

Summer 2018 Newsletter



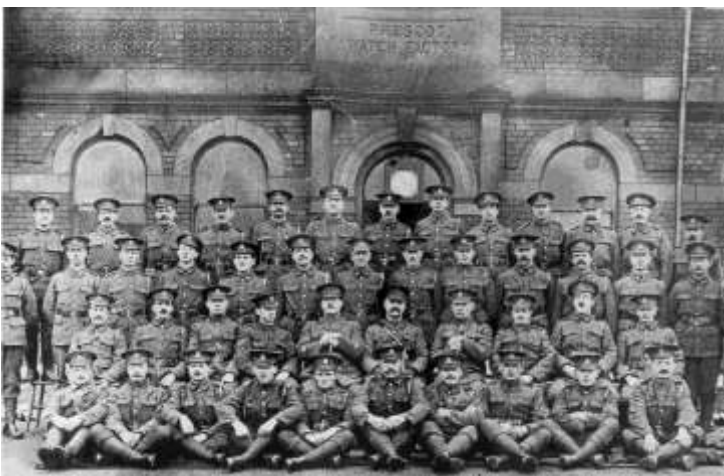
With your help, in just over a year, Friends of Kirkby Gallery & Prescott Museum have secured over £18,000 of external funding for two wonderful projects - thank you! There are many more things to look forward to...

Prescot Museum Helps *The Watchfactory* Celebrate its Heritage

Prescot Museum has been working with Knowsley Housing Trust, First Ark and the architects of *The Watchfactory*, the new housing development in the converted former Lancashire Watch Company factory building in Prescot.

The architects and interior designers were keen to reflect the historical importance of the listed building and so we were asked to help create displays in the foyer which celebrate the site's rich heritage.

The Lancashire Watch Company sought to revitalise the horology industry in Prescot. Thousands of men and unmarried women worked for the company making a wide range of watches and clocks. Due to over-diversification and associated tooling costs, the company ceased trading in 1910 after producing almost a million watches.



During the First World War, the building was used as the barracks for the 17th Battalion, King's (Liverpool) Regiment, known as 'the Pals'. Men were assigned to a battalion when they volunteered to enlist, but as huge numbers were needed, it was thought that men would be more likely to

sign up to fight alongside their friends and relatives. Lord Derby raised "a *battalion of pals*, a battalion in which friends from the same office will fight shoulder to shoulder for the honour of Britain and the credit of Liverpool." Four 'Pals' battalions of local men were formed within a week.

In the 1920s, printing firm C. Tinling & Co. moved into the building and extended it to accommodate presses and binding machinery. The company produced books, pamphlets and newspapers: the Liverpool Evening Press.

In the 1970s, the building was split into separate industrial units to accommodate smaller businesses, and became known as Prescot Trade Centre.

The building and grounds have now been rejuvenated to create a beautiful new housing development. Images of the local area over the last century are spread throughout the complex, decorating the corridors and inspiring the residents.



the
Random
CRAFTS CLUB
Mondays - Saturdays
24 July - 1 September
Drop-in and get creative @ Kirkby Gallery



The Arts Market at Kirkby

Kirkby Gallery and Kirkby Market are working in partnership to provide studio space and support for local artists and craftspeople.

Units within the vibrant new Kirkby Market have been kindly given over for use as a place for artists to create and collaborate, exhibit and showcase their skills. Over the years, Kirkby Gallery has nurtured local talent and this fabulous opportunity will further the careers of Knowsley creatives.

Kind donations of furniture and equipment have come from individuals and Council departments to make the units comfortable and welcoming working spaces.

Members of the public are welcome to visit **The Arts Market** and meet the artists and craftspeople as they work.

Different people will be on-site on each of the open days, including our fabulous 'Five' artists who helped to inspire this enterprise!

The Arts Market will launch on Tuesday 21 August. Regular opening times to be confirmed; call 0151 443 5617 / 4936 to find out more.

The Arts Market Units 106- 109 & 116 -119 Market Square, Kirkby, Knowsley L32 8RW.



The Liverpool & Knowsley Book Art Exhibition: Frankenstein 2018

Kirkby Gallery 17 September - 26 January

To mark 200 years since the first edition of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus* was published, this exhibition has been organised in partnership between Liverpool Book Art, Liverpool Central Library and Kirkby Gallery.

Frankenstein is a classic work, arguably the very first work of science fiction, it is also a core text of Gothic literature. Its themes of ambition and hubris, ethics and morality, responsibility for the consequence of one's actions, free will and empathy have been important since the book was first published; in the modern age of genetic manipulation and artificial intelligence it remains relevant.

Book artists from around the world have responded to *Frankenstein* with a hugely creative range of ideas stimulated by the themes, the way in which the story is told and even made links to other classic tales; some of the works have been made in small editions and some are unique works. Many of them are available to buy.

The exhibition at Kirkby Gallery is an enlarged version of the display that debuted at Liverpool Central Library, with new pieces responding to the theme, as well as displays of items from Prescott Museum's collection complementing the artists' books.



Frankenstein 2018 Private View

Kirkby Gallery, Knowsley

Thursday 13 September, 4.30-6.30pm

RSVP to tina.ball@knowsley.gov.uk / 0151 443 5617

Can you help?

