

*artsinfo

The newsletter for Slough's growing arts community

The Arts and Regeneration

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Art is coming to the centre

This autumn will see the start of building work to relandscape Slough High Street, following several years of planning and developing designs in consultation with Slough residents. The designers Waterman Civils and Allen Scott Associates, along with council officers, are bringing their exciting concept to life.

At the west end, pedestrians will be welcomed with an extra wide pelican crossing across Windsor Road. In the High Street pavements will be widened and traffic slowed. The black and white granite paving starts here and will change in size along the length of the High Street. New trees will be planted to add year round colour and interest and new seating will be added along the length of the High Street to provide places to pause and rest.

The design for the entrance to Mackenzie mall will enhance the space's importance as a focal point for the town; it will be opened up with

bus shelters relocated to one side of the square.

The identity of Mackenzie Square is reinforced by Simon Watkinson's telescope lights at the corner of the square, bespoke seating by Fred Baier and floorscape carving by Alec Peever of poems on the theme of journeys.

The main part of the High Street will include floorscapes by artists Anne Smyth and Bhajun Hunjan. The Town Square provides an important venue for activities, performances and markets in Slough's calendar of events. The colourful granite floorscape by Bhajan Hunjan takes centre stage with designs drawing on Slough's historical, agricultural and horticultural past. The design will enhance its use, which keeps the square open and flexible, framed by new 'wand' lighting and seats by Fred Baier.

Watch out over the next 18 months and see how the High Street will be transformed.

Local Arts

★artsinfo

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★artsinfo

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01753 477176
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.

*Title photo: Design work by artists on the
Art at the Centre project. Top Fred Baier,
seating, middle Alec Peever, lettering,
bottom Simon Watkinson, lighting.*

★artsinfo Sept - Dec 2007

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and creative industries in Slough.

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call: 01753 477176
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Articles and pictures for inclusion in the
next ★artsinfo must be submitted by
Friday 19th October 2007.

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.

Editors note

Welcome to this bigger and better
edition of ★artsinfo. You'll notice
we've added more pages, this is
because more and more of you are
sending information on your arts
projects and it just goes to show that
the arts in Slough are growing and
growing.

This edition highlights the wide impact
of the arts across Slough; from henna
workshops to the regeneration of
Slough High Street the arts in Slough
has something on offer for everyone.

We are under no illusion that the next
months are going to be financially
difficult for everyone in the arts. With
cuts to Arts Council England's Grant for
the Arts programme, see pg.9, as well
as further funding being diverted to
the Olympics, getting funding for your
projects is becoming increasingly
difficult, see pg.3.

But don't worry, in Slough we like both
challenges and opportunities and we
can give this black cloud a silver lining.
The Olympics are a great opportunity
to get involved in cultural activity and
put Slough on the map, so don't let the
changes to funding get you down
because there is still funding available.

Tighter funding means we have to find
different, new and exciting ways to
fund our projects, which can only
make us stronger in the long term. We
need to be proactive about sourcing
funding from some of the less obvious
places and if you are an artist living or
working Berkshire, you can take
advantage of our Introduction to
business sponsorship course, see pg.5
to find out just how to do that.

We can't wait to see what the next year
holds for the arts in Slough.

Lantern at Tesco Tower

August saw the unveiling of colourful
tiles to the lift shaft of the lantern
tower of the bridge over the A4.
London based artist, Lubna
Chowdhary was commissioned in a
national competition to find an artist
to create an artwork that would act as
a focal point for the tower.

The tower will be tiled in bright yellow
and red ceramic tiles to create a strong
visual impact, suggesting a shaft of
light and energy rising from the
ground. The circle, the focal point, is
composed of many component
industrial motifs, which together
visually suggest a hub of connections
within Slough. A series of parallel
dotted lines run behind the circle.
These suggest traces of the history of
Slough and its people.

