

Chapeltown ARTS Festival

Celebrating Creativity in Chapeltown

Report 2016

A pictorial summary for the
3rd year of the Chapeltown
Arts Festival



Chapeltown Arts Festival 2016

Celebrating Creativity in Chapeltown

Summary

2016 marked the 3rd year of Chapeltown Arts Festival. The planning group as usual worked hard to ensure that the programme of events and activities were inclusive, interactive, entertaining and educational.

This year we had 23 events running between 4th July - 10th July 2016. Approx 815 people attended the 7 days of activities and events. Over 102 artists were engaged as facilitators, exhibitors and in the case of the Street Art, as interpreters of children's drawings.

Evaluation cards were distributed. 138 were filled out and returned. Average age of participants was 41years. Most people lived in the Leeds 7 and 8 areas. The largest ethnic group that filled in the forms were white, the second largest were Black Caribbean and Black British. Eighty one people said the event they attended was 'excellent'. Most people heard about the event through the leaflets and word of mouth. The festival Planning Group continue to develop it's audiences.

It is hard to say which events were the most successful. It is fair to say that they all were successful in different ways to different people. Healthy Cake making was our most adventurous to date. Working with Dr Kathleen Wright and Leeds University to engage people in cake and understanding it's health benefits. A long time favourite is the Chapeltown Word Junction organised by Simon Murray. Word smiths, writers and poets contributed to a wonderful afternoon at Inkwel Leeds on the 10th July.

Collaborations with organisations to achieve the aims and objectives of the festival worked well. These included Inkwel, RJC Dance and Leeds City Council East North East Community Committee. Another successful collaboration was with Leeds Beckett University - Graphic Art and Design 3rd year students. Seven students chose our brief to design our publicity for 2015. This was a process that was new for us but we achieve a good package of colours and ideas that we were happy with and reflected the vibrancy of the Chapeltown Arts Festival 2016. It is a collaboration we shall repeat next year and a relationship to nurture.

This report gives a pictorial feedback of the events and a reminder to all those that took part in Chapeltown Arts Festival that week back in July 2016, and to those that missed it.

The Planning Group are proud of it's achievements and strive to engage communities and encourages artists, creatives and makers every year to be involved and empowered through the arts.

We thank our partners and the funders for their support in 2016 and East Street Arts for their continued support over the last 3 years. We would like to especially thank the 3rd year Graphic Design and Art Students of Leeds Beckett University for their time and effort in producing a great looking programme leaflet.

We thank the volunteers who helped immensely throughout the planning and evaluation process and for all the support in kind from individuals and groups.

**Sandra Whyles
Managing Director
Chapelton Arts Festival 2016**

Zine in a Day

After the success of Chapelton Zine in a Day at the 2015 festival, we decided to ask Footprint Workers Cooperative back for a second year.

This ethical printer, based in the heart of Chapelton, deliver daylong workshops at different events all over the country so it was great to engage the community where they are based in such a innovative and interactive workshop. Participants were invited to contribute a written or drawn page for the zine based on reflections of Chapelton and it's community. The zine was then printed, collated, folded, stapled and is ready in one day.

The workshop was accessible to people of all ages, and this was reflected in who came along on the day. The workshop leaders were really good at engaging people in the drawing & writing process. They took the time to explain the more technical elements of the Risograph printing, a process that is becoming more popular as a printing method but is still relatively un-derused or understood. Having this technical but hands-on educational element to the workshop was a real success of the day.



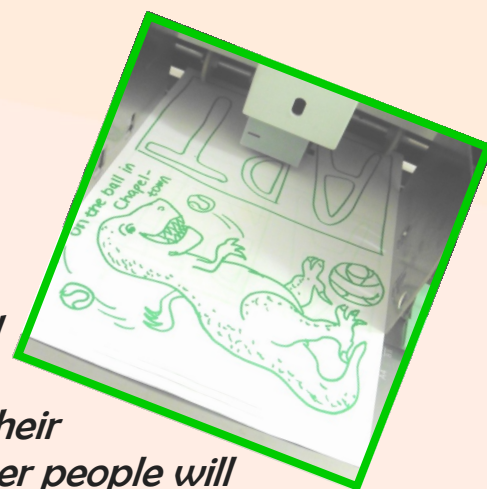
Comments:

It's fun to create a Zine with my neighbours."

"I had fun :)"

Some words from the facilitators...

