

PLACES



eventus
Applied Creativity

DOCTOR, DOCTOR!



Arts organisation 'Incidental' aims to create a piece of public art for the Bluebell Surgery in Firth Park that encourages a more communal and playful experience of public health environments.

Doctor, Doctor! included a comedian-led health walk, sessions at local elderly peoples' homes, after-school groups, along with some more freeform humour gathering, all contributing to the yet to be created permanent piece of work.

At Hinde House Secondary School students turned the architects' floorplan of the new Medical Centre into a boardgame, combined drawings to create bizarre embodiments of the new Centre, and to address the public fear of machines in healthcare, students imagined machines for the new centre including a Laughter Machine dispensing

Giggle Bits, Snigger Cola and Laughter Pop.

The construction site for the surgery is currently a vacant lot. Incidental ran a short public event, taking this 'non-space', and investing it with a sense of place, filled with the colour and identity of the local community. Jokes were collected from people visiting the surgery, and were then placed freely across the site, with set-up dislocated from the punch-lines - to cause passers-by to stop and gaze, match up jokes, and visually explore a long-forgotten space.

www.theincidental.com

[www.flickr.com/photos/
creativeplaces-sheffield](http://www.flickr.com/photos/creativeplaces-sheffield)

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S2 LEGENDS

S2 Legends gave residents in what was once one of Sheffield's most run-down estates the chance to tell people how great their neighbourhood is.

Young people in the Manor area were growing up surrounded by demolition sites, but were not involved in the changes. Photographer Richard Hanson worked with them to capture what was important about their area. With people from Manor Assembly, they nominated local people – their legends – for a professional portrait taken by Richard – all are featured on the S2 Legends website

www.s2legends.co.uk

Investment in new housing and services has seen the area's reputation improve. A community exhibition, 1000 postcards and the website were launched at an awards ceremony for the young people. It was an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of residents too. Among those featured on the website are a mother whose daughter was blighted by eczema, which led her to invent a special garment to help with the condition; an ice-cream man who has worked on the estate for 22 years; a postmaster and local minister who turned down a job in London so passionate was she to work with people on the Manor.

www.hansonphoto.co.uk

[www.flickr.com/photos/
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STEELING SKIES



Arts collective rednile worked with residents from Shiregreen estate using creative play and workshops to highlight issues, to draw out themes and capture ideas for the design of a new street scheme.

Some recurring themes emerged including:

- bringing colour into the estate
- saving the original 1930s features
- appreciating the vistas and the estate's amazing skylines.

All works made by residents were showcased at a Summer Community Festival. rednile created temporary artworks or 'beacons' using movement, light and colour to highlight the themes and enable people to look up and enjoy the skies and views around Shiregreen.

rednile are discussing the permanent installation of the works with local primary schools.

Steeling Skies ended with a celebration that included three unique temporary artworks related to the historical context of Shiregreen's traditional lamp posts. Each artwork was in place for one day and provoked a range of responses as well as focusing debate on how to integrate the much loved lamp posts into the future design scheme. Another one day event included a local scout group building a 3 metre high tower to get a new and exciting view of the estate!

www.rednile.org/steelingskiesCPE

www.flickr.com/photos/creativeplaces-sheffield

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PAGE HALL INSIDE OUT

Page Hall is a densely populated area of terraced housing with a culturally diverse population. The size of the houses in Page Hall and the lack of gardens had led to tensions over the different use of inside and outside space by different groups. Creative Places commissioned photographer Richard Hanson to create a project that explored the use of space and the rich diversity of the residents.

He worked closely with the Pakistan Advice Centre and local community; residents 'signposted' him to the next person to be photographed.

The final exhibition was held in the Pakistan Advice Centre and a book of the images was given to all participants and involved organisations. The project highlighted the diversity of the area and gave residents the opportunity to say what the area means to them.

The housing regeneration team carried out improvements to the streetscene and created two model refurbishments: an eco house and an extended family house to encourage owners and landlords to invest in their properties. Residents involved in the project helped select images to be made into large scale prints to decorate the walls of the homes

www.hansonphoto.co.uk

[www.flickr.com/photos/
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ONE
IN THE WOODS

COLD RAIN AND WIND AND SUN

THE HOUSE

BROKEN BRICKS UNDER

THAT OLD DOG

ROADS AND FLOWERS



Artist David Gunn mixed history and memories of older residents with the imaginings of children to create a series of artworks exploring memory and change. The aim was to integrate new development and bring new and established residents together.

