

**JUNE** 

11am - 3pm

The Intact Centre

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### **End of Grant Report -Arts Council England**

#### Author's:

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August 2022 v2











A big thank you to all our community and members of the Ingol and Tanterton UNITE Partnership in supporting this event.



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#### **Project Outline**

- Connect people with the arts, culture and heritage
- Improve health (physical / mental / emotional)
- Reducing Isolation

A series of participatory workshops bringing together the Ingol & Tanterton community for creative expression, self-reflection and the sharing of stories, culminating in a Jubilee Arts Festival celebrating the Queens Jubilee on Thursday 2nd June.

Partnering with Derelict, we commissioned 5 pieces of work that directly engage people with little/no access to cultural activity. The commissions were led by local artists from the Preston area, with each piece being developed with and performed by its participants. The commissions were designed to provide on-going legacy in the form of art, which is permanently exhibited as well as community activity, which will continue at the centre, developing a pathway to more future creative and artistic activity for the Ingol & Tanterton communities. Derelict mentorship will be in place to help futureproof partnerships and artistic activity, as well as overseeing and managing project development activity. This project will act as a pilot and development plan for further relationships between Intact and Arts Council England, with the aim of making art more accessible for the most vulnerable in our communities.

**Commission 1:** Jubilee Mosaic Mural Mosaics are a part of British history from swimming baths, to the floors of great halls, from teacups to toilets! Chrissy Webster led six workshops to develop a Mosaic mural that will be unveiled in Intact's Sensory Garden at the event. Participants had the opportunity to learn a new art form and play their part in developing the Jubilee Mosaic Mural piece, creating a lasting legacy of this special occasion.

**Commission 2:** Intact Jubilee Choir - 7 songs, 1 song from each decade of the Queens reign in a bid to celebrate the cultural changes that have accompanied her tenure. Stef Portersmith developed a Community Choir made up of Intact participants of all abilities to perform at the event.

**Commission 3:** Music from the Commonwealth - a series of participatory music workshops for all abilities led by Jon Aveyard. The Drumming Circle & Body Percussion based around rhythms from different commonwealth countries. The Samba Drumming focus on the sub-genre known as Samba Reggae that came about when the Brazilian samba incorporated elements of Jamaican reggae.

**Commission 4:** Royal Photography Drawing on examples from the work of famous royal photographers such as Snowdon, Beaton and Litchfield, Ashley Hardman led photography workshops on our very own Nature Reserve (Dobcroft) using handheld digital devices as a tool. Ash encouraged participants to play with the frame and engage with the natural landscape around them, whilst also having the chance to act as 'Royal Photographers' of the event.

**Commission 5:** Jubilee Spoken Word Performance Maija Ozolina delivered 4 days of Artistic Engagement: meeting with Intact's service users and residents of Ingol & Tanterton, asking questions about past jubilees, gathering stories of the local area, people's memories and how they relate to cultural changes. Maija, with her participants, delivered a piece of joint text at the event, culminating from these sessions of engagement.

#### **Numbers:**

The activities leading up to the Jubilee event were fully subscribed, spaces were filled from promotion on social media or people visiting the Centre. Those attending are keen to engage with creative activity, on a regular basis. One participant who came along on the day has offered to lead on a weekly craft group.

**500 +** people attended the Jubilee Arts & Food Festival and projects leading up to the event. (The amount of people attending on the day were unprecedented. Details of **432** people were taken and input onto our database. However, **500** or more are more likely to be correct.)

**60** people stated they felt an improvement in their emotional and mental well-being.

**128** people accessed support services as a result of the project

90 people accessed support services for the first time as a result of the project

85 people attend regular social activities as a result of the project

**15** volunteers supported on the day, equating to **65.5** hours.

5 artists were employed for a total of 241 days.

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Families/Parents/Lone parents; Carers; Children and young people; Long-term unemployed; Older people;

People living in poverty; People with low skill levels; People with mental health issues.