"From our perspective, the zine in a day went really well. We got some lovely artwork, some interesting and thoughtful contributions. People find printing magical and get really interested in the process when they can see and use the machinery. Children, especially, are amazed that their page is going to be part of a real publication and that other people will read it, which I think is really empowering and validating. People seemed to have fun. Think it's good for participants to have a tangible result of the arts festival, something that they can hold and that lasts."



Healthy Cake Making Workshop

A collaborative event organised and planned by Dr Kathleen Wright of University of Leeds School Biomedical Sciences, assisted by Fay Brown university staff and research students Payal Ganguly and Emma Steer. This workshop was a successful attempt to merge health and creativity. Held twice during the Festival week it proved to be very popular with all age groups. The workshop was held at Jamaica House, another supporter of the festival over the years.



Group photo of some participants

Comments:

"I enjoyed everything that was demonstrated today. I will come to things that will give us more information on health"



Mixing the ingredients together

Comment:

"Confusing at the start but great & lovely ex-



Creating that special cake



Tools for the job

Comments:

"This workshop could translate into schools"



Healthy cakes baked and ready to eat!

105 Women workshop

The 105 women making day was a day of making, sewing, painting, drawing, talking and exploring with the 105 Women collective. The group first came together in the Autumn of 2015 when Robinson Stirling and women from Rainbow Hearts Women Asylum Seekers Group had a residency at Union 105 in Chapelton.



Since this residency took place the women have been creating more pop-up creative spaces around the city and we were please to have them as part of this years arts festival.

The women come from a variety of backgrounds, some are women seeking asylum and some are refugee women.

It was a safe and creative space for local women to join in and be creative.



'Great event, nice atmosphere. Lots of talking and making together'

'Really lovely experience. Thank you very much'



Chapelton Word Junction 2016

The Chapelton Word Junction provided a vibrant end to the 2016 Chapelton Arts Festival with a packed line-up of authors, performers, poets, rappers, comedians, and singers sharing their talent and celebrating literary creativity inna Chapelton.

Having begun in the festival's inaugural year this was the third year of the Chapelton Word Junction which has featured such rising and established local talent as: Zodwa Nyoni, Joe Williams, and Michelle Scally-Clarke. The mix of talent across the ages and genres was again in evidence with acapella hip hop from the Dead Poets ensemble (The Northaze + Purple Pertrelli presented by Ashley Whyles) alongside internationally renowned British Caribbean (and now Chapelton-based) poet Malika Booker.



Malika Booker

Chapelton writer and broadcaster Ray Brown began the event with Mick McCann from Armley Press and a reading from their latest novels.

Lianne Herbert from the monthly Peepal Tree/ Inscribe Readers & Writers Group then debuted poetry created out of these sessions before Peepal Tree Press writers Sai Murray and Khadijah Ibrahiim shared short stories and poetry from their latest publications.



Mick McCann

Gloria Dawson read her highly commended poetic prose from the freshly launched anthology: 'Remembering Oluwale' and Anne-Marie Atkinson shared poetry and feedback from the intergenerational collaborative project and joyous celebration of Chapelton: What didn't you do to bury me? But you forgot that I was a seed.



A highlight of the event was Paul Eubanks making the effort to attend straight from hospital and entertaining the crowd with a colourful reading from his new work for children, 'Quincy and the Yam Af-fair'.



The venue at Ink Well Arts provided a suitable setting for this event with the walls decorated with artworks from Chapelton-based artists framing the performers. The relationship this event has established with the Reginald Centre and Chapelton Library is also set to continue and strengthen with new additions set to be added to the popular Chapelton Word Junction collection as well as plans to publish a 'Chapelton Reader' and further update the catalogue of Chapelton-related writings.

