

## REPORT FOR ARTS & LEISURE MEETING OF 7 November 2017

### Halloween Trail 2017



The Halloween Trail took place in East Town Park on Friday 27 October. A steward with a clicker clicked 3500 times (although a number of people do go round twice). There were more than 20 volunteers assisting including members of the Friends of the East Town Park and the Army Cadets. It was completed safely with perfect weather and has received some very positive feedback. Some examples from facebook are below. The bucket collection of voluntary donations was just over £1100.

.. it was a brilliant event. Haverhill is so lucky to have evenings like this.

It was brilliant my 2 year old loved it especially the fire eaters! My 4 year old wasn't too sure but today thinks she is great for being a brave girl! Just enough scare and spook for their ages the 'monsters' gauged it well with individual groups! Will definitely be returning next year

Brilliant! We were expecting a few tacky decorations hanging from trees!

I ended up spending the night with my son and daughter sleeping in my bed! They haven't stopped talking about it all morning. We had such fun.

THANKYOU to you ALL for such an amazing evening!!!! It was our first time visiting the Halloween trial and it was brilliant!! We really appreciate all the time and effort that was clearly put into the planning process....

Our Town Council are amazing they do so much for the Town especially for the kids in Summer hols and on occasions like this. Also music nights on the square sat nights through the summer, all free I might add.

**WINTER IN HAVERHILL** The Winter in Haverhill brochure is currently being printed and will be available at the meeting. The 'Queen Street Christmas Market' will be in place on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

**Friday 1 October 5.30pm-8.00pm FAMILY CHRISTMAS NIGHT. 6.30pm LIGHTS SWITCH ON. 8.00pm FIREWORKS**

**Saturday 2 October 10.30am-3.30pm FESTIVE FARM AND ENTERTAINMENT plus EXTRA CRAFT STALLS**

**OCTOBER HALF TERM** - We often talk about the diversity of the programme that the Town Council promotes and the usage of the Arts Centre. As a snapshot, here are some facts and figures about October half term week.

- 220 children and parents attended classical music concerts introducing classical music and instruments to preschool children,
- 6 cinema screenings including 3 children's film, 1 mainstream movie, 1 Ballet live from Sadlers Wells and a look at the Art of the Venetian painter Canaletto.
- 18 young people age 9-16 completing a 2 day course on making their own Youtube channel.
- Live events were Wrestling, a gig by a 1970s rock band and a concert by an acclaimed acoustic guitarist.
- In addition there were two meetings from health support groups, 1 public consultation meeting, 3 meetings of local organisations, 1 Council meeting & a course for unemployed people to gain a qualification
- Plus we had repairs to the main hall floor, electrical works and servicing of the boilers and the air conditioning so we can turn the heating on for the forecast cold weather.

In all there were 900 audience members, 31 performers, 50 people attending social meetings, 39 people carrying out Local Authority work, 35 people learning skills and 3 tradesmen doing what they were asked. In terms of artforms the events incorporated classical music, ballet, fine art, digital arts, rock music, acoustic music, painting and wrestling.

When you add in the Halloween Trail, all in all, it was a very busy and productive week.

## Arts Centre Programme

The current programme from September to December 2017 is half way through. We had a couple of cancellations – The Searchers were sold out but one of them was ill so we have rescheduled for February 2018. Sell outs include Griff Rhys Jones, John Illsley, Big 10 Ska Night and Forbidden Nights. The Spring programme is currently under construction includes Marty Wilde, The Fureys, comedian Tom Allen as well as performances from Centre Stage Company, Samuel Ward Academy and Stoke College.

## Arts Centre Update

The Bar and Café now have the capability for people to pay by card, including contactless. A new terminal is on order for the Box Office which will include contactless payment facility.

A new website for the Arts Centre will be developed in the New Year. Following a comprehensive tendering process the choice came down to two closely matched companies. A successful design company has been chosen and discussions are currently underway to finalise the contract.

The backstage areas are being redecorated over the next few months.

## Cinema attendances

Months	No of Screenings	Film Attendance (no of screenings)	Event Cinema Attendance (no of screenings)	Average per screening
May / June	22	466(19)	78 (3)	24.73
July / August	28	703 (24)	258 (5)	34.32
Sept/ October	26	522 (19)	344 (7)	33.31
Nov / December	13	502 (12)	149 (1)	50.07
January/February	30	1009 (25)	271(5)	42.66
March / April	25	978 (20)	172 (3)	50
May/ June	29	937 (23)	147 (6)	37.38
July/August	23	594 (17)	165 (6)	33
Sept/October	26	763 (22)	210 (4)	37.42

Attendance at regular film performances is continuing to be well ahead of 2016 currently up 32%, income is currently up 26% over the same period.

## Forward Diary and happenings

**Family Christmas Night, Lights On and Fireworks** – Friday 1 December - Any councillors available for stewarding / donation collecting, please contact Nick.

**Haverhill Beer Weekend 2018** Friday 4 – Sunday 6 May

**Armed Forces Day 2018** – Saturday 30 June

**Historic Vehicle Rally 2018**– Sunday 1 July (subject to site availability)

**Summer Bash 2018** – Sunday 15 July

**Big Day Out 2018** – Wednesday 25 July

**Halloween Trail 2018** – Friday 26 October

**Family Christmas Night 2018** – Friday 7 December

**Nick Keeble November 2017**