

Creative Communities in Waverley



Making Surrey connected craft makers with 8 disadvantaged communities across the county during 2011-2012. The project was community-led, acting as a catalyst in each neighbourhood. All the craft produced during Making Surrey was co-created with the communities.



Artist Lucy Harvey & Apprentice Carol MacFarlane take up residence at Sandy Hill, working with over 300 residents to create, exhibit & sell jewellery.

Jewellery Making at The Bungalow

Lucy Harvey, a jeweller and visual artist from Manchester took up residence at The Bungalow at Sandy Hill in Farnham, Waverley. Lucy was keen to explore how the Making Surrey project could communicate ideas through adornment as well as through the process of making.

She had soon gained the trust of the communities who embraced the project and made it their own. During one session, sculpting three dimensional reliefs of safari animals, the group is joined by a group of young people who had exhibited aggressive and disruptive behaviour in the early stages of the project. This behaviour is now replaced with a new attentiveness and one member of the group provides tuition to new members of the group, showing her rising confidence.

A sign that craft had been embedded within the community came when Lucy was asked to bring a jewellery making workshop to the youth group disco. She arrived under cover of darkness with her box of rolling pins, clay and assorted craft paraphernalia. The lights went up and the disco-goers were soon embellishing their outfits with their own jewellery.

The community celebrated all they had achieved at the 2011 Festival of Crafts. This two day regional event showcases over 90 designer makers and featured all eight Making Surrey projects. The community was given guidance by Lucy in how to exhibit their wire, beadwork and other finished pieces from the summer. Over the weekend, they also invited visitors to use stamps and hammers to create texture and pattern in copper sheet and use pliers and wire to draw, write and create beaded components. There was a cacophony of hammering noises coming from Sandy Hill's end of the Maltings with all ages commenting on how cathartic the process was.

Families in the Making

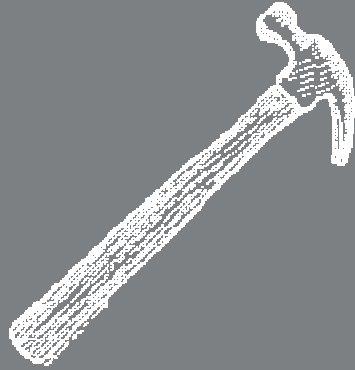
After working with Lucy over the summer, the Community wanted to keep craft at Sandy Hill. Local apprentice, Carol Macfarlane became the catalyst for Families in the Making. The community worked in partnership with Opportunities, a local organisation supporting lone parents, Farnham Maltings and Waverley Borough Council and created a model which drew on the expertise of craft makers but which was community led. Running since January 2012, the model is now extending to four more locations across the county. She was aware of how hard it is for families to spend quality time together.

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Legacy

- 'Families in the Making' has been set up as a weekly family-based craft session run by the community in partnership with Farnham Maltings and Opportunities – a local organisation supporting one parent families.
- Additional funding has been secured from Surrey CC, Farnham South Street Trust and Guildford BC to enable 'Families in the Making' to continue in Sandy Hill for the rest of the year and to roll out in three additional priority areas in Waverley and Guildford.



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The community soon progress from simple jewellery making to more complex bead-making and wirework.

Key Figures

- 256 members of the community took part in the project
- 1,570 people saw the project at shows, exhibitions and festivals
- For each pound invested by local authorities in Making Surrey, a further three pounds was levered in from external funding sources.

**“AT 26 I THOUGHT THAT LIFE
WAS FINISHED. I NEEDED TO SEE
OTHER PEOPLE.”**

LONE PARENT, SANDY HILL