#### 57 hours of new activity as a result of the project.

Activity breakdown by hours Mosaic Project Workshops: 18 hours / Installation: 7 hours; Event: 4 hours; Choir Rehearsals: 15 hours; Event performance: 1 hour (post-project rehearsals: 20 hours); Spoken Word Project Engagement Sessions: 8 hours / event: 4 hours

**See also feedback and lessons learned.** Whilst we were able to capture some really good impact and feedback, we believe more qualitative data could have been collected on the day to give a fuller picture.

## How the project supported and involved the local community to shape the activity

#### **Unite Community Partnership Meetings**

Fortnightly meetings facilitated by our Community Development Manager, were held with interested parties from the local Ingol and Tanterton Unite Partnership, key stakeholders in the local community. The partnership aims to work with organisations across the immediate and wider community to address the needs and issues of our community. These include schools, churches, library, housing associations, the local council and other interested parties. We are currently mapping the key priorities and services in order to address the '**Top 5**' immediate issues and who is best placed to lead. **Top 5** issues are:

- 1. Food and Fuel Poverty
- 2. Basic Skills, Employability and Numeracy
- 3. Mental Health, Addictions, Well Being
- 4. Digital Inclusion
- 5. ASB & Diversionary Activities

#### Workplace

We continue to develop Workplace our internal communication tool. This allows us to consult with all our staff, volunteers and trustees in a regular and consistent way. Gathering ideas and insights that may otherwise be missed. We currently have **63** members (14 staff).

However, on reflection, we could have involved more local community residents ensuring more of a buy-in from local residents. Going forward we're really keen to develop a steering group/collective which is focused on the needs of Ingol and Tanterton. While we had record numbers in the centre due to the success of the event, reaching many new service users in the process, we're really keen to build on this success and offer a platform for these residents to shape future cultural activity within Ingol and Tanterton.

**Volunteers:** We had a total of **15** volunteers supporting on the day, equating to **65.5** hours. Many expressing an interest in being involved in future activities and events.

We produced a social media call out for local Preston based artists to propose light touch artistic commissions in the development of this project idea. We linked up with local artistic network 'Brewtime Collective' which is a self-organised network of independent creative and cultural practitioners in Preston. Here we made contact with Preston based artists to develop key commissions for the event.

A series of engagement sessions took place at Community Gateway Association locations Ingol Croft, The Courtyards and Chapel fold. Local artist Maija Ozolina headed to these residential centres to take part in coffee mornings, at the sessions Maija encouraged the residents to engage in creative writing exercises. Following this engagement, a bus was arranged to collect approximately 15 residents from The Courtyards and dropped them off right at the event.

#### **Long Term Benefits of the Project**

More people have become aware of The Intact Centre and the activities and services we deliver. The project and Jubilee event, demonstrated the need and interest in creative activities, whilst tackling the 5 key issues affecting the community whilst being accessible, dignified and inclusive. Building resilience and pride in their community.

- Social isolation improvements as well as mental health benefits, the Choir provided a platform for participants to engage in teamwork activity and skills development.
- The Choir had such an impact on the community and its members, we received an anonymous donation to enable us to keep it going until the end of the year until new funding can be found. As Preston Mayor's chosen charity, the choir has also been asked to perform at the annual Carols in the Chamber at Christmas. They will be performing at our Heritage Open Day in September and local sheltered housing schemes during the Autumn.
- The Mosaic Project, allowed participants to gain new skills, socialise, but gain a sense of pride in creating legacy work that will be on display at the Centre for years to come.
- The event itself, enticed people back to the Centre for the first time since before COVID 19, identifying a safe space. New people are interested in volunteering and sharing their skills, including craft workshops, leading to more volunteer / community led activities.

"Singing is good for your lungs and for your wellbeing. With what we have gone through because of COVID, it's really important to have positive things to do. I've made some nice friends here at Intact through doing the Choir and we keep in touch on WhatsApp." Angela

'I love singing in the choir, it makes you feel like you're really part of the community' Keith

- One member of the choir mentioned how this activity has been helpful for their mental health whilst in a tough grieving process – this participant is delighted that the choir is now continuing weekly as it provides a space for boosting wellbeing and interacting with others.
- One of our volunteers had their first volunteer shift at the event itself, delivering face-to-face customer service. See Toby's Story.