Historical and fictional stories were used as the basis for a series of 'chapters', each 'published' in a physical location around the Flower Estate, Firth Park and Upper Wincobank and then photographed at community events. The chapters intentionally blur facts with imaginary scenes to create a complex, poetic representation of the area.

Chapter 1 was painted by children onto broken bricks from now-demolished buildings.

For Chapter 2 words and feelings formed lanterns leading the way on a winter evening walk up Wincobank Hill.

In Chapter 3 words and phrases from older people were inscribed on wood and formed a word trail to be found and photographed by children as part of a 'photographic treasure hunt' during a family fun day. One aim of Creative Places is to encourage people into underused green spaces on their doorsteps.

Chapter 4 will be installed as plaques on the walls of the new housing, and photographs from each chapter are being assembled into a book.

www.theincidental.com/projects_2a

www.flickr.com/photos/creativeplaces-sheffield

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PEOPLE, PLACES & SPACES



The aim for Parson Cross and Foxhill was to establish a unified 'journey' through the area whilst preserving its character.

In Stage 1 spaceWAYS, artists Scott Farlow and Antony Lyons, worked with Parson Cross Park Healthy Walks Group, the area-wide Youth Parliament and SOAR's Environment and Liveability Theme Group to produce a 'vision' for creating places that are special and linked together, building on the area's rich history, strong communities and great views.

Their strategy contains suggestions for improving the entrance to Parson Cross Park linking to the new Chaucer Buchanan Square, plus a network of green connections throughout the area.

Ideas include looking at how communal gardens, orchards and food growing, green routes, gateways, viewing points and public artwork can help create and link open spaces, forming 'green ribbons' across the two areas. The Green Ribbons are about involving the community to create a sense of ownership of spaces. They are also about developing enjoyment of the area as people navigate around interesting and visually appealing open spaces.

Sheffield City Council has begun designing and delivering aspects of the Stage 2 projects - improving the entrances to Parson Cross Park and an enhanced public realm at Chaucer Square.

www.parsoncrossfoxhill.net

[www.flickr.com/photos/
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KNUTTON ROAD ARTISTS' STUDIOS



Sheffield has more artist studios than any city outside London, all in the city centre. A key part of Creative Places was a feasibility study into the need for a new artist studio complex in one of the housing regeneration areas of Sheffield. There were two main drivers, the reduction in city centre empty properties available for conversion by artists and a desire to link the economic impact of creative industries in the city centre to neighbourhood enterprise and local economic growth.

Six sites were identified. Two sites, in the Manor and Parson Cross areas, were made possible by Local Economic Growth funding (LEGI) and partnerships with local regeneration organisations.

Both studios will be managed by Yorkshire Artspace in addition to their city centre Persistence Works and Porter Brook studios. Studio holders will benefit from their professional development and education and outreach programmes.

SOAR Works on Knutton Road in Parson Cross will include 12 artists' studios within its mix of offices and workshops for local start-ups and small businesses. The studios will open in 2011 and YAS will be running a starter studio residency, funded by Paul Hamlyn Foundation, for artists interested in developing work in regeneration.

www.flickr.com/photos/creativeplaces-sheffield

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FLOWERS IN THE FRAME



Photographer and digital artist Ali White worked with local groups in Manor and Castle and in Parson Cross to teach digital photography, take photographs of pictorial meadows and process the images at local City Learning Centres.

The vibrant wildflower meadows had been planted by Green Estate on demolition sites as an interim landscape solution to maintain cleared sites between demolition and redevelopment. Green Estate uses its own Pictorial Meadow flower mixes to produce dramatic displays.

Both projects ended with high profile launches and community and city centre exhibitions of prints and artworks.

In north Sheffield a mixed age group from Healthy Cross were delighted to find that “other people care about the area too”. Their images became postcards promoting the area, street banners in the new Margetson Crescent and large prints taking pride of place in the new Shirecliffe Hub.

Manor Top Agewell group images became a calendar and a hugely successful touring exhibition of 8 foot high banners shown in local community venues as well as Sheffield Town Hall and the Winter Gardens. Photographs of the participants were included on the banners to challenge people’s perceptions of older people as well as of the area.

www.aliwhite.com

[www.flickr.com/photos/
creativeplaces-sheffield](http://www.flickr.com/photos/creativeplaces-sheffield)

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E & INTERNATIONAL
TRANSPORT & LIFTING

JOURNEYS TO HIDDEN PLACES



Y-SO? a multi-disciplinary team of community artists developed a public art strategy that included over 20 commissions to develop the public realm, with an emphasis on creating a sense of place and distinctiveness, improving perceptions of the area and encouraging community participation.

