

Wade's Charity  
AT THE HEART OF LEEDS



## Leeds Combined Arts Newsletter – Spring 2024



**Samples of Artwork Produced at the Screen-Printing Workshop held on Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

# Who We Are and What We Do

**Mission Statement:** Leeds Combined Arts (LCA) serves to: -

- Promote and celebrate the '*Arts and Literature*' in a diversity of forms, including: -
  - ❖ *Crafts*
  - ❖ *Drawing and painting*
  - ❖ *Drama*
  - ❖ *Music*
  - ❖ *Poetry and prose*
- Encourage a sense of belonging and community through '*eating out, walks and outdoor activities*'
- Highlight our local historical heritage through many of our activities, including walks and presentations
- Nurture, develop and promote individual (and group) talent
- Establish mutually creative relationships with other Leeds-based Community Groups

**Vision Statement:** LCA is seeking to form a vibrant, Leeds-based artistic and literary community, characterized by: -

- An outgoing attitude, seeking to engage with the local community
- Welcoming those from a diversity of backgrounds and perspectives
- Open communication between members and outside parties
- Respectful acknowledgement of each other's views and beliefs

**Means:** We intend to accomplish all of the above through: -

- Sound administrative and financial control
- Effective communication with other interested parties
- Firmly upholding a '*safe space*' where members (and attendees) are free from any form of harassment

**Please Note:** The LCA is a philosophically and politically neutral body. We are an '*umbrella organization*' wherein differing beliefs and opinions are respected. (However, it is not our role to propagate any one single viewpoint; this would include conspiracy theories).

LCA members are welcome to discuss philosophical and political matters as long as this is done in a mature, courteous and civilized manner.

# LCA Book Group



**The Beckett Room, Heart Centre, Headingley LS6 3HN**The LCA Book Reading Group meets **every Monday between 3-5 pm.**(except bank holidays) in The Beckett Room on The Ground Floor at Heart. The Cost is £3 per week. We gather to read aloud a chosen book and will be starting a new book on 13<sup>th</sup> May entitled '**Divided House**' by J M Dalgliesh. It is the first in a new series featuring a troubled detective trying to solve a murder set on a Yorkshire farm. The book group is a friendly social group and we always stop for a coffee break. Everyone welcome but as places are limited, please first contact Kim on [kimsara@live.co.uk](mailto:kimsara@live.co.uk)

At present we can accommodate up to two to three new members.

## Special Announcement

Our sincere thanks go to The Leeds Community Foundation for providing the **£300** grant needed to fund **THE BACK 2 BASICS ARTS AND CRAFTS WORKSHOP** (publicised in this Newsletter). Their generosity is gratefully acknowledged.

To meet funding criteria, Photographs are likely to be taken at all LCA Events. **SHOULD YOU NOT WISH TO BE PHOTOGRAPHED PLEASE LET US KNOW. AT THE BEGINNING OF AN EVENT.**

## Important Requests

The Committee request that LCA Members kindly consider: -

- Undertaking research into a favourite topic – with a view to using it in a Performance Evening (should a speaker not arrive or cancels at the last minute).
- Joining the Committee – we urgently need to cover the roles of '*Treasurer*' and '*Theatre Organiser*'
- Please note membership subscriptions are due this month. But **PLEASE SEND NO PAYMENTS UNTIL AFTER WE'VE SENT OUT A FORMAL REMINDER IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS TIME.** At present we have other business to attend to.

# Performance Events

(Poetry, Music, Drama & Literature)  
(HEART, Bennett Road, Headingley LS6 3HN)

All Performances begin at **7.15pm**

Thursday: 16<sup>th</sup> May 2024

**Bob Dylan - The Mood of His Time:  
The Poetry of Bob Dylan  
and the Swinging Sixties**

By **Sir John Battle**, former Government Minister and MP.

Thursday: 20<sup>th</sup> June

**A Touch of Theatre**

A playreading night led by the experienced playreader, **Nicola Down**

Thursday: 18<sup>th</sup> July 2024

**A Night at The Opera**

An Evening of High Culture with the distinguished and talented virtuoso,  
**Lizzy Hardman**

There will be NO Performance Evenings in August

We wish you all a pleasant summer break

**HEARTFEST OPEN DAY SATURDAY MAY 25<sup>TH</sup>**  
(10:00 am - 10:00 pm)

We plan to have a table for part of the day at this event. Please give your support.