Further information is available at
www.lubnachowdhary.co.uk



>> New artwork at Tesco Tower

Local news

South East's most enterprising place put to the test

Representatives of the Enterprising Britain National Judging Panel including Peter Jones from BBC2's Dragon's Den visited Slough in June, to decide whether it would be named the most enterprising place in Britain.

Creative Academy was selected by the South East England Development Agency as the most enterprising place in the regional heat of Enterprising Britain 2007.

Creative Academy has achieved this through the provision of training, funding and business advice for small businesses and the promotion of creative enterprise to young people still considering their career options. They were selected due to the innovative approach they have taken to ensuring that Slough's community benefit from the economic success various creative industries are currently enjoying in the area.

Night of creative celebrations

Slough Borough Council delivered its last event in the 'Grow your income, Grow your business' programme in June at Baylis House. The evening celebrated their successes and reflected on their economic achievements.

The course is run in partnership with Slough Creative Academy, Slough Enterprise Hub, South East Development Agency, Thames Valley University and Hub and Spoke.

Contact Bobbi Johal on 01753 476614.

National news

The Olympics and the Cultural Olympiad

The 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games will be a cultural as well as sporting festival. However, there has been a lot of talk about the impact of the Olympics on the arts, with lottery funding diverted away from the arts to pay for the Olympics. We hope that the Games will also provide positive opportunities for the arts in Slough to showcase their talent.

The framework for the Cultural Olympiad has recently been unveiled by London 2012, who is the body responsible for co-ordinating activity relating to the 2012 London Olympics. Cultural celebrations will include a four-year UK-wide Cultural Festival due to start in 2008 and ten other major projects.

Arts Council England will support a programme entitled **Artists Taking the Lead**; which will encourage artists to lead a celebration of "excellence, diversity, innovation and internationalism of the arts across the UK". This programme will include 12 artists' commissions designed to celebrate local and national cultural life in Great Britain.

The recently formed Legacy Trust UK has a remit to leave a lasting legacy of the 2012 Games for future generations and has allocated funding for 15 projects that will involve organisations working in youth and cultural fields.

External funders, including Youth Music will be providing £9m for youth-inspired and youth led community music-making activities.

Changing faces

Congratulations to **Andy Lee**, recently appointed Creative Arts Manager with responsibility for: Arts Development, the West Wing and Creative Academy. Andy is delighted with the appointment and is looking forward to continuing to work in partnership with all of Slough's creative sector to raise the profile of the town as a vibrant place to live, work, learn, visit and do business. The Arts Development team have recently had some changes; **Rebecca Cairns** is now Arts Development Manager, **Louise O'Dwyer Barnard** is now Arts Development Officer and **Gurjeet Kaur** is now Training and Development Assistant.

The West Wing welcomes on board **Ranjit Atwal** as Marketing and Audience Development Officer; **Ronin Traynor** as Front of House Co-ordinator, **Brandi Tamura** as Arts Support Officer and **John Paul Christian** as Theatre Technician.

Jordon Maynard-Daley left the Creative Academy in June and is now working with the team at SYPC as After hours Co-ordinator.

Naweeda Naqvi, from Slough Council for Voluntary Services will be going on maternity leave later this month.

Congratulations to **Zoe Hatch** and **Rob Thompson** who welcome a new addition to Gallery 435, baby, **Billy Thompson**.

Alastair Will from Creative Partnerships has been seconded to Arts Council England as Performing Arts Officer for Music.

A little musical note

Making Music are inviting Slough based groups to two "Getting to Know You" meetings in Buckinghamshire on 29th September and 17th November to present their range of services and give delegates an opportunity to discuss common problems. A key element of the GTKY is also to look at ways groups can work more closely together alongside Making Music.

