

Coral and the Glis Glis cover website - coralandtheglisglis.com

Local theme to children's book by actor Ras Barker

Those who move into this locality can be surprised by the local wildlife which share the area and sometimes our homes. This was certainly the case when actor and author Ras Barker gave up city life for the rural countryside of HP16. Investigating a noise in the cup-



Actor and author Ras Barker

board under the stairs, his gaze was met by the large beguiling eyes of, yes, the Glis Glis. Those who have suffered the impact of these attractive but destructive Rothschild imports, the largest of the dormouse family, will know the downside of finding they are cohabiting with this mischievous creature.

However, Ras decided to turn this meeting into a positive and finding the Glis Glis to be one of the very few animals that have not been 'Disney-fied', the idea for a children's book was seeded. Beautiful illustrations by friend Sar-

ah Shore were added to the story and a publishing deal achieved. Completed, printed and with all the marketing in place, including Waterstones book readings, COVID-19 struck, stalling the national roll out.

The story is of a new home in the country for Coral, age 6. Surely she's going to be super bored? Then Coral meets a mischievous animal - the Glis Glis. It's a heartwarming story of an unlikely friendship. Now, Ras is making the book available through his brilliant website or Waterstones at just £6.99. A great opportunity to 'support local' with this beautiful gift or stocking filler for this Christmas.

Stop press:

Coral and the Glis Glis is now available at Samways in Great Missenden. As long as stocks last the copies will be signed and the first 20 sales will receive a brilliant 'goody bag'.

coralandtheglisglis.com



'Goody bag' for first 20 Samways sales

Sacconi String Quartet concert

CHILTERN ARTS

On 5 March this year Chiltern Arts Festival held a concert in St Peter & St Paul's church in Great Missenden. A wonderful evening of lute music ending with percussionist Dame Evelyn Glennie playing a specially commissioned piece. Then lockdown came, live music stopped and that concert became a precious memory.

Plans are now underway for Chiltern Arts Festival 2021 (26 Feb - 6 Mar) which, clearly may or may not happen exactly as planned, but will certainly have audience safety and comfort as its priority. Six classical concerts have been announced with the Sacconi String Quartet at St Peter & St Paul's, Great Missenden on 4 March.

The theme this year is 'musical resonance' - exploring how music can

mean different things to individual listeners, telling a story or revealing an identity. The Festival will include concerts in Princes Risborough, Amersham, Henley-on-Thames, Marlow, Berkhamsted and Tring with music from the romantics to choral to tango performed by internationally acclaimed performers.

In Great Missenden, the Sacconi String Quartet open windows into composers' minds with works written as diaries or love

letters, including Dvorak's famous American quartet and Shostakovich's 8th string quartet.

Tickets, drinks and programmes can be pre-purchased online. If events are cancelled as a result of COVID-19, ticket holders will be offered a refund. Partial refunds will be offered where possible to any unable to attend due to track-and-trace-enforced isolation, so you can book with confidence.

Join Chiltern Arts next spring for something we should never again take for granted.

Online tickets: chilternarts.com/whats-on/

Box office phone: 01442 920303 (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm; Sat 10am-1pm)

COMPETITION TIME!

Win a pair of tickets for an event of your choice* at the Chiltern Arts Festival 2021

Simply answer the following question and email your answer to us at admin@chilternarts.com by 31st January 2021

Which composer, whose music features in the 2021 Festival, would have been celebrating his 100th birthday in 2021?

*Subject to availability. If concert of choice is sold out, a suitable alternative will be offered. One pair of standard tickets is available and the winner will be chosen at random from correct answers received before midnight on 31st January 2021.

Online illustrators' fair

In a trendy East London industrial building, which is home to Michael Czerwinski's Studio Tucktite, an idea was forming to run an online illustrators' fair. And from her equally trendy (maybe) and cool (perhaps) home in Prestwood, Holly Burrows was thinking the same thing... On seeing a social media post by Michael, Holly got in touch and ... @Illustratorsfair was born.

The creative industries have suffered hugely during this pandemic. The cancellation of physical fairs represents a significant loss of income for independent artists, so the creation of an online campaign to support the illustration community seemed the right thing to do. Holly and Michael are giving up their time voluntarily and have made the fair free to join in recognition of these difficult times and have been overwhelmed by the positive responses received so far. In fact, the one and only Sir Quentin Blake got in touch to give his formal approval. His eminent statement consisted of the word "Whoopee!"

The fair showcases work by illustrators based locally, nationally and internationally and runs from the 1 - 14 December so you'll need to be quick! Search 'Illustrators Fair' on Instagram and Facebook for your unique, fresh and last-minute illustrated Christmas gifts and cards. It's also a great platform for retailers to search for new suppliers to make



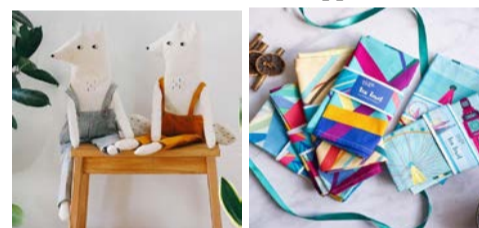
Flyer by @laura_boswell_printmaker (local artist)



Local illustrator @samossie their offering really stand out on the high street for the new year!

Holly is also selling her merchandise through her website shop and 10% of all sales of her 'HS2 animals' collection will be donated to the Woodland Trust.

<http://www.hollyburrows.com>



@danaiesgo

@southislandart



@themarchingpencils

@nothingbutheruth



Holly Burrows - HS2Animals_setof6

Prestwood book group



Some of the books read by Prestwood book club

Prestwood book group has been running successfully in the local area since 2013 and still has some of its original members.

It is a daytime book group. Each month a book is chosen from a list of six possible suggestions, drawn up from members' recommendations. The books to be read cover a diverse range of subjects and are selected from biographies, memoirs and non-fiction, through to classic and contemporary novels and prize-winning fiction. So hope-

fully, there is something to suit everybody! The writers and novelists' works are centred not only in the UK and the USA but from all round the globe. The books chosen are always available in paperback or on Kindle. For January 11 the book will be *An American Spy* by Lauren Wilkinson.

Before COVID-19, members used to meet monthly, normally on Monday mornings, on either the first or second Monday in the month. Prior to lockdown, meetings were held at The Polecat to chat, catch up and discuss the book for the month. Since March, monthly meetings have taken place over the internet via Zoom and are just as enjoyable. The only costs involved are the price of the book and a coffee! If anyone who loves reading and talking about books would like to join, please get in touch with Val Deane either by

email val.deane@btinternet.com or phone 07976 645327.