

Sarah Bracey-Art Projects Undertaken with Creative Space



I belong to a very small artist's co-operative called Creative Space which is based in Harlow. We specialize in community art projects. Most of the projects below have been undertaken by me Sarah Bracey and mainly one other long standing member. We make joint decisions but undertake work on a 50/50 basis from preparation, to workshops, to creating the final piece and sighting.

However, we have recently had 1 new members join us.

The format for these is often very similar providing good relevant images or objects to work from, examples of artist techniques and possible end creations, demonstrations and direct on hand support.

The workshops allow lots of experimenting with ideas and materials.

Harlow Shop Hatches Mosaics 2014-15

Working with local Primary Schools, on Iconic Harlow Images and images for the Queens Jubilee. The children helped design the mosaic tiles layout.

Hayes, London. Wildlife Festival-'Create Local Butterflies, Moths and their Caterpillars' 2013

Drop-in workshop for all making 3D butterflies with moving wings and embossed copper caterpillar bookmarks.

Harlow Town Park Paddling Pool Leaf Mosaic's 2012

Working with young people on community service, we taught mosaics based on leaves found in the town park. Large permanent leaves were mosaic using broken glass due for recycling at the local glass factory.

Harvey Centre Vacant Shop, -'Harlow Town Centre Birds Mural' 2012

Public drop-in workshop to create birds that can be seen in the town center to display as a scene in the shop.

Epping Forest Museum 2011

Big Draw-Drop in workshop to create a clock design based on museum artifacts.

Harvey Centre Window Works, 'Pedestrians', Harlow Town Show 2009

Using photocopies of Harlow Architecture the public coloured and placed these images on ready cut plywood figures at a drop in work-shop. The figures being life size profiles with mirrored faces to represent passing by shoppers.

This was commissioned by Harlow Renaissance for a vacant shop window.

The Museum of Harlow, 'The History of Harlow and 60th Anniversary Wall Hanging' 2009

This was to celebrate the history of Harlow. It has a series of square and rectangular panels each representing a different aspect of the town, e.g. old and new transport, coins, interiors and so on.

The materials used are marine plywood, concrete casts and indented metal.

This was funded by Harlow Council 60th Anniversary funds.

Follow on workshops were also held at the museum for members of the public to make their own art works using a similar approach as we did for the wall hanging.

Ocassio House, the Foyer, Harlow-Textiles and Drawing 2009

This project was working with young people who use or live in The Foyer in Harlow. They were given the opportunity to experiment with printing and fabric.

They also transferred their personal drawings to fabric and print blocks and onto metal.

This was funded by East Thames Housing.

Peterswood Infants School, Harlow-'The River Stort Mural' 2009

Copper images and printed images were made by the nursery children based on fish from the local river. We (the artists) then assembled the images to create a river mural for their outside play area.

Woodland river scene of the Seasons-Window Work 2008-2009

A scene of local woodland with the river running through it has been created. It has and will carry on changing with the seasons. The actual scene is flat layers with a pop up book effect in an empty shop unit in Harlow. Art workshops in various settings with a broad cross section of the local community have been and will be the place to produce animals and plants that you would find locally. A variety of materials and techniques are being used. This was supported by Harlow Council Arts and Harlow Renaissance and funded by An Awards for All grants.

***Parndon Wood Nature Reserve, Harlow-'Giant Creatures 2008**

On a walk around the reserve woods with junior children from Church Langley School we collected natural loose objects found on the ground. From images of creatures that are found in Parndon Woods they drew into the ground with sticks and then create their creature with their found objects. These were up to about 6 foot long.

Waterlane Schools Project, Harlow-'River Fabric Hanging' 2008

The theme was the local river and we produced a fabric hanging that represented the different flora and fauna found there.

The junior children made their own printing block which they applied directly. They also painted directly onto the fabric creating a cross section view of the river and the sky.