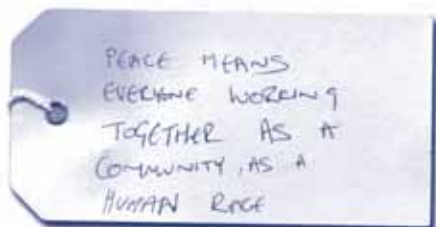
Julian Carlick Making Music Regional Development Officer South East said: "I am particularly keen to look at the possibilities of joint marketing and sponsorship. I would be delighted to hear from volunteer-managed groups who might be interested in exploring these areas."

For further details please contact Julian Carlick: 01962 866072 or email julian@makingmusic.org.uk

The Same Difference Film Festival 2007

The third Same Difference Film Festival showcased films based on the themes of conflict, conflict resolution and community.

The Queensmere Observatory Shopping Centre dedicated a retail unit to the film festival where visitors were invited to



watch trailers for the festival's features films, watch short films on the themes of peace and community, engage in peace and conflict resolution activities and take part in filmmaking workshops.

A peace tree was used to ask Slough residents what peace means to them. Their responses constituted the leaves on the tree and their thoughts can be downloaded at: <http://www.aiksaath.com/pdfs/peaceleaves.pdf>

The Same Difference Film Festival was organised by Aik Saath, Slough Co-operative Film Society, Resource Productions and Instinct Media.

New look at henna

Visitors to Slough Museum in June were rewarded with a new take on henna. The exhibition, designed by experienced henna artist Riffat Bahar, provided an interesting insight into henna's rich heritage and contemporary appeal.

Along with displays of various henna powders, there was an educational corner with facts about the henna plant and its usage and hennaed drums sent from Norway by Monica Kvam. A 'henna tree' displayed postcards from around the world with comments about what people thought about henna.

The highlight of the event was the beautiful photo-gallery. In collaboration with leading photographers, Riffat applied intricate henna designs ranging from contemporary to classical Indian. Free workshops gave everyone a chance to try their hand at henna. "I wanted to play an active role in bringing together people of varying ages and ability to show that henna has crossed all borders and cultures for it to be seen as a new and respected art form," said Riffat.

For further details on henna training visit www.artofhenna.co.uk

Discover your potential through art

Women who want to be more assertive, confident and successful are being given a new alternative to self-help books and power dressing.

According to Zeljana Schonauer, women can achieve their inner potential through the use of art. The Twyford artist held a ten-week course to enable participants to realise a positive self-image, which she believes is crucial for personal success. Zeljana, believes art is a tool to address topics such as positive thinking patterns, anger and stress management, confidence building, communication and assertiveness.

For more details call 07862 260011 or email zsart@btinternet.com

The West Wing

Auditions for Wind in the Willows will be held on 23rd December. Rehearsals will commence in February with performances from 10 -15 March.

Call 01753 476651 to book your audition.

Book your magic carpet ride with this year's West Wing Christmas pantomime, *Aladdin*, with a cast of professional actors, audience participation, live music and a magical set it is a must see show. From 6th December 2007 - 2nd January 2008. £9, £7, £28 Family. Box office: 01753 823710.



Professional Development Training for Artists held at the West Wing

Practical courses to develop the skills and creative practice of artists. Run by the Arts Development team.

Successful approaches to exhibiting your work

Thursday 27th September
9.30am-1.00pm

Have you ever wondered which galleries to approach, when and how to price and promote your work? If the answer is yes, then this is the course for you.

Photography Portfolio day

Saturday 6th October
11.00am-4.00pm

Does your portfolio accurately promote your skills? Working in collaboration with experts currently producing and exhibiting their images, we will share with you some of the key knowledge needed for successfully presenting portfolios.

Introduction to business sponsorship

Monday 29th October
9.30am-4.30pm

This session will give you a background to arts sponsorship and give you a five point plan for approaching businesses.

Child protection training

Thursday 15th November
9.30am-1.00pm

This session outlines the basic information you need to work safely, as an artist, with children and young people. It covers roles and responsibilities, how to make a referral and dealing with disclosures.

