

# OPEN FOR ART weekend festival



**30 JUNE – 2 JULY**  
#OpenForArt  
[jelly.org.uk/open-for-art](http://jelly.org.uk/open-for-art)

**30 JUNE – 2 JULY**  
Reading's three-day festival showcasing our arts, heritage, culture and creative industries

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Supported by Huntswood, Reading Business Improvement District ARENA Programme, Reading UK CIC, Cream Design, Pineapple and all the venues and hosts

**A WEEKEND FESTIVAL OF ART**  
*This fourth year of Open for Art celebrates design, the arts and creativity, from marking the 100 years since the birth of iconic British designer Lucienne Day to exhibiting the work of Reading's emerging designers, artists, performers and makers of all ages. Come and join us whilst we lead you on walks, hear artists' talks and poems, explore Reading's hidden waterways, take part in open air art classes, create floral headdresses inspired by Frida Kahlo, follow the heritage paths and revel in performances.*



Designed by cream-design.co.uk

## EVENTS

### Open for Art HQ Desk

Book into a workshop, meet an Open for Art ambassador or get tips on what to see next.  
**Friday 30 June 9.30am – 8pm, Saturday 1 July 9am – 7pm, Sunday 2 July 11am – 5pm:**  
**venue 1, Open for Art HQ Desk (The Oracle, Lower Mall, near Manhattan Coffee Club)**

### Breakfast with an Artist

Join us for our launch event at Malmaison with expressive figurative artist, Rebecca Swainston, who will be bringing along pieces from her current work. Rebecca will be talking about her inspiration in conversation with Wendy Thomson, the Founder and Editor of Female Arts. Female Arts, founded in May 2011, aims to promote women in the arts (performing, visual and literary). Generously sponsored by Pineapple, a social enterprise driven to support sustainable businesses that make a positive social and environmental impact. FREE, pre-booking essential at [jelly.org.uk](http://jelly.org.uk)  
**Friday 30 June 8am – 9.30am: venue 9, Malmaison**

### Jewellery & Silverware: Young Designer Competition & Exhibition

The Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths support the Young Designer's competition, hosted at Jacobs the Jewellers. The idea was proposed by Adam Jacobs, a Freeman of the Company and developed with The Bishopsland Trust. Each year, the competition runs for 4 weeks in June / July and students at Bishopsland showcase one piece of silver and one piece of noble metal jewellery in Jacobs, with customers voting for their favourite pieces. As part of the Open for Art weekend, alongside the work of the young emerging designers, Jacobs will also showcase notable pieces from the Civic Collection of works by Gerald Benney and host a live craft skills demonstration on the opening day.  
**Exhibition open Tuesday 6 June – Monday 3 July. Friday 30 June demonstration of making 3pm, reveal of winning makers 4pm: venue 2, Jacobs the Jewellers**

### Art Scope

Art Scope is delighted to present, in partnership with Haslams, an exhibition of work by 15 artists. This exhibition at Haslams is a taster of the art at the Art Scope Gallery at CircleReading Hospital, a project that promotes local artists while providing art for patients and visitors to the hospital.  
**Friday 30 June 9am – 6pm, Saturday 1 July 9am – 5pm: venue 7, Haslams**

### The Museum of English Rural Life

The Museum of English Rural Life (MERL) reopened in 2016 following a major redevelopment project, Our Country Lives, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. Situated on the University's London Road Campus in Redlands Road, it now has nine redisplayed galleries, including one purpose-built to house their very special Festival of Britain wall hanging. As well as the beautiful galleries and study areas there are new features in the garden including a shepherd's hut and community growing space.  
**Friday 30 June 9am – 5pm, Saturday 1 & Sunday 2 July 10am – 4pm: venue 4, MERL**

### Reading Abbey Quarter: Then and Now Exhibition

As work gets underway to reopen the Reading Abbey site in 2018 come and see how the Abbey Quarter has changed over the centuries through artwork from Reading Museum's collection. Explore how the English Civil War impacted on the Abbey Ruins, the changing portrayal of the Abbey Gateway, the development of the Victorian pleasure gardens and the more recent past of open air plays. Exhibition continues until 23 September.  
**Friday 30 June & Saturday 1 July 10am – 4pm: venue 6, Reading Museum**

