

beafordarts

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New Perspectives

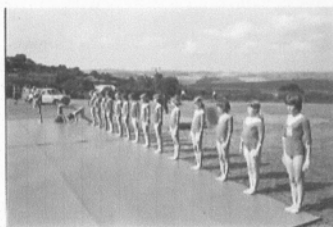
This year Beaford Arts is 50 years old

Would you like to share with your community an exciting photographic project to celebrate this?

We are looking for volunteers to champion our New Perspectives project, working alongside us in their towns, villages, schools and groups to collate a series of very special photographs. These photographs will have been taken by local people, with inspiration from those taken in the same area by James Ravillious.

Our curators will chose a photograph from each community to exhibit with the images by James Ravillious. The exhibition will take place in October this year, in the Goodwin Gallery at Petroc.

We have hand-picked one of James' images from our archive to use in your community of Atherington:



Gymnasts lined up at Atherington Village Fete, August 1977

More information:

New Perspectives – the exhibition

This collection of 50 photographs will offer a glimpse into the diverse landscape of North Devon: a visual dialogue of discussion and comparison around the theme 'New Perspectives'. From past to present day, they are a small chapter in the historical and social documentary of our environment, and celebrate the breadth of our coastal and countryside communities.

Why these photographs?

This exhibition is about the generations of people and the development of places around the area where you now stand, made interesting through what you and the people all around you do, and what people did before you. From the 80,000 photographs in the Beaford Archive, these display only 25, with a further 25 contributed in an open submission from talented professional and amateur photographers across North Devon. These include photographs from all ages, to show, through their eyes, the re-photography and re-interpretation of the Beaford Archive.

The black and white 25 from the Beaford Archive were selected from locations where access was still possible to the public so that they could re-create some of the magic that is so evident in the photographic eye of James Ravillious.

When photographing for Beaford Arts, James said:

"I have a job to do. I'm commissioned to make a record, so I want to keep it simple. I have to leave a clear, understandable account of the things I've enjoyed in Devon." James Ravillious, 1985

What you may not realise is that his images for the Beaford Archive are not cropped, not edited in any way. James worked by available light only and never posed his subjects, composing at speed with a Leica camera, auxiliary viewfinder and pre-war uncoated lenses. They are then dark room printed. By contrast, our technology has changed rapidly, through digital cameras, phones, computers, the Internet and applications, we have an unlimited breadth of access to take and edit a photograph. With devices at our fingertips we all have the opportunity to be photographers. This was not the case when James documented our landscape. This exhibition seeks to celebrate his achievement and embrace the new technologies that allow us to respond to his work today.

As Beaford Arts celebrates its 50th year with 50 photographs, we hold this exhibition because, as John Lane said:

"The material of the Beaford Archive, belonging to its future and rooted in its past, is of and for North Devon in the most fundamental sense." Founding Director John Lane, 1974

The submission details:

- The project will launch on 11th July 2016
- Digital photographs (high res as possible) for phone or digital camera to be emailed to ba50@beaford-arts.org.uk, or sent in as a hard copy to Beaford Arts, Crown Yealm House, South Molton EX36 3LH (these will not be returned).
- The deadline is 1st September 2016
- The images need to have been taken during 2016 (our 50th year)
- Images can be in colour or black and white
- The project is open to all