

# MARKET MAKERS

LISKEARD · CORNWALL

## MARKET MAKERS NEWS ~ 31 JANUARY 2022 ~



Welcome to the very first issue of our Market Makers newsletter – and thank you so much for signing up to receive these updates.

Our project has now been live for three months. In that time, we've been hard at work developing a range of plans which, despite the frustrations of the pandemic, are now starting to bear fruit.

Our programme of after-school-club activities is ready to roll out as soon as the Covid situation permits. These will comprise free introductory sessions in arts & crafts for children and their parents or carers, taking place at Liskeard's Hillfort and St Martin's primary schools. We're immensely grateful to these two schools for their support of this programme, and we very much appreciate the work that these key organisations are doing at this challenging time.

We'll also very soon be starting the delivery of our free [creative skills courses](#) designed for residents of Liskeard who aren't currently in work, devised to enhance our participants' wellbeing, confidence, skills, opportunities and prospects. We're planning to run four initial courses – in wood-crafting, fabric quilting, print-making and watercolour painting – and each will begin once it has recruited its cohort of participants. There are places still available on all these courses, so please contact us as soon as possible if you'd be interested in taking part. They're designed to be enjoyable, inclusive and welcoming, and are run by some truly lovely local craftspeople and artists.



We're also working to support, through [mentoring, promotion and networking](#), the development and growth of new creative enterprises and more established creative businesses based in Liskeard. We welcome all local artists and craftspeople who'd like to join our growing creative business network. We're very happy to publish profiles of our members' great work in the ['Meet Our Makers'](#) section of our website; and we'll be holding regular meetings and workshops for our creative business network from February onwards. Please let us know if you'd like to join.



We've meanwhile been busy promoting our activities and opportunities through social media and more

traditional media channels. Massive thanks are due to the Cornish Times and to BBC Radio Cornwall for the column inches and the airtime they've kindly afforded us over the last few months. Sincerest thanks are also due to the local businesses who've been kind enough to include our posters in their windows and to the community and church organisations who have very helpfully promoted our work to their members.

## Free training courses in arts and crafts Mentoring will help make hobbies into businesses

By KERENZA MOORE

A MAJOR new initiative to promote the arts and creative talent of Liskeard launches this month.

The Cattle Market Makers project is part of the ongoing regeneration of the Old Cattle Market site in Liskeard's town centre.

Since the town's historic cattle market closed in 2011, the site has lain empty, but work is now ongoing to build new business and arts facilities in this prime location. This will include a specially constructed space for local artists and craftspeople - a set of bespoke modular units to accommodate the making of their creative work.

As well as developing this new facility, the Cattle Market Makers team are offering one-to-one business mentoring and support for experienced artists and craftspeople to help them start their own businesses and to take those businesses to the next level of growth.

The team is also recruiting participants to a range of free training courses in arts and crafts, and is keen to hear from anyone interested. Aimed at beginners who would like to develop new skills, and interest learners who are looking to hone their craft, the courses are set to include fabric work, printmaking, wood carving and watercolours.

The scheme is managed by Liskeard Town Council and supported by European Structural and Investment Funds, Community Led Local Development and Cornwall Council.

These will be open to business of at least ten businesses will be



Old Cattle Market makers project in Liskeard has opened to the public and is now open to the public. Alec Charles, project manager, and Rachel Brooks, management board member, are seen in the photo. The project is supported by European Structural and Investment Funds.

### Free courses in arts/crafts

CATTLE Market Makers project manager Alec Charles with chair of the management board Rachel Brooks. The facility is set to open on the site in late summer 2022 - but the scheme is launching this month.

Schools, and places will be for children with an accompanying parent or carer.

The overall project is being managed by author and teacher Alec Charles, assisted by administrator Jack Rockcliffe-King.

"There's so much great artistic talent in Liskeard," said Alec. "We have to help support and promote that talent - and to help Liskeard take its well-deserved place on the region's arts and craft map."

Businesses who take part in the mentoring have the opportunity, if they wish, to provide informal mentoring to other arts and crafts people just starting out.

"The people we've been speaking to so far are very keen that they want to give back to this community of mutual support," said Alec.

It's expected that the physical facility will be open in late summer 2022 - but the scheme is launching this month.

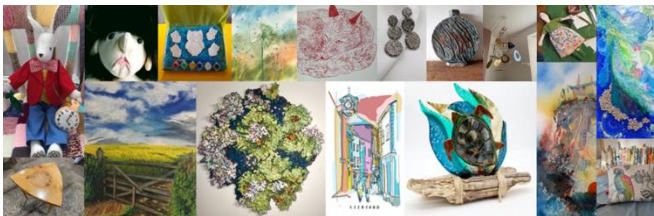
Delivered by local artists and craftspeople, the courses will run for three hours a week over five weeks, and materials are also provided free to participants.

Woodcraft, watercolour painting, print making and textiles are among the subjects to be covered.

To find out more visit [www.liskeard.gov.uk/cmm](http://www.liskeard.gov.uk/cmm), email [cmm.admin@liskeard.gov.uk](mailto:cmm.admin@liskeard.gov.uk), or call 0179 683063.

In January, we launched our [project website](#); and we were also very pleased to contribute a blog posting to the [20/20 Visions](#) urban planning site. Meanwhile, we've been reaching hundreds of people through our regular posts on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#). We've also enjoyed plodding the pavements of our lovely town, delivering thousands of flyers about our project to homes across Liskeard.

And, this week, we're planning to publish the invitation to tender for the construction of our specialist studio spaces which are scheduled to open in early autumn as part of the major redevelopment of the historic Cattle Market site in the centre of Liskeard, and which will offer affordable facilities for local craftspeople and artists.



So, we've been pleasantly busy; and we are enormously grateful to the people who have shown us

such kindness, welcome and support during our project's crucial early months - to the wonderful people of Liskeard, to our friends in so many splendid local and regional organisations, to our town's marvellous schools, churches and businesses, to our brilliant community of local artists and craftspeople, and of course to our utterly invaluable funders and supporters at Liskeard Council, Cornwall Council, Community Led Local Development and European Structural & Investment Funds.

And we are of course also hugely grateful to you for your interest and support, in our project to help local people use their creativity to make their mark and to enrich all our lives, to support opportunities for us all to play our parts in the regeneration of our beautiful town, and to give Liskeard its well-deserved place of prominence upon Cornwall's rightly celebrated cultural map.



So, if you'd like to be involved in anything we're doing, then please don't hesitate to let us know. We are always very happy to meet up for a chat. As we like to say, we're help to you make it.

With our very best wishes,

*Alec & Jack*

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