**Contact Details:**

The Heart Centre Bennett Road, Leeds, LS6 3HN

01132754548

<https://www.leedsinspired.co.uk/events/heart-fest-2024>

## **'BACK 2 BASICS' ARTS AND CRAFTS WORKSHOP**

Facilitator: **Erin Nicholson** Helper: **June Smith**

Cost: **£3.50** per session, which includes all materials and refreshments.

Venue: The Heart Centre, Bennett Road, Headingley, LS6 3HN Tel; 0113 2754548

The Ridge Room, top floor (there is a lift)

The workshop will consist of: .

<b>Date and times</b>	<b>Workshop Type</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Week 1: May 15</b> Wednesday 1.30 – 3.30pm	General Introduction, followed by drawing from still life. Erin to bring objects	Using pencils, use of the left and right hand, and having a go with cross hatch!
<b>Week 2: May 22</b> Wednesday 1.30 – 3.30pm	Using gouache, and practising with acrylics	Using templates too
<b>Week 3: May 29</b> Wednesday 1.30 – 3.30pm	An introduction to abstract art, i.e. Picasso!	Pick a word from a hat and ' <i>go with it,</i> ' using water colours and acrylics
<b>Week 4: June 05</b> Wednesday 1.30 – 3.30pm	Screen Printing on the theme of flowers	An extra person will be on hand to help with this

Our aim is to provide a relaxed and informal setting for you to enjoy and maybe rediscover your inner creative talent!

Each participant will take home their own portfolio of work at the end of week four.

Please let us know of any health needs requiring support. Also, of any food allergies.

**Please note only a few places remain for this event: priority being given to those able to attend all four sessions.**

**Interested?** Contact June via email: [junecatsmith@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:junecatsmith@hotmail.co.uk)

# Walks & Outdoor Activities

Leeds Combined Arts provides monthly WALKS designed to suit people who prefer a gentle steady walk of between two and six miles. These walks are at a moderate pace and are ideal for people who would like to become fitter and enjoy walking but would not be up to doing a longer walk at a faster pace.

During the walk we usually incorporate some Poetry, Storytelling or music; and we sometimes include visits to a Stately Home or Art Gallery or other place of interest. Although these walks are of a shorter length, please consider your ability when attending and always come equipped with appropriate clothing, including waterproofs, walking boots and warm clothing. Packed lunch sometimes needed.

We want everyone to enjoy the walks LCA provides. However, sometimes unforeseen circumstances intervene (i.e. a train or bus strike) at short notice. **Should such an event take place please check your email (or WhatsApp) for any re-arrangements.**

Thank you for your patience and cooperation – we will always try our best to provide a pleasant walking experience for you.

*Also, we need members to 'step-in' throughout the year to organise walks. It is quite easy and fun to do. Jon and I can give plenty of guidance. LCA e-mail/phone contact is **Richard Bojanowski 0113-234-7688** or **0774-961-2270**. Walks usually begin/end via bus/rail connection (train spotting is optional!). Occasionally, with no transport links we will organise car-sharing.*

*Look forward to experiencing the great outdoors!*

**Richard Bojanowski (RB), Walks Co-ordinator.**

**Please Note:** Participation on any Leeds Combined Arts walk is at the individual's own risk.

*For further information about any walk please contact the walk leader.*





## FORTHCOMING WALKS

**SUNDAY 26TH MAY 2024, at 12 NOON**

### **WEETWOOD TO THE HOLLIES AND THE MEANWOODS.**

Meet at 12.00 noon, bus stop of Lawnswood School, just south of outer ring road. Walk past Oxley Hall, Bardon Grange to Weetwood Lane. Then into Hollies Park, down to weir bridge and Meanwood proper. Then to cafe via Hustlers Row and Green Lane. After refreshments up Hollin Lane to Otley Rd bus stops.

**Further details to follow via e-mail**

**SUNDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> JUNE 2024**

A walk with Jon– to be arranged. Details to follow

**SUNDAY 21<sup>st</sup> JULY 2024 at 12.20 PM**

### **HUBY TO RIFFA FARM CAFE**

Meet at Weeton Station car park. (Train from Leeds arrives 11.56 and A2 Airport Bus, towards Harrogate, arrives at 12.15).

**Further details will be sent nearer the time**

This walk (along pleasant lanes and paths with delightful views and animals enroute) is being repeated, enabling more to enjoy it. Finish at the Riffa Farm cafe on A658. A2 bus back to Weeton Station takes just 7 minutes.

