

SPRING TERM 2022

# THE PGH NEWS

Rugby's Independent Adult Education Centre

## Glad to be back

A very Happy New Year to all our students - we are glad to be back! As the pandemic continues to be present, we maintain all our health and safety measures in the building so we can welcome you in safety during the Spring Term. Most classes are taking place in person; there are also some on Zoom.

You won't be cold at the Guildhouse during the winter months - our air purifiers will maintain air quality for your safety but you will be able to close the windows to stay warm. As always, we respectfully request that you do not come to the Guildhouse if you are feeling unwell.

## New Year, New Refreshments!

As many of you will know, Claire Treanor (our Catering Manager) has left to start another job; we thank her for all her hard work and commitment over the last 6 years.

Given our perilous financial situation and the fact that the catering department has always had to be subsidised, we have reluctantly decided that we cannot replace Claire. Instead, our practical solution is to install a hot and cold drinks vending machine in the kitchen for you to use. If you wish to bring your own drinks or lunches, you are still very welcome to sit in the lounge to eat and drink.

The machine is up and running and provides free chilled water as well as a range of other hot and cold drinks all priced at £1.00. We really appreciate your understanding and support of these unavoidable changes.

## This issue:

Glad to be back  
PAGE 1

New Year,  
New Refreshments!  
PAGE 1

---

Please help us keep the  
Guildhouse alive  
PAGE 2

---

Saturday Dayschools  
PAGE 3

Dates for your Diary  
PAGE 3



## Please help us keep the Guildhouse alive

Delving through our archives we unearthed this treasure - the poem of "Percy Guildhouse". Written in 1981 the poem laments the financial difficulties which plague the Guildhouse and celebrates the amazing fighting spirit of the staunch supporters who leap to its defence! It's an inspiring read and more than just a piece of history because it's as true today as it was then.

Last year was a very challenging period with low enrolment numbers and correspondingly low income for the Guildhouse. At the AGM in December our Treasurer outlined PGH's financial situation: we only survived last year thanks to the generosity of donations from our members, by applying for government grants and by calling upon our own financial reserves.

However, a shortfall of around £40,000 is predicted this year if student numbers do not get back to pre-COVID levels.

### You can help!

As we have already depleted our reserves, our options are more limited this year. We are already exploring all the funding avenues we can and we would be very grateful for any suggestions of new sponsors we could approach.

Another way to help is to keep enrolling on courses yourself and to spread the word to your friends and family. We already know that word of mouth is the single most successful way of encouraging new students to the Guildhouse and more students will help us continue to stay afloat.

Gift aiding any donation you choose to make increases the value of your gift by 25% at no cost to you so please gift aid if you can.

### Thank you!

The Percival Guildhouse has always been more than just a centre for education, it has a community spirit which has never been more in evidence than during the pandemic; we have been humbled by the support and passion which you have shown for the charity you love. We will fight hard to keep the Guildhouse going and we are inspired by your continued support.

### Percy Guildhouse (Anon: May 1981)

We no longer can maintain you,  
your usefulness is past,  
They said to Percy Guildhouse, And  
they held the purse strings fast.

"What's that I hear my hearties."  
Said supporters, suffering shocks,  
"We dearly need our Percy, We  
must drag him off the rocks".

" He's done so much for Rugby, His  
history's written down,  
As an educational centre he's An  
asset to the town!

The captain jumped aboard him,  
Fixed a flag upon the mast,  
"I 'm damned if we will let him sink,  
Come on folks, hold him fast !"  
There was dry rot in the mainsail,  
And his boilers suffered blight,  
But the crew when once aboard  
him, Worked hard and put him  
right.

They fund-raised, begged and  
pleaded, Funds slowly trickled in,  
Then the fire regulations, Were a  
blow upon the chin.

When the money was forthcoming,  
and equipment was supplied,  
A squad of busy volunteers, Paint  
and paper then applied.

And so the Percy Guildhouse, Still  
stands here strong and true,  
Financially still shaky, He needs  
some help from you.





## Saturday Dayschools: Enrol now!

All dayschools will take place from 10am to 4pm in person.

### Saturday 12 February 2022

- Hedgerow Frame Baskets



- Digital Photography for Beginners
- Needle Felting for Beginners



- Life Drawing
- Guitar for Beginners
- Spanish for Holidays

### Saturday 2 April 2022

- Watercolour Animals



- Shibori and Tie-Dyeing
- Papercrafting for Pleasure



- Holiday Italian
- Spanish for Holidays

## Dates for your Diary

### Summer enrolment:

**21 MARCH - 1 APRIL 2022**

Current students - re-enrol now to keep your place!  
New students - please enquire for vacancies

**4 APRIL 2022 ONWARDS**

Anyone can enrol if there is space

**25 APRIL 2022**

Summer Term begins

### Spring & Summer Term:

Sat 12 Feb 22: Spring Dayschools

21-25 Feb 22: Spring Half term

Sat 2 April 22: Spring Dayschools

Mon 11 - Tues 19 April 22: PGH Closed

Wed 20 April 22: Office opens

Mon 25 April 22: Summer Term begins

Sat 21 May 22: Summer Dayschools

30 May - 3 June 22: Summer Half term

Sat 25 June 22: Summer Dayschools

## Art Exhibition:

**21 March - 1 April**

This year we are going to repeat the virtual Art Exhibition format that was so successful last year.

Pictures will be posted on our Instagram

@thepercivalguildhouse  
and Facebook

@percivalguildhouserugby  
for two weeks from 21 March.

If you would like one of your paintings, drawings or craft creations to feature in the exhibition, please email [contact@percival-guildhouse.co.uk](mailto:contact@percival-guildhouse.co.uk)

All types of art, created at the Guildhouse, are welcome.

## In-house Plant Sale



**Please grow flowers and veg for the Guildhouse!**

Plant your seeds now for a week-long plant sale starting 23 May!