Made on Merseyside Exhibition

Kirkby Gallery will be hosting an exhibition in 2019 celebrating industry in the local area - the goods produced here and the people who made them.

We would like to share the stories of businesses large and small, past and present who have made their mark.

Is your company based in Knowsley or the surrounding area or did you work at a local manufacturing firm that no longer exists?

Do you/did you manufacture interesting or unique products?

Do you have photos/footage of your staff/factory/workshop etc?

Do you have any examples of products/promotional materials/uniforms/PPE/tools we could borrow to display?

If you are interested in being involved in the Made on Merseyside exhibition at Kirkby Gallery, please contact Tina Ball on 0151 443 5617 or email tina.ball@knowsley.gov.uk

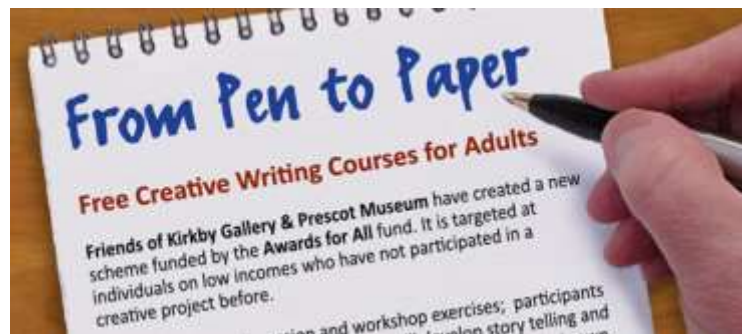
We want to hear from you!

Liverpool Independents 2018 at Kirkby Gallery: Cath Garvey

Local comic book author and illustrator Cath Garvey was selected as Knowsley's emerging artist for the Merseyside Independents Biennial 2018.

Cath is a freelance Illustrator and Comic Artist from Huyton. She studied Illustration at Plymouth University and graduated in 2016. Cath's self-published satirical comics quietly empower women and also offer humour on very real subjects.

As well as running children's summer art workshops, there is also a small exhibition of her fabulous work on show until mid August.



New From Pen to Paper Creative Writing Workshops

Following on from the success of the pilot ***From Pen to Paper*** project funded by the *Knowsley Better Together Fund*, *Friends of Kirkby Gallery & Prescott Museum* have received funding from *Awards for All* to run a second set of creative writing courses.

Are you interested in taking part and "finding your voice"?

Through reading, discussion and workshop exercises, participants will be introduced to techniques that will develop their storytelling and poetry writing skills, encouraging individuals to express themselves via the written word.

There will be two separate courses each running for 8 weeks at sites at Kirkby and Prescott. Our writer in residence, Sue Comer, will lead both classes.

The **Prescot** course starts on **Wednesday 19 September, 10am-12noon**, and will be held in **The Watchfactory**, Albany Road, Prescott, Knowsley L34 2AD.

The Kirkby course starts on Wednesday 19 September, 1pm-3pm, at Kirkby Gallery, The Kirkby Centre, Norwich Way, Kirkby, Knowsley L32 8XY.

Places are free, but booking is essential. Contact us on 0151 443 5617 or email tina.ball@knowsley.gov.uk

From Pen to Paper Celebration Event
Kirkby Gallery, Knowsley
Thursday 4 October, 2pm-4pm

The book of writings by the first *From Pen to Paper* participants will be launched at a special reception.

RSVP to tina.ball@knowsley.gov.uk / 0151 443 5617



**18th Open Art Exhibition & Affordable Art Auction
Kirkby Gallery 11 February - 4 May 2019**

As the Knowsley Open reaches its 18th year and “comes of age”, we have decided to refresh the exhibition format and add an extra element to the visual extravaganza.

As before, artists of all ages who live / work / study / volunteer in Knowsley are invited to submit their 2D artwork in a salon-hang style exhibition, and all works will be included, making it a truly “open” Open.

This year, to make the exhibition all the more exciting, the artworks will be sold at a live auction conducted by celebrity auctioneer Adam Partridge, with a percentage of the proceeds going towards the *Friends of Kirkby Gallery & Prescott Museum* charitable trust to help support our work.

Find out more at our dedicated webpage: prescotmuseum.org.uk/kirkby-gallery-open



Interested in Volunteering?

Do you know anyone looking for an opportunity to get experience of working in a gallery or museum setting?

Whether it's to try something new, make friends, surround yourself with interesting and beautiful things, develop your skills, or just to be a part of something, volunteering at Kirkby Gallery and/or Prescott Museum could be the answer!




Kirkby Gallery's exhibitions often need to be invigilated, so if you enjoy chatting to visitors, it is a wonderful place to be. There is scope to assist with art and craft workshops and school visits too.

If you are more interested in working behind the scenes, Prescott Museum's collection is always in need of cataloguing. There are lots of different aspects to this: object handling, data entry, labelling, marking, packing and even helping to create and adjust displays.

You do not have to be an expert in art or history, just be enthusiastic and friendly!



Visit our website prescotmuseum.org.uk or follow us on social media to find out more:

-  @galleriesmuseum
-  knowsleygalleriesandmuseum
-  kirkbygallery_prescotmuseum