This is an annual art project with Harlow schools organized and funded by Harlow Councils Arts Officer ending with an exhibition at the Gibberd Gallery.

Ocassio House, the Foyer, Harlow-'Dancing Figures Mural' 2008

This was working with young housing residents and visitors to Ocassio House. The theme was music, African Culture and famous artists. They made various printing blocks which they printed on to ready cut plywood shapes. They worked into plasticine filled dishes which we cast into concrete with them. They also used photo sensitive fabric to reproduce their drawings. The main final components were laid out for them to create dancing figures.

These 'figures' and other components were then fixed to a plywood base to form a dance scene mural. This was sighted in their communal stairwell.

This was funded by East Thames Housing Association.

Peterswood Primary School, Harlow-'Drawing Sessions' 2007-8

This was a yearlong project teaching drawing to the infant children. Initially it was based on the 'Take a Picture' idea run by The National Gallery. However we ended up doing step by step drawing of natural objects, the human form and teaching aspects such as perspective.

This was funded by the school.

Parndon Wood, Harlow-'Welcome Sign' 2007-08

This was a very similar approach as the Parndon Wood 'Bird Hide Panels' (see below). We ran a drop in session for the public to create images of the flora and fauna of the wood. The public, children and adults, made printing blocks and worked into copper and aluminum. These images and components were then put together to produce the final piece.

This was funded by Harlow Council.

The Common Room, Harlow-'Blinds' and 'Copper Frieze' 2007-08

We took photos of the local architecture in Bishopsfield, Charters Cross and Gibson Court in Harlow. These dynamic images were then used for all the local residents to produce printing blocks, fabric collages, photo fabric images and copper indented panels. We the artists then applied their prints, fabric collages and photo fabric images to readymade roller blinds for the local Common Room. The coppers were mounted into a frieze also for the communal Common Room.

This was funded by East Thames Housing Association.

Peterswood Primary School, Harlow-'Nativity Backdrop' 2007

Working with different classes we used printing and fabric collage to create a traditional scene for their Nativity play. The end piece consisted of a vibrant fabric backdrop.

The school funded the project.

Empty Shop Unit, Window Works, Harlow-'Diamond Fabric Hanging'. **2007**

To celebrate Harlow's diamond anniversary we ran a drop-in printing workshop day based on this theme. Printing blocks to represent cut diamonds were made by children and adults. These images were then printed onto a variety of different fabrics which we (the artists) fixed to large pieces of black fabric that completely filled the windows of an empty shop. This project coincided with part of the town's regeneration plan to enhance and attract people into the under used areas of the town centre shopping area. This was jointly funded by Harlow Council, Harlow Renaissance and The Harvey Centre Shopping Centre.

The Common Room, Harlow-Youth Project. **2007**

We provided youth sessions as part of a programmed of activities for local young people. They were able to produce their own printed t-shirt and framed copper work. The theme was sport and music. Those participating could print onto a provided t-shirt and onto paper to take home. These projects were funded by East Thames Housing Association.

Women Network-'Jewellery Wire and Beading Session'. **2007**

This was within one of the Women's Refuges in Harlow.

I taught basic jewellery techniques using beads and wire that they could make their own jewellery on the day to take-away for themselves, family and friends. The Women's Network funded this.

Harlow Town Show-Family Drop Ins. **2004-07**

'Bird in a Bag' mobiles and 'Butterfly on a Stick'-card, stickers, felt pens, glitter and glue.

'Robot Models'-food and drink packaging, various tapes, stickers, pipe cleaners, felt pens, plastic pegs and card.

'Optical Illusions'-black and white tape and card.

'Planet and Disc Mobiles'-card, tape, stickers, string and felt pens.

These are family drop in sessions within the 'Arts Tent' at the annual show. They are funded by Harlow Council through Kelly Lean.

The Downs Primary School, Harlow-'Bird Totem'. **2006-07**

The children made card Marquette's of local birds, printing blocks of the bird's habitat and copper indentations of the bird's food.

