

**BUCKS OPEN STUDIOS 2010**  
**CELEBRATES ITS SILVER ANNIVERSARY**  
**WITH THE LARGEST NUMBER OF EXHIBITIONS EVER**  
**12<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> June 2010**

Twenty-five years ago the first brochure introduction to Bucks Open Studios read *‘The purpose is to allow the Visual Images and Crafts to speak directly to the Buckinghamshire public; to show the range and quality of work being carried out; to give visual artists and crafts people the opportunity to demonstrate their importance to the fabric of the county.’* This still holds true today. The difference is the number of participants and the range of work has increased enormously.

The 1986 event had 43 exhibiting venues which included 28 artist open studios. Twenty-five years later the number has increased to 258 venues with 448 exhibiting artists and makers, up 20% on last year alone. Of the original 28 founding artists who opened their studios in the first year, 8 are still active in the BOS organising body Visual Images Group. And of these 8 artists 2 have gone on to receive national success - **Benedict Rubbra**, and **Chris Orr** (who is now a Royal Academician).

Bucks Open Studios is the perfect way for everyone to experience the wealth of artistic endeavour that normally goes unseen in the county. All exhibitors offer a warm welcome, some light refreshments, and are happy to answer questions without any obligation to buy. Last year a record 25,000 visitors made their way around the homes, studios, workshops and galleries and spent a staggering/record breaking £250,000.

Several founding members are exhibiting this year. **Mary Orrom** first took part in 1986. This year she is exhibiting her some of the work she has created over the last 20 years together with more contemporary sculptures in her characterful terraced garden.  
[http://www.bucksopenstudios.org.uk/exhibitor\\_details.asp?id=564](http://www.bucksopenstudios.org.uk/exhibitor_details.asp?id=564)

**Queens Park Centre**, Aylesbury, which also participated in the initial event, is showing again this year. The exhibition of figurative and abstract work is by **Jane Hooper, Marian Hyland, Sally Ibbett, Diana Noel**, and **Lorna Townsend**.  
[http://www.bucksopenstudios.org.uk/exhibitor\\_details.asp?id=522](http://www.bucksopenstudios.org.uk/exhibitor_details.asp?id=522)

**Commercial Studios** in High Wycombe plays host to the largest number of exhibitors in this celebratory year; seventeen artists will be showing contemporary artwork - painting, drawing, ceramics, glass, mosaic, photography, printmaking, textiles, sculpture and restoration. [http://www.bucksopenstudios.org.uk/exhibitor\\_details.asp?id=777](http://www.bucksopenstudios.org.uk/exhibitor_details.asp?id=777)

There are two principal ways of finding out who is showing this year and opening times; the full colour 2010 brochure which will be available late May can be found in Tourist Information Centres, libraries, galleries and other public places. All of this year's venues can now be viewed online at [www.bucksopenstudios.org.uk](http://www.bucksopenstudios.org.uk), and there is also a full search facility available to help identify venues of interest, in a given locale and opening times.

**NOTES TO EDITORS**

**For further press information including a colourful collection of high resolution images contact Tei Williams 01869 337 940 or [artsmarketing@btconnect.com](mailto:artsmarketing@btconnect.com)**