



REVIEW

In an increasingly shrinking world – the result of globalisation of markets, economic forces and communications – it is sometimes difficult to be different and to accept difference. Perhaps as important now as at any time in our history we need to be vigilant, recognising and celebrating difference and tolerance. (Nous sommes Charlie!) Thus the importance of the Arts... reflecting, questioning, investigating, defending those things that define us as human; inhabiting areas that others prefer to ignore, celebrating triumph over adversity, and creativity out of austerity. Canterbury Arts Council (CAC) seeks to support and enhance those arts organisations that seek to reflect, question and celebrate our society, using its limited resources to no other other than this. Impartial, eclectic and diverse, CAC also needs continuing support without restrictive practice. Support CAC, support the Arts, support each other. *Professor Grenville Hancox, President*



Happy 60th Canterbury Orchestra!

So what is Canterbury Arts Council?

Canterbury Arts Council is a registered charity that supports and encourages the creative arts in the Canterbury District. It does so by providing advice and financial backing to local groups and individuals, especially the young. Its funding comes from Canterbury City Council, generous patrons and members' affiliation fees.



UKC in Cathedral Concert rehearsal
(Photo: Matt Wilson UKC)



Flying high with Perrywood Arts



Playtime Theatre Tales



John Copnall at Sidney Cooper Gallery

Membership of CAC gives you:

- Access to grants to help you realise your event or project
- Eligibility for grants to help you purchase specialist equipment
- Your own page on the CAC website
- Publicity for your event on the CAC website, on social media, in the widely distributed Arts Events leaflet, and in CAC's annual Review.
- Your own copies of the 4-monthly Arts Events
- An opportunity to participate in CAC events showcasing local artistic talent



Laure Meloy holding
Olivier statuette



All groups
featured here are
members of
Canterbury Arts
Council

Our Sponsors:

The Council is extremely grateful to the following for their generous support:

- Canterbury City Council
- Canterbury Christ Church University
- Canterbury Cathedral Dean and Chapter
- Nevill Arts Trust
- Stephen and Ann Gerlis
- Michael Bukht Award
- University for the Creative Arts
- University of Kent at Canterbury

*Please support independent local creativity.
To join this illustrious list, see contacts on
back page.*

REPORTS AND THOUGHTS



Walk at First Light by Wendy Kennett (CPS)

City of Canterbury Chamber Choir continued to make music, and raise much-needed funds for churches and charities, with a Lenten concert; a celebratory concert for Choir President John McCabe's 75th Birthday where many of John's compositions were sung; and a Harvest & Thanksgiving concert in aid of 'Catching Lives' which resulted in an £800 presentation at Horsebridge Arts Centre to Terry Gore, Manager of their Open Centre.

Contact: Tony Eldridge on tonyeldridge.net@gmail.com / www.canterburychamberchoir.org.uk

Snowdown Colliery Welfare Male Voice Choir's hectic schedule included an exchange with La Chorale Mabelvoy; visits to Bedfordshire, St Ives, and Luton; 9 charity concerts; performance in Walmer Baptist Church centenary; work with 9 Silver Song Clubs and Deal Parochial School; an exhibition marking the Miners' Strike 50th anniversary; free concerts in Aylesham; and a rehearsal with Alwyn Humphries for a 2015 Royal Albert Hall concert.

Contact: www.snowdown-choir.co.uk

Canterbury Orchestra celebrated its 60th anniversary year with: an excellently reviewed performance of Karl Jenkins The Armed Man with the Sittingbourne Orpheus Choir; a Summer Concert featuring music from the movies; and a Winter Concert exploring the works of Robert and Clara Schumann and their protégé Brahms, pianist Katherine Tinker giving a fine performance of Clara Schumann's Konsertsatz.

Contact: John Perfect on john_perfect@me.com

Canterbury Historical and Archaeological Society provided monthly lectures on all aspects of history and archaeology; arranged visits to places of interest for members and guests; provided information on all aspects of the city's history on their website; and won the John and Peggy Hayes Prize 2014 for the best piece of written history of the city on CHAS Notebook.

Contact: Pauline Walters on paulinewalters15@gmail.com

Charlton Park had a wonderful 2014, with a Jazz Hog Roast for Relate; a concert by Kent Piano Trio; Theatrical Niche's Blood Wedding in association with Arts Council England, the company returning at Halloween with spooky Victorian Ghost Stories. Finally, Whizz Bang Pop performed high-octane panto for the little ones – luckily Santa was saved and a great Christmas had all round!