The birds were then scaled up for children to add detail to and see what the final size would look like. These birds were then cut from thick marine plywood with the children's detail burnt into the wood by us the artists. Their printing blocks and copper work was then applied before erecting.

This was funded by Awards for All grant that we helped the school apply for.

Pets Corner 40th Anniversary Family Day, Harlow-'Anniversary Plaque'. **2006**

The public made their own print block of one of the animals which was printed with acrylic onto paper for the public to take home. At a later date these blocks were then used to acrylic print onto plywood and concrete cast. The other artist and myself used copper and burning into wood for the text.

Pets Corner 'Entrance Sign'. **2006**

A new sign was also made based on the public's animal drawings by us (the artists) copying them into plasticine and then casting into concrete square tiles. Stone mosaic tiles were also cast by 'us'. These square tiles were then used to create the letters for the sign.

For this project we liaised closely with Pets Corner a Harlow Council run facility.

This was funded by an Awards for All grant.

Parndon Wood Nature Reserve, Harlow-'Wildspace Project'. **2006**

'Bird Hide Panels'

At Parndon Woods annual May Craft Fair we set up a block printing and copper indenting workshop. This was a 'drop-in' for the visiting public, (children and adults). The theme was Harlow's local nature reserves. The public took a paper copy of their printing block home but left us with the actual block and copper work. These were then applied to wooden panels, each representing a different nature reserve and permanently screwed the interior walls of one of their bird hides.

'Commemorative Screen'.

This was produced with a youth group and a public drop-in session. This was done by printing onto fabric panels to represent all the different aspects of Parndon Wood. The final composition and additions were done by us the artists.

There was a mixture of funding for these projects which included Harlow Council, English Nature and The National Lottery.

Gibberd Gallery Art Projects, Family Drop Ins-Harlow. **2006**

'Gerta Rubinstein Mini Sculptures'-black pipe cleaner, card, tape and crepe paper.
'Robot Models'-food and drinks packaging, various tapes, stickers, pipe cleaners and felt pens.
'African Masks'-black and white card, various tapes, paper straws, stickers, feathers and felt pens.
'3-D Sculptures'-geometric patterns onto flat card shapes using various tapes, stickers and felt pens. These were then slotted together to create their own mini sculpture.
These are family workshops that are for children and adults. They were funded by Harlow Council through Kelly Lean the Arts Development Officer.

Women's Network Family Day, Harlow. **2006**

This consisted of a workshop for a local women's group and their children. Women from the local refuge also were invited. This involved plaster casting their plastasine dish designs and printing.
This was funded by the Health Authority.

Saga/Wessex Club-Harlow. **2006**

This was a local Afro Caribbean group of children and adults that we provided short workshops similar to those mentioned for other workshops.
The 'Club' funded the projects.

Science Alive-Harlow. **2006**

Drop-in workshops to create planets and robots, using pre-cast semi-circular spheres, paint, wire hoops, clear sticky discs, tape, stickers, glitter and food packaging. This was for children and their carers.
This was jointly funded by Harlow Council and Science Alive.

Paringdon Junior School, Harlow-'Court Yard Relief'. **2005-06**

The theme was local insects which the children studied from photos. They represented them as printing blocks and working into dishes of clay. The clay images were then cast in concrete. The prints were applied to giant wooden leaves and the concretes fixed on to these.
The above projects were for Essex County Council with lottery funding secured by the Homework Club Co-coordinator.

Homework Clubs-Harlow-'Murals' **2004-05**

These were mixed media collage pieces for 'The Homework Club' venue with a specific theme for each. The children were primary and secondary aged pupils.

There was additional money to also run the following three projects.

'Art Workshops'-mobile making, plaster-casting and printing with Harlow primary aged children in their schools.

'Library Panels'-mixed media collaging with Harlow Fields Special School.

Images of such project can be found on our website <http://creativespaceharlow.weebly.com>