

### Treasure Island

CAST (Colnbrook Amateur Stage Theatre) will be staging their village pantomime

Treasure Island at Colnbrook Village Hall, Vicarage Road, Colnbrook SL3 0RA. The show runs from 1st - 3rd December and 8th - 10th December. Don't miss out on this great show! Tickets are available from the website: [www.cast-online.org.uk](http://www.cast-online.org.uk), via e-mail: [CastBoxOffice@hotmail.com](mailto:CastBoxOffice@hotmail.com) or call the Box Office on 07891 486330.

### Films, Films, Films

Slough Co-operative Film Society has launched its new programme of quality films from around the world at Cineworld (formerly UGC Cinema) and at the West Wing. Earlier this year, the Society worked with Aik Saath supporting their successful Same Difference film festival and is currently working with them and other partners to establish this as an annual event, Slough's own film festival. The Society also has digital projection equipment with large screens and regularly shows films for community groups and schools.

For more information about SCFS, contact Dudley Smithers on 01784 434868 or email: [dudley.jo@virgin.net](mailto:dudley.jo@virgin.net), or visit: [www.sloughcoopfilmsoc.freeserve.co.uk](http://www.sloughcoopfilmsoc.freeserve.co.uk).

## Training

Slough Community Partnership's course bulletin is available from Slough Council for Voluntary Service. To obtain a copy please telephone 01753 219113 and leave a message. You may be interested in the following courses:

#### Fundraising for Beginners On Request Slough CVS

An introduction to planning your fundraising and making grant applications up to £10,000. Aimed at new and smaller voluntary and community groups. Contact Slough CVS on 01753 524176.

#### Managing Your Group's Money On request Slough CVS

A beginner level course giving practical advice and information, including preparing an income and expenditure account, paying expenses and keeping your cashbook. Contact Slough CVS on 01753 524176.

#### How to Market Your Group 24th November, 10.00am-2.00pm Slough CVS

Key and simple tips on how to build awareness, raise the profile and promote your group through marketing techniques. Contact Slough CVS on 01753 524176.

## Community Groups encouraged to cash in on Awards for All

Grants of £500 to £5,000 in Lottery money are still available for community projects across England under the Awards for All programme and applications are being encouraged for the £2.5 million remaining to be allocated in the South East this year.

Awards for All is actively encouraging small community groups, schools, health bodies, parish or town councils with projects that support the arts, education, sport, heritage, health and the environment in their community to apply for funding under this scheme.

Money is available now through a straightforward application process. Applicants will be advised within eight weeks if they have been successful and information can be given to groups that are unsure about their eligibility or how to apply.

Liz Daw, Head of Programme Management at Awards for All said: "The Awards for All programme can make a huge difference by directing smaller sums of money to the heart of community projects. There is still money available this year for such groups and we would welcome applications from groups who may not have previously thought we could help them."

To find out more about Awards for All grants; who is eligible to apply and how to submit your application, log onto: [www.awardsforall.org.uk](http://www.awardsforall.org.uk) or call 0845 600 2040. For advice and support writing your bid or for further information on funding in general, please contact Arts Development on 01753 875667.

*If you would like to discuss your project before applying please contact the Awards for All South East team on 01483 462 943.*

## Introducing the Arts Award

The Arts Award is a new accredited programme launched in October 2005, which recognises young people's development as young artists and young arts leaders. It works for young people of all interests and abilities, and leads to qualifications. The Arts Award is run through a partnership between Arts Council England and

Trinity College London. All young people on Arts Award programmes will work with a trained Arts Award Adviser. If you'd like to get a feel for the award programme, please visit the Arts Award pages on the Arts Council's website, at: [www.artscouncil.org.uk/artsaward](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/artsaward).

## Heritage Lottery Fund's Young Roots Programme

Slough youngsters are making a song and dance with help from the Heritage Lottery Fund, which has given a £25,000 grant to help run the World Music Zone Programme. The project is a series of activities and workshops, each involving a dozen young people who are researching a variety of music styles. The project got underway at the recent Slough Youth Festival, which is acting as co-

ordinator and continues into the New Year. The funding has been given under HLF's Young Roots programme, which is always on the lookout for other suitable heritage projects to fund.

