West Waterlooville Arts Programme update June 2025

MEET THE TEAM



Community facilitator Gail Howard

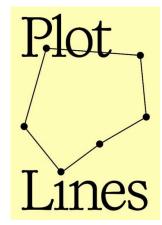


Writer (in residence)

Aoife Mannix



Evaluators Siân Rosa Hunter Dodsworth & Henry Mulhall



Designer SOUP



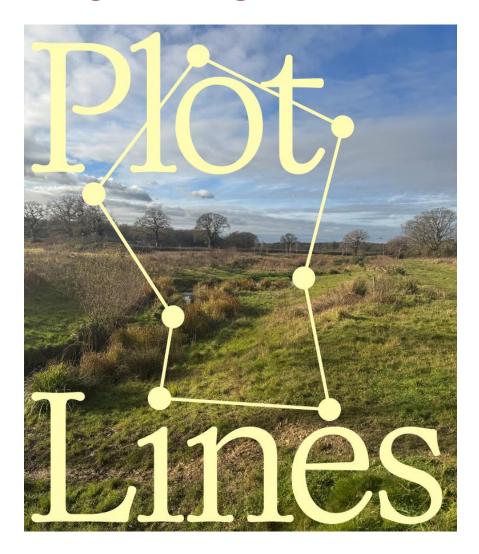
Arts Partner ArtfulScribe



Programme managers Studio Response



PLOT LINES



Led by artists and writers and using the power of storytelling and words to connect people, Plot Lines aims to gather, listen to and share your stories and anecdotes from living in and near Waterlooville.

LIBRARY WORKSHOP



VE DAY FETE



CROSSING NEWLANDS



How to Survive Rations

A poem by Aoife Mannix based on stories from the residents of Wellington Vale Care Home

You ain't tried nothin' till you try bread sop, I'm telling you it's absolutely top!

Take a slice of white, smear the margarine, so thick and yellow it's almost obscene.

Shake salt and pepper for plenty of spice, dip in hot water, it's ever so nice!

But don't you try to hug a doodlebug.

Maybe a doodlebug sounds like a sweet,
but a doodlebug ain't no treat to eat!
It's a flying bomb with a killer buzz,
the most evil creature that ever was.

First time I ate a banana, my Mum went bananas cos we'd never seen one. She screamed the little black pips inside were rotten, just poison trying to hide in the weird curve of a boomerang fruit but I ate it cos I thought it was cute.

In the war food was hard to find you see, you needed a book for sugar and tea. Even for meat, milk, eggs and cheese, no matter how many times you said please, no matter if you got down on your knees, they'd only give extra cod liver oil or what veggies you'd grow in your own soil.

We dreamed of pear drops, lemon sherbets, Barley sugar twists, jellybeans, flying saucers, cola cubes, candy sticks, rhubarb and custard, dolly mixtures, brandy balls, Fry's Five Boys chocolate bars, nougat, liquorice, toffee and more. Peace was a dream of sweets and all the treats we longed to eat!

CAREER PATHWAYS EVENT







NEW WRITING

For me, to be a writer is to listen. It is to collect small observations, quotations, images, jokes, tales of humour and heartbreak. I see myself as a magpie constantly in search of everyday treasures.

Aoife Mannix

A fanciful bird popped out of the long grass and entered the ditch beside us. It was an Egret. It was, I confess, my first time seeing one. It had ridiculous yellow feet and a ponytail, and I suppose this is not only a perk of living here but one of its main attractions; nature on your doorstep...

Amelia Simpson

Pink baby ballerinas
twirl in a glass window
on the edge of red brick
roads.
Following the sign of the
crane
through a bleak February
morning
when the builders blast
their radio
against the deep chill of
just missed snow.

Aoife Mannix



JOIN IN ONLINE

Join

What thing from home holds the most meaning to you?

Question 1 Question 2 Question 3

Ouestion 4

Answer

Draw

Write

Image



23 April 2025 at 12:03

Sunday roast cooked either by my Dad or my husband, with an oldschool pudding too, like pineapple upside down cake, or bread and butter pudding. Yum! 21 March 2025 at 09:00 Photo in silver, my mother pushing a pram, I am the baby!





COMMUNITY CALL OUT

Two new groups are being set up—one for adults, and one for young people aged 14 and over—to help imagine, initiate and shape future creative projects in the area. Group members will take part in regular sessions (a mix of inperson and online), meet new people, and explore what creativity can look like in public spaces.

Could your voice help to shape something new in the area?



COMING SOON

- Information and postcards to be included in the June Berewood News letterbox drop, in partnership with Grainger.
- Plot Lines in the Landscape 15 June, in partnership with Hampshire and IOW Wildlife Trust and Dragonfly Arts a walk of the nature reserve with Aoife/Gail which will focus on map making and creative writing.
- First meeting of the community panels scheduled for July.
- July and August Season of workshops with older residents with Hannah and Kim, in partnership with Wellington Vale care home.

FUTURE PLANS

Ideas in development phase (subject to change):

- Fig. Linking an event to Heritage Open Days in September
- Linking an event to Winchester Poetry Festival and the Hampshire Poet in October
- Offering online sessions over the winter months when people are less likely to venture outside
- Fig. Linking with Waterlooville town centre art project