Action planning and goal setting

Thursday 29th November
9.30am-4.30pm

As an artist, do you know what you

would like to be doing in five years time? This session will introduce you to setting goals and how you can measure your successes using tried and tested techniques and exercises.

For further information contact Arts Development on 01753 477176 or to book your place call the West Wing box office on 01753 823710.

Creative writing at Slough Library

Slough Library's Creative Writing group meets in Slough Library fortnightly on a Saturday re-starting on 15th September between 10am and 12 noon, to share their writing, and learn about new styles and mediums for their projects. The group discuss everything writing related, from characterisation to how to get published.

For further information contact 01753 571706.

Training at the West Wing

Salsa Classes

Every other Friday, starting 28th September at 8pm
For complete beginner or an advanced salseros. The hour long class will cover the varying steps, body movements and turns that will enable you to become a confident dancer. Then it's everybody Salsa until late with sangria available at the bar.

Stage Combat Foundation Course

Mondays, starting 24th September at 7:30pm
In association with Independent Drama Ltd., this three-term course is designed to provide students with a working knowledge of elementary and intermediate techniques. Students can work towards the Certificate of Proficiency, accredited by the British Academy of Stage and Screen Combat (BASSC). For ages 18+ must have a basic level of fitness.

Comedy Course

Wednesday 24th October
7:30pm - 9:30pm

Learn to become a stand-up comic in six weeks! This course uncovers all the techniques professional comics use from writing material, performance skills, dealing with hecklers to improvisation. Suitable for ages 16+

Charity Commission comes to Slough!

The Charity Commission will be running a workshop at Slough CVS on Friday 23rd November at 10am. The session will include an overview of the main provisions of the Act, what Annual Reports should include and an opportunity to chat to the Charity Commission. Further information contact Davina on 01753 219112.



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 and other local or regional community/arts/education organisations we feel are relevant.*

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

Arts and young people

Slough carnival

Hundreds of young people from 16 primary and secondary schools across Slough celebrated Science through Creativity. Schools formed partnerships with carnival artists to make masks and head-dresses, floats and sculptures, learn samba drumming, calypso, African carnival dancing and much more. Slough has consistently placed emphasis on the value of learning academic subjects through creative methodologies; this was an excellent opportunity to explore Science using a range of creative and artistic approaches.

These successful partnerships then culminated in hundreds of young people from Slough schools dancing, drumming and singing as part of a large scale carnival in Slough in July. Young people were dressed head to toe in magnificent costumes, with

props and instruments and even bubbles! Two very colourful and vibrant processions led by decorated floats journeyed from the east and the west end of the High Street to meet at the Town Square for a grand finale of

song, dance, poetry, music and a good measure of Science.

Information about the carnival can be found on the carnival website www.sloughcarnival.co.uk



Jo Whitlam, CP Slough

>> Carnival time in Slough

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 join the West Wing's mailing list.

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

Look beyond the trees

Over the course of a year Creative Partnerships Slough worked with the Corporation of London, Burnham Beeches, various creative partners and three Slough primary schools, Montem Primary, Priory Primary and St Anthony's Catholic Primary, on a range of projects taking a creative look at the special environment of Burnham Beeches, an ancient woodland local to Slough.

creative learning in the outdoor environment at Burnham Beeches. It included art and craft workshops and demonstrations, live music and theatre performances, storytelling, film showings and guided walks.

Young people, teachers, parents and families visited in their hundreds to take part in the activities, view the work of the three schools and explore and reconsider the great outdoors.

This culminated in a showcase of



>> Project at Burnham Beeches

Commemorating partition

Aik Saath commemorated the 60th anniversary of the Partition of India by holding an exhibition at Slough Museum. The exhibition explored the partition of British India into India and Pakistan in 1947 through the personal memories of people living in Slough.

Partition involved one of the largest migrations in recorded history and the

deaths of an estimated one million people. Young people from Aik Saath's peer training team of young people aged between 14 - 21 interviewed 12 older people living in Slough about their memories of living through the Partition.

