



Annual Rotary Art Exhibition Returns to Floral Pavilion

The Rotary Club of North Wirral welcomes you back to their annual open art exhibition at the Floral Pavilion Theatre in New Brighton this August.

From small beginnings in 2004, the early events enjoyed several years at Heswall Hall before moving to Carr Farm and then last year we moved to the enhanced exhibition space at the Floral Pavilion, which is a perfect venue for displaying local talent. Now in its 16th year, the event attracts over 100 artists, including members of local art groups together with many individual artists, mostly from Wirral and the surrounding areas.

Exhibits cover a wide range of media and subjects and we generally have many paintings inspired by local features, including favourite beauty spots around the Wirral peninsula, which are especially popular and sell quickly. This year the exhibition will also feature a display of artwork from pupils at New Brighton Primary School, which will give an additional element to the event.

The exhibition starts with a Preview Party on the evening of Monday 12th August, which will be held in the Plaza and Panoramic Lounge areas of the Floral Pavilion with great views of the waterfront. This gives members of the Rotary Club, artists and the public a chance to gather together, enjoy a carvery supper and peruse the exhibits. Tickets for the Monday evening cost £15 each and are available by telephoning Brian Boumphrey on 0151 632 5674.

Admission to the exhibition is free for the remainder of the week from Tuesday 13th to Sunday 18th August inclusive of both dates. Last year the weather was fantastic and attracted many visitors to New Brighton. So don't forget to call in this year, enjoy the artwork, and perhaps purchase that special early Christmas present! All paintings are for sale with affordable prices ranging from £25 to £200 and last year 75 paintings were sold. Twenty per cent of the sale price is retained by Rotary, together with proceeds from the sale of draw tickets, and last year this resulted in a profit of around £4,500.

The Rotary Club of North Wirral is part of a worldwide organisation whose members aim to make positive and lasting changes both locally and internationally. We meet regularly at West Kirby Sailing Club on Monday evenings and, in addition to the Art Exhibition, we organise a Choral Festival at the Floral Pavilion in May, the Wirral Coastal Walk in June and a Christmas Concert at Heswall Hall. All proceeds from our fundraisers go to a range of charities and good causes. We welcome new members, so if you are interested please contact us on 0770 442 2883.

Pauline Parr and Eileen Theil, Rotary Club of North Wirral

Dame Patricia Routledge to open Wirral Hospice St John's garden for the National Garden Scheme



Wirral Hospice St John's is delighted to announce that Dame Patricia Routledge will perform the official opening of its newly made-over gardens, on Saturday 29th June at 11.30am. Dame Patricia will also enjoy a tour of both the garden and the hospice, and place a time capsule as a record of her visit.

Each year some 3,500 individuals, organisations, stately homes and castles open their gardens to the public as part of the National Garden Scheme (NGS). Entry fees from all of these events are pooled to benefit a host of charities, including Macmillan Cancer Care, Marie Curie and Hospice UK.

People often choose to further help their more local charities by selling refreshments and cakes, holding raffles and taking more kind donations. This year, in addition to our other supporters who open their gardens for us, the hospice garden will also be open for visitors over the weekend of 29/30th June from 11.30am to 4.30pm.

Thanks to the generosity of volunteers and organisations, the hospice gardens are being given a makeover to give patients in our Wellbeing Centre and those on our Inpatients Ward, and their families, a pleasant environment in which to spend time together whenever the weather allows.

Over the open weekend, the garden itself will be a massive attraction featuring a bright display of bedding plants, perennials, colourful shrubs, roses and vegetables. Unusual features will include planted chairs, chests of drawers and yarn bombing.

There will be a Pimms tent, and light refreshments with, of course, plenty of cakes. Guests will be able to purchase from a range of donated plants, planters and lots of other garden paraphernalia. There is plenty to keep the kids occupied with small animals and beekeeping demonstrations.

Helen Parkinson, Clinical Services Manager in Wirral Hospice St John's Wellbeing Centre, commented: "We are so grateful to Dame Patricia for giving her time to help us launch our open garden. Since spring, an army of volunteers have been refurbishing the whole outside space of the hospice. They've been digging, weeding, planting and seeding, and we can't thank them all enough. It's once again becoming a really attractive place for all of our patients, their families and friends and, in fact, everyone from our Wirral community is welcome to visit."