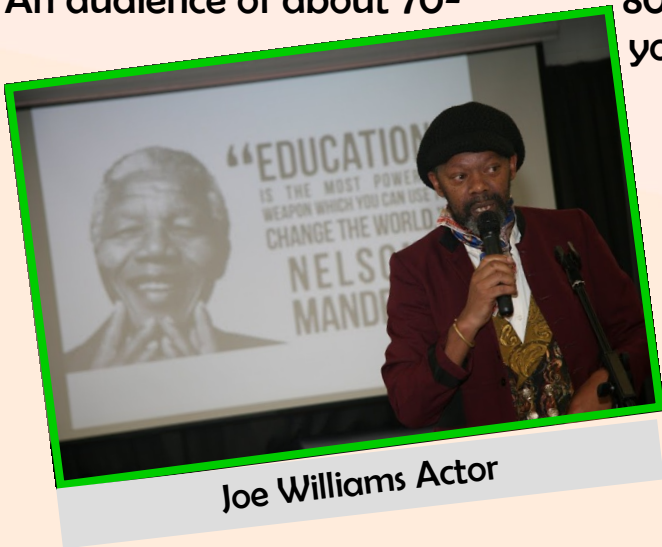
Celebrating Mandela - RJC Dance

RJC Dance organised a day celebrating Nelson Mandela at the Mandela Centre in collaboration with the Festival. The event was a very busy programme of local artists and performers, including dance, poetry, live music, the spoken word and presentations from people with learning disabilities.

An audience of about 70-

80 local people and residents of Leeds, including young people, parents and carers.

'I liked the story man' - Laithan



Joe Williams Actor

'A wonderful event' - Cllr Sharon Hamilton



Happy audience



David Hamilton
-Dancer/
Performer

"I would like to thank RJC Dance for the opportunity to witness the diversity within our community at your recent event, this was put together really well and was very informative." - Warren



Performer

Comment:
"Her (Aoife O'Conner) spoken words were beautiful" - Shahada



Ansell Broderick - Performer

'A truly unique and varied event including contributions from those with learning difficulties; juxtaposing oldtime Caribbean story telling with youngsters' reactions; poetry, music, plus an amazing and unexpected fashion show by RJC's young dancers.' - Ruth Bunday

Flower Arranging Workshop and flower display

The flower arranging workshop was held at St Martins Institute and the flower display with the theme of carnival was held at Roscoe Methodist Church.



Flower Arranging Workshop

Both events were extremely successful and attracted the older members of the community to get involved in creating beautiful displays.

Both events were delivered and organised by Jennie Collins

Comment about the Flower Arranging Workshop:

"I really enjoyed it very much and would like to do something like this again."



A happy participant



Comments:

"Beautiful. Love the way the colours combine with the themes. Whoever produced the displays should feel very proud of themselves. Really cheers up a rainy day..."



Carnival Coral Garden.

Botanical Dye and eco Painting on Textiles Workshop

Carol Sorhaindo who has supported the festival from the beginning, ran a natural dyeing workshop at the The Roscoe Methodist church. Using local plants to extract colours from and using leaves as templates the group made prints and tie dyed fabric to take home.



'Excellent taster Workshop to natural dyeing. Carol was very talented and capable of teaching her subject.'

Show and Sell - Norma Hutchinson Park

Each year of the festival we have an arts and craft fair that gives new and established makers/artists the chance to show off their work and sell their products. The Show and Sell acts as a way to encourage budding creative businesses to test the market at a very reasonable stall fee. 2016 was the first time it rained. It rained a lot but it didn't stop those determined to make a go of it. The sound System Kornerstone Sound Solutions provided the musical back drop to a rainy but successful day.



Kornerstone sound Solutions



105 Women



Tasty cakes on sale



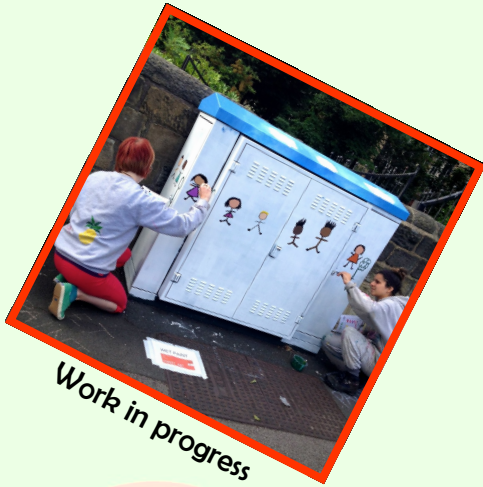
Nat's Delights

Communication boxes - Street Art Competition

This project was a collaboration with Leeds City Council East North East Community Committee.

The funds for the event came from East North East Community Committee Fund. The main aims were to engage local children and residents in showing pride in their area by designing something that would be painted on to Virgin Communication boxes on Chapelton Road.

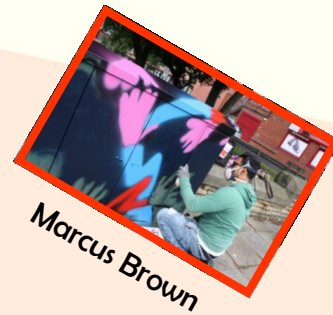
A competition was organised and templates made for individuals to create a drawing that reflected the positivity of Chapelton. Chapelton Arts Festival recruited local artist Aneesha Green to organise the project.