## DAY OUT

**SATURDAY 8<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2024**

### **THE GREAT KNARESBOROUGH BED RACE!**

Please support our Technical Advisor (and Committee member) **Carl Waring** who's acting as a Marshall for this crazy event!

**Details to be finalised;** please refer to: <https://www.bedrace.co.uk/>

**FUTURE PARK WALKS**  
**Make a note of these in your diary!**

**MORNING WALKS: TUESDAY 11.00 AM**

4<sup>th</sup> June: Manston Park, Crossgates

16<sup>th</sup> July: Micklefield Park, Rawdon

6<sup>th</sup> August: Tarnfield park Yeadon

10<sup>th</sup> September: Potternewton Park

8<sup>th</sup> October: Westroyd Park Farsley

12<sup>th</sup> November: Becketts Park

10<sup>th</sup> Royal Park Community park

**SUMMER WALKS:**

**WITH PICNIC ON A THURSDAY AFTERNOON @ 1.00PM**

23<sup>RD</sup>May: Pudsey park

20<sup>th</sup> Hune: Bramley Park

25<sup>th</sup> July: Nunroyd Park Guiseley

22<sup>nd</sup> August : Gotts Park Armley

**Details of each event will be sent one week before it is scheduled to take place. Members will be notified of any last-minute changes to time or location.**

**CONTACTS**

Christine 07585 376034

Kim 07964974915

June 07939 060193

**PLEASE ATTEND ALL OUTDOOR EVENTS WITH APPROPRIATE FOOTWEAR AND CLOTHING AS BOTH GROUND AND WEATHER CONDITIONS CAN BE EXTREMELY VARIABLE.**



# WOW! (What's on Where?)

## DANCING

EACH FRIDAY BETWEEN 12.30 AND 1.30PM

**DANCE CLASS FOR OVER 50'S @ HEART, HEADINGLEY**

Join us for a fun dance and exercise class, **each Friday between 12.30 and 1.30pm** at the Heart Centre, Headingley. Great music and gentle exercise to develop fitness and suppleness. All ability levels welcome. Cost is £5 per session - cash only. For further details please contact tutor Isla at; [islakhurst@gmail.com](mailto:islakhurst@gmail.com) or phone: **0790-679-6602**.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> - 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2024

**Yorkshire Dance's 'Ageless Festival,' Leeds City Centre**

Over two days '**Ageless**' features an eclectic mix of bold new performances, talks and workshops from critically acclaimed dance artists. All events are 'Pay What You Can.' Details can be found at:

<https://yorkshiredance.com/whats-on/>

<https://twitter.com/YorkshireDance/status/1779835832943161612>

## THEATRE AND AM-DRAM

FRIDAY-SATURDAY 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> JUNE

**Adel Players:** Their annual Murder Mystery entertainment

<https://www.adel-players.org.uk/forthcoming-productions/>

THURS-SATURDAY 18<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> JULY

**Leeds Arts Centre:** A Midsummer Night's Dream

<https://www.carriageworkstheatre.co.uk/whatson-event/a-midsummer-nights-dream-2/>

# Committee News

During a meeting held on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February the committee discussed a wide range of topics. Votes were taken and it was unanimously agreed that, should Grant funding become available, to invest in: -

**1. Banners** – containing no *'people'* photographs - so they can last indefinitely. (The previous inner- 'pull-up' sections will be retained for archiving purposes.) CW requested that we get the exact sizing so that he can work on the artistic element of the banners. We already have appropriate costing from a company called 'Award Banners.'

**2. A card payment machine** - this will be a priority purchase should we be successful in obtaining the community grant.

**3. New electronic sound equipment, with clip-on microphone.** (Our previous equipment was fairly old and heavy and has been donated to the Heart Centre) This equipment may be needed because some of our audience tend to be hard of hearing. It was estimated that this would cost around £225 and an extra £100 for microphones.

**4. A Sony Camera.** JS has already purchased this from a charity shop and subsequently bought new batteries, a charger and a connecting lead. It has been tested and is ready for use.

