

## Minutes of the meeting held at Sevenoaks Gallery on the 29 March

### Present

Jane Adamson.	Knole
Lee Cary	Kent Chairman, Gravesend
Linda Dell'Avvocato	Sevenoaks
Christine Hughes	Kent Co-ordinator
Ani Martin	Mid-Kent

Members shared with the group of activities their Society has recently been involved in since the last report.

Sevenoaks-The funding of £500 for a brass instrument. Work is ongoing with an art event with Seal Primary and it is hoped to arrange a summer event where children and young people including young carers can come together .

Gravesend-“The Tunnel Project” invites the community to join a craft conversion, which will use the process of making craft to engage thoughtfully in the issues of a derelict space around a tunnel and surrounding area. The pilot project will be run by Chantry Primary School with a hope to run it out to other schools.

We discussed the prospect of developing a half yearly newsletter for YA reps. It was felt that members could play an active part in supplying brief but up to date information on proposed projects and those that are ongoing plus the results from recently completed projects.

Christine showed an example of a database from another Arts Society Area listing every organisation that can assist in the development and commissioning of Young Arts Projects. It was decided that it would be useful for Kent Area to produce a similar document and that Societies should be invited to provide relevant contact information from their own geographical area.

\*\*As an Area we have decided to try to create a project with the Kent Guiding and Scouting movement.

NEXT MEETING- will be the on the 27<sup>th</sup> September at 2pm in the Sevenoaks library and gallery. “Kaleidoscope “.

We encourage all reps to put this date in their diary as Sue Evans who has had a great deal of experience with Young Arts, has agreed to talk to us on “ Her role as a Young Arts Rep and her current role networking across schools and artists”. I think we all will gain something from what she has to say.

The exhibitions that she has co-ordinated in the gallery have been amazing.

\*\*\*I am pleased to report that we have made contact with East Kent Guiding which starts our first positive link in with East Kent and other links are on the way, “Watch this Space.”

Notes from The Arts Society House tabled by Christine Hughes

Societies are reminded that yearly reports on any Young Arts activities should be forwarded to Head Office by the end of December. The form is available on the Arts Society Members Website. Even if Societies have been unable to complete any YA project during the year they should submit a Nil return.

Please cc. Lee and myself into any correspondence concerning your Young Arts projects.

Head office also requested that in order to provide support and advice or additional information they should be advised of any new and ongoing projects. It is too late to offer support when the project is reaching a conclusion.

They also requested if you have any photographic reference to your projects, especially if they illustrate diversity, they would be very pleased to receive them. However, they do request that as they may be published the quality of the photographs should be of a good standard.

Help is also available from many websites that specifically deal with art and young people, eg "The Big Draw" also "The Artroom". (If anybody would like a wider list please contact me and I will be happy to send you further details).

An interesting success story is to invite members to donate to their Society, any unwanted or no longer used art materials. It is amazing what is just lying in a draw.

Many Societies may not be aware of the help available to fund projects by applying for a grant from the "Patricia Fay Fund" (further details from The Arts Society House)

The Arts Society House also wish to inform every Society of the rewarding opportunity to link in with local secondary schools to identify high standards of art work and to promote that work by entering any chosen artworks into the annual prestigious competition for young artists organised by the British Artist. Winning exhibits are displayed in London gallery every year.

Linking in with local secondary schools can have many advantages. An idea to encourage interaction is to invite older students to a meeting where the topic of a lecture may fit in with the National Curriculum.

Societies should make sure they are aware of the new legislation for data protection and also child protection. Advice has been provided to Society Chairmen and Committee members via an e-Bulletin from Tim Nicholls at The Arts Society House.

For inspiration and advice on "How to do", there are useful suggestions on The Arts Society website. For example, The Arts Society House will assist with the funding of a Young Arts Day up to £75.

Finally, Young Arts can now be an umbrella for various groups such as sufferers from Dementia and Alzheimers and lonely people.