### Nick Cope and Prehistoric Friends

A 45-minute arts workshop with the Jelly team, making and crafting your very own pet (burping) dinosaur... followed by a fun filled, interactive 60-minute music session with the ever-popular singer and songwriter Nick Cope and his original and witty repertoire, enjoyed by children and parents alike.  
£8 per tot (1 year and above) £1 per adult, under 1s FREE, pre-booking essential at [jelly.org.uk](http://jelly.org.uk)  
**Friday 30 June 10.30am – 12.15pm: venue 11, The Biscuit Tin**

### Make and Play Chess Outdoors

Join artist Sam Stead in this interactive sculptural piece. A series of chess boards will be available to play a game with friends or a stranger, or join Sam in creating pieces from variety of media – clay, small offcuts of wood, card etc. These pieces created on the day will go towards creating a Reading Chess Set.  
**Friday 30 June 10.30am – 2.30pm, Saturday 1 July 10.30am – 4pm: venue 12, Station Hill**

### Bark Beetle Monoprinting

Ross Halle will be running FREE drop-in sessions for anyone wanting to try their hand at monoprinting.  
**Friday 30 June & Saturday 1 July 10.30am – 5pm: venue 8, Takeaway Gallery (Harris Arcade)**

### Walk with an Artist

Throughout the festival, Open for Art ambassadors will be on hand to walk you to view parts of the Public Art Trail, follow the Heritage Trail or spot artworks on the Artists' Trail. You can pre-book your own personal walk in 30 minute slots. FREE, pre-booking essential at [jelly.org.uk](http://jelly.org.uk)  
**Friday 30 June 10.30am – 4pm, Saturday 1 July 10.30am – 5.30pm, Sunday 2 July 11.30am – 4.30pm: venue 1, Open for Art HQ Desk (The Oracle, Lower Mall)**

### 100 Canvases: a Studio Space, Canvases and Materials

The 100 Canvas project is a year-long project, inviting people to join us in creating canvases. Be an artist for the day and work on a canvas that will then be exhibited and sold (the monies will be shared between Jelly's education programme and you, the artist). The works will be exhibited in a regularly changing art exhibition. Canvases available are limited, so we'll be counting down how many are left over the weekend. You can take the canvas away to finish at home. £5 fee to take part to cover the costs.  
**Friday 30 June 10.30am – 4pm, Saturday 1 July 10.30am – 5.30pm, Sunday 2 July 11.30am – 4.30pm: venue 14, Jelly (Broad Street Mall)**

### Gallery 142

Gallery 142 is delighted to present a rich and varied selection of works by Emma Bradbury, Geoff Sawers, Steve Bumphrey, Nigel Bish, Tim Jackson and Trudie Middleton. The exhibition will take place in a town house, which in 1865 was home to Reading's 'Association for the sale of work by Ladies of limited means'. An organisation run by a Mrs Abbott, which sold fine needlework made by gentlewomen – the exhibition becoming a fitting echo of the house's past association. Tea, coffee and homemade cakes will be served in the basement café.  
**Friday 30 June 11am – 2pm, Saturday 1 July 11am – 4pm, Sunday 2 July 11am – 3pm: venue 16, Gallery 142, 142 Castle Hill**

### Reading International

CRASH! presents 'A Better Britain II: Britilins' from 27 May to 15 July on the 10th floor of the Thames Tower, next to Reading Railway Station, where visitors can also enjoy panoramic views over the town. In Britilins, Scott King and Matthew Worley propose a template for a whole new society. Can you remember when you could leave your back door unlocked? When we all 'mucked in together'? When summer seemed to last forever? Britilins is the vision of 'The Conglomerate, a select group of maverick MPs, self-made businessmen, and ageing celebrities, who want to turn back the clock on Broken Britain and restore it to the magical days of their youth. Drawing on a collective nostalgia for the micro-societies that were 1970s holiday camps, 'The Conglomerate' is determined that their past shall be your future.  
**Friday 30 June, Saturday 1 July & Sunday 2 July 6pm – 8pm: venue 10, Thames Tower**