Asim Khan, Aik Saath Peer Mentor said: "We should remember it because it's a

Diversity

part of us - it's in us. A lot of people went through a lot of pain. But also we should move on because a lot of things have changed."

The project was funded by The Heritage Lottery Fund's Young Roots Programme.



Bryony Stokes

>> Members of Aik Saath

'Hidden Gems'

'Hidden Gems' celebrates Slough's allotments through capturing allotment holders and their plots in a series of beautiful portraits taken by Malcolm Glover. The book illustrates the many uses of allotments, from growing produce, to making friends, staying active and healthy. It challenges the traditional notion of the allotment as being only the domain of retired folk,

showing people of all ages and walks of life proudly with their produce on their plots.

The publication updates the image of allotments and reflects upon their renewed popularity; in the hope that through celebrating local people and their passion for allotments it will encourage the take up of allotments

Health

and promote healthy living in Slough.

Slough Borough Council Arts Development and Parks & Allotments teams commissioned social photographer Malcolm Glover to photograph allotment holders in four of Slough's thirteen allotment sites. Accompanying Malcolm were Linda Wolski who manages the allotments and Gurjeet Kaur who interviewed the plot holders to try and find out what the allotments mean to them.

To purchase a copy contact the Arts Development Team on 01753 477176.

An exhibition of the photographs in 'Hidden Gems' - will take place between 11th September - 13th October 2007, at the West Wing, Stoke Road, Slough, SL2 5AY.



Malcolm Glover

>> Cover page: 'Hidden Gems'

Regeneration

Herschel Park restoration project

The Heritage Lottery Fund and the Big Lottery have earmarked £2.2million to regenerate Slough's once beautiful Victorian Herschel Park and nearby wild-life area. This exciting project started as a result of the local community who know and love the park, wanting to see it restored to its former glory. The consultants are currently working with the community and Slough Borough Council's Parks and Arts Development teams to produce detailed designs for the parks restoration together with ideas for art in the park and wildlife area.

Contact Bruce Hicks on 01753 875514 or e-mail on bruce.hicks@slough.gov.uk



>> Herschel Park

Is abstract art dead?

Gallery 435 introduces Slough to the inspiring and challenging world of Abstract Art on a global scale. You are invited to come and explore the work of international group Pintura Fresca with their exhibition, 'Is abstract art dead?', The show presents a diverse range of paintings from around the world, featuring artists from Europe, USA and beyond.

This award winning group have chosen Gallery 435's warehouse setting as the UK forum for their large scale abstract works. The Gallery regenerates disused industrial spaces into stunning art exhibitions. Providing the people of Slough with a unique opportunity to view unseen international work, the shows are free of charge and open to all.

28 September - 14 October 2007
Location to be confirmed, check www.gallery435.com for details.

Websites

The following are useful websites about arts and regeneration.

www.publicartonline.org.uk/

This resource provides a wealth of information on how artists and creative activity can contribute to the built and natural environment, regeneration initiatives, sustainable development, architecture and urban design.

www.public-art.shu.ac.uk

A research pool of material on public art, mainly on original slides, but also consisting of video and audio tapes, text and other artefacts.

www.commonground.org.uk

Common Ground links the arts and the environment - nature and culture, with community involvement.

www.arts.ac.uk/library/4790.htm

This guide provides a general introduction to the field of public art, rather than to the work of a particular artist, or using particular techniques.

www.a-n.co.uk

The web version of the magazine Artists' Newsletter and much more. Contains up-to-date information for practising artists including artists' registers, copyright, disability arts and business support and professional practice guides.

www.artandarchitecture.co.uk

Art & Architecture was established to encourage a dialogue between architects, developers, planners, craftspeople and artists to foster a better mutual understanding and the widest possible exchange of ideas and information.

www.cabe.org.uk/

Their initials stand for 'Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment.' CABE stands for an improvement in people's quality of life through good design.

www.artpointtrust.org.uk

Artpoint is a visual arts and crafts agency based in Oxford, providing consultancy project development services for the commissioning of new public work.

www.artsinslough.org.uk

Artsinfo is a resource for artists and groups in Slough, it promotes public art projects in Slough including projects that the Arts Development team have been involved in.

