

Creative Communities in Runnymede



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.



Maker Andrew Morrison and Apprentice Sue Webber work with the community of Englefield Green. Printmaking workshops cannot ignore the local angelic cemetery...

Angels of Englefield Green

In Runnymede, the Making Surrey project focused on Englefield Green. Over three quarters of the local residents had indicated that they would welcome increased opportunities for creative and leisure activity.

Print-maker, Andrew Morrison, settles upon the Village Centre as the home for the project. It soon becomes more than just a venue with the staff and volunteers getting involved in the project, and the adjoining café providing sustenance to the participants.

More people turn up week after week until the Village Centre runs out of tables. Before too long, Andrew does not need to be at every session as the community becomes more proficient at printmaking...

Linda Ashford, the manager of the Village Centre, offers an exhibition space to the project and the community decides to create a huge wall hanging.

'They don't need me anymore.'

The community begins to experiment with printing onto fabric – something which Andrew himself has not tried before. There is a fortuitous turn of events when a local seamstress joins the project. Another member of the community is quite handy with wood and helps to create a frame.

A huge printed artwork, with an Englefield Green theme, begins to emerge and Andrew is heard to comment that 'they don't really need me anymore...'

As Andrew's time on the project draws to an end he leaves behind his apprentice, Sue, an engaged community and an exquisite giant wall hanging covered in a dust sheet prior to the public unveiling.



funded by:

ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

arts...
PARTNERSHIP SURREY

Creative Communities in Runnymede

Legacy

- Craft workshops will continue to take place at The Village Centre
- A wall hanging, crafted by the community, will remain in Englefield Green
- Local craft-makers have been given the confidence to teach in their community



Printmaking sessions in Englefield Green feature local themes including former resident Arthur Miller (above).

Key Figures

- 311 members of the community took part in the project
- 870 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.

“OUR DEMENTIA PATIENTS CREATED SOME WONDERFUL WORK WITH ANDREW LAST WEEK, WHICH IS NOW HANGING ON THE WALL. WHENEVER ONE OF THEM IS FEELING LOW, THEIR CARER SHOWS THEM THEIR PRINT. THEY DON’T REMEMBER MAKING THEM, BUT WE FIND IT INSTANTLY BRIGHTENS THEM UP.”
**CARE HOME MANAGER,
ENGLEFIELD GREEN**

delivered by:

farnham maltings
Tandridge Trust
Leisure & Culture