Contact: www.charlton-park.org

Canterbury Three Cities Association, (Canterbury, Vladimir & Bloomington-Normal). Highlight of the year was Vicky Davis' in-depth talk on the complex background to the Ukraine troubles. Other talks included the idiosyncrasies of American politics, and Iceland ('Geysers, Gannets, and Gorbachev'), all part of regular monthly program.

Contact: John Kemp on 01227 265503 / CAC webpage



Blood Wedding at Charlton Park (Photo: Simon Annand)

Kent Youth Dance Company's August production included scenes from Giselle, La Fille Mal Gardée, tap dancing and a high voltage jazz piece that was chosen as part of the opening of the Poppy Appeal at Bluewater shopping centre. The year was rounded off with versions of The Snowman and Les Patineurs in Herne Bay's Christmas variety show.

Contact: kentyouthdance@hotmail.com

Playtime Theatre Company, toured Holland, Belgium, Germany, Oman and the U.A.E.; had two new play commissions – from Essex County Council, Silent Song, which looked at pacifism during WWI, and from Oman, TUI, a science fiction story; and held drama workshops for children and young people in Whitstable & Faversham, the highlight being a stunning performance by both groups of Shooting Truth.

Contact: www.playtimetheatre.co.uk

Folk in the Barn had 32 concerts and has an ever-growing following. Performances were given by: Scotland's Dougie MacLean, two weeks before closing the Commonwealth Games; Sally Barker, BBC1's 'The Voice' finalist; and John Tams at the Cathedral Lodge before his appearance at the British Legion Festival of Remembrance. The year ended with sell-out Christmas Shows and a Showcase evening for local musicians.

Contact: www.folkinthebarn.co.uk

Canterbury Photographic Society enjoyed a full programme of speakers and engaged in internal and external competitions for prints and digitally projected images. Outings included a visit to the Gunpowder Works at Faversham; trips to Dungeness, Dover and Wingham; and an attempt to photograph the Perseid meteors at Reculver. A very successful annual exhibition was held in St Peter's Methodist Church Hall.

Contact: John Newell on 07739 849209 / www.canterburyphotographicsociety.com

Littlebourne Barn was delighted to host six weddings; the Wickhambreaux School PTA and Blean Rotary barn dances; exhibitions by the SIRIUS group of Contemporary Artists and Littlebourne Art Group; a Heritage Weekend; a Fun Day on Bank Holiday Monday; and the Allotments Association's not-to-be-missed annual Produce Show.

Contact: Wendy Blanchet on WendyBlanchet@outlook.com

Herne Bay Little Theatre produced Chekhov's Three Sisters, Ivan Menchell's Cemetery Club, Anthony Shaffer's Whodunnit, Denise Duggan's Daisy Pulls it Off (Youth Theatre), Wendy Kesselman's The Diary of Anne Frank and Alan Frayn's pantomime Treasure Island. Popular films were shown to the membership between productions. Refurbishment to the Theatre included a new stage and enhanced lighting in the auditorium.

Contact: www.hernebaylittletheatre.com

Sidney Cooper Gallery hosted a dynamic programme of exhibitions accompanied by lectures, workshops, music and film events featuring: CCCU staff and students; acclaimed painter John Copnall; British film/video artist John Smith; the Jerwood Drawing Prize; Beyond the View, which gave rare access to the Sunbeam Photographic Collection and images by Tony Ray Jones and John Hinde.

Contact: Hazel Stone on gallery@canterbury.ac.uk



East Bridge Chorale

Laure Meloy (soprano) had a very fulfilling year. Highlights were Hecuba in King Priam with English Touring Opera, which won an Olivier Award, and the premiere of One Art, an art song written for Ms. Meloy, at the National Opera Center in New York.

Contact: Laure Meloy on lauremeloy soprano@icloud.com



City of Canterbury Chamber Choir

Whitstable Choral Society's highlight of a fabulous year was Handel's Messiah, performed to a packed Colyer-Fergusson building. Other performances were: a summer concert of Handel's Israel in Egypt in the Cathedral; an autumn concert of Gounod's St Cecilia Mass and Pergolesi's Magnificat in Herne Bay High School. The year finished with the Carol Concert in Whitstable – an annual barnstormer!