Key areas the community identified for improvements were:

- Routes - urban walks that radiate out to surrounding areas
- Destinations - buildings / spaces at the end of the urban walks
- Green Spaces

Y-SO? worked with individuals and groups on activities including mug designing, clay modelling and postcard projects to identify a series of linked projects along walking

routes in the Firth Park and Wincobank neighbourhoods. These routes form a series of chapters that come together in an overall story for local people to encourage greater use and understanding of their area. They include the Freedom Trail encouraging use of Wincobank Hill as a green lung for the city and the In Sickness and In Health Walk, linking Brendan Ingle's famous gym, the new Wincobank Health Centre and the Transpennine Trail

The artworks included: 'Giant's Hands and Feet', 'Enchanted Chairs', 'Pavement Plates', 'Map Rock', 'Smelly Wellies', 'Brendan's Glove Garden', 'Sun Apple', 'Posh Pillars' and 'Lost Gateway'.

www.journeystohiddenplaces.blogspot.com

[www.flickr.com/photos/
creativeplaces-sheffield](http://www.flickr.com/photos/creativeplaces-sheffield)

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THE VIEW

Eventus commissioned Dead Earnest Theatre Company to write an interactive radio play based on interviews and meetings with residents of Parson Cross in north Sheffield.

The play, called 'The View', was broadcast on BBC Radio Sheffield and at Parson Cross Festival.

'The View' featured three fictional longtime residents of Parson Cross - Paul, ready for retirement to Bridlington; Dave, isolated following the loss of his wife, and Vera, mainstay of the community. Sally, a newcomer to the area, is the catalyst for the characters to look back on the past and talk about a sense of place.



The purpose of broadcasting via the radio was to engage as many listeners as possible in a discussion about what Parson Cross meant to them.

A studio audience of local residents, including local young people, watched the performance and were asked to comment on the action and issues raised. Listeners were also able to phone in their comments and contribute to a message board.

All the thoughts and opinions collected as part of the broadcast were given to the architects working on the Housing Market Renewal programme in the area.

Listen to the play on:

www.deadearnest.co.uk

[www.flickr.com/photos/
creativeplaces-sheffield](http://www.flickr.com/photos/creativeplaces-sheffield)

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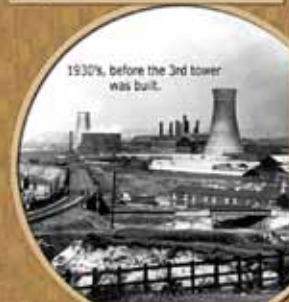


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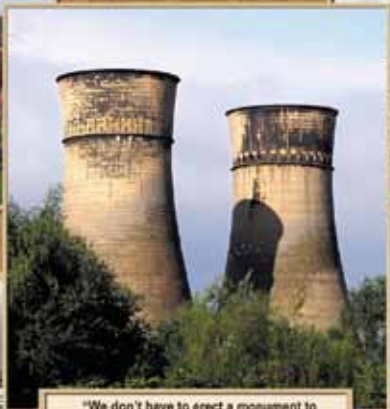


"We've grown up with them, so it's like they've always been there. I'm really going to miss them."



1930's, before the 3rd tower was built.

"They weren't always so stood out in your mind as they are now because of everything that was around them. They're just the last thing to go."



"We don't have to erect a monument to represent our heritage. We've got one already."

TINSLEY VIEWS

Date unknown.
Includes the wooden cooling towers.



"They're just ghosts of the past. They were once... and that's it."



"They're the only thing that hasn't changed since my grandparents first came here. They're a family memory."

POSTCARDS FROM TINSLEY

The project was a response to the impending demolition of two landmark cooling towers that rose above the viaduct carrying the M1 through Sheffield.

Standing 75m high and 50m diameter at their base the towers were all that remained of a coal fired power station that supplied electricity to the once thriving steel works in the neighbouring Don Valley. The power station was demolished in 1978 but the towers remained, isolated and unused, saved by their proximity to the motorway and the structural threat their demolition posed to the viaduct.

Creative Places wanted to find out what the people who lived in the shadow of the towers felt about them. Photographer Ali White was selected by a team including Tinsley Community Forum and East Sheffield

Regeneration Team to capture their feelings in words and images. Ali devised the idea of a series of 4 postcards, picturing the towers from streets, gardens and kitchen windows, with one postcard produced entirely by Tinsley School.

