

HONEYSCRIBE HIVE

A series of bee-themed
events to celebrate the
Princesshay City Bee
Project & honey harvest

**September, October,
November 2016**

Honeyscribe Events



Friday 23rd September, 4pm – 5pm, Chandos Deli

‘A TASTE OF HONEY’

Authors talk about honeybees & a honey tasting

With writer Hattie Ellis & Q&A with Orlando Murrin



Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th September,
11am – 3pm, Princesshay Square

PUNCH & JUDY SHOW ‘IT’S BEE-HIND YOU!’

With Professor Queen-Bee



Saturday 24th September, 10am – 1pm,
Café Rouge & Princesshay Rooftop Garden

‘THE ART OF THE BEE GARDEN’

Botanical art workshop & visit to Princesshay Roof Garden Apiary

With artist Amy Shelton



Sunday 16th October, 10am – 1pm and 2pm – 5pm, Kaleider Offices

‘BEE PRINTS FROM SCRATCH’

Dry point printmaking workshop

With artist Catherine Cartwright



Saturday 19th November, 10am – 2.30pm, Exeter Cathedral Library

‘UNDER THE MICROSCOPE IN THE AGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT’

**Artist’s talk & rare books handling session looking at Hooke’s
Micrographia & Nehemiah Grew’s Anatomy of Plants**

With artist Stephen Park & Dr. Felicity Henderson - Lecturer in Archives and
Material Culture University of Exeter

An Introduction to Honeyscribe Hive



This cluster of bee-themed events is timed to coincide with the installation of a new public artwork, the *Princesshay Honey Flow* light box by Amy Shelton, and with the