

Community Art Exhibition

Programme 2025

Walkabout Acts
Appearing throughout the day in unexpected places.

Dog Days
11:00–11:30 | 12:30–13:00 | 14:30–15:00
Theatre Factory's giant collie, Bowie, brings his dog-walking team to Whitehaven. Keep an eye on your sandwiches though as Bowie is closely followed by some cheeky seagulls!

The Songsmiths
11:00–11:45 | 13:45–14:30 | 15:15–16:00
The Songsmiths return to travel the site with their mobile music machine, creating one-of-a-kind songs for anyone who fancies one.

Solway Shanty Crew
12:45 - 13:15 - Lime Tongue
15:00 - 15:30 – Whiting Shoal
16:15- 16:45 – Near The Edge
Whitehaven's own sea shanty singers perform traditional and contemporary songs of the sea, continuing the town's rich maritime heritage.

The Carnival of Animals Presented by The Fabularium
11:30–12:15 | 14:00–14:45 | 16:15–17:00
A lively tale of woodland creatures sharing stories of courage and friendship. With handcrafted animal headpieces and live music, this is fable-based fun for all ages.

National Trust Quiet Zone – Wellington Terrace
A calm, family-friendly area offering sensory storytelling, sandcastle building, soft archery, swingball, and more.

1. Bamboo By NoFit State Circus
11:30–12:15 | 15:30–16:15
A powerful circus performance using nothing but bamboo and human bodies. This high-impact, high-skill show explores the tension, balance, and harmony between people and nature. With live music, comedy, and jaw-dropping acrobatics, this is a joyful and meaningful celebration of what's possible when we work together.

Community Artists
Running throughout Harbour Fest, this area highlights the wider community work and artists that Rosehill work with.

2. Mycelium Thinking
All Day
Explore the secret sounds of fungi through electrodes and modulators. This experimental installation transforms electromagnetic signals from mushrooms into sound, inviting deep connection with nature.

3. Make Eat & Laugh
12.30 | 14:00 | 16:00
Create spontaneous performances using objects from Make, Eat & Laugh's trolley. Assign movements and sounds to each, then arrange them for unpredictable, often hilarious, creative results.

4. Fragments of Belonging: Whitehaven Reimagined
All day
Resident artist Anne Blankson-Hemans will be painting the harbour throughout the day. Stop by to chat and watch as the harbour's story comes to life.

Please note: filming will be in progress.

5. Tent
All day
Join the TENT artists for taster activities like Pebble Poetry and Pavement Art. Tent brings creativity, play, and connection into local community spaces through weekly drop-in sessions.

Through loose-parts play and process-led art activities, children and parents are encouraged to express themselves freely and imaginatively.

Regular sessions in the community take place during term time at St Peter's Community Hall, from 15:00-18:00. Light meals and snacks are provided, and all sessions are completely free.

Soundwave Music Hub
Live performances from local artists and community groups.

West Cumbria Massed Brass Band
11:00–12:00
A specially formed brass band bringing together players aged 10 to 80+ from across the region. Expect popular favourites and timeless classics.

DisChord Choir
12:30–12:50
A vibrant vocal group performing harmony-rich covers from artists like Fleetwood Mac, Robyn, and Taylor Swift.

Grace Savage
13:00–13:45
Local singer-songwriter known for acoustic covers and creative loop-pedal arrangements.

Jake Colley
14:00-14:45
Soulful singer-songwriter inspired by Motown legends, bringing heartfelt melodies and rich vocals.

mylittlebrother
15:15–16:15
Acclaimed Cumbrian band blending pop, rock, and psychedelia.

Sara Florence
16:30–17:15
A voice full of soul, delivering classics across genres with a Motown twist.

Craft and Exhibition Zone
Take a stroll through our Craft and Exhibition Zone where you can discover exhibitions rich in local history, craft activities to take part in and discover your creative side.

6. Handpicked Productions: Sekers Objects on the Road
All Day
Step aboard the Everyone Here Spark Bus for a special glimpse of the Sekers Objects exhibition. Produced by Handpicked Productions, the exhibition celebrates the rich heritage of the Sekers fabric factory - a cornerstone of local industry and international couture.

Through engaging displays and interactive elements, you can connect with the legacy of the people who made Sekers a name known far beyond West Cumbria.

At our Couture Activity Station, artists Janice and Helen invite you to step into a gallery-style space inspired by the original exhibition's striking staircase installation. Surrounded by stunning couture imagery, you'll be encouraged to contribute your own creative flair.

You can also design a high-fashion outfit using printed templates and real fabric swatches. Sketch, collage or simply explore - this hands-on workshop celebrates creativity and the vibrant legacy of our textile heritage.

7. Ragtag Roadshow
All Day
Ignite your imagination at Ragtag Roadshow's 'Scrappy Van'! Reuse, Create and Play having a go at wonderful crafts with incredible colourful scrap, with the Ragtag team who promote creativity, collaboration and open-ended play.

You'll also get to meet the wonderful Peggy, their beautiful Pegasus. Peggy loves nothing more than to be the centre of attention, meeting lots of new people and of course having their photograph taken!

Community Art, Stalls and Markets
Visit all the amazing community stalls and learn more about how they work with the local community, discover the Emergent Landscapes installation by artist Rob St John and have a go at making your own cairn, take a trip down King Street and discover our community art exhibition trail or get the shopping bug at the Makers Market.

8. Community Art on King Street
All Day
An exhibition curated by Rosehill's community producer, Twiggy and Duty Manager Lyn. All artwork was created in Rosehill's free weekly community sessions:

Welcome Hub - Mondays, 10:00-13:30 at United Reform Church

The Social Sketch - Mondays, 17:30–19:30 at Soundwave
Not Art School - Wednesdays, 11:00–13:00 at The Rum Story

9. TEG Makers Market – King Street
All Day
Browse stalls from over 20 local artists, makers, and independent traders.

Bonus Events and Activities
If you'd like to start your day early or carry on the festival spirit, head along to the Beacon or the Rum Story for more fun.

10. The Beacon Museum
FREE ENTRY 10:00 – 11:00 ONLY
Discover the past, present and future at the Beacon Museum in Whitehaven. From Pre-History to the Present, interactive galleries and exhibitions are waiting for you to explore.

11. Harbour Fest After Hours
The Mystery of the Pirate Lagoon
Presented by Ragged Edge Productions
18:00 | The Rum Story | Free (with pre-booked ticket) |
Age Guidance 10+

A playful, interactive pirate adventure where everyone can join in. Help the crew of The Prospero face off against the dastardly Captain Starkers and uncover hidden treasure in this fast-paced theatrical caper.

Created and performed by Stefan Escreet, Peter Macqueen, and Claire Webzell.

Running time: Approx. 90 minutes with an interval.

Community Stalls
All Day
Including: Wasdale Mountain Rescue, Hensingham Scouts, West Coast Search and Rescue, Fishermans Mission, The Beacon, The Rum Story, District Tuition, Vaccination Awareness, No Rain without Rainbows, Whitehaven Air Cadets, Solway Sub Aqua Group, Rosehill, and more.

Continental Market
All Day
Alongside Harbour Fest, the Continental Market will be running throughout the day, bringing a vibrant mix of food and goods from across Europe to the harbour.

WC **Toilets, including disabled**

+ **First Aid Point**

i **Information Point**

RH **Rosehill Stall**

ROSEHILL



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