Welcome
Welcome to the second edition of the Irwell Sculpture Mail. As a recipient of this editorial you have expressed your interest in future developments of the Trail. This e-newsletter will help keep you regularly informed about exciting developments, events, opportunities and news along the Trail.

Development Update

The first audit of the state of the pathways, access and artworks for the Rossendale section of the trail has been completed, which includes proposed new routes and recommendations for remedial work. Over the summer the new routes will be tested by Active Spaces who hold regular walking groups in Pennine Lancashire.

During the spring, events were held at the Horse and Bamboo Theatre in Waterfoot, ASDA in Rawtenstall and over the Easter weekend the Irwell Sculpture Trail took over an empty shop on Market Street in Bacup. The aim of the events is to talk to local communities about the new routes, identify any problems, highlight local areas of interest and to record local stories for potential inclusion in the interpretation which will be available to download from the website.

At the Easter event in Bacup, families were invited to participate in the magical Monster Spotting Game. Using GPS (Geographic Positioning System) enabled mobile telephones which use the latest ‘Augmented Reality’ technology, participants were invited to search Bacup using a Magical Monitarvision Machine to find and free the monsters hiding throughout the town. While gamers headed out in search of the monsters, others got creative at the monster design station in the shop and filled the windows with colourfully created monsters. This event demonstrated the possibilities and accessibility of new technology and how it might be used on the Irwell Sculpture Trail.

The Irwell Sculpture Trail website has been updated to include up to date information, images from the trail, downloadable copies of the Sculpture Trail Mail and details of our next testing survey, which you can read more about in the Community Conversations section of this Newsletter.

Please take a look at www.irwellsculpturetrail.co.uk

Meet the Team

Tony Trehy is the Arts and Museum Manager with Bury Metropolitan Borough Council and is the Bury Partner for the Trail. Tony developed the original idea of developing a sculpture trail along the River Irwell in 1993. He has over ten years experience in public art commissioning and is also creator and curator of Bury’s Text Festival - www.textfestival.com.
Meet the Team

Tony Trehy is the Arts and Museum Manager with Bury Metropolitan Borough Council and is the Bury Partner for the Trail. Tony developed the original idea of developing a sculpture trail along the River Irwell in 1993. He has over ten years experience in public art commissioning and is also creator and curator of Bury’s Text Festival - www.textfestival.com.

Tony was asked; what is your favourite sculpture/feature on the Irwell Sculpture Trail and why?

“I have always had a soft spot for the little known works on the Sculpture Trail so I am tempted to say Shaun Pickard’s small neon text “Geronimo” high up on the back of Bury Art Gallery. This for me fulfilling one of the excitements of the Trail, stumbling on artworks that you weren’t expecting.

However, for different reasons, I have plumped for Mark Jalland’s popular “Dinosaur” in Close Park, Radcliffe. In itself the stainless steel origami style dinosaur is a striking presence at the entrance of the Park, responding to different light and weather conditions to always be an attractive and fun sculpture. More particularly I was happy with this commission because the artist worked closely with local community groups, park users and the primary school to capture the enjoyment and playfulness that the site needed.”

Stories from...

Salford

Bridgewater Canal Corridor Project

Salford City Council and partners are developing an ambitious project to regenerate and restore the Bridgewater Canal Corridor in Salford with the aim:

‘To conserve, develop and improve access to the Bridgewater Canal Corridor so both the community and visitors can celebrate the unique industrial heritage and enjoy the natural beauty of these historic areas’

To achieve this Salford City Council will be investing in improvements to the surfaces of the towpaths to make them pedestrian and cyclist friendly; improving the landscape along the canal and bring Worsley Delph back to navigation and improving the visitor and community experience and heritage value of the canal through effective signage, exciting & engaging interpretation and events illustrating its rich history.

For more information, please contact Toria Buzz on 0161 793 2132 or email Victoria.buzz@salford.gov.uk

Sculptures at Clifton Country Park

Clifton County Park includes an existing route of the Irwell Sculpture Trail which includes a sculpture entitled Dig, by Rosie Leverton, inspired by the coal barges that were used along Fletcher’s Canal and on the south west bank of the lake is a further sculpture entitled Lookout, by Tim Norris. This spiral structure of wood and stone offers views over the lake and a place to sit whilst on-route.

Hidden amongst the trees are the remains of the Wet
Sculptures at Clifton Country Park

Clifton Country Park includes an existing route of the Irwell Sculpture Trail which includes a sculpture entitled Dig, by Rosie Letvert, inspired by the coal barges that were used along Fletcher's canal and on the south west bank of the lake is a further sculpture entitled Lookout, by Tim Norris. This spiral structure of wood and stone offers views over the lake and a place to sit whilst on-route.