### St Mary's Butts Art Project by Reading Youth Offending Service

These street artworks were completed by young people working with Reading Youth Offending Service as part of the 2016 Year of Culture in Reading. On St Mary's Butts four archers are painted on a lamp post and an archery target is painted on a junction box nearby. This artwork was created to show that St Mary's Butts actually takes its name from targets used for archery. During the Middle Ages each parish had to have butts where all men practised archery on Sunday. St Mary's never lost this part of its history.  
**Permanent display**

### Too Many Cooks

Join artist Caroline Marriott and help create a community collage based on Lucienne Day's tea towel design called 'Too Many Cooks'. The fabric-based collage is open to any adults, templates will be provided and examples for people to work from. FREE.  
**Friday 30 June 12 noon – 2.30pm: venue 1, Open for Art HQ Desk (The Oracle, Lower Mall)**

### Frida and Florals: an Evening of Floral Crown Making

Join florists from award-winning Sonning Flowers and creative hairdressers from local salon Electric for a special night in celebration of Mexican artist Frida Kahlo. This evening of pleasures begins with floral crown making. You can design your own crown, with a collection of fresh flowers and foliage available to choose from. Meantime refreshments will be served for you to enjoy in good company. Electric Hairdressing will be on hand to hairstyle your beautiful floral creation ready for a photo session followed by a night out with cocktails and chat at Reading's best loved independent bar, Milk. £45 per person, 18 years and above, ticket includes a complimentary cocktail at Milk, pre-booking essential at [jelly.org.uk](http://jelly.org.uk)  
**Friday 30 June 6.30pm – 9pm: venue 15, Sonning Flowers followed by Milk**

### Artisan Food Market

The Jam Lady will be bringing her foodie friends to celebrate the very best in local produce with a specially curated market.  
**Saturday 1 July 10.30am – 4pm: venue 12, Station Hill**

### Mid-century Inspired Mandala

Artist Squirrel Ink will be resident at Malmaison creating and making mandala inspired pieces. Pop along to find out more about her work and learn what inspires her.  
**Saturday 1 July 10.30am – 12.30pm: venue 9, Malmaison**

### Flotsam and Jetsam

The Annual Daydream Harvest will be presenting the opening chapter of their new adventure 'Flotsam and Jetsam'. Beachcombers of fractured and discarded heritage weaving new factofictions. Find the daydreamers roving.  
**Saturday 1 July & Sunday 2 July 11am – 4pm: venues across the town centre**

### Wokingham Plein Air Painters

Find Wokingham Intrepid Plein Air Painters making new works long Broad Street. This small local group of artists are always open to new members. Find your inner you – outside! Go on, be intrepid today!  
**Saturday 1 July 11am – 3pm: Broad Street**

### The Kennet Morris Men's 60th Anniversary

Starting outside Reading Town Hall, featuring 16 Morris teams from around the region with many different styles. See them in Market Place, The Minster and Broad Street, culminating in a massed display in the Forbury Gardens from 4pm – 5pm.  
**Saturday 1 July 11am – 5pm: venues across the town centre**

### My Word

'My Word' Poetry Group will be supporting the festival with specially commissioned pieces based on the artists Frida Kahlo and Lucienne Day. The team of poets have previously performed at: Alternative Queen of Reading – International Women's Day – Shehna, International Poetry Day 2015 and 2016, Bookface Reading 2015 and 2016 and Valentines at Nibsby's 2016.  
**Saturday 1 July 12 noon – 3pm: venue 1, Open for Art HQ Desk (The Oracle)**

### Berzerk Productions

*'Here today, up and off to somewhere else tomorrow! Travel, change, interest, excitement! The whole world before you, and a horizon that's always changing!'* The young performers explore stories from 'The Wind in the Willows'.  
**Saturday 1 July 1pm – 3pm: venue 12, Station Hill**

### Urban Sketching in Reading

Join the Reading Sketchers on an informal and untutored 'sketch crawl' in central Reading. Attendees would be expected to bring their own sketching materials and portable chair/stool (if required). FREE.  
**Saturday 1 July 2pm – 5pm: meet at venue 1, Open for Art HQ Desk (The Oracle, Lower Mall)**