The more information on impact see: 'Feedback and Impact, Personal Stories, Pictures and Videos.

#### Challenges we faced and how they were resolved?

- Higher numbers of audience than anticipated we adapted the programme accordingly and ensured more volunteers were on hand to safely welcome the audience and manage key areas.
- Access Issues the high numbers of audience, also affected flow through the
  entrance and exits, particularly regarding pushchairs, wheelchairs and people
  with mobility issues. We opened up extra access areas for those with mobility
  issues, assigned volunteers and staff to help this communicate this to
  audience. One key pathway and gated area have since been adjusted and
  made more accessibility in readiness for future events.
- The demand for food and refreshments was much higher than anticipated, we assigned extra volunteers to help replenish stock and make additional food, such as sandwiches.
- It was a short time period to the plan the activity, from the start of the project
  to the implementation of activities leading up to the main Jubilee event. This
  hindered the call out process for local artists take express interest. Ideally, we
  would have developed a more robust artistic call out, to attract the most
  appropriate and best quality artists. We discussed this in partner meeting with
  Derelict, and identified how to adapt this going forward.
- The actual planning of the day event itself also felt limited, so ensuring the
  essential production elements became a challenge as we had little time to
  properly source equipment and had to make do with what available in the
  building. We teamed up with local organisations (mainly via the Unite
  Partnership) who were able to donate chairs, tables, gazebos, PA systems,
  transport, etc.

#### **Key lessons learned**

- Using digital platforms in the future such as Eventbrite, to help track and monitor audience numbers.
- Value of working with an experienced combined arts organisation, helping us to steer the activity to make meaningful creative activity of high quality.
- Reviewing Arts Councils' Let's Create Strategy, and identifying where Intact sits in this strategy and how this can result in future funding.
- Having a better idea of what the Ingol and Tanterton wants in terms of cultural activity, there is most definitely a need for recurring weekly activity which has a focus on social cohesion and skills development.
- The event brought in a diverse range of people, especially in terms of socioeconomic background where some stall holders sold all their stock, some participants joined our food hub addressing food poverty, and a generous donor donated £1k for the Jubilee Choir to continue – proving a wide range of backgrounds, all engaging together on an equal footing.
- Many participants have re-engaged following the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Large gazebo or Marquee is required our contingency plan (in the event of rainfall) wouldn't have safely met the numbers that came to the event. We do have an outdoor space which is generous in size for a large style market. We work towards sourcing the equipment to safely welcome these numbers in the future should we not have dry weather.
- Due to the success of the 'Market Style' event, we could have engaged more local businesses and had even more additional activity to fill the programme.
   We will work on building partnerships with more independent makers/stall holders.
- We can be better at capturing feedback on the day itself we attempted to create 'Vox Pops', but as it was so busy, most audience simply told us that the event was 'good,' didn't feel like we had a model to capture the close qualitative evaluation. Next time, we feel that we need to invest in an activity that is specifically designed for capturing peoples' feedback. However, the lead up activity and post event activity we have been able to captured excellent impact.
- We noticed for the first time in delivering community events, that the majority
  of the audience came from the start and stayed for the full duration where
  as previously, audience will filter in dribs and drabs this is arguably down to
  the quality of the artistic activity programmed and developed, and the friendly
  atmosphere this created on the day.

#### Lasting partnerships as a result of the project?

- Working with Derelict to ensure that we can provide and bring good quality creative activity into the community. We have worked with Derelict to develop a plan for a future Arts Council England funded project, building on the momentum and legacy developed from this project.
- Working with Stef Portersmith, our choir lead to continue the legacy of the
  jubilee choir, providing a free activity for participants to boost their confidence
  and wellbeing. This will become a vital activity, providing a warm space
  through this winter during the cost-of-living crisis.

