



Members and Friends Newsletter

April 2022

Penicuik Community Arts Association

Dear PCAA members and friends,

I hope you're keeping well and enjoying more social time now that covid restrictions are almost lifted. There's a lot going on in the PCAA! We try to keep prices as low as possible - so do think about coming along to an event or two.

Recent news and notices

The Castaways were a delightful tonic on Sunday 20th March. They serenaded us with an hour of wonderful nostalgic songs sung in beautiful harmony. The PCAA is especially grateful to them for giving us this benefit concert in aid of the ongoing Arts Centre building repairs. They raised a total of £300. Many thanks are also due to the audience who supported us so generously.



The PCAA AGM will take place on Monday 16th May at 7:30pm. Unless there is a change in Covid restrictions to prevent it, we will hold it in Room 1 of the Arts Centre. I will be circulating documents to PCAA members nearer the time and we will be proposing another small change to the constitution.

We're looking for **volunteers to do another house to house leaflet drop** between Wednesday 20th April and Wednesday 27th April. We're VERY grateful to everyone who's volunteered for this job over the last months. It has made a difference - people are contacting us for various activities because they've received a PCAA leaflet through their letterbox! Please email or text me if you can help (0781 505 2929; penicuikarts.org@gmail.com;). This is particularly important because it will be advertising our last concerts of the season, and Penfest 2022.

Our membership officer Di Davies reminds us that the **new membership year starts 1st April 2022**. Unless you've already renewed your membership since 1st December 2022, your membership is now due. You can buy memberships online, or contact Di via the PCAA email (penicuikarts.org@gmail.com).

Coming up!

There are still one or two spaces on our **series of six singing workshops**, led by Kirsty Law on Tuesdays 7pm - every 2 weeks approx, starting 5th April. Join any time - £5 per workshop. Email Sue to book (penicuikarts.org@gmail.com).

Nancy Bryce is running a **plant stall at “Penicuik in the Park”** on Saturday 28th May to raise funds for the PCAA and we’re asking for donations of plants (to be brought along from 10:30am onwards on the day). Plants should be labelled with plant name, height and flower colour if appropriate.

The exhibition in the Café gallery during April is from Pam Snell. Pam is Secretary of the Penicuik Historical Society and her exhibition is about the history of St Mungo’s churchyard in Penicuik. Do drop in for a cuppa, or for lunch, and enjoy the fascinating exhibition.

On Friday 6th May at 7:30pm, we look forward to a concert from Saanjh, a world-class cross-cultural trio of musicians (Ankna Arockiam, Edward Cohen, and Hardeep Deerhe), calling on both Eastern and Western musical influences. We are very privileged to be welcoming them to Penicuik on a tour supported by Chamber Music Scotland. They will explore “woman’s journey through dusk and the experiences and challenges she faces along the way.”

Tickets must be bought in advance, and are available online (<https://www.penicuikarts.org/product/saanjh-concert/>), at the Arts Centre café and from Pen-y-Coe Press. Be sure to buy yours in good time - we anticipate an early sell-out.



Saanjh
(*Photograph by Andrew Bradley*)

More details for PENFEST 2022

Penfest runs from Saturday 21st May - Sunday 29th May 2022 to coincide with, and collaborate with, the popular Hunter & Lass week.

Programme (all events at West Street Arts Centre, Penicuik)

- Throughout May: an exhibition from the PCAA Art Group and friends. Free.
- Throughout May: an exhibition of the Postcard Competition Entries. Free.
- Saturday 21st May 3pm: Artists "Show and Tell" - come and meet the artists and hear about their work. Free.
- Sunday 22nd May 3pm: Roxburgh Quartet. This popular ensemble make a return visit to Penicuik. We anticipate a full house, so buy your tickets early! Tickets £15 from the 1st April, from the PCAA website shop, West Street cafe and Pen-y-Coe press.
- Tuesday 25th May 7:30pm: Talk and demonstration "Paint like Renoir" by Damian Callan. Tickets £5 - available from the 1st April, from the PCAA website shop, West Street cafe and Pen-y-Coe press.
- Saturday 28th May: PCAA Plant stall at "Penicuik in the Park" from 1pm.
- Sunday 29th May 3pm. PCAA members-only social gathering. Free. See above for how to become a PCAA member!

Once Penfest is over, we'll be looking forward to a **concert from vocalist and singing teacher Kirsty Law**. Kirsty will be leading our singing workshop series, and as a finale, will perform for us, hopefully with a bit of support from the singing workshop participants!

Community Project News (further details - contact Sue 0781 505 2929 or email penicuikarts.org@gmail.com)

The SCOPS Arts Trust grant to make a film of the Paper-Making industry in Penicuik. Gerda Stevenson has started the research on this project and still needs stories from people who used to work in the mills, or have clear memories and stories of life in a mill working family etc. Please encourage anyone who has these stories to get in touch with Sue in the first instance (contact details are above)

Midlothian Council grant for Singing Workshops. We've had a lot of interest for this series of six workshops which start on Tuesday 5th April 7pm. There are still a few spaces available, so do get in touch if you're interested!

Midlothian Council grant for Postcard Competition. There are four categories for cash prizes - Adult painting/drawing; Adult photography; Children (under 16) painting/drawing; Children (under 16) photography. We still need more entries, especially for Children's photography and Adult's art/drawing. Please encourage yourself and others to take part! The deadline is extended to 7th April.

That's all for now - keep well and hope to see you at West Street soon!
Sue