### Bayeux Tapestry Tours

Enjoy a guided tour of the famous full size Victorian facsimile Tapestry. All ages, FREE.  
**Saturday 1 July 2.15pm – 3pm: venue 6, Reading Museum**

### Frida Night: Embroidery and Tapas

In partnership with Nomad Bakery, come and join the Jelly artists in a celebration of 'all things Frida'. Participants will create a unique, hand embroidered Frida Kahlo creation with Jelly artists Kate and Suzanne and savour some delicious Mexican inspired tapas by Nomad Bakery. All art materials included. Workshop creations available to take home. Tickets £22 per person, pre-booking essential.  
**Saturday 1 July 5.30pm – 8.30pm: venue 13, Nomad Bakery, 10 Prospect Street**

### Little Soldier Productions presents: 'DERAILED' (preview performance)

An unpredictable and urgent theatrical counter-protest. A show about changing the world. A show about getting angry on Facebook, wanting to make a difference, rock and roll and... bees. Welcome to the revolution. It's gonna get messy. From the makers of 'The Ingenious Gentleman Don Quixote of La Mancha', winner of The Stage Award for Acting Excellence 2014. *'These cloaks know exactly what they are doing'* – Lyn Gardner, The Guardian (on Don Quixote). Tickets £12, concessions £10, friends £3 at [readingarts.com](http://readingarts.com)  
**Saturday 1 July 8pm: venue 3, South Street Arts Centre**

### Open Air Art Challenge

Come along and watch artists create their own works inspired by Reading, either from the surroundings around them or from an original idea of their own within 3 hours. All works exhibited from 1pm onwards and members of the public will vote to choose the winner of a £100 art voucher.  
**Sunday 2 July 10am onwards, winner announced 2pm: venue 5, Gas Works Road Bridge**

### Workshop: Creative People and LEGO® present Build and Animate

Led by Matthew Foster of Creative People, in this workshop families will collaborate together to produce a model that they would like to animate, create background scenery and using an iPad create an animation. Families are welcome to bring their own iPads as the software is free and can easily be downloaded during the workshop for future use. Tickets £10 for a family of up to 4 people, includes a basic LEGO® kit which can be taken home. 7 years and above, pre-book at [jelly.org.uk](http://jelly.org.uk)  
**Sunday 2 July 11am – 12.30pm: venue 14, Jelly (Broad Street Mall)**

### Floating Rivers of Reading

Reading is built on water, water we can see and water we can't. Over the weekend, festival artists will start drawing the hidden waterways on the ground through the town connecting them. Join us for a FREE walk as part of an immersive art experience, following the traces of the rivers across the town. Each participant carrying a balloon, stopping in locations to be photographed marking the flow of Reading's waterways. En route you will encounter the Berzerk young performers exploring stories from 'The Wind in the Willows'.  
**Sunday 2 July 2.30pm – 4.15pm: venue 5, meet at Gas Works Road Bridge, stopping at various points en route, finally stopping on Broad Street**



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Please note, venues, timings and availability correct at time of going to print.

