Standing Up For Peace Sculpture at Saxon Hall.

Join in with this very special project!

Lets use our experiences of keeping our communities safe and well during this difficult and intense time to make an inspiring community sculpture.



Trevor is marking the sculpture's spot. It will be 2 metres high x 1.5m wide x 1.5m deep with a triangular foot-print. Even in winter the garden is beautiful.

Saxon Hall is a lovely Community Centre in Hereford that genuinely works to bring together a growing, diverse community. They have a beautiful, spacious garden tended with great care and skill by a range of volunteers. Making a sculpture to celebrate the community was decided before the pandemic hit.



View of the sculpture site, next to the bench in this lovely area of planting in Saxon Hall's big, varied garden. The sculpture will be made in architectural ceramic, very durable and a soft yellow colour much like Bath Stone.

As new homes are about to be built in the area this is an ideal time to re-root the community in it's history as a foundation for a strong, inclusive, forward looking future.

The site used to be the SAS camp, Bradbury Lines, up to 1978, including their chapel. Many residents remember it so it would be excellent to have art-work that illustrates some of that history and other notable memories from the area.



The sculpture will screen the seat and, on the other side, welcome visitors coming up the drive.

The sculpture must be beautiful and high quality so that everyone who takes part feels proud enough to bring friends and family to see it regularly. The sculpture should become iconic for the Centre and Community and be ideal for posting on the web and including in family Albums. It should draw residents new to the area towards their Community Centre and help them to settle in.

To give you an idea of what the project will be like this post on my website describes the process and previous projects:

https://ospreystudios.org/commissions-and-collaborative-sculptures/ These two

posts describe two wonderful community projects in more depth:

https://ospreystudios.org/category/marking-time/

https://ospreystudios.org/category/pennard-primary-lead-creative-schools-project/

Our primary aim is that everyone involved will gain new skills, confidence, friendships and a sense of belonging. We are all getting good at doing that online these days because of the Pandemic and lock-down. Being online does make it quick and easy to exchange ideas and information to wider groups of people than might have been possible with workshops at Saxon Hall.

By pooling our ideas, art-work, research and images the sculpture will have real relevance to it's site. It will be a source of pride, status and inspiration.

Everyone is welcome and needed including those who do not want to do hands-on art-work. Collecting local historical Archive photos and stories is hugely useful.

Once the sculpture is ready, in a year or so, it will need people to help with the installation on site and there will be a celebration and opening party to organise!

Between now and June 2020 we need copies of your research findings, writing or photos of your ideas: Use any materials, 2D or 3D, including writing, to work out your thoughts about Standing Up For Peace.

Send them to: osprey.studios@btinternet.com with 'Standing Up For Peace Sculpture: Ideas' in the subject box.

I have made a set of posts guiding you through forming ideas and sharing them through Clay Models made in a small, convenient size ideal for designing larger sculptures.

Making Small Figures: https://ospreystudios.org/2020/04/09/making-small-figures/

Making Animals: https://ospreystudios.org/2020/04/09/how-to-make-animals-using-clayarmatures/

Modelling ideas in clay: https://ospreystudios.org/2020/04/13/how-to-make-small-sculptureand-models/

We have a limited number of Clay Modelling Kits we can send out on a first come first served basis. Because of the Lock-down logistics the kit will be delivered directly from the supplier and is enough clay for a whole family to share and a couple of great tools to start you off.

How to get one: email your name and delivery address to osprey.studios@btinternet.com with 'Standing Up For Peace Sculpture: Kit Request' in the subject box.

Or you can use your own clay and tools. Plasticine is fun or even clay dug out of the ground! But specialist sculpture clay and tools are much easier to use.

I am recommending Bath Potters Supplies: https://www.bathpotters.co.uk
12.5kg of CCB Buff grogged clay, and 2 great tools: BWMT6/16 and BWMT6/4, delivered to you will cost £26.44

I will collect everyone's input through the emails, add it to the Project Brief which includes the Budget and Health and Safety considerations and use it to develop a Scale Model of the sculpture that would be possible for the lovely public site at Saxon Hall.

I will then share images of the Scale Model and your feed-back will help me refine and improve the ideas until we have really good design. Once that is approved I will build the full scale sculpture at Osprey Studios in the Swansea Valley.

I will incorporate as much of your artwork and writing as possible onto the surface of the sculpture by carving the clay and I will use the models we were able to make in the Saxon Hall Clay Workshops before the Lock-down. This will give the form a really vibrant, interesting, tactile and informative surface everyone can enjoy up close as they walk around the sculpture.

You will be able to follow the process through posts online. It will take months and we hope, budgets and circumstances allowing, to have it fired and ready for installation by next year. Then it will need people to help with the installation on site and there will be a celebration and opening party to organise! By this time next year we will be very ready for a Party! And we will have done something wonderful during this very hard, intense and frightening time that will inspire the Community for many decades to come.

I will really look forward to receiving your emails and ideas. Be safe and well, Rebecca Buck