Hidden amongst the trees are the remains of the Wet Earth Colliery, dating from between 1740 - 1928. In 2007 artist Stephen Charnock was commissioned to design three new sculptures with pupils at Clifton Primary School and the Friends of Clifton Country Park. His sculpture Galloway Pony shows how horses were used to winch coal from the first deep mine known as the Gal Pit.

The Salford Ranger Team organise regular walks and educational activities at Clifton Country Park and there is a weekly 'Tiny Tots Ramble' and monthly 'Kingfisher Kids' activities for children aged 5-12 years old and their families.

You can join the Rangers every Thursday for an hour long easy health walk, ideal for people returning to fitness after illness. There’s also a more strenuous ‘Stepping Stones’ walk starting from various locations around Salford. And if you’re feeling energetic, you can hire a bicycle. For information pop in to the visitor centre, phone 0161 783 4216 or go to www.salford.gov.uk/cliftoncounrty

Unlocking Salford Quays

In 2009 The Lowry successfully applied to the Heritage Lottery Fund to develop a large-scale project focusing on The Lowry's immediate surroundings on Salford Quays. The docks are at the heart of the history of the City of Salford and, because of its economic and industrial role over the past century, at the heart of Salford communities. This heritage is hidden, however, with little visible evidence of the historical significance of the area. Unlocking Salford Quays aims to bring this heritage back into focus by engaging with people who worked on or lived near the docks before they closed in 1982, plus current Quays school and youth groups, families, residents and businesses.

5 groups are currently working with an artist to develop a piece of public art which together will form a public art trail starting from The Lowry and designed to reveal aspects of the Quays, past, present and future:

- Unusual, based in Manchester, will work with school children born in 2003
- Mor, based in Falmouth, will use their landscape architecture skills to work with current residents and workers
- Broadcent, a collective of artists, designers and makers based in Cheshire, will collaborate with ex-dock workers
- Taiwanese artist Ingrid Hu will be working closely with families who live on three historic streets in Salford
- Sheffield-based David Appleyard will develop character-based work with young people

For further information contact Jennifer Gosling, Project Manager on 0161 878 2144 or jennifer.gosling@thelowry.com or Abi Wearing, Project Administrator on 0161 875 2019 or abi.wearing@thelowry.com
Bury

A new decorative public bench has been commissioned and designed by sculptor Steve Des Landes, due to be installed in Burrs Country Park as a new addition to the Sculpture Trail.

One mile north west of Bury town centre and home to one of the sculpture clusters of the IST, Burrs features a wide variety of different wildlife habitats - woodland, open space, wetland, ponds and waterways over 36 hectares of scenic countryside. The park is a great place to visit, an ideal spot for a range of activities including walking, fishing, picnicking, bird watching and nature study. For the more adventurous there is an assortment of outdoor pursuits available at Burrs Activity Centre (www.burrec.org.uk). The park owes part of its existence to Bury’s industrial past, many remnants of which still exist today.

Glass artist Martin Donlin has installed an exciting and brightly coloured glass artwork which has become a major integral feature of the new Police Headquarters in Bury. The artwork has 2 sides, an external facing side which depicts an impression of the community and an internal face into the meeting room, which has maps of the four wards of Bury, with text from letters of commendation to the local police force.

In Bury town centre, two new pieces of public art will be commissioned as part of the Bury town centre redevelopment. In the new Knowsley Place development, two poems by Carol Watts and Phil Davenport are being installed and in the Rock development a new light installation by Jo Fairfax will light the way.

The Knowsley Place development will link the west side of Bury’s town centre to the public transport interchange, markets and The Rock; a £330 million scheme that will be home to two department stores, Debenhams and M&S, along with 60 other shops/leisure outlets, a 10 screen cinema, 397 apartments, a 1260 space multi-storey car park along with restaurants and new public spaces.

Rosssendale

The Sentinel sculpture at Deerplay, has had essential repair work just before Christmas. The minor repairs and stone replacement will help to keep it safe for visitors and walkers to enjoy in the future.

The sculpture incorporates two traditional skills used in the valley, dry-stone walling and felling. Jane Dunn, the artist who created the sculpture, learned stonewalling from a local craftsman and passed on the art of felt making to young people in the valley. The word Sentinel means a soldier posted to keep guard over a special place.