## HERITAGE TRAIL

- 1 River Kennet and Brewery Gut**  
This canal runs for 86 miles between Reading and Bristol and has over 100 locks along the way.
- 2 Holybrook**  
It flows for 6 miles through Reading and from about 800 years ago until the C19th helped to turn the wheels of grain mills for the town and until Tudor times served the Abbey. It was used by everyone for washing, drinking, putting rubbish in and for emptying chamber pots.
- 3 The Oracle**  
400 years ago this would have been a different scene. Facing you would have been large wooden doors leading to a workhouse set up for poor clothiers of the town. The workhouse was the bequest of John Kendrick and was known as the Oracle, the doors are now in Reading Museum.
- 4 St Mary's Churchyard**  
There has been a church on this site since 979. This one was built in Norman times and rebuilt 450 years ago using stones from Reading Abbey.
- 5 Broad Street**  
Travel back 500 years, it would have been very noisy here with merchants trying to selling their cloth, wool, food and drink. Sheep would also have been sold there on some days. Chain Street used to have a chain that was put across to stop wagons and carts blocking it, hence the name.
- 6 Queen Victoria Street**  
150 years ago these were houses, they were taken down in 1900 to build this new street.
- 7 Market Place and Soane Monument**  
The Soane Monument was built in 1804. It was designed by Sir John Soane on the order of Edward Simeon and should really be called the Simeon Monument. Market Place was not just for the market, but for stocks, pillories and even a ducking stool.
- 8 St Lawrence and the Abbey**  
There would have been a gate to the Abbey, which was started in 1121 and took nearly 200 years to build. It was dedicated by Thomas Becket in 1164. The last Abbot was Hugh Farington who was tried for high treason in 1539 and drawn through the streets of Reading before being hung in the Forbury.
- 9 Friar Street and the Friars**  
Friar Street is a relatively new name. It was first New Street then Town End. The Friars came to Reading in the C12th but were not made welcome by the Abbot.
- 10 Town Hall**  
Can you find the dogs paw print on the side of the Town Hall?
- 11 Queen Victoria's Statue**  
The statue was unveiled in 1887 to celebrate the Queen's golden jubilee. It was sculpted by George Blackall Simonds who also designed the Maiwand Lion in the Forbury Gardens. Simonds became a director of Simonds Brewery and died in 1929.
- 12 Town Hall and Museum**  
The wonderful building has had a number of architects, the most well known of whom is Alfred Waterhouse. His building was completed 1875 but incorporates the Victoria Hall built by the cabinet maker Alderman Charles Poulton.
- 7 Chestnut Walk**  
Horse Chestnut
- 8 Crane Wharf**  
Weeping Willows
- 9 Duke Street / London Street**  
London Plane
- 10 The Oracle Riverside**  
Lime trees either side of the Kennet
- 11 Bear Island**  
Collection of trees
- 12 Loch Fyne Bear Wharf**  
Young London Plane trees flanking the lawn and restaurant seating area
- 13 New Bright St / Willow St**  
Nine mature Weeping Willows

# OPEN FOR ART trail map

## VENUES

- 1 Open for Art HQ Desk (The Oracle)
- 2 Jacobs the Jewellers
- 3 South Street Arts Centre
- 4 Museum of English Rural Life
- 5 Gas Works Road Bridge
- 6 Reading Museum
- 7 Haslams
- 8 Takeaway Gallery (Harris Arcade)
- 9 Malmaison
- 10 Thames Tower
- 11 The Biscuit Tin
- 12 Station Hill
- 13 Nomad Bakery (Prospect Street)
- 14 Jelly (Broad Street Mall)
- 15 Sonning Flowers
- 16 Gallery 142 (Castle Hill)

