

THE
PANTILES
The Jewel in the Town

PRESS RELEASE

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Treat yourself to local art at The Pantiles 14 – 22 June

The beautiful Pantiles in Tunbridge Wells will be transformed into an outdoor art gallery this weekend as local artists line the colonnade with their original creative works.

Art lovers are invited to admire the range of art which will be displayed amongst The Pantiles' boutique shops and cafes between 10am and 5pm from Saturday 14th until Sunday 22nd June.

Organised by the Tunbridge Wells Borough Council in partnership with the new owners of The Pantiles, Targetfollow, the Open Air Art Exhibition is the largest of its kind in the Tunbridge Wells area and is now in its 74th year.

There'll be everything from traditional paintings and water colours, to contemporary art, sketches, cards, abstract designs, stunning photography and popular box canvases. "Be sure to bring your wallet with as you could well find that perfect creative piece to freshen up your home or office," says Sue Latham, Events and Projects Manager at Tunbridge Wells Borough Council.

Artists associated with the Royal Tunbridge Wells Art Society will also feature their works, as they have been doing for the past seventy years. Chairman Fran Holland is looking forward to taking part again: "We love seeing The Pantiles alive with local art. The exhibition is a great opportunity for people to enjoy the artistic talent in Kent and Sussex in an elegant and sophisticated environment, and for us to encourage interested 'dabblers' to develop their skills by joining the Art Society."

The new Mayor of Tunbridge Wells, Cllr Mike Rusbridge, will be among the first to enjoy the exhibition when he is treated to a guided tour at 10am on launch day.

Targetfollow is one of the UK's leading property investment, development and management groups, with a commitment to promoting community art. The company has a dedicated arts development arm and hopes to boost the arts culture in Tunbridge Wells through enjoyable events at its local properties: The Pantiles, the Corn Exchange and the nearby Commons.

For more information about the Open Air Art Exhibition contact the Tourist Information Centre on 01892 515 675.

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Editor's notes:

- The Pantiles Open Air Art Exhibition 2008 is free of charge to the public. It is sponsored by the Tunbridge Wells Borough Council and is supported by Targetfollow.

- People wishing to purchase art can buy directly from the artists with cash. Cash machines are available in The Pantiles.
- The Royal Tunbridge Wells Art Society runs a varied programme of events and tutorials for its 170 members and is based on the Lower Walk of the Pantiles. For more information visit www.rtwas.org.
- The Targetfollow Group acquired the upper Pantiles in January this year; the Group has owned the lower Pantiles and the Corn Exchange for four years. For more information visit www.targetfollow.com.

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