

The Trust will be hosting La Bohème on Saturday June 11th as part of a summer weekend of culture and entertainment

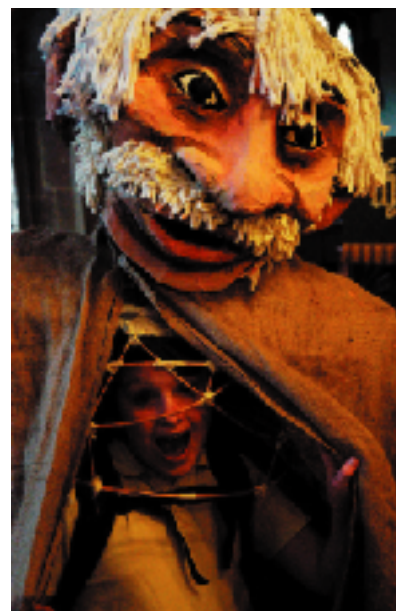
Local people enjoying a picnic at last year's performance of The Magic Flute

Opera Brava performance of Prince Caspian

Following the record-breaking audience of over 1,500 people at last year's Opera for All event at Newbury Racecourse, the Trust is once again teaming up with nationally recognised opera company Opera Brava who will be performing Puccini's finest score.

The opera, which is heavily subsidised, is part of the Trust's charitable initiative to make all genres of music and the arts accessible to the local community in West Berkshire and North Hampshire. The Trust is also supporting West Berkshire Minority Ethnic Forum's free Culture Fest, which is being held during the day on June 11th at the racecourse before the opera - an event celebrating the rich diversity of culture in our local communities.

As a prelude to the weekend of culture, we have asked Opera Brava to work with The Willows Primary School children in Greenham to put on a junior opera of Prince Caspian. Their efforts culminate in an open air performance on Friday June 10th before the main event at Newbury Racecourse.



Win a Picnic Hamper and a pair of free tickets to see La Bohème

To win simply answer this question:

When and where was the world premiere of La Bohème?

Please email your answer with a contact telephone no. to julian@greenham-common-trust.co.uk or post it to Opera Competition, Greenham Common Trust, Liberty House, Greenham Business Park, Newbury, Berkshire RG19 6HW

A winner will be drawn after the closing date of May 31st.

The Trust's chief executive Stuart Tagg says: "Opera for All is a fantastic opportunity for the whole community to experience a professional, high quality opera at an affordable price. So if you've never been to an opera before why not come down, bring a picnic and enjoy a wonderful evening out. What could be better than sipping a glass of wine, watching the sun set and listening to some of the finest opera in the country?"

Tickets cost just £10 (£8 concessions / children free) and are available from the Corn Exchange in Newbury, 01635 522733 or by visiting www.cornexchangenew.com. For more information please visit www.greenham-common-trust.co.uk

A horticultural therapy project, set up with the help of the Trust, is hosting an open day on Saturday May 21st to raise awareness and funds



The project is holding a free 'Food Smiles Day' between 10am and 4pm on May 21st with plant sales, competitions, hanging basket making and lots of fun events for the whole family to help people learn about the project and how they can volunteer and get involved.

Growing2gether is a fruit and vegetable growing project for those with physical and learning difficulties at Cottismore Park nursery between Headley and Kingsclere (RG20 4SY).

The Trust bought the Cottismore Nursery site in 2009 for Newbury Community Resource Centre (NCRC) and West Berkshire Mencap to build a horticultural therapy project next door to a commercial nursery.

Horticultural therapy manager Julie Walker teaching members in the greenhouse



The Growing2gether team pose for the camera with their newly grown plants

His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent is shown round the greenhouse at the Growing2gether



The project has gone from strength to strength and NCRC chief executive Kelvin Hughes added: "It has had a highly productive first year of operation. All of our outside growing beds are in place, the orchard has been fully planted, rainwater tanks constructed, access road and onsite drainage repaired, commercial greenhouse renovated and a fruit cage constructed. The next stage is to install an irrigation system. The vision and support of Greenham Common Trust was instrumental in the setting of the Growing 2gether Project. Their most recent generous grant of £5,891 will enable us to take the next step in developing the site into an excellent resource that can support participation in learning the skills of growing local food for all members of the local community and in particular those who a learning or physical disability."

For more information please contact 01635 299949 or visit www.growing2gether.org.

The 500-year-old choir will be adding St Nicolas Church, Newbury to its busy annual programme of concerts and overseas tours which includes a highly acclaimed tour to the US earlier this month.

Director of the Choir Dr Stephen Darlington said: "We are greatly looking forward to singing at this very special event in aid of two excellent cancer charities. This concert will be our first visit to Newbury for almost 20 years and in particular to St Nic's which provides such a wonderful venue."

The first nine concerts have raised over £130,000, which have been shared between two vital cancer charities: The Newbury & District Cancer Care Trust Macmillan Cancer Support.

Mr Myles of Beedon, who has benefitted from the Newbury cancer charity's support, said: "A big thank you to the Newbury & District Cancer Care Trust for providing the great transport service and helping me through my treatment. It was such a relief knowing that they were there and they did such a great job."

Macmillan Cancer Support celebrates its centenary this year and the charity's national President, The Countess of Halifax, will present the Appeal at St Nicolas Church.

Concert organiser Alastair Ogilvie said: "For some years we have considered having a Cathedral Choir to present the carols. We are so grateful to Greenham Common Trust for funding Christ Church Cathedral Choir's appearance in Newbury. We very much hope that our existing supporters will help with the usual additional costs."

The concert takes place on Saturday 3rd December at St Nicolas Church Newbury. Tickets for the concert will be available from early October and further details will be announced before the tickets go on sale.

Anybody wishing to sponsor the concert should contact Mr Ogilvie on 07810 170210.

The prestigious Christ Church Cathedral Choir will perform at the 10th Newbury Christmas Cancer Concert, thanks to the Trust



St Nicolas Church, Newbury



Christ Church Cathedral Choir