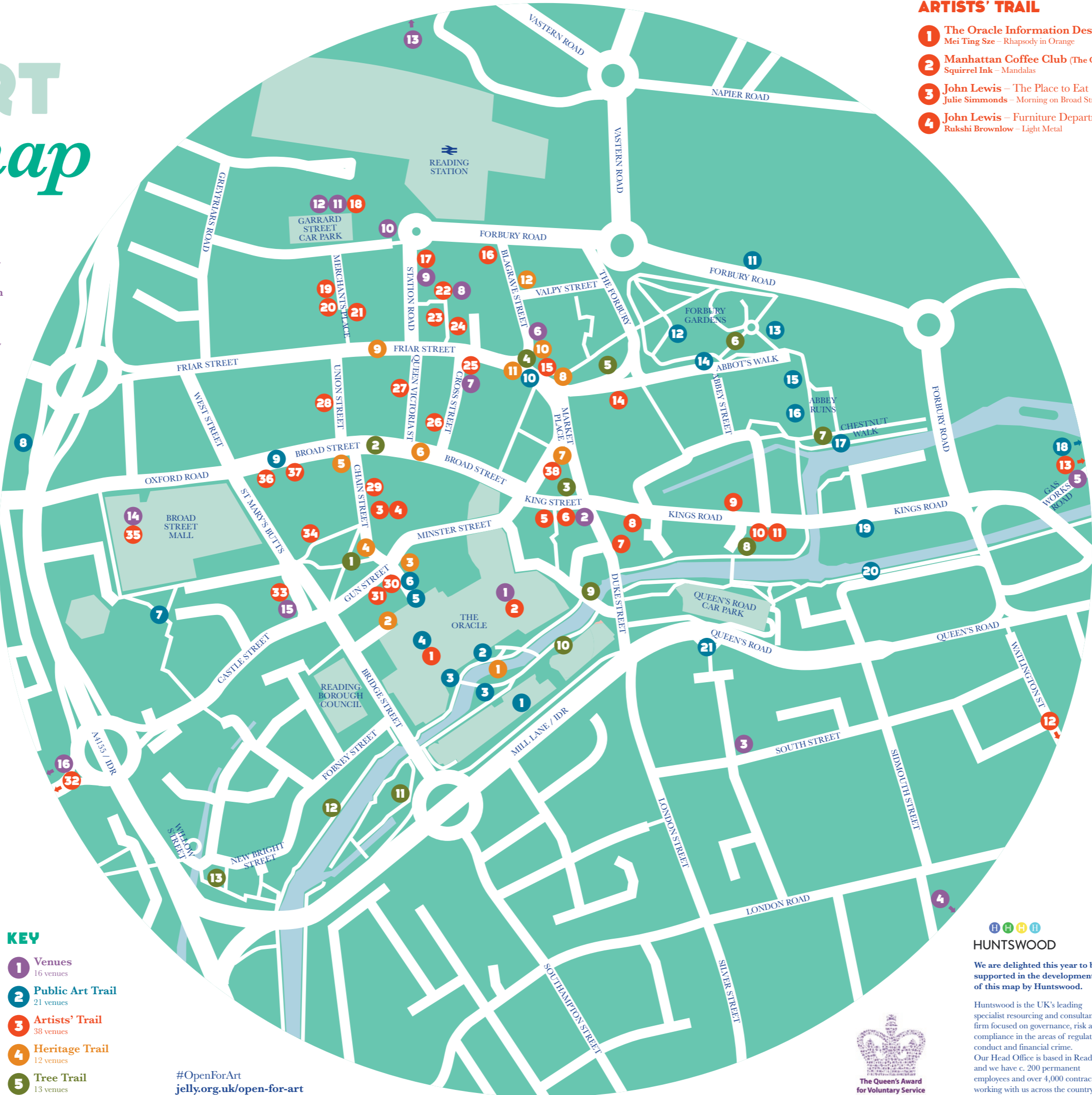
## PUBLIC ART TRAIL

- 1 The Oracle  
John Gingell – Crystal Beacon
- 2 The Oracle  
Martin Donlin – Link Block Windows
- 3 The Oracle  
Jon Mills – Tree Grills
- 4 The Oracle  
Guy Paterson – Heritage Trail (ask at Open for Art HQ)
- 5 The Oracle  
Jason Bruge Studios – Mill Race
- 6 The Oracle  
Anne Smythe – Holybrook Entrance
- 7 Queens Walk  
Brian Slack – Cartwheeling Boys
- 8 Chatham Place  
Sally Castle – Walking Words
- 9 Broad Street West  
Matthew Fedden – Broad Street Seating Area
- 10 Town Hall Square  
George Simonds – Queen Victoria
- 11 Forbury Road  
Simon Hitchens – The Space Between
- 12 Forbury Gardens  
George Simonds – Maiwand Lion
- 13 Forbury Gardens  
Eric Stanford – Requiem
- 14 Abbot's Walk  
Tom Murphy – The Trooper Potts VC Memorial
- 15 Abbey Gardens  
Elizabeth Frink – Robed Figure
- 16 Abbey Ruins  
Jens-Flemming Sørensen – Untitled
- 17 Chestnut Walk  
Bruce Williams – Oscar Wilde Memorial
- 18 Kennet Walk  
Steve Tomlinson – Wilde/Turner/Parker
- 19 Kings Road  
Lorne McKean – Girl and the Swan
- 20 Kennet Side  
Peter Sainty – Reading Piece
- 21 Queen's Road  
John Ravera – New Century Place