News

Cuts to grants for the arts

Arts Council England has announced a cut of 35% to its funding scheme, Grants for the Arts. New rules introduced alongside the cut means that activity for a project can't take place over more than one year and a maximum grant of £200,000 has been installed. The cut will hit artists particularly hard as it is one of the few public funders who allow individuals to apply.

The Grants for the Arts funding scheme is financed through money from the National Lottery and this cut is one of the first symptoms of the 'Olympics effect', coming after the government announced that £112.5 million will be drawn from the Arts to pay for the Olympics.

Later this year the Government will announce the outcome of its spending review and tell Arts Council England how much funding they can expect in 2008-2011. With the arts in Slough now thriving, it is important that we build on what the town has achieved and look for other sources of funding.

James Purnell the new Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport has welcomed input from those directly involved in the arts. If you have any success stories send them to the National Campaign for the Arts at nca@artscampaign.org.uk and they will include them in their Comprehensive Spending Review case.

Funding query

"I'm starting a project in six weeks, where can I get funding?"

Unfortunately it is very difficult to get funding for a project in less than six weeks. Most funders take between two to four months to give you a decision on whether or not your bid has been successful. Therefore if you are running a project you need to allow a minimum of six months. This is because if you don't get the funding the first time round, you may be asked to re-submit your bid or to look for alternative funding. Don't worry though because the Arts Development team are here to help, we can advise you of the different options available to you.

If you would still like to run your project within six weeks, then you also have the option of approaching local businesses and sponsors to see if they would be interested in supporting you. Remember though most of them will also expect something in return, whether it is marketing their logo or offering free sessions for their staff, or even free tickets to attend your event. Few businesses will give away their money for nothing in return. On the plus side Slough has both small and large businesses that have a list of social responsibilities and if your project meets their aims then they may offer to support your project.

If you would like to discuss funding for a project idea, please contact the Arts Development team on 01753 477176 or e-mail artsinfo@slough.gov.uk

Funding

Steps to Employment Grants

The Berkshire Community Foundation is pleased to announce the "Steps to Employment" Grants Scheme.

Applications are invited from voluntary and community groups, or new social enterprises, which are providing opportunities for people to develop their skills, confidence and knowledge to improve their prospects for employment. Grants of up to £2000 are being offered but hurry the closing date is 1st October 2007.

For further information contact Ray Emmans on 0118 930 3021 or look at www.berkshirecommunityfoundation.org.uk

Opportunity

Funding Fair

The East Berkshire Funding Fair brings funders and members of voluntary and community groups together to discuss potential projects that will benefit the local area. There will be workshops covering how to write an effective bid and approaching businesses. There will be time to network, a chance to pick up useful information and an opportunity to book a one-to-one session with a funder. The event will take place at Windsor Racecourse on Tuesday 9th October from 10.00am - 2.45pm.

Find out more from Lorna or Carmel on 01753 524176 or visit www.sloughcvs.org.uk

What's happening?