4,000 postcards were produced and a full set posted to every house in Tinsley. The school had a mass posting to friends and family all over the world. Local views were fed into the Tinsley Placemaking Project.

www.aliwhite.com

www.elementalimages.co.uk

[www.flickr.com/photos/
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CITY ROAD PLACEMAKING

City Road is one of the most important routes into central Sheffield, it also runs through five different neighbourhoods. Placemaking is a series of projects to improve the look and feel of City Road and make it easier to get around.

Placemaking will help improve areas that local people have identified as needing attention. It will also improve safety on City Road and make it easier to move along and across the road.

Sheffield City Council, working with the art group Encounters, ran a series of community engagement activities aimed at finding out what people thought about City Road. Activities included a City Road Bureau, a mobile consultation desk that traveled up and down the road capturing local opinions on the history of the area as well as ideas

for the future. Over 400 people talked to the artists in an area where people rarely turn out for consultation events.

A two-day design workshop was held where all the ideas from the activities were used to develop the key themes of stones, orchards and markers for the City Road Placemaking project.

The work has involved and engaged local people, provided broad cross-linking themes and proved to be very cost effective.

www.tomclarkstonecarver.co.uk

www.sharrowencounters.org.uk

[www.flickr.com/photos/
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MANOR OAKS STUDIOS

The 5 artists' studios on the Manor Oaks estate are part of Green Estate's development of the site linking their commercial services with many other landscape, cultural and social initiatives. It is hoped that this development will include a starter studio for ceramicists, linking the history of artisan works on the site to modern practice.

www.greenestate.org.uk

Sheffield has the largest number of artists' studios outside of London. A feasibility study commissioned as part of Creative Places showed that demand exceeds supply. Two new sites for artists' workplace/studios were identified as part of this study and are being developed in partnership with Yorkshire Artspace which manages the city centre Persistence Works studios.

The programme for the provision of artists' workspace within regeneration areas will help bring creativity and vibrancy to these areas. Artists within these developments will actively contribute to the community. The role model of artists running small businesses is important in areas of high worklessness.

www.artspace.org.uk

[www.flickr.com/photos/
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CREATIVE PLACES FLICKR SITE



Creative Places puts local culture and the arts at the heart of the regeneration process: by engaging people in new and different ways, by making places that are locally distinctive and by bringing high quality art and artists into neighbourhoods.

This website draws together the experience of the last three years. Each project in the Creative Places programme of neighbourhood regeneration is represented with a collection of photographs. Future developments will be added.

Geotags enable you to see where the work has taken place.

www.flickr.com/photos/creativeplaces-sheffield

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"I was recently asked to sit on the interview panel for the North Sheffield Regeneration Team appointment of an artist for the Parson Cross identity commission (and I was quite surprised to be asked in all honesty). I have never considered myself to be an 'arty' person...and I guess I was partly expecting 3 different artists to arrive, wearing paint splattered smocks and wonky berets. Well... my narrow concept of oil paintings as art was quickly changed...

Dead Earnest were so vibrant and interesting, I really liked the ideas, and I could feel myself growing more excited...I imagined that if I was a resident in Parson Cross, and I was on my way home from work on a cold wet February day...if I went to stick my head round the door and some forum theatre was happening, or someone

was arguing about why Parson Cross was different to Dead Earnest's portrayal, well I think I would stay and see what was happening, get involved, get angry or excited...."

(Assistant Project Officer involved in recruitment of Dead Earnest Theatre)

www.deadearnest.co.uk

Creative Places is unique in the way it has trained and supported council staff to commission high quality cultural activity as part of the regeneration process in neighbourhoods.

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CREATIVE PLACES CONFERENCE – EMBEDDING CULTURE IN REGENERATION



Taking place in Sheffield on 15th September 2010, a one-day masterclass that draws on the successful 3-year programme.

Creative Places is a nationally unique partnership between Sheffield City Council, Arts Council England Yorkshire and Eventus, an independent cultural development agency based in Sheffield.

Creative Places develops partnerships and provides opportunities for the arts to be embedded within large-scale housing and neighbourhood regeneration programmes.

The programme has been successful in:

- giving housing and council staff the confidence to use the arts to deliver their core priorities
- getting more people and more different sorts of people engaged in local changes
- challenging thinking about design and landscaping in neighbourhoods.

Conference blog at:

www.creativeplaces2010.wordpress.com

[www.flickr.com/photos/
creativeplaces-sheffield](http://www.flickr.com/photos/creativeplaces-sheffield)

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