



Craft Club Update: March 2018

Photo City Safari: 11 and 12 April



If you want to pick up some tips on how to take interesting pictures of urban life and learn how they can be manipulated and posted on Instagram, we have just the jaunt for you! Join Stephen Thorp on our first ever city safari at lunchtime on Wednesday 11 April.

Dress for the British weather and bring a digital camera or Android phone. Stephen uses Instagram to manipulate his photos so a mobile phone with access to Instagram would be perfect. Check out Stephen's work #thesnapper

Timing:

11 April – Depart from West entrance at 12:15pm, returning just after 1:00pm.

12 April – Meet in the Restaurant at 12:15pm to see how the images can be manipulated and share what you took

Cost:

All fees will be donated in full to [Action for Children](#), a charity working with disadvantaged children in the UK.

- £1 for HASSRA Leeds Craft Club members
- £2 all others

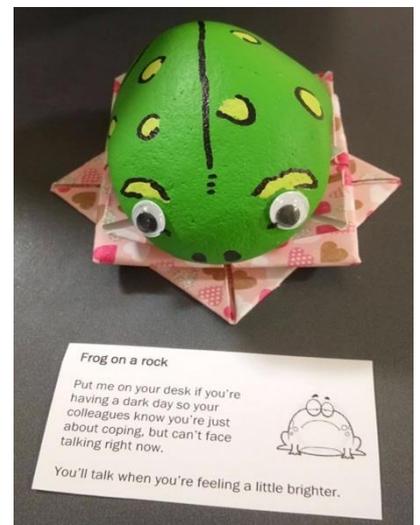
Time to Talk Day: #frogonarock

We started our crafting fund-raising off with a successful lunchtime craft and chat, marking Time to Talk Day on 1 February.

We set up our stall alongside colleagues from DH and DWP Wellbeing teams and had a paint-a-frog table. People stopped to fill their tea and biscuit boxes, paint a pebble frogs, make an origami lily pads, taking them away in their decorated goody bags in return for a donation to MIND.

The frog theme came from a story from one of our members about something that helped her when she was in a really dark period. A friend had been ringing and texting, but she couldn't cope with answering and switched off her phone. When the friend saw her a few days later, she said she'd been really worried and our member explained why.

The friend told her, "I'm going to give you a phrase that helped me. It might sound silly, but you'll never use it anywhere else. If you're okay but can't cope with talking, just text me back 'Frog on a rock' and I'll know why."





This sparked ideas from our creative members. We went with a frog theme and got people to paint pebbles to look like frogs – the idea being that you warned your colleagues that, if they saw the frog on your desk, it meant you were just about coping with work, but couldn't deal with talking.

The noise and giggles coming from the frog-painting table was really great. We talked to people about taking the time to talk and the story behind the frogs. In return, people shared their own stories of how they coped.

We thought we might have beaten last year's donated amount because we had a few notes. When we counted up at the end, we'd raised £94.46! We were giddy enough about that, but one of the ladies on the Wellbeing stand topped it up to £100 for us. We've since received another £4 - £104 in total.

So if you're in Quarry House and see a green frog-pebble on a desk, you'll know why!

Creating a 'Work of Heart' at our Crochet and Chat drop-in sessions



Elizabeth Letaief, Jan Legge and Hazel Mullinger set up our first off-site Crochet and Chat session at Meanwood Valley Urban Farm on Saturday 3 February.

Jan received lots of 'oohs' and 'aahs' about her fabulous crocheted blanket and gave an impromptu lesson on making chains and double crochet. Elizabeth started making little crocheted hearts for the RHS Malvern Spring Festival's [Work of Heart Garden](#) appeal - knitted or crocheted hearts to join among 10,000 'Works of Heart' created by local knitters, community groups and celebrities.

Visitors to the Festival will be invited to place them on trees around the 'Work of Heart' garden in return for a donation to Sue Ryder Leckhampton Court Hospice, making this a living and growing display over the course of the festival.

Visit <http://files8.design-editor.com/94/9404018/UploadedFiles/C0E280FC-054E-76DA-1594-4E43594FCFCE.docx> to download the knitting pattern or <http://files8.design-editor.com/94/9404018/UploadedFiles/4F900984-1255-F95E-6C93-D8C1A2BB9084.docx> to download the crochet pattern to create your own 'Work of Heart' for the display.

Our next Crochet and Chat is on 3 March at Meanwood Valley Urban Farm Barn Café from 2:30pm.

Origami Hearts



Following the success of the origami lily pads, Trish Sames, one of our new members, showed us how to make origami hearts in time for Valentine's Day.

We started out fine, but our adult fingers needed a bit of persuasion with the tinier folds and there was lots of giggling and sighing. Folds were being described as 'oh, you mean like an ice-cream cone' or 'Ah, a kipper tie!'