Date	Time	Event	Venue	Contact
September				
1	12noon	Vocal and Piano Recital: Soprano - Sherry Wharton, Piano - Philip Wharton	St Mary's Church	www.stmarys-slough.org.uk
5-29	Various	Slough Art Society's annual exhibition	Slough Museum	01753 526422
3	7.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting: Write Night	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
8	12noon	Organ Recital (Dr. Relf Clarke)	St Mary's Church	www.stmarys-slough.org.uk
10	7.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting: Manuscript Evening	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
15	10.00am	Creative Writing Workshop	Slough Library	
15	12noon	Cello Recital: Cello - Naomi Wright, Piano - Robert Hunter	St Mary's Church	www.stmarys-slough.org.uk
17	7.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting: Stage Craft	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
22	12noon	The Monday Madrigalists	St Mary's Church	www.stmarys-slough.org.uk
23	Check times	Wind in the Willows audition	West Wing	01753 823710
24	7.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting: Craft - Ejecting adjectives	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
29	Check times	Making Music meeting	Check for venue	01962 866072
29	12noon	Piano Duets (David Darby and Henry Macey)	St Mary's Church	www.stmarys-slough.org.uk
October				
1	7.30-9.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting: Manuscript Evening	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
3	Various	Panjaab to Slough: the Muslim community	Slough Museum	01753 526422
6	12noon	Forest Voices Chamber Choir	St Mary's Church	www.stmarys-slough.org.uk
8	7.30-9.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting: Guest speaker: Hester Davenport	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
9	10.00am	East Berkshire Funding Fair	Windsor Racecourse	01753 524176
13	12noon	Cameo Consort (directed by Ian May)	St Mary's Church	
15	7.30-9.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting: Write Night Resembling prose	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
20	12noon	Organ Recital (Michael Thomas)	St Mary's Church	www.stmarys-slough.org.uk
20	Check times	The Big 'Birthday' Draw	Slough Museum	01753 526422
22	7.30-9.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting: Manuscript Evening	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
From 24	Various	'Panjaab to Slough: the Hindu community'	Slough Museum	01753 526422
24, 25	Check times	Lantern Making for Diwali	Slough Museum	01753 526422
28	12noon	Organ Recital (Malcolm Stowell)	St Mary's Church	www.stmarys-slough.org.uk
29	7.30-9.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting: Write Night	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725

Date	Time	Event	Venue	Contact
November				
3	12noon	Euphonium Recital No.28: Euphonium - Charley Brighton, Piano - Malcolm Stowell	St Mary's Church	www.stmarys-slough.org.uk
5	7.30-9.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting: Manuscript Evening	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
11	12noon	Prose and Music for Remembrance: Reader - Elaine Stowell, Organ - Malcolm Stowell	St Mary's Church	www.stmarys-slough.org.uk
12	7.30-9.30pm	Summer Competition	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
17	12noon	Organ Recital (Henry Macey)	St Mary's Church	www.stmarys-slough.org.uk
17	Check times	Making Music meeting	Check for venue	01962 866072
19	7.30-9.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting: Guest speaker Annie Murray	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
24	12noon	Vocal Recital: Soprano - Julia Booker, Tenor - Robin	St Mary's Church	www.stmarys-slough.org.uk
26	7.30-9.30pm	Slough Writers' Group Meeting: Article Competition Results	The Greyhound, Eton Wick	01628 661725
December				
1	12noon	Organ Recital (John Halsey)	St Mary's Church	www.stmarys-slough.org.uk
5-22	various	'Panjaab to Slough: the Asian Christian community'	Slough Museum	01753 526422
From 6	Check times	Pantomime: Aladdin	West Wing	01753 823710
8	12noon	Organ Recital (Ian May)	St Mary's Church	www.stmarys-slough.org.uk
15	12noon	Vocal Recital: Bass - Roger Lyon, Piano - Brian Neal	St Mary's Church	www.stmarys-slough.org.uk
20	Check times	Christmas Carols	Slough Museum	01753 526422
22	12noon	Christmas Concert: Reading Minster Mid-Week Choir (Conductor - David Butler), Organ - Malcolm Stowell	St Mary's Church	www.stmarys-slough.org.uk
29	12noon	Vocal Recital: Mezzo Soprano - Shola Hector, Piano - Keith Bosley	St Mary's Church	www.stmarys-slough.org.uk

Slough Museum

Slough Museum first opened its doors to the public in 1986 to: "advance the education of the public in local and general history, topography and archaeology by the provision, maintenance and administration of a museum for Slough and the surrounding district."