**5. A day out and a retreat or walking weekend away** (possibly along with another community group)

**6. The putting-together of up-to-date policies for Grant Holders** e.g. Adult Safeguarding (this has now been done) and a brief document on Environmental Sustainability

It was also decided to divide the Membership Lists into: -

**A. Full Subscription Members:** entitled to vote at the AGM.

**B. Non-members:** those expressing an interest and are sent full details of LCA Activities.

Further details of subscriptions are scheduled to be released around the Middle of May.

There is still need for a Treasurer and for members to represent the Performance Group and Theatre Group (should the latter be reconstituted.)

# News from The Chair

Dear Members of the LCA,

Currently, since its re-appointment for a second term (at an AGM held on Thursday, 18th April 2024) the Committee are attempting to focus upon reaching out to the following specific people groups: -

1. Those socially marginalised and isolated individuals with an interest in the arts, literature and/or walking. (With the co-operation of other groups, these would include refugees and asylum seekers ).
2. Retired (and sometimes lonely) pensioners who wish to socialise and continue (or develop) an already existing interest in The Arts
3. Newcomers to the Arts and Literature who are wishing to showcase their talents in a safe and non-intimidating environment. (It's anticipated that this Group will consist mainly of young people, either still in or fresh out of, Education).

One growing priority of the LCA is to close the 'age apartheid' present in the Arts by inviting those starting out in this area to lead events. Doing this will continue The LCA's traditional role of nurturing new talent. It is envisaged that local theatre groups could help funnel such talent in our direction.

Since the Committee was first formerly constituted on Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup>

1. Noteworthy progress has been made over the past year and it's very evident that the LCA has the potential to do much good in the local area.
2. We are entering 'a make-or-break' period but are hopeful of the future and will be renewing membership subscriptions in May. This will bring in much needed revenue.
3. The LCA will continue to offer events as long as finances allow. Should no grant be received, we will close and cease our activities.

In closing, I wish to extend A WARM THANK YOU to those members who have kindly provided testimonials highlighting how they have benefitted from the LCA. Our intention is to include these in future grant applications. At present, obtaining grant funding from a variety of sources has to be our main priority.

Anyway, best wishes to you all,

Richard Smith (Re-appointed Chairperson of the LCA))

# Creative Corner

*This page is designed to give members an opportunity to showcase their own work, in the form of poetry, short stories, book reviews, and visual pieces like drawings or photographs. All types of work are welcome. but must fit into two A4 page sizes.*

## *RESURRECTION SPRING*

Healing spring sunlight  
Hallows an old poet's stomping ground  
With glistening, glittering, golden beams  
Eagerly provoking an  
Easter resurrection of plant life

Woolly sun-shimmered clouds  
Drift lazily over  
A bracken-strewn moorland ridge  
That looms like a petrified wave  
Over the sooty terraced houses of  
Mytholmroyd village  
Tucked sleepily in the valley below

Once a future Poet Laureate  
Had played there  
Feeding an imagination  
That would express itself  
In the poems I was  
Forced to study at school  
Each one portraying nature  
As something bleak, savage and cruel  
An arena of death for many an animal

But now a thousand sunshine daffodils greet me  
Providing testimony of new life  
As I tenderly squeeze the hand of the woman I love

A muffled roar of traffic  
Drifts up the valley side  
Amidst the bleat of newborn lambs  
Each noisily proclaiming  
*'This is Easter time,  
The occasion for new life and fresh hope!'*  
Birds circle overhead  
Providing their own gentle greeting  
The faint tangy scent of moss  
Confirms the natural scene

A stile lies ahead  
The first of many to clamber over  
The squeak of an opening gate  
A climb over a slippery wooden ladder  
One last glance thrown back to Mytholmroyd  
Then up into muddy woodland  
As gently laboured breathing  
Marks the beginning of a long walk to Hebden Bridge

*MAD MOGGIES ON THE LOOSE #1*

There was an old cat of Leeds  
Who would vex us with his deeds  
So very naughty was he  
'Cos on our floor he would pee  
So relieving his bodily needs

There is an old cat called 'Ziggy'  
In shape he's a bit like Twiggy  
Sitting all day on the bin  
Creating a loud, frightful din  
Until he gets fed like a piggy

Once a jet-black cat bit my nose  
While I lay in bed in a doze  
I shouted, 'go away!'  
But he decided to stay  
Now he's starting to nibble my toes

Here's a cat called 'Banker'  
Who looks like a tanker  
Your money he'll thief  
Then he'll leave you to grieve  
His schemes are nothing but canker