By the end of the session, we'd all managed something that looked like a heart and took away the instructions and more paper to have another go.

Twiddlemuffs

Our efforts making Twiddlemuffs continues. These intriguingly named items are to help dementia patients.

Each knitted twiddlemuff has items such as buttons and ribbons sewn on, so any help attaching these would be appreciated. If you'd like to help, please email Janet.Reid@dwp.gsi.gov.uk.

Here's a link to a pattern and more information about what they are and how they help patients:

http://www.repod.org.uk/downloads/Twiddlemuffs_Instructions_24-01-15.pdf.



Moray Supports Refugees

Anne Brown is supporting [Moray Supports Refugees](#) (MSR), along with a group of fellow crafters on the Facebook group 'Hookers and Clickers (do it for charity)'. They're making knitted/crocheted items for MSR to send to the refugee camps overseas that they support:

- blankets – 36" x 36" for children and single bed size for adults
- warm items of clothing for children and adults

If you'd like to donate any items you've made, Anne can include items in her parcels. Anne is also happy to take 12" knitted/crocheted squares to join into bigger blankets. This initiative will run until mid-May. Please contact Anne.P.Brown@dwp.gsi.gov.uk for more information.

Calendar of Events

We still have places on some of our events – if you'd like to attend, please email HassraLeeds.CraftClub@dwp.gsi.gov.uk and we'll get back to you.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>Saturday 17 Mar 2018</p> <p>4pm – 6pm</p> <p>2 places left</p> | <p>Glass Fusion</p> <p>Choose from:</p> <p>Standard: small hanging ornament, coaster, small dish or key ring fob</p> <p>Cost: £16.50 for members £33 for non-members</p> <p>Jewellery: make 4 items – necklace pendant, brooch, pair earrings</p> <p>Cost: £30 for members £60 for non-members</p> | <p>Twice Fired 21 Summerfield Road Farsley Leeds LS28 6EL</p> |
| <p>20 March 2018</p> <p>12:15pm- 1:15pm</p> <p>5 places left</p> | <p>Amigurumi dogs</p> <p>Come and crochet an amigurumi dogs for the Guide Dog Fund</p> <p>Tea, coffee, biscuits and chocolates provided</p> <p>Cost: Members: £1 Non-Members: £2</p> <p>Fees to be donated to the Guide Dog Fund</p> | <p>Room 1C05 Quarry House</p> |
| <p>Sunday 25 March 2018</p> <p>12noon – 2pm</p> <p>5 places left</p> | <p>Glass Fusion</p> <p>Choose from:</p> <p>Standard: small hanging ornament, coaster, small dish or key ring fob</p> <p>Cost: £16.50 members £33 non-members</p> <p>Lantern: lantern, bowl or candle arch</p> <p>Cost: £25 members £50 non-members</p> | <p>Twice Fired 21 Summerfield Road Farsley Leeds LS28 6EL</p> |
| <p>9 May 2018</p> <p>12:15pm- 1:15pm</p> <p>5 places left</p> | <p>Tea Bag Folding</p> <p>Find out how to turn small, decorative squares of paper into beautiful medallions and then make it into a greetings card.</p> <p>Cost: Members: £1 Non-Members: £2</p> | <p>Room GE08 Quarry House</p> |

| | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| <p>22 May</p> <p>12:15pm- 1:15pm</p> <p>5 places left</p> | <p>Felt doggie key ring</p> <p>Come and join us to make one or both doggie key-rings to sell in the guide Dog Fund shop.</p> <p>Tea, coffee, biscuits and cake will be provided</p> <p>Cost: Members: £1 Non-Members: £2</p> <p>Fees to be donated to the Guide Dog Fund</p> | <p>Room GE10 Quarry House</p> |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|

Come and Join Us!

Interested in joining the Craft Club? All we ask is that you're also a member of HASSRA. We meet regularly at lunchtimes in the canteen, the North Atrium or at a series of scheduled sessions.

At our AGM on 13 February, we voted in new officials and committee members, and agreed some major changes to our membership and refund policy – please email us if you'd like a copy. Membership fees for 2018 will increase to £10 per year, payable by 31 March, and we've adopted the same refund policy as HASSRA Leeds.

This year, only Craft Club members will receive:

- 40% reduction in the cost of any activities or events organised by the Craft Club
- refund of 40% (up to a maximum of £10) on any external craft activity or class undertaken (restricted to one claim per activity type per quarter)
- use of craft club resources
- access to shared folders and our virtual library
- members-only competitions and events
- monthly newsletter

For more details, please contact HassraLeeds.CraftClub@dwp.gsi.gov.uk and we'll get back to you. You can also request a copy of our brand new newsletter or follow us on Facebook – search for @HassraLeedsCraftClub