The work on Sentinel is part of a bigger project by Bury MBC, Salford City Council, Rossendale Borough Council and Lancashire County Council, to redevelop the Inwre Sculpure Trail over the next five years. The repair to the Sentinel sculpture is the first piece of work to be carried out as part of the remedial work in the Rossendale area.

Lancashire

REMADE
Lancashire

REMADE

In partnership with the Northwest Regional Development Agency, Lancashire County Council has established a project called REMADE as part of their commitment to tackling the region’s derelict land problem. REMADE stands for Reclamation and Management of Derelict land. The REMADE Team is working to develop schemes which revive and regenerate these areas, bringing them into public use through green parks and open spaces.

As part of the art and regeneration programme, the Lancashire Arts Development Service (LADS) is working with the REMADE Team to deliver a pilot programme that uses creativity to engage communities in the design of new public open spaces. The scheme will involve 5 former derelict sites (including Lumb Valley in Rossendale).

For more information contact Nick Hunt, Director Mid Pennine Arts, nick@midpenninearts.org.uk
www.midpenninearts.org.uk

A REMADE project in Within Grove, Hyndburn close to the IST route in 2007, by Artist Kerry Morrison (photos by the artist)

Talking Shop

Launched by Mid Pennine Arts (MPA) in 2005, Talking Shop is an interdisciplinary project that was established to research and promote the social and economic importance of small, local shops and businesses in selected neighbourhoods of Pennine Lancashire, and through creative engagement investigate the impacts of regeneration on these shops and businesses.

Now in its fifth year the Talking shop project is moving to a Lancashire wide programme working collaboratively with artists, regeneration agencies, private developers, social commentators, and local businesses to consider the implications of these developments at a local level.

Key partners of the project have been Elevate East Lancashire, Lancashire County Council and Business Development in Hyndburn Borough Council and District Arts Development Officers in Pendle, Hyndburn and Rossendale.

For more information contact Lucy Green, Talking Shop Coordinator, Mid Pennine Arts, lucy@midpenninearts.org.uk
http://www.lancashiretalkingshop.co.uk/

Curious Project #6

Managed by Curious Minds, Curious Project #6 is a 3 year pilot project that has been established to improve the quality of young people’s engagement in the process of regeneration by using creativity as a key tool in influencing the activity taking place in their communities.

The project will work across the Pennine Lancashire region and target key areas of regeneration activity in the districts of Pendle, Burnley, Hyndburn, Rossendale and Blackburn with Darwen.

For more information contact Paul Hartley, Curious Project #6 Coordinator, Curious Minds: paul1452@btinternet.com

Curious Minds, The View, Bacup, Rossendale

Community Conversations

As part of the Inwell Sculpture Trail redevelopment, consultation activities will take place across the Trail. This is an opportunity for local people to express their views and opinions on the future of the Inwell area.

Sculpture trail to be completed over the next five years. The first piece of the Sentinel sculpture is the first piece of work to be carried out as part of the remedial work in the Rossendale area.
Community Conversations

As part of the Irwell Sculpture Trail redevelopment, consultation activities will take place across the Trail. An interactive text messaging service has been launched to get your feedback and to help in finding the local places that are special to you. So we are asking you the following question:

If you were showing someone round where you live what would you show them and why?

The Irwell Sculpture Trail is changing, and we'd like your help to find out more about the locality of the Trail and the communities that it passes through.

They can be unique places of local legend, places that have secrets for you, like where you got engaged, or places that everyone knows about, like the best fish and chip shop.

Start a text with IST then a space then your answer (No more than 160 characters – one normal text).

Text it to 07786 202 623

To find out which places other people care about, Text IST and nothing else to the same number at any time. 07786 202 623 is a normal mobile number, so it only costs the same as sending a text to your friend's phone. You will not be signed up for anything ever.

Opportunities

We are looking for volunteers to become involved with activities along the Trail such as:

- Events, launches and festivals
- Public consultation – giving us your opinions and stories
- Training in new media skills to support record events and interpretation of the Trail through video, editing and sound.
- Exchange schemes with other sections of the trail

If you are involved with an existing group who you think might benefit from participating in such a scheme or as an individual you would like to express your interest, then please contact irwellsculpturetrail@salford.gov.uk and title your email GET ME INVOLVED, please provide your name, a contact, the town you live in, what group you are involved with and their activities or if you are an individual what you would like to get out of the scheme.

If you would like any further information about the Irwell Sculpture Trail and its associated activities, please email irwellsculpturetrail@salford.gov.uk

If you would like to unsubscribe from this newsletter email irwellsculpturetrail@salford.gov.uk and title your email UNSUBSCRIBE