There once was a cat who sat on my face  
Who purred on and on at such a fast pace  
He then did a whiff  
I nearly went stiff  
Before hurtling him into outer space

Written on Sunday, 12th April 2008 & Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> February 2010

# A TIMELINE OF LCA ACTIVITIES

(Covering the period from the formation of the New Committee until May 2024)

**2023**

**Weds 15.3.2023: Appointment Of The New Committee**

**Weds 25.3.2023: A thorough review of the LCA's constitution and administrative systems begins**

**Thurs 6.4.2023: New Committee is formally constituted**

**Sun 16.04.2023: The First Committee Meeting of 2023**

**Weds 19. 4.2023: The First '*Open Mic*' Event Under The New Committee**

**Sun 30.4.2023: A Walk To The Seven Arches, The Slabbering Baby And Adel Crag**

**Weds 17.5.2023: The second '*Open Mic*' Event Under The New Committee**

**Sun 21.5.2023: A Walk Around St Aiden's Nature Reserve South Leeds**

**Sun 11.6.2023: The second Committee Meeting of 2023**

**Mon 12.6.2023: A detailed revision of the LCA constitution is completed**

**Sun 18.6.2023: A Walk Through Eccup Whinn Nature Reserve**

**Weds 21.6. 2023: A Playreading Night: A Mid-Summers Madness**

**Thurs 22.6.2023: Attended Lord Mayors Reception For Charities in The Civic Hall, Leeds**

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**Sat 1.7.2023: An LCA Table and stand is displayed at the 'Heartfest' an Open Day Event**

**Weds 19.7.2023: A talk on being a Social Worker in Leeds**

**Sun 15.7.2023: Rodley Nature Reserve Trip**

**Sun 30.07.2023: The Third Committee Meeting of 2023, the revised constitution is formally adopted**

**Tues 8.8.2023: Meanwood Park Walk**

**Sun 17.9.2023: A Circular Walk To Breary Marsh, Cookridge Hall and Adel Nature Reserve**

**Tues 19.9.2023: A revised constitution and sound administrative systems are finally in place. Our first publicity drive begins with leaflets being distributed and posters put up in key places.**

**Thurs 21.9.2023: Poetry and Music Event with Francis Russel**

**Sun 24.9.2023: Day trip To Knaresborough**

**Thurs 19.10.2023: The Rise Of Combined Arts In Central Europe by The Chairperson**

**Sunday, 22.10.2023: The fourth Committee Meeting of 2023**

**Sat 4.11.2023: First LCA Theatre Visit to see 'Bleak Expectations'**

**Thurs 16.11.2023 Medieval Music Night by Professor Peter Bull (27 Attended)**

**Sun 19.11.2023: Bramhope Rail Shafts Walk**

**Tues 28.11.2023: A Park Walk in the Hollies**

**Sun 10.12.2023: A Heritage Leeds-Liverpool Canal Walk To 'The Dark Arches' Under Leeds Rail Station**

**Thurs 21.12.2023: Christmas Fun And Food Night**



## 2024

**Thurs 18.1.2024: 'A Blast From The Past' By The Published Irish Poet Bill Fitzsimons**

**Sun 21.1.2024: A Winter Meal At Wetherspoons**

**Sun 28.1.2024: Golden Acre Nature Walk**

**Sat 2.2.2024: The first Committee Meeting of 2024**

**Sat 17.2.2024: Visit to see the local pantomime 'The Three Musketeers'**

**Sun 18.2.2024: Walk from Bramhope Puritan Chapel to Poole and Old Arthington Rail Station**

**Tues 12.3.2024: Roundhay Garden Canal Garden Walk**

**Sun 17.3.2024: A Circular Walk to Leeds General Cemetery next to The University**

**Thurs 21.3.2024: A Screen-Printing Workshop, led by the Artist Erin Nicolson and Friends**

**Thurs 18.4.2024: Re-appointment of the Committee at their first Annual General Meeting A PowerPoint record of the previous year's activities was given. Also, the of annual accounts were distributed,**

**Sun 21.4.2024: The Weeton Circular Walk**

**Tues 7.5.2024: Golden Acre Park Walk**

**PHOTOGRAPHS OF MOST OF THESE ACTIVITIES CAN BE FOUND ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AT**

**[https://www.facebook.com/leedscombinedarts/?locale=en\\_GB](https://www.facebook.com/leedscombinedarts/?locale=en_GB)**



SCAN FOR WEBSITE

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