

## DECEMBER PROGRAMME

We hope to see you at some of our creative arts events. For **details or help with lifts**, please see notes and contact details on the back page.

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December**  
Creative Writing group  
Creative Space – **Sheena**  
**Christmas Tree Festival decorations**

**55/57 Queens Drive**  
10.30am - 12.30pm  
1.30pm - 3.30pm

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December**  
Creative Writing group  
Creative Space – **Viv**  
**Hand-made Christmas cards**

**55/57 Queens Drive**  
10.30am - 12.30pm  
1.30pm - 3.30pm

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December**  
**FREE Christmas Party** – all welcome  
(including our big Prize Draw)

**Haregate Community Centre**  
4.00pm - 6.00pm

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December**  
Creative Writing group - **Sheena**  
Followed by  
**Christmas Lunch**  
**(NB – No Creative Space this week)**

**55/57 Queens Drive**  
10.30am - 12.30pm

**Tittesworth Restaurant**  
1.00pm at Tittesworth

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December**  
Experimental Arts – DIY

**55/57 Queens Drive**  
10.30am - 12.30pm

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December**  
**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December**  
**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December**  
**Christmas Tree Festival**  
including a Borderland Voices tree

10.00am - 6.00pm  
10.00am - 6.00pm  
2.00pm - 6.00pm

**St Luke's Church**

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December**  
Creative Writing group  
Creative Space – with **Viv**  
**Christmas decorations or cards**

**55/57 Queens Drive**  
10.30am - 12.30pm  
1.30pm – 3.30pm

**Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> December**  
Creative Writing group  
Creative Space

**55/57 Queens Drive**  
to be confirmed  
to be confirmed

## Funky figures, colourful characters

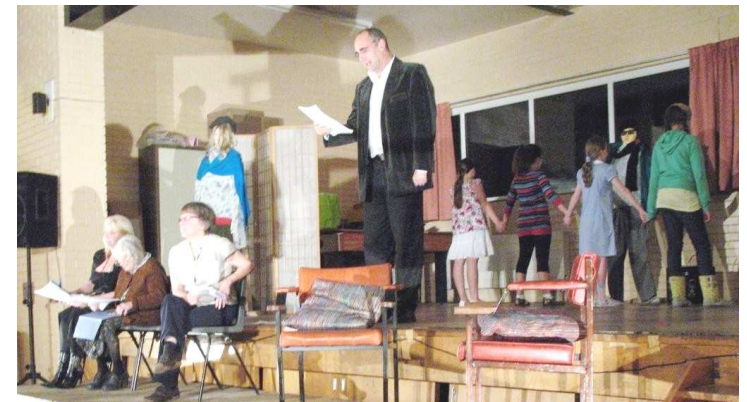


Everyone enjoyed making these textile-based creations, as novelty brooches or hanging decorations. Eddie does a lot of machine embroidery and is a member of a local Spinners and Weavers Guild. She had prepared colourful, double-sided felt bases. Then individuals personalised their characters from Eddie's treasure-trove of funky faces, hands and feet, beads and sequins, topped off with dyed sheep's wool 'hair'

## 'Playing Out' plays out the Land of the Churnet

What happens when age and experience (OAPs Doreen and Emily) meet Further Education (an evening class about Wartime Childhood)? They soon discover that they're the experts. But the class inspires them to 'take up new interests and make significant changes to their life'.

Specially written by Pam and our creative writers, it combined playground games and chants, childhood memories, wartime reminiscences and the words and ideas of many Haregate people. Performed, script-in-hand, by professional actors, it also involved children, a Leek band, the U3A Choir, the infamous wooden figures and green vegetables courtesy of Transition Leek!



It reflected the quality of everything the Churnet project has achieved over its two years, both in our regular writing and arts workshops and in the lasting legacy of collages, mosaics, carving and embroidery in the local schools and nurseries. I hope you've enjoyed it as much as I have.

## DECEMBER PROGRAMME DETAILS

The **Creative Writing** session on Tuesday mornings is a very supportive group who welcome anyone interested in words. **Pam Sandiford** is currently facilitating the group.

The Tuesday afternoon **Creative Space** workshops give people space and opportunity to experiment. On Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, we welcome back **Viv**. On the 8<sup>th</sup> she will help people with **hand-made Christmas cards** and on the 22<sup>nd</sup> you can continue with those last few special cards or make some last-minute **festive decorations**.

On Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup>, **Sheena** will work with the group to design and make thought-provoking **decorations for our tree in the St Luke's Christmas Tree Festival**. We have called it 'The two faces of Christmas' to draw attention to the plight of people who face the festive season with a heavy heart.

Remember, there is **NO Creative Space** on the 15<sup>th</sup> because of the Christmas lunch at **Tittesworth**.

The informal Thursday morning **Experimental Arts** DIY group is there for anyone who just wants to explore different drawing and painting techniques. **Please note:** Andy will be available only on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> this month.

### Contacts

#### Borderland Voices Home Base

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Website [www.borderlandvoices.org.uk](http://www.borderlandvoices.org.uk)

#### Land of the Churnet contact Andy Collins

Email: [andy@landofthechurnet.org.uk](mailto:andy@landofthechurnet.org.uk)

#### Borderland Voices Contact Sheena Barnes

Email: [femail@sheenabarnes.co.uk](mailto:femail@sheenabarnes.co.uk)

# Borderland Voices



## Newsletter

DECEMBER 2009

### COMING EVENTS

The **Christmas lunch** on **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup>** at **Tittesworth** should be a lovely meal. If you haven't booked but would like to come, please speak to Andy or Sheena as soon as possible.

On **Friday 11<sup>th</sup>** come and enjoy good food, good company and sing some carols at our **Annual Christmas Party** at Haregate Community Centre.

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>** our decorated tree, 'The two faces of Christmas' will be on show in the **Christmas Tree Festival** at **St Luke's Church**, Fountain St, Leek