

# BOVEY PARADISO

Cinema • Café • Culture • Community

## THE KING'S CHRONICLE

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Keeping you in the picture with Bovey Tracey Paradiso Arts

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Image: birds nesting in the King of Prussia chimney



### From the Chairman

*Dear Supporter,*

*On behalf of the Directors of Bovey Tracey Paradiso Arts I hope you all had a good Easter break.*

*A lot has happened since we issued our January newsletter! Solutions have been developed to the serious structural issues uncovered and detailed reinforcement measures drawn up for these areas. We have lost some more time with further conservation / archaeological issues but do not anticipate further delay. The building work contract has been put out to tender to several building contractors with a closing date of Friday 10th May and we aim to appoint a contractor shortly after. We hope to have the contractor start on site soon after appointment and we will advise you of this date when fixed.*

*Our volunteers have almost completed all the work they can do prior to the building work starting and we thank the team of volunteers for the great amount of progress achieved. We now probably only have about three more Saturdays of volunteer work before we are ready for the building contractor. When the contractor finishes on site, volunteer work will recommence with interior decorating and other finishing and fit-out activities.*

*To remind you, phase 1 of the development is the building modifications and refurbishment of the Tudor heritage building which will allow the art gallery and studios to be opened. We will keep you informed on progress on this first phase which we are still targeting for completion in September.*

*Phase 2 of the project, building of the new cinema/theatre and café bar/restaurant, will begin later this year once we have raised enough grant funding to start. We are looking forward to another exciting and busy project phase but most of all to a new community life for one of Bovey's treasured old buildings.*

*Although the construction work is currently the major activity, in parallel we are working on many plans with our consultants on heritage recording, cinema/theatre design and of course fundraising.*

*Please note: we will not be opening during the Green Man Festival due to safety concerns.*

*Thank you for your continued support.*

*Stephen Willmore – Chairman*

## Introducing New Members of the Board of Directors.

We have pleasure in welcoming two new members onto the Board of Directors of Bovey Tracey Paradiso Arts Ltd. Following a request in our last newsletter David Alexander and Paul Housego have been co-opted onto the board and bring with them a wealth of expertise and enthusiasm.

**David Alexander** is a chartered accountant. He is a partner of Smith & Williamson, a top ten accounting and investment management firm, where he specialises in Forensic Accounting. Outside of work David has been treasurer of the Westfield Sports Car Club for the past 12 years and recently became company secretary of an award winning theatre company in Exeter. Having recently moved to the area from the Midlands with his wife Nicole, David is keen to add his expertise to this community project.



**Paul Housego** joined the Board in March 2019. He has been a solicitor for 40 years and a part time judge for over 25. He also works as a decision maker and adviser in professional regulation, now or previously with the regulation of solicitors, architects, nurses and midwives, chartered surveyors and actuaries. In his practice he has specialised in employment law.



## Volunteer Meeting



The Directors of Bovey Paradiso were delighted to see the number of potential volunteers who attended the volunteer information session in February. Thank you to everyone who came to see us.

For anyone who couldn't make it there's still plenty of opportunity to get involved whether it's getting the arts centre up and running, helping with publicity or being involved once the centre is fully open. Currently we are starting a heritage project involving recording people's memories of the King of Prussia and we are looking for people to share their stories to be part of the oral history of Bovey Tracey. If you are interested in helping out now or in the future please fill in your details on the form on our website via the button below-

Thanks again to Simon and team at [Dartmoor Whisky Distillery](#) for hosting.

[Volunteer here!](#)



### **We are excited to announce our first artist studio tenant!**

Emma Rendell, who runs [Pom Stitch Tassel](#), came to visit her future studio last weekend, to check on progress. Emma will be moving in as soon as the studio is ready, hopefully this October. We're pleased to see Emma is very excited and she's already planning where everything will go!