#### Feedback and Impact

During the course of the project we worked with Derelict, volunteers, artists and our participants and service users to gather feedback and an insight to the impact, through word, stories, pictures and video.

#### Whistle Stop Tour:

A Whistle Stop Tour of the Jubilee Arts & Food Festival: https://youtube.com/shorts/JTF-hapSErE

#### **Impact Videos**

Jubilee Choir: <a href="https://youtu.be/KIU8M8Dnyl0">https://youtu.be/KIU8M8Dnyl0</a>

Talking Heads: <a href="https://youtu.be/kEk2UON\_m\_w">https://youtu.be/kEk2UON\_m\_w</a>

Mosaic Project: https://youtu.be/XNY1h8XDYXg

Pebbles and Grout: https://youtu.be/ik jTmwA08Q

• Story Telling: <a href="https://youtu.be/rKUIVVWjCCQ">https://youtu.be/rKUIVVWjCCQ</a>

#### Feedback:



"Singing is good for your lungs and for your wellbeing. With what we've gone through because of Covid, it's really important to have positive things to do. I've made some nice friends here at Intact through doing the Choir and we keep in touch on WhatsApp. Intact has become like a family and has helped after losing my mother." Angela

"I love singing in the choir, it makes you feel like you're really part of the community." Keith

"It's been really hard the last few months, my anxiety has been sky high. I really needed to get out and be with people. Thank you for persuading me to come along."

"Great to see the community coming together – Let's not wait another 70 years for more than this." Arthur

"Time spent with my Brilliant, special mommy." xx

- "Time spent with my amazing girl ... princess."
- "Was an amazing event and the sun shone bright."
- "Lovely day good variety of entertainment."
- "Love rules the world, thank you for everything."
- "Thank you so much for everything, such a lovely day." J. Smith
- "Thank you Intact. Yesterday was brilliant."
- "Amazing place, wonderful people. Live Laugh Love. Keep smiling." Karen xx
- "All the volunteers did an amazing job today well done; we had a lovely afternoon."
- "Thank you so much for today, I have enjoyed the Jubilee today. It's amazing to celebrate." Love Sophie
- "I didn't know this place existed, there's so much going on."
- "Thank you. We loved seeing Dobcroft nature reserve and the newts."
- "Fandabbydozy beyond fantastic." Christine
- "I really enjoyed the Jubilee event. Everyone at the Centre was so kind and welcoming."

#### **Gemma's Story**

- Gemma is a young single mum with two children.
- Mental Health problems, signed off work. She was a teaching assistant.
- Unable to concentrate and feeling isolated.
- Referred by the Mental Health Team because he stopped eating.
- Very anxious when she first arrived and wasn't sure how she'd feel or if she would stay.

There is a new participant in the choir. She is not working due to mental health, and had been a teaching assistant. She enjoys it so much she is now joining a second choir

When Gemma first arrived, she was very anxious and explained that his ability to focus had stopped because he struggled to stay in the moment, he was easily distracted and forgot what he was doing. Not being at work and looking after her young children made her feel quite lonely and isolated.

#### Impact:

Gemma really enjoys coming to the choir and has made her feel really positive, and comfortable talking to people. She looked forward to coming and enjoyed it so much that she is now joining a a second choir.

"I enjoyed meeting new people and the teacher was excellent and really easy to get on with."

"Gives me something to look forward to doing on a Wednesday."

"I was so nervous to perform at the Jubilee event, but one of the other choir members gave me a little unicorn as a good luck mascot. It was really kind and made me feel good."

#### **David's Story**

- David, is retired and in his early 60's.
- Recently widowed and feeling very lonely and isolated. Very anxious when first arrived, initially for Thrifty Kitchen to learn more about cooking for one.
- Initially, supported by a member of the team, but gradually gained in confidence. He was brought along by a support worker, who waited in the café while he participated in the sessions.

David was very unsure when he first arrived at the sessions, although he had good skills and knowledge with cooking, he was wary of group settings after being isolated. He began to feel more comfortable and began to come to the sessions without a support worker.

