



What
can Arts
& culture
offer?

Torbay Arts and Culture Network

TORBAY

We are a **NETWORK** of arts and cultural organisations and individual practitioners who work in **TORBAY.**

We provide a comprehensive **CULTURAL OFFER** to deliver **HEALTH** and **WELLBEING** and **EDUCATIONAL** and **SOCIAL** outcomes. We work with commissioners and communities across the life course, putting **PEOPLE AT THE CENTRE.**

Committed to **CO-DESIGNING** models and ways of working, we bring grassroots knowledge, specialist creative skills and a flexible, responsive **COLLABORATIVE APPROACH.**

Our offer covers a wide range of **participatory activities** – including **dance, movement, music, drama, film, outdoor arts, heritage, literature, photography, creative consultation, radio, storytelling and visual arts.**

Programmes and projects can take place in a wide range of settings, from individual to residential homes, surgeries to hospitals and from schools to youth centres, as well as arts, museums and library venues, street corners, public spaces, and Torbay's unique natural environment.

INTEGRITY IS AT THE HEART OF WHAT WE DO
~ WE INVEST IN OUR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TO ENSURE THE BEST POSSIBLE EXPERIENCE FOR EVERYONE WITH WHOM WE WORK AND USE ROBUST EVALUATION TO EVIDENCE AND UNDERSTAND **IMPACT**
~ WE KNOW HOW TO ENGAGE WITH PEOPLE, WORK COLLABORATIVELY AND CONNECT WITH A VARIETY OF VOICES IN THE CREATION OF WORK.

Academic research shows that engagement and participation in arts and culture can:

support good health, wellbeing and positive clinical outcomes

improve attendance, attitude and attainment at school

enhance employability

address social exclusion and isolation

enable patient and public voice

bring economic benefit

contribute to community cohesion

The following four pages are a summary of how our expertise and ideas could support the DELIVERY of a range of OUTCOMES through the LIFE COURSE with EXAMPLES from network members.

BETTER START IN LIFE: 0-5 years

Healthy pregnancy, effective health messages

Journey through pregnancy: new mums design an alternative pregnancy booklet and set of cards with tips for new parents, as part of low birthweight reduction plan (Kate Green with Walsall Primary Care Trust)

School readiness

Creative **family learning workshops:** led by artists, supporting language and communication development and socialisation of pre school children (Daisi with Helen Foundation in Teignmouth)

Improved relationships and bonds between parents and children

HeArt: creative group for young parents and pre-school children, building parenting skills, self esteem, support networks (Nathalie Palin with Orleans House Gallery, Richmond)

Increased parenting skills

Space to play: early years music and movement project with 0-4 year olds and parents. Improving adult/child listening, confidence and socialisation (Hugh Nankivell, Steve Sowden, Pip Jones with Children in Need, Paignton)

DEVELOPING WELL: 5-17 years

Active citizenship

Social action through radio: outreach workshops and broadcasts at youth clubs and **Parkfield Xtreme radio station**, engaging young people in creatively representing their communities (Sound Communities, Torbay)

Torbay Quests: teams of artists working in partnership, enabling young people to explore local heritage sites, culminating in the creation of public quests with drama, song, dance, and digital work (Play Torbay with artists, Torquay Museum, Torre Abbey, Cockington Court, Greenway)

Educational attainment

Young music leadership: children developing as musicians with a high level of musicianship, learning to teach younger children and achieving Arts Awards (Wren Music, Torbay)

Obesity prevention

Funky food: spoof cooking programme with young people cooking healthy dishes, shared at a film premiere and also online (Kate Green, Torbay)

Emotional wellbeing, good mental health, reduction in anti social behavior and self harm

Inspirations and aspirations: at risk young people in supported housing be-friend and skill share with local older people and create artworks on identity themes for residential space (Participate Arts with The Foyer Federation/Awards For All, Plymouth)

Doorstep: weekly groups at five community centres providing a safe space for imaginative play, dance, music-making and creation of original theatre for children aged 4-20 (Doorstep Arts, Torbay)

Nurturing and supporting resilience and safe risk taking

Radio drama on **child sexual exploitation:** exploring impact of local peer-to-peer voice for raising awareness and reducing risk-taking behaviours (Sound Communities, Doorstep Arts, Fotonow, Torbay)

AGEING WELL: 50 years +

LIVING AND WORKING WELL: 18-64 years

Employability - increased confidence, aspirations and communication skills

QuayMoves: dance project with employment and careers service to support homeless young people develop communication skills and confidence for further education or employment (Dance in Devon with Exeter Foyer)

Active citizens, enhanced personal agency and public voice

Ageing Well: creative consultation 'houses' toolkit and Ageing Well conversation sofa tours Torbay asking the public questions about causes of social isolation in older people and solutions for change (Encounters Arts with Torbay Community Development Trust)

Community connectedness, place making

Geo Trio: guided, creative heritage walks around Torbay in an exploration of Torbay landscape through stories and songs, engaging with local communities in outdoor performances, workshops in schools, care homes, nurseries, drop-in centres (Hugh Nankivell, Tony Lidington, Phil Smith with UNESCO Global Geopark)

Inclusion, community connectedness

Chin Up: inter-generational oral history radio project collecting, editing, archiving and sharing memories of wartime entertainment, building bonds across generations (Promenade Promotions, Sound Communities, Doorstep Arts)