## **Sharing the Heritage of the King of Prussia**



We are very privileged to have Susan Bradshaw working with us on our heritage interpretation and presentation as part of our National Lottery Heritage Fund grant commitments. She will be co-ordinating various aspects of community engagement including an art competition and recording oral histories, working with Ian Barclay in partnership with the Bovey Tracey Heritage Trust.

Susan brings with her a varied portfolio of experience in cultural heritage including as a senior manager for the Institute for Conservation and as the developer of the Professional Accreditation of Conservator-Restorers. She may be familiar to some of you from the partnership work that she did with Icon and the Devon Guild of Craftsmen on the ACE funded Home Ground project with national football clubs and the programme of "Ask the Expert" events which were held at the Riverside Mill.

Look out for information about the art competition and other heritage related events which will be coming up soon.

# WANTED

## King of Prussia Photographs



Bovey Paradiso are working with the Bovey Tracey Heritage Trust to expand the collection of photographs of the King of Prussia. We are looking for inside and outside photographs, both more recent and historical; especially if they are showing the customers enjoying a social occasion.

### How you can help

Collect together your photographs or slides of the King of Prussia, put them in an envelope labelled 'King of Prussia' and a note inside giving the return address. If you would prefer us to collect your photographs, please just enclose your contact details. You can then hand them in (or if outside shop hours post through the letterbox) at either:

**Arnolds Hardware**, No.11 Town Hall Place (top of town) or

**Bovey Weavers**, No.1 Station Road (bottom of town, near car park)

We can digitise the photos we need and give you a print as well as returning the original. Alternatively you can scan them yourself and email a copy to us.

[Email us here](#)

## Plans for the Future



We may be talking a lot about the heritage of the King of Prussia building and its importance to the community but we haven't lost sight of what we have in store for the future so here's a reminder.

***Our vision is for an inclusive and accessible community space where a range of artistic and cultural opportunities are readily available for the enrichment and education of people of all ages***

Our vision is for a vibrant community space comprising:

- an art gallery and artists' studios
- a new 88 seat cinema/theatre
- a café bar and restaurant.

### **Affordable artist studio spaces**

The first floor of the King of Prussia building will be devoted to four working studio spaces for artists. The spaces are scheduled to be available by October 2019.

### **Gallery selling local artists work**

The ground floor of the King of Prussia building is to be a gallery area where local artists can sell their work in a much needed exhibition space. Many

original features will be reinstated including the Tudor screen and back to back granite fireplace. This will complement the limewashed style walls and flagstone floor as a backdrop to the artwork on display.

### **Cinema and Theatre**

To the rear of the King of Prussia building the Paradiso Cinema Theatre will be constructed. A state of the art sound box will be created where audiences will be able to enjoy current films, live relays, older films, film clubs, local theatre, small scale touring theatre, spoken word and music performance. Diverse audiences will be catered for including parent and baby, autism and dementia friendly screenings.

### **Cafe bar and restaurant**

Joining the Paradiso Cinema Theatre and the King of Prussia building there will be a glass-roofed atrium. Beneath this and extending into the gallery will be a cafe bar and restaurant. This will form a place to meet for all ages, to enjoy quality locally sourced food and drinks in a comfortable friendly environment.

## **What's Ahead for Spring 2019**

Plans for the structural changes been have finalised; the building works on the King of Prussia building tenders are due in by 10th May.

We are finalising the updating of the business plan which will be available to view on the website when it has been completed.

Funding bids are in progress, our professional fundraiser continues to support us with this.

We are beginning to contact volunteers, especially with reference to our heritage work.

Work on gathering stories and memories of the King of Prussia will be starting shortly as part of our heritage engagement with the community. If you have a story to tell get in touch via the 'Email us here' button above.

Look out for posters and leaflets about our art competition.

We are updating our website, giving it a fresh new look and making it more user friendly. We'll let you know when it's ready to view at the usual web address [www.paradiso.org.uk](http://www.paradiso.org.uk)

[Link to Paradiso website](#)

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