



UR

FOLKESTONE

DIANE DEVER AND THE DECORATORS: CUSTOMS HOUSE: URBAN ROOM FOLKESTONE

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS, TALKS, CONVERSATIONS, SCREENINGS

As the first place where passengers arriving from Calais and Boulogne would pass through when setting foot on British soil, the Folkestone Customs House in the 19th century was a grand and impressive building, an epicentre of activity on the harbour.

Diane Dever and The Decorators will call attention to the site as the last surviving remnant of the old Customs House to bring about a new era of activity on the premises – within the retraced Customs House they will host the Urban Room Folkestone.

The Urban Room is an opportunity to re-engage with this history and its past uses through a programme of discussion, debate and learning workshops to create a space that will hold the past in the present to learn and plan for the future of Folkestone.

Traces of these conversation and activities will be archived in the Urban Room library, a catalogue of knowledge including invited contributions from local residents, artists and those involved in the transformation of Folkestone.

If you would like to host a conversation, carry out your own enquiry, debate or urban workshop and make a contribution to the Folkestone Urban Library contact
hello@urbanroomfolkestone.net

CITIZENSHIP, BORDERS, IDENTITY AND PLACE

Small scale dialogues at the Urban Room.

A series of lunchtime and evening conversations around the key themes and questions.

Tues 12 Sept, 12:30 – 14:00

How important is citizenship? Should borders be open? How important is place to our identity?

Tues 26 Sept, 12:30 – 14:00

What does it mean to be living on the edge?

Thur 21 Sep, 19:00 – 22:00

Gateway Dinner, bring something for the table and we can talk about our thoughts and hopes for the future.

Thurs 28 Sept, 19:00 – 20:30

Join Emrys Plant and guests as they celebrate through spoken word ideas being explored in the Urban Room.

Tues 10 Oct, 12:30 – 14:00

How is community built? Can community be designed? Is design important for place?

Tues 24 Oct, 12:30 – 14:30

What next for Urban Room Folkestone?

HISTORY

Thurs 7 Sept, 18:00 – 19:30

A Potted History of Folkestone Harbour by Folkestone's Alan Taylor (1790 and 2004).

Mon 11 Sept, 19:00 – 20:30

How Folkestone Began - A talk from Canterbury Archaeological Trust on Folkestone's beginnings as an urban space.

BECOME AN ARCHITECT-WALKER

Simon Persighetti (Wrights & Sites)

Sun 17 Sept, 15:00 – 17:00

Part 1: Architect-Walker Talk, 15:00 – 16:00

Experiments, discussions and planning activities to read and write place into existence.

Part 2: Architect-Walker Walk, 16:00 – 17:30

Take the Planning Office out for a walk! How can we give more status and privilege to the spaces between buildings? As we walk and talk together we shape our surroundings.

NEW WAYS OF THINKING ABOUT THE ECONOMY

Thur 21 Sep 19:00 – 20:00 Talk

Madeleine Hodge from the Folkestone (Summer) School of Economics hosts a Skype conversation with Sydney Marrickville School of Economics, with a public presentation on the principles of an artist led economy by Bek Conroy.

Fri 22 Sep 19:00 – 20:00 Talk

The Story of Rare Albion by Christopher Houghton Budd.

Sat 23 Sep 14:00 – 16:00 Workshop

Finance literacy for artists.

Sat 23 Sep, 19:00 Panel Discussion

Beyond (NOT) Neo-liberalism: Panel discussion on thinking the economy as creative practice.

Sun 24 Sep 12:00 – 16:00

Drop in and open to the public

'The economy is a uterus' workshop.

FOOD, CULTURE AND THYME

26 Sept – 1 Oct, various times

Dr Legumes take us on a journey through time looking at food sourcing and cultural influences, and how that impacts on our local community.

Tues 26 Sept, 11:00 – 13:00

Workshop exploring wild and allotment grown foods. *Booking essential:* hello@urbanroomfolkestone.net

Thurs 28 Sept, 11:00 – 12.30

Conversation with local chefs and food suppliers on food providence.

Sun 1 Oct, 10:00 – 12:00

A light brunch with freshly pressed juices. All produce will be local to our County of Kent.

AN URBAN DUAL AT THE CUSTOMS HOUSE

Fri 6 Oct, 18:00 – 19:30 (time after for socialising)

John Letherland and Steven Smith take you on an illustrated ramble through the labyrinth of the town and ask what can we learn from the analysis to help predict the future? Maps included.

FOLKESTONE'S LANDSCAPE SETTING

Tues 3 Oct, 19:00 – 20.30

A conversation with Nick Johannsen, Director of Kent Downs, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, on the extraordinary landscape surrounding the urban environment of the town.

IMAGINING FOLKESTONE'S FUTURE

Fri 13 Oct, 18:00

Sat 14 Oct, 11:00, 14:00, 18:00

Gig lecture, 30 minutes, with Q&A afterwards

Dr. Sophia Labadi, artist Andy Tuohy and composer/performer Anna Braithwaite asked Folkestone residents to make their voices heard on the subject of Folkestone's future.

LANGUAGE, LOCATION AND ME

Conceived and curated by Susanna Howard & Living Words

How might our location and environments affect our voice, language and who we are? Explore the boundaries of speech and how language affects our perceptions of ourselves and others by eavesdropping on conversations; watching films; and rewriting the UK citizenship test.

Plus, events:

Living Write! Fri 20 Oct, 15:00 – 16:30

Shazea Quraishi

A workshop offering a chance for you to get your Folkestone story out. No writing experience or skill needed. Some pieces may be shared at Sunday's event.

What Sometimes Happens When We Listen

Fri 20 Oct, 18:30 – 19:15

Performance lecture by Susanna Howard

Punctuate your life!

Sat 21 Oct, 15:00 – 16:00

Philip Cowell, author 'This Is Me, Full Stop' (Penguin)

A playful workshop exploring punctuation.

Accentuate the positive

Sun 22 Oct, 11.30 – 13:00

Coffee and conversation exploring local accents, vocabulary and communication.

Something to Declare

Sun 22 Oct, 17:00 – 18:00

Performance poetry on cultural identity and heritage, and what it means to declare one's home and nationhood.

HETEROTOPIAS, THRESHOLDS, YOGA AND WALKING

Sat 28 Oct, 16:30 – 17:30

(see web for full programme)

Following a day of yoga, and wandering through land and seascape across the borders of place and space, listen in as Julia Riddiough & David Kitt host an architectural Q&A relating to thoughts and ideas around space, and about understanding when to have your say in how public and private spaces are created in the place you live.

LOST IN TRANSMISSION

Fri 3 Nov, 17:00 – 19:00

Meet at the Urban Room Folkestone

Ash is currently the third most common tree in the UK, and the most common tree in Kent. But as a result of ash dieback, ninety percent of these trees are expected to die in the near future. In this ecopoetry workshop we will explore the ash dieback transmission process. *Find out more about The Ash Project at www.theashproject.org.uk*

FOR FULL EVENT DETAILS & PROGRAMME UPDATES:

www.folkestonetriennial.org.uk

www.urbanroomfolkestone.net

@urbanroomfstone