David really enjoyed coming each week and missed it when he couldn't book on to a session because he wanted to be here every week.

David then joined the Jubilee Choir, from the first session David loved the sessions and mentioned how being together in a group singing really impacted their mental health in a positive way. Following the death of his partner, having something uplifting in the form of the choir helped to cope with the grieving process. David is now a core member of the Intact Jubilee Choir.

#### Impact.

"I love singing and performing, I don't know why but it just makes me feel really good about myself and I go away humming for the rest of the day."

#### Sarah's Story

- Sarah is 56 years old and suffers with health issues, which means she can no longer work a full-time job.
- She lives in Preston and has no support network close by.
- The Covid-19 pandemic became extremely challenging for Ruth, at times she struggled to get to the shop because of her health and was nervous too because of the virus.
- Ruth found out about Intact from a leaflet and came along to see if there was anything she would be interested in.

Sarah, desperate to build her support networks and find a pathway into the world of potential work or volunteering. This is when Sarah reached out and joined the Building Better Opportunities project in March 2022. Sarah joined the Mosaics project and volunteered as a steward at the Jubilee Event. Sarah now volunteers on a regular basis to help her with her mental health. She also joined the Food Pantry which has increased her ability to access fresh food while making her finances stretch further. She receives weekly 1-2-1 support in achieving her work-related goals.

#### **Impact**

Sarah's involvement in the Jubilee Event has been a real boost to her confidence. Sarah now volunteers on a regular basis to help her with her mental health. For Sarah, this means that she can work round her condition and feels to when she doesn't feel too good.

"I love making things, it makes me feel relaxed and I got a volunteering job which I love, the staff are lovely and very understanding."

Verbally she expressed how she looked forward to coming to the Centre because it gave her a purpose.

#### **Toby's Story**

- Toby is 26 years old and suffers with mental health issues, as well struggling with confidence and motivation.
- He lives locally in Ingol and has struggled to gain and maintain employment due to his confidence.
- Toby was referred to Intact by the NHS Community Prevention & Engagement Team, to work towards the goal of getting a job.

Toby came to Intact and joined the European Social Fund and The National Lottery Community funded project *Building Better Opportunities* to work on goals towards employment. Because of Toby's digital skills and creative skills, we supported Toby in joining Intact as a digital volunteer. His first volunteering shift was helping the Front of House set up at the Jubilee. Toby helped to welcome and look after 500+ audience attending events. This hands-on experience helped to boost Toby's confidence. Toby mentioned "It was really scary when I saw all those people queueing up at the door. But as soon as it got going, I was fine, I had a huge buzz after it as it made me realise that I can do it"

#### **Impact**

Toby's involvement in the Jubilee Event has been a real boost to his confidence. Following the event, Toby has volunteered approx. 15 hours as a Digital Champion, alongside a series of 1-2-1 sessions working on employability skills. Toby is now in his first job following the Covid-19 pandemic and is still on the books as a volunteer at Intact. He has expressed his desire to continue to help with future events.

"Following the support from Intact, I feel like I've finally got my foot in the door to keeping a job"

Toby also expressed how his confidence and motivation has been boosted following the experience volunteering with the Centre.



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## 'Photo Gallery'











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# Red Carpet Experience

'A Right Royal Welcome'



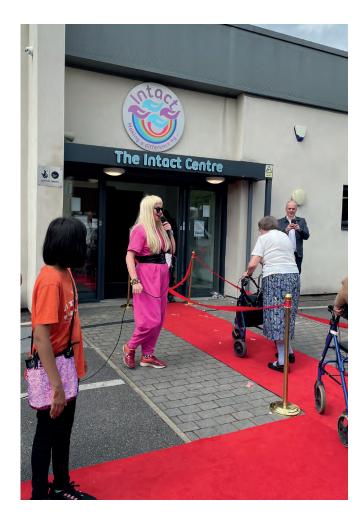


































# PEBBLES AND MORTAR for 2022

By Intact Mosaic Creators and Artist Chrissy Webster

Pebbles represent earth as well as mosaic pieces. 2022 is the year we can finally meet up without having to worry. This healing combination of nature, art, and joining people and the pieces together, helps to form oneness.