Falls prevention, positive activity during illness

Best Foot Forward: a dance for falls prevention project providing evidence-based exercise in motivating social dance sessions for people at risk of falling (Dance in Devon, Devon)

Positive ageing, maintaining decision-making and memory

Memorabilia: inspired by memories from older people in a care home, memory cafe and support group, a personalised tea service is made, decorated and used as well as songs, poems and artworks (Blazing Tales, Devon)

Social action, cultural volunteering

Rotary club volunteers choose and deliver **books to housebound people** in their own homes (Torbay Libraries, Rotary Club Torbay)

About Us: The Torbay Arts and Culture Network

Organisation: Blazing Tales. Contact name: Sara Hurley (Director). Blazing tales work across art forms to find new, creative ways of bringing stories to life, making voices heard and working with the arts to make a difference to people's quality of life and well-being. www.blazingtales.co.uk

Organisation: Brixham Heritage Museum. Contact name: Samantha Little. Brixham Heritage Museum provides opportunities, experience and fun across the life course. www.brixhamheritage.org.uk

Organisation: Doorstep Arts. Contact name: Erin Walcon (Director). Doorstep Arts creates high quality participatory theatre opportunities for children and young people in Torbay in accessible doorstep sites like schools, youth centres and church halls. www.doorsteparts.co.uk

Organisation: Daisi. Contact name: Liz Hill (Director). Daisi works in partnership with artists, educators and commissioners to enable arts and culture to enrich and inspire the lives, learning and futures of children and young people. www.daisi.org.uk

Organisation: Dance in Devon. Contact name: Sue Smith (Director). Dance in Devon is the county development agency for dance working with partners across the region to share the life-affirming, expressive and general health benefits of dance as an art-form. www.danceindevon.org.uk

Organisation: Encounters Arts. Contact name: Ruth Ben-Tovim (Creative Director). Encounters inspire creativity, dialogue and change, specialising in creative consultation and community engagement. www.encounters-arts.org.uk

Organisation: Wren Music. Contact name: Marilyn Tucker (Director). Wren Music is a professional, musician led music organisation working with people and their music in a range of settings. www.wrenmusic.co.uk

Organisation: Torbay Music Hub. Torbay Music Hub is a partnership of organisations working together to 'inspire and enable a musical journey for every young person in Torbay'. www.torbaymusicclub.co.uk

Individual: Steve Sowden. Steve Sowden is a community songwriter and documentary film maker working with diverse age/ability groups. www.vimeo.com/stevesowden

Organisation: Sound Communities. Contact name: Kate Rudman (Director). Sound Communities helps to connect, engage and inspire people through making and broadcasting radio. www.soundcommunities.co.uk

Organisation: Promenade Promotions. Contact name: Tony Lidington (Artistic Director). Promenade Promotions specialises in using popular entertainment forms to deliver accessible performances, residencies, workshops and events for all ages and abilities. www.prom-prom.com

Individual: Hugh Nankivell. Hugh Nankivell is a composer/musician delivering community, education and professional projects and as Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra associate for Devon he works on early years, family and older people's projects. www.naturalcauses.org.uk

Individual: Nathalie Palin. Nathalie Palin is a visual artist and cultural programmer. Her participatory work specialises in devising creative engagement programmes for children and young people. www.addwater.co.uk

Organisation: Torbay Music Service. Contact name: Annabelle Knowles (Music Development Coordinator). www.torbay.gov.uk/musicintorbay

Individual: Kate Green. Kate Green is a community artist specialising in engaging a broad range of people in projects that explore and communicate issues important to them using digital arts including sound, video, photography and animation.

Organisation: Play Torbay and Youth Cultural Partnership Torbay. Contact name: Tanny Stobart (Director and Chair, respectively). Play Torbay is a charity delivering a variety of creative activities and opportunities for children to play, working in partnership with organisations and local people. www.playtorbay.org.uk

Organisation: Participate Arts. Contact name: Gaby Lovatt and Becci Eriksson. Participate Arts develop and deliver creative programmes that connect with local communities, utilising their energy and imagination to make contemporary artworks together. www.participatearts.org.uk

Organisation: Torre Abbey. www.torre-abbey.org.uk

Organisation: Torquay Museum. www.torquaymuseum.org

Organisation: Torbay Library. Contact name: Liz Kent (Development Officer). www.torbay.gov.uk/libraries

The Torbay Arts and Culture Network can be contacted via **Kate Farmery** Executive Director of the Torbay Culture Board
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Some key documents which give the local and national context in which we are working:

Enjoy, talk, do, be - a cultural strategy for Torbay and its communities 2014-2024 (2014)
www.torbayculture.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Enjoy-talk-do-be-Strategy-document.pdf

Arts Council England (2014) The Value of Arts and Culture to People and Society
www.artscouncil.org.uk/media/uploads/pdf/The-value-of-arts-and-culture-to-people-and-society-An-evidence-review-TWO.pdf
Supporting infographic
www.artscouncil.org.uk/what-we-do/research-and-data/value-arts-and-culture-people-and-society-evidence-review/

Fujiwara, D., Kudrna, L. and Dolan, P. (2014) Quantifying and Valuing the Wellbeing Impacts of Culture and Sport Department of Culture, Media & Sport
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/304899/Quantifying_and_valuing_the_wellbeing_impacts_of_sport_and_culture.pdf

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