Work in progress



Chapelton Road



Marcus Brown



Children from Chapel Allerton Primary School, Hillcrest Academy and NACRO Youth Involvement Project took part. A panel consisting of Cllr Jane Dowson, Artists and Planning Group members took on the task of choosing the winners of the competition.



Cllr Jane Dowson cutting the ribbon



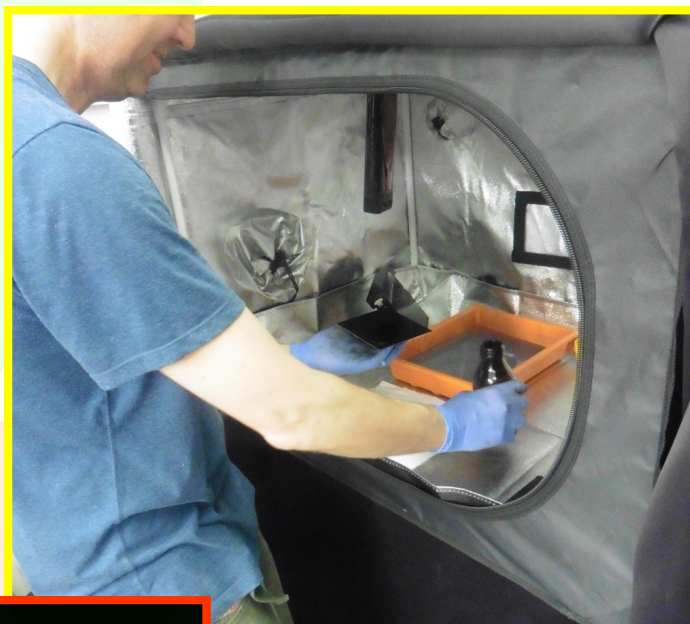
Cllr Dowson, Sandra Whyles and Lotte Shaw



The crowd gathers for the unveiling

Tintype Portraits - Mobile Photography Studio

Jonathon Turner brought his mobile photography studio to Union 105 on the 6th day of the festival. The rain that day forced this event indoors. This tintype method uses a wet plate collodian emulsion process pioneered in the 19th century. There were some interesting results, brought us back to the 1800's in photography form.



'Lovely to have mementos of the day'

Other events

Sholbrokerie by Jayne



An installation in a garden of the Sholebros. This celebrated local history, achievements and events.

Chapelton Visual Art Exhibition - Group

An opportunity for local artist to show and exhibit their work in group show. Inkwel kindly hosted this exhibition. We had 15 artist exhibit over a a two week period.



History of Black Music and its power to move - Urban Mohammed



Urban Mohammed gave an enlightening talk about the history of music from musicians of African descent to a small but intrigued audience.

Open Studios - Union 105 and Workshop Press Gallery

A chance for visitors to see and discuss artist's work in their studio spaces and workshop.

Singing and Song Writing workshop - Stella Litras and Rob Green

An amazing 2hr workshop involving vocal warm ups, sharing about the knowledge of music and ways of working. Participants wrote individual verses about a favourite animal and set this to music and various musical genre. All this culminated in each participant singing their song. An empowering and confidence lifting experience.

On Sanity - A cartooning zine making workshop with Louise Parker and Jack fallows

Participants were introduced to cartoon drawings by telling a story, any story to enter into the Chapelton Zine. Using animals as alter egos and expressing feelings and thoughts through these characters participants told their own unique stories.



'Never done comics, fun and lovely. Thank You'

Spending

Expenditure:	£	Income:	£
Materials	497.00	Victoria Gate	2500
Hospitality	372.00	East Street Arts	1000
Publicity and Marketing	440.00	Sport Relief	800
Artists/Facilitators	1600.00	Chapelton Arts Festival	1000
Management/coordination	1100.00		
Volunteers	49.00	Total	5300.00
Admin	760.00		
TOTAL	4818.00		

Conclusion

The reputation of the festival has grown and is recognised and supported by the local authority particularly by the councillors of the Chapel Allerton Ward and local arts organisations. Through this collaborations have taken place helping to fulfil the aims of the festival.

Planning and delivering the festival each year takes a tremendous amount of determination, tenacity and organisation. 2016 highlighted the need for more capacity in resources and personnel. Part of this tenacity involves looking for and writing funding bids each year. This is usually done 3 - 5 months after the festival making the festival planning an ongoing process.

