

Press Release

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April 31st 2018

Subject: **TINNERS MOON FESTIVAL** ASHBURTON ARTS CENTRE - MAY 4-13

Tinnners Moon: A Festival for Everyone

The newest arts centre in South Devon opens its doors for its first ever festival this weekend. With something for everyone of all ages, and lots of free activities, The Tinnners Moon Festival aims to be a celebration of creativity, from gardening to a community cabaret, via world class Jazz and a Musical about biscuits, from the Edinburgh Fringe.

Chair of Ashburton Arts, Su Maddock explains, "Dartmoor Tinnners, with their ancient symbol of the three hares and the moon, traditionally held a May Day festival called the Tinnners Moon and this event revives that for 21st Century Ashburton."

Acclaimed Dartmoor folk choir, The Lost Sound, kicks off events on Friday, then on Saturday at the Community Cabaret, adults and children alike are invited to take to the stage. Ashburton is also attracting international talent, including a top jazz trio on Wed 9th and Guy Fishman, principal cellist with Boston Handel Society on 13th May. A star event will be Philip Reeve's hilarious musical the "Ministry of Biscuits" which has received rave reviews.

Ashburton Festival Association has organised an unusual range of free workshops and performances for its World Event this Sunday including Bengali singing, Japanese drumming, Flamenco dance plus craft workshops, with lots for families to enjoy including Mexican Food.

Su Maddock adds, "Tinnners Moon is also a chance to raise funds to help us transform the building - we raised an incredible £180,000 from our community to buy the Methodist Church and start the Arts Centre and we now need to raise finance for minor repairs and major refurbishment. We should mention Jo Giles from Ashburton Post Office, who has just returned from a major tour of POs at the end of all corners of the UK raising over £2,000 to help us. We are so grateful to all donors and really hope they and arts lovers from across the area will enjoy the Tinnners Moon Festival.

"Ashburton Arts is aiming to be an umbrella and catalyst for the Arts locally as well as a venue. Where Tinnners Moon celebrates performing arts, in a few week's time, the old Church will be transformed by 11 local artists into a contemporary visual arts space with some amazing work specially created in response to the building, its history and its future."

Tinnners Moon Festival takes place from 4-13th May in the Centre on West Street in Ashburton. Full programme at ashburtonarts.org.uk.

Dr Su Maddock Chair
ENDS

A Dropbox folder has been set up for the event containing images and logos etc. To download the folder please go to:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/mx4lqj9yb6uv1p3/Ashburton%20Arts%20-%20Tinnners%20Moon%20festival.zip?dl=0>