Do you think the purpose of the museum is still relevant? Does it feel like YOUR Museum? Have your say at www.sloughmuseum.co.uk or visit the museum at 278-286 High Street.

There is already much to be proud of with a creative school and family programme with opportunities for participants to get their hands on the museum's collections and a popular programme of changing exhibitions, many developed by local people, examining a wide range of topics.

Exhibitions have included Apartheid in South Africa, the 1947 Partition of India and Pakistan, and Slough as a centre of science, industry and agriculture.

Saturday concerts at St Mary's Church

St Mary's Church holds regular concerts every Saturday lunchtime at 12pm. From organ and piano recitals to cello and vocal concerts, and with some pieces specifically written for the event, the Saturday concerts last around 35 minutes and provide a unique opportunity to experience beautiful music in a beautiful setting, just off of Slough's busy high street. The concerts are free, although donations to keep them running are welcomed.

artsinfo interview about Art@the Centre with: Gerry Wyld Head of Planning & Strategic Policy, Slough Borough Council



>> Design for Town Square Floorscape,
Bhajan Hunjan

Can you tell us a bit about the Art at the Centre project?

Art at the Centre is a scheme to relandscape Slough High Street.

Where did the idea come from?

The idea for the project started about four years ago with an initial wish to improve the High Street. Slough has fallen behind other nearby town centres - it wasn't perceived as a welcoming place to shop or work. Its aim is to rejuvenate Slough High Street using art and artists as a central focus of design and engagement.

What are the plans for the new High Street?

The new plans span the entire length of the High Street from Windsor Road to Yew Tree Road and cover both the pedestrian area and improvement of trafficked parts. The central Town Square area will be completely revamped with new paving, seating, lighting and innovative art installations.

The High Street will be lit from a series of overhead lanterns linked by a single line of columns, attractive quality pavements made from granite and permanent public art attractively lit during the evening. It will provide priority for pedestrians with new shared surfaced areas, with the main High Street kept traffic free.

What is your role in the Art at the Centre project?

This is a really extensive and diverse project for Slough and my role is to oversee it. This involves making sure it receives the financial support it needs at every stage; to liaise with other sectors of the council and generally to be its champion, basically to give it a push if there's a problem.

When will the work start?

It has taken about four years to get to this stage with construction work beginning in October and taking 18 months to complete, so the hard work is still to come.

What role have the arts played in the Art at the Centre project?

Art has been integral to the whole process. Arts Council England invited bids from local authorities to involve the arts in regeneration projects. This acted as a catalyst to the project, which has been jointly funded by Arts Council England, Slough Borough Council and SEEDA.

We have worked with a series of artists who have submitted their ideas from which five have been selected to produce works throughout the scheme. Two design consultants, Allen Scott Associates and Waterman Civils, have been working alongside the artists to design an exciting new town centre.

How successful has the cross-departmental working been?

It has been extremely successful. From the start, various departments including Planning, Engineering, the Arts Development team and Communications have worked really well together which was crucial. We had a dedicated group of people who really wanted to transform the centre.

What was the difference between Slough's scheme and other Art at the Centre redevelopment schemes?

Slough's project is much larger in scale in terms of the overall scheme. Other towns have chosen to engage artists in a number of individual schemes.

How has being involved on Art at the Centre changed the way in which you work?

This project has brought together a number of departments within the council as well as arts professionals that we would not have worked with in the past.

It has been a long project with many stages and one of the advantages of this has been the opportunity to consult with and involve local people in the decision making process. We heard views from people who have not previously expressed their opinions including young people, voluntary and community groups and schools and their input has shaped the project. I think we will be taking the lessons learnt in this project to other parts of the town.

For more information visit:
www.artsinslough.org.uk
www.slough.gov.uk/art@thecentre