



# **Friends of Kirkby Gallery & Prescott Museum (FOKGPM)**

Annual Report (June 2017 – April 2018)

**FOKGPM AGM** as held on Thursday 19 July 2018, 10.30am

## Chair's Report

As our first year, it has been a busy and rewarding one.

As a new organisation, we have been finding our way in what to offer and do in support of our local communities.

With this in mind, we have done the following, so as to establish our group:

- Set a range membership fees that are really affordable, so as to be more accessible
- Extending membership options so as to have a schools and colleges offer.
- Designed roll-up banners and our membership leaflet (which likely need reviewing in 2019)
- Created twice-yearly newsletters for signed-up members
- Actively started fundraising so as to establish high-quality arts project for the community, which are free.

These activities have been core to setting the foundations for our first year and an aspirational future.

## Aims of Group

The aim of FOKGPM is to give those with an interest in the arts, the opportunity to support the activities and further development of Kirkby Gallery and Prescott Museum, along with the purchase of new works, whilst enjoying the benefits of the service. Membership includes previews, talks, events, behind the scene tours, field trips, newsletters and discounts on purchases. School and College memberships include a loan of a 'mini museum' or the 'little big art gallery', which are mobile resources. Critical to the group is to ensure that there is always a 'free' high quality creative learning offer for our local audiences.

As our group is comprised of individuals who represent and work for various sectors of our local communities; education, health, community development, local residents, the disabled and the retired, we use this to our strength so as to plan and understand the needs of our communities.

## Management Committee

Tina Ball  
Pam Broadfoot  
Susan Mackell / Vicky Griffiths  
Steve Dixon  
Sheila Peet  
Lisa Redfern  
Gill Cowley  
Pauline Coulton  
John Mashford

Chair  
Treasurer  
Secretary (joint)  
Committee member  
Committee member  
Committee member  
Committee member  
Co-opted member  
Co-opted member

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## Achievements

### Grants Received

*'Better Together' grant as administered by Knowsley Council - £9020.*  
**Awarded 20 November 2017 (one year maximum)**

This project offers new creative courses additional and different to what the gallery and museum offers, which are both free to attend and encourages intergenerational learning. A key aim was to ensure the project is accessible to low income families and to those experiencing social isolation, i.e. issues associated with mental health, loneliness, disability, access or sexuality. In doing so, our project increased the independence of participants and their confidence to pursue other learning and wellbeing activities.

This inaugural 'friends of' project has enabled us to broaden our community offer, as informed by the gallery and museums recent exhibitions of a literary theme or connection – not to mention, sharing the same buildings as our local libraries – hosting creative writing courses for local people embodies all of these elements

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*'Awards for All' grant as administered by Big Lottery Fund*  
**Awarded 1 March 2018 (one year maximum)**

Following on the pilot phase of 'From Pen to Paper' as funded by Better Together, we wished to continue and expand the project given its success and increasing popularity to date. It continues to have two strands:

Strand 1: Will provide new creative courses additional to what the gallery and museum currently offer, which will be free. The creative courses currently on offer include: Children's Drawing, Adult Drawing and Watercolour courses. There is scope through our project to introduce new courses including printmaking, literacy skills through art appreciation and a 'construction club' for children. We know there is a demand as the fee-based courses are over subscribed but also due to a backlog of enquiries from local groups and individuals where paying the fee isn't possible.

Strand 2: 10 week creative writing courses in Prescot and Kirkby respectively, offering the opportunity to improve language, literacy and communication skills, whilst importantly, encouraging individuals to develop their own 'voice' via the written word as well as verbally. This strand responds to Kirkby Gallery having hosted exhibitions by various writers and illustrators and as a result, we recognise another way in which to encourage personal development and doing so in a safe and supportive cultural environment – using art as the context in which to respond to or be inspired by.

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## Memberships

As our first year has not been a full year, given how we started in June, we have to date signed up 8x individual membership and 3x joint members but given the projects we are developing, it is anticipated that for 2018 – 2019, we will see considerable increase in membership numbers.

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## Other fundraising activities: FOKGPM 2017 Calendar

As our first fundraising 'product' we produced an artist desk-top calendar.

Permissions to print the images in this calendar were kindly provided by a selection of artists who have exhibited their work in the gallery spaces during the last five years. There are also two images selected from Prescott Museum Collection.

The featured artists exhibited their work in the following exhibitions:

Patricia McDonald: Latitude & Longitude, 2015

Willy Russell: Another Aspect, 2017

Steve Talbot: Crafted, 2016

Cherie Grist: People, 2017

Leslie Briggs: Faces & Places, 2016

Ruth Moilliet: Synthesis, 2015

Anthony Ratcliffe: Shoreline & Watershed, 2013

Paul Romano: The Beginning of a Great Adventure, 2017

Gill Cowley: Knowsley Open Art Exhibition, 2016 & 2017

David Holmes: Werewolf in a Jet Pack, 2017

Friends of Kirkby Gallery & Prescott Museum

## 2018 Artist Calendar



**An exciting range of artwork to take you through 2018, along with twelve artist prints for you to frame and enjoy for years to come!**

Contributing artists include Willy Russell, Anthony Ratcliffe, Ruth Moilliet, Patricia McDonald, Steve Talbot, Cherie Grist, Paul Romano, Leslie Briggs, Gill Cowley and David Holmes.

**Just £10 per calendar - including free postage!**

**All proceeds from the calendar go to Friends of Kirkby Gallery & Prescott Museum to support the exhibitions and events programme, and the purchase of new works to further the development of the Museum and Gallery.**

These calendars are a limited edition, to order yours please send a cheque for £10 made payable to *Friends of Kirkby Gallery & Prescott Museum* with your details to:  
Tina Ball, Knowsley Culture Development & Events Service, Knowsley Registry Office,  
High Street, Prescott Knowsley L34 3LD.

Alternatively, you can pay in cash and place your order at Kirkby Gallery.  
For more information contact Tina Ball 0151 443 5617 or email [tina.ball@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:tina.ball@knowsley.gov.uk)



**Friends of Kirkby Gallery & Prescott Museum**  
***Annual Accounts for period: June 2017 – April 2018***

**Accounts checked by independent third party:** Gillian Pinder  
(Clerk to Rainhill Parish Council)

**Date of check and approval:**

5<sup>th</sup> November 2018

**Signature:**