## KEY

- 1 Venues  
16 venues
- 2 Public Art Trail  
21 venues
- 3 Artists' Trail  
38 venues
- 4 Heritage Trail  
12 venues
- 5 Tree Trail  
13 venues

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## ARTISTS' TRAIL

- 1 The Oracle Information Desk  
Mei Ting Sze – Rhapsody in Orange
- 2 Manhattan Coffee Club (The Oracle)  
Squirrel Ink – Mandalas
- 3 John Lewis – The Place to Eat  
Julie Simmonds – Morning on Broad Street
- 4 John Lewis – Furniture Department  
Rukshi Brownlow – Light Metal
- 5 Workhouse Coffee Company  
Helen Westthrop – Coffee Sacks Embroidered
- 6 Jacobs the Jewellers  
Sadie Brockbank – Horse with Riders
- 7 Nylon  
Julie Simmonds – Reading Series
- 8 Electric Hairdressing  
Katie Francis – Made you Look  
Suzanne Jones – Comfort Forms
- 9 The White Building  
Salvo Toscano – selected works
- 10 58 Barber Shop  
Darren Lyden – The Shield of Desire
- 11 Lincoln Coffee House  
Peter Driver – Complete Equality 1
- 12 Frock & Roll (Watlington Street)  
Alice Coombes – Frida  
Vassily Zavialov – Queen Elizabeth II
- 13 The Turbine House (Kenavon Drive)  
The Engine Room – Every Human Heart
- 14 Simon Dowling Bespoke  
Matthew Potts – Localised Weather, DIY Unicorn
- 15 Blandly & Blandly  
Kate Lockhart – Henley from Bridge
- 16 Forbury Works  
Jim Attewell – Timestream 5
- 17 Malmaison  
Rebecca Swainston – Imaginary Friend with Cat and Bird  
Robert Fitzmaurice – Pipeboy
- 18 The Biscuit Tin  
Jo Thomas – Roundabouts and Waterways of Reading
- 19 Shed  
Mark Andrew Webber – Maps
- 20 Milk  
Lisa-marie Gibbs – What if, we as humans were left with only our shadows?
- 21 Launchpad  
Launchpad photography group – selected works
- 22 Takeaway Gallery (Harris Arcade)  
Ross Hale – Bark Beetle monoprints
- 23 The Grumpy Goat (Harris Arcade)  
Lou Jessop – Frida
- 24 Adrienne Henry (Harris Arcade)  
Nina O'Connell – Orkney
- 25 Haslams  
Art Scope
- 26 Nibsy's  
Laura De Moxom – Remembering Margaret Scissors, Remembering Margaret Garden Flowers
- 27 But is it Art?  
Simon MacKoon – Maximus, Paranoid
- 28 Eclectic Games  
Julie Calce – Brooding, Reflection
- 29 Tasting House  
Andrew Hood – The Face of Reading
- 30 Tamp Culture  
Jon Lockhart – MUSIC
- 31 White Stuff  
Liz Mackereth – Through the Trees
- 32 The Castle Tap (Castle Hill)  
gooey eye – four new pieces
- 33 Sonning Flowers  
Emily Gillmor – Tulip V
- 34 G.U.P.  
Jenny Halstead – Subjective Paintings  
Yan Chong – Subtractive Drawings
- 35 Jelly (Broad Street Mall)  
Mark Langley – selected works  
Salma Caller – The Bodies of Dolls kitschx – #071, 072, 073
- 36 Artigiano  
Misha Zavialov – Summer Solstice
- 37 Waterstones  
Ellen Jewell – Handbag Stories
- 38 Picnic  
Grace Lewis – You Are Here

## HUNTSWOOD

We are delighted this year to be supported in the development of this map by Huntswood.

Huntswood is the UK's leading specialist resourcing and consultancy firm focused on governance, risk and compliance in the areas of regulatory conduct and financial crime. Our Head Office is based in Reading and we have c. 200 permanent employees and over 4,000 contractors working with us across the country.