Contact: www.whitstablechoral.org.uk

University of Kent Music Department's feast of musical activities included the annual Colyer-Fergusson Cathedral Concert commemorating the start of the First World War; masterclasses with singer Dame Anne Evans, saxophonist Martin Speake and sitarist Jonathan Mayer; the Lunchtime Concert series, culminating in the traditional Summer Music Week festival; and concerts on and off campus by numerous University ensembles.

Contact: Dan Harding on d.harding@kent.ac.uk

The Littlebourne Art Group continued to thrive with fortnightly sessions run by artists/tutors Jean Gage and Fred Fielder in the Littlebourne Barn Pantry. A very successful Annual Open Art Exhibition was held in Littlebourne Barn over the Heritage Weekend in September, where tutored water-colour sessions open to the public took place.

Contact: Irene Taylor on 01227 722174 / Wendy Blanchet on 01227 721632

Perrywood Arts partnered with 'Wild Sites on your Doorstep' for an afternoon of creativity in Perry Wood, the starting point being circles and spirals using only natural material found within the Wood. As part of the Canterbury Festival, members exhibited in the Barn at Foxhill Stud. Visitors also had the opportunity to help create a large mobile Barn Owl.

Contact: www.perrywoodarts.co.uk



Tom Shelley at ESU youth concert

Further activities, news and views

Individuals and groups receiving CAC support in 2014

Adam de Ville	£250 grant	Kent Union Musical Theatre	£400 guarantee
Canterbury Music Club	£300 guarantee	Music at St Peter's	£250 grant
Canterbury Operatic Society	£350 guarantee	Music for Change	£300 guarantee
Canterbury Orchestra	£245 guarantee	WEDG	£200 grant
Canterbury Vocals	£300 guarantee	WhitLit	£300 grant
East Bridge Chorale	£300 guarantee	Whitstable Art Society	£175 grant
Herne Bay Musical Theatre Society	£244 grant	Whitstable Choral Society	£400 guarantee
Horsebridge Arts	£250 grant	Whitstable Music Society	£250 grant
Kent Piano Festival	£150 grant		

CAC Young Persons' Arts Scholarships

Individuals aged 14-25 are eligible for one of CAC's generous Arts Scholarships to fund extra skills training or to support a special arts-related project. Keenly contested and rigorously evaluated, our scholarships play a key role in securing the future of the arts in our region.

Would you, could you, help the next generation? If so, please contact our chair or treasurer.

Scholarships can be anonymous or named as an individual or company / business. Named sponsors receive considerable publicity in all CAC material.

CAC offers its sincere congratulations to this year's scholarship winners:

Award	Name	From	Scholarship
£100	Phoebe Abbott (14)	SLGSG	Costs, English Youth Ballet, Bromley
£400	Katie Bilner (22)	CCCU	Voice lessons/course at Royal Conservatoire (Michael Bukht Award)
£180	Adam Byard (25)	CCCU	Clarinet lessons
£145	Emily Dickinson (18)	Canterbury College	Course in welding jewellery (Nevill Trust Award)
£100	Lara Hogbin (16)	Herne Bay High	Kent Youth Dance Summer School
£200	Laura Howarth (19)	CCCU	Sing For Pleasure course
£112	Victoria Lyden (21)	UKC	Singing lessons
£360	Harriet Midson (19)	Canterbury College	One-to-one Intensive Neon Light Workshop (Anne and Stephen Gerlis Award)
£100	Hannah Orton (17)	Canterbury College	Kent Youth Dance Summer School
£300	Amy Clare Petts (17)	SLGSG	Course at Urdang Academy
£310	Sam Smith (24)	Phoenix	Performing Arts audition costs
£100	Lauren Vango (15)	Herne Bay High	Kent Youth Dance Summer School
£395	Daisy Watson (17)	SLGSG	Portfolio presentation course for architecture students



Whodunnit? asks Herne Bay Little Theatre



CHAS receives the John and Peggy Hayes Prize



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Martin Foad's poster for Canterbury Society of Art

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Annual Review 2015-6:

Email contact details (copy 60 words max) and **lively hi-res** pics relating to your 2015 activities to CACReview@gmail.com by 1 February 2016 please.



Kent Youth Dance in action

Our most sincere thanks to...

Truprintmedia of Margate for giving so freely of their time and expertise in designing and printing this Review.



Gaëlle Solal delights Canterbury Guitar Society