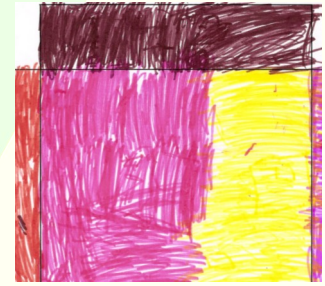
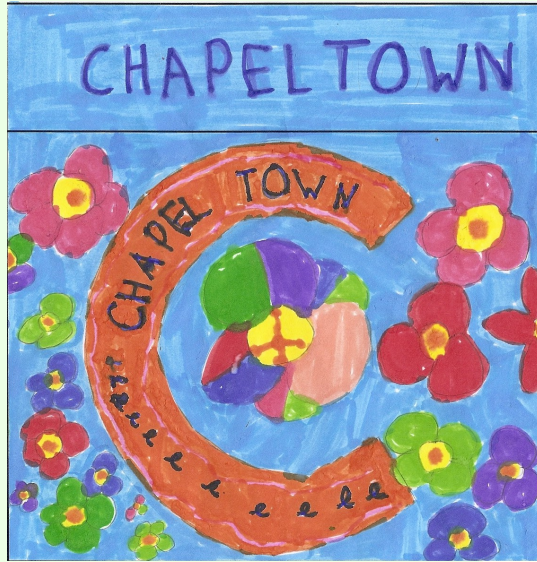
Numbers for participants throughout the week were a little lower than previous years. Torrential rain on the 6th day would have had an effect on this. Also we did not have a musical event in the same way as previous years. This was due to a lack of finances.

So many of the events this year were well attended and therefore we were very pleased with our efforts in 2016.

Considerations

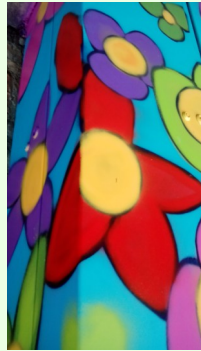
- Re think and review the way that the festival is delivered each year or the way in which we as an organisation work to fulfil our aims.
- Carry out a survey to identify to what degree the organisation's aims and objectives have been met over the last 3 - 4 years.
- Reconsider the logo and change the name from Chapelton Arts Festival to Chapelton Arts to reflect the all year round activities.
- Develop more collaborations with artists, art organisations and non arts organisations.
- Increase the size and capacity of Chapelton Arts planning group.
- Make a promotional video to help with attracting more resources.
- Plan out a programme of workshops throughout the year.

Chapelton Art's Festival 2016 - Celebrating Creativity in Chapelton



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Chapelton Arts Festival 2016

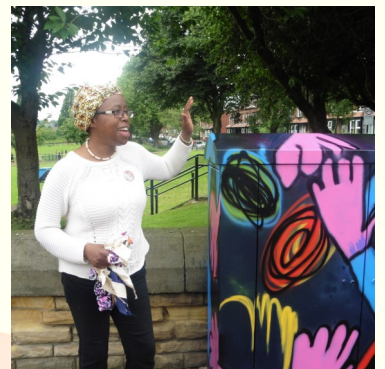
Visual Arts
Music
Workshops
Exhibitions
Dance
Arts & Crafts Fair
+ much more

July 4th - 10th

Celebrating creativity in Chapelton

For more event details please visit www.chapeltonartsfestival.org

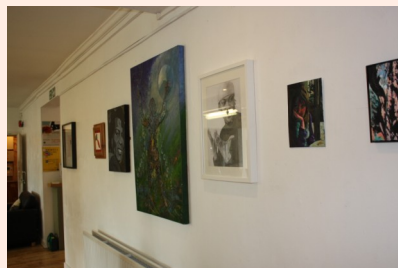
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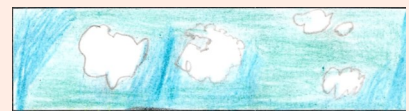
In memory of Paul Eubanks who lit up the Chapelton Word Junction in 2016.

Photo credit; Chapelton Arts Festival 2016:

- Marcia Brown East Street Arts
- Sai Murray - Vounteer
- Lotte Shaw
- Sandra Whyles
- Stan Owens
- Guy Farrar



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Chapelton Arts Events for 2017

**Your ideas and support are welcome.
We are looking for new planning group members
Would you like to Join?
Please get in touch.**

chapeltonartsfestival@gmail.com