Seven participants joined artist **Chrissy Webster** in a series of weekly workshops for six weeks. During this short timeframe, participants created their own \***Dobcroft Nature Reserve** themed pieces. As you can see from what is displayed, there are some friendly creatures in our presence, some common (including our resident cat Dobbie!) and some specific to the Dobcroft Nature Reserve. Can you spot the **Great Crested Newt**?

Special thanks to our fantastic mosaic creatives:

Carole Billington, Gillian Blackburn, Barbara Knowles, Kim Lean, Kate Marsden, Beverley Miller & Xioalan Zhang.

\*Dobcroft Nature Reserve is The Intact Centre's five acre nature reserve in the heart of the community. This is a master of art and it can create a new start.

This is a master of bringing and it helps with our singing.

Singing for joy to remove any aloneness.

We keep each other company, with the visits, you see.

Every time we turn up we can bring in new love.

Every time we bring in these features, we can create new creatures.

Dancing for joy with the skills we've deployed.

So we've got our new skills and it gives us a thrill.

So mosaics are fragments and our life is out of alignment.

And then we put them together and create something with feathers.

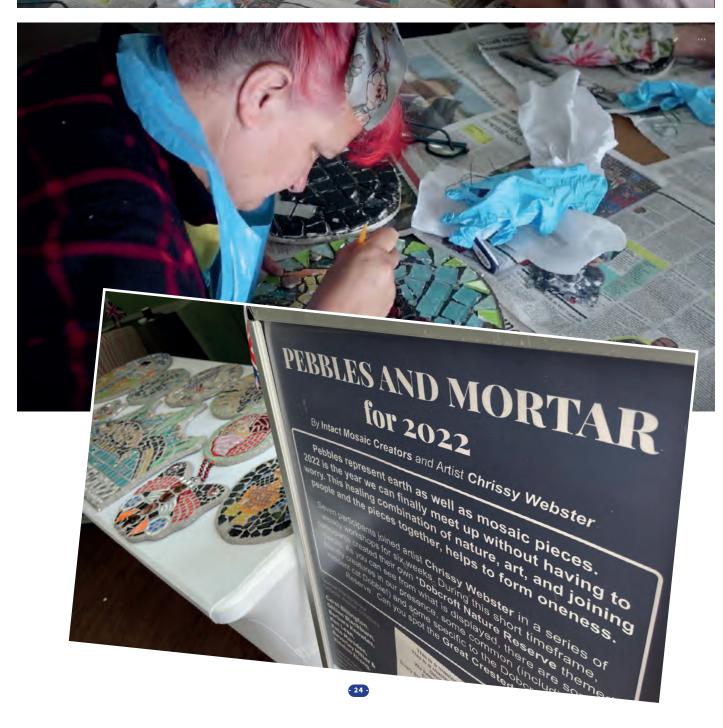
We can create new wings for all the world to see.

We create something beautiful with all this energy.

So we delight in that place and we delight in our new faces.

By Chrissy Webster

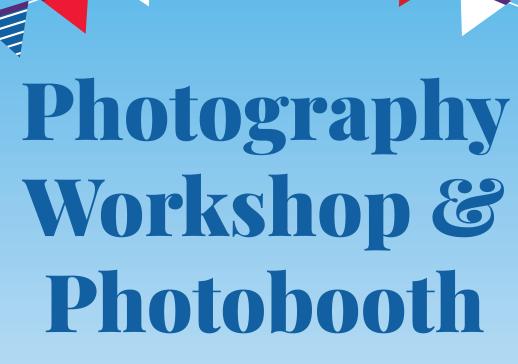




































# Samba Druming





















































A big thank you to all our community and members of the Ingol and Tanterton UNITE Partnership in supporting this event.



We'd also like to thank ASDA Foundation and ASDA Fulwood for providing an grant for those extras on the day.