*Details of this and other grant giving opportunities are available from Katie Phillips, Development Officer, HLF South East Team, 020 7591 6085.*

## Opportunities

### Discover Berkshire's Costume Service

**What:** A huge warehouse full of costumes ranging from Ancient Greek robes to pantomime and Disney characters complete with accessories. The Berkshire Costume Service supported by Wokingham District Council, has this superb resource available to all.

**When:** 11.00am–6.00pm, Tues & Thurs 10.00am–5.00pm by appointment only

**Where:** Unit 3, Hogwood Lane, Weller Drive, Finchampstead, RG40 4QZ

**Phone:** Hazel on 0118 973 4796

**E-mail:** [hazel.gillingwater@wokingham.gov.uk](mailto:hazel.gillingwater@wokingham.gov.uk)

### Slough CVS Resource Sessions

**What:** For voluntary groups who would like to find out about training and funding opportunities and about developing their group.

**When:** 17th October 2005

**Where:** 27 Church Street, Slough

**Phone:** 01753 524176

### Blank Canvas

**What:** Local artists from any discipline, including musicians, dancers, filmmakers and photographers have the opportunity to showcase their work. The aim is to profile and celebrate the diverse range of Slough's artistic practice.

**When:** 7th and 8th December

**Where:** The West Wing

**Phone:** Rob Harris on 01753 536602/0770 9949

## What's happening?

Date	Time	Event	Venue	Contact
<b>November</b>				
1	8.30pm	Slough Co-operative Film Society screening: Maria Full of Grace	Cineworld (formerly UGC cinema)	01784 434868
4	9.30am-4.30pm	Professional development for artists - Public Art: An Introduction	Slough Library	01753 477176
7	7.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting Summer Romantic Story Competition:	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
8	8.30pm	Slough Co-operative Film Society screening: Look At Me	Cineworld	01784 434868
11	9.30am-4.30pm	Professional development for artists - Going Freelance	Slough Library	01753 477176
9-29	By appointment	Slough Schools Art Exhibition 2005	The West Wing	01753 470324
14	7.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting: Craft: Grammar. Full stop!	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
15	8.30pm	Slough Co-operative Film Society screening: Confidences Trop Intimes	Cineworld	01784 434868
17	10am-1pm	Slough CVS: Resource Session	SCVS, 27 Church Street	01753 524176
21	7.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting: Manuscript Evening	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
22	8.30pm	Slough Co-operative Film Society screening: Kontroll	Cineworld	01784 434868
28	7.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting: Article Competition	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
29	8.30pm	Co-operative Film Society screening: Motorcycle Diaries	Cineworld	01784 434868
<b>December</b>				
1-3	Various	CAST present "Treasure Island"	Colnbrook Village Hall	07891 486330
6	8.30pm	Co-operative Film Society screening: Memories of Murder	Cineworld	01784 434868
8-10	Various	CAST present "Treasure Island"	Colnbrook Village Hall	07891 486330
13	8.30pm	Co-operative Film Society screening: Japanese Story	Cineworld	01784 434868
20	8.30pm	Co-operative Film Society screening: Kitchen Stories	Cineworld	01784 434868
<b>January</b>				
9, 16	7.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
23, 30	7.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
25	6.00 pm	Artists' Network Meeting	Slough Enterprise Hub	01753 875667

For information on exciting arts events taking place throughout the season at the West Wing, visit [www.artsinslough.org.uk](http://www.artsinslough.org.uk).

## Useful Websites

<a href="http://www.artscouncil.org.uk">www.artscouncil.org.uk</a>	New application forms are available to download
<a href="http://www.awardsforall.org.uk">www.awardsforall.org.uk</a>	Find out if your group is eligible to apply for funding
<a href="http://www.artsinslough.org.uk">www.artsinslough.org.uk</a>	Arts Development website for the arts in Slough

This newsletter can be made available on audio tape or in large print. If you would like a copy of this document translated please ask an English speaking person to contact Arts Development on 01753 875667

Let us know your arts news on [artsinfo@slough.gov.uk](mailto:artsinfo@slough.gov.uk)