

Press Release

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Make your Valentine's day with a thoughtful and personal gift of art

Reading Guild of Artists is hosting a free family-friendly event this Saturday (11 February), at Reading Museum, from 10.30am to 3.30pm. The event is alongside the Ray Atkins' exhibition – 'The Reading Years' – which is also free to attend.

Throughout the day there are free drop-in sessions – for all the family – to try your hand at collage or drawing.

Local artist, Carole Stephens is running the first workshop using collage. "I love flowers and gardens and the very 'Englishness' of Reading, where I live. My workshop will be a great chance to make your own images of 'your' Reading from collage materials and show why you love it too. Flowers optional! I am really looking forward to working with children and families, to help them create something personal for a loved-one, mum or dad or grandparent."

The second workshop is a drawing activity and will be run by another local artist, Sam Knight. It will be very informal and influenced by drawings in the Museum. Sam loves drawing and particularly likes when things don't quite go according to plan! He says: "When drawing, I love accidents. When mistakes are made, they should be embraced, they are all part of the drawing's development and should not be covered up. I love to depict things which catch my eye: urban surroundings, birds, buildings and the often overlooked."

Anthony Wilder, chairman, Reading Guild of Artists, said "Everything will be provided and it is all free. You will be able to get inspiration from paintings by Ray Atkins, in the exhibition called 'The Reading Years', also at Reading Museum.

"The exhibition will be open during our sale and workshops, so you could pop in there first and be inspired. Everyone welcome to this free event See you there!"

Visit <http://www.rga-artists.org.uk/rga-whats-on.html> to find out more or visit our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/ReadingGuildofArtists/events/>

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Photo opportunity

Reporters and photographers are welcome to attend both exhibitions and in particular, the workshops, between 11.30am and 2pm, Reading Museum, The Town Hall, Blagrove Street, Reading. Members of the Guild will be happy to talk about their works and the exhibition.

Notes to Editors:

The Reading Guild of Artists was founded in 1930. It has a membership of over 150 artists and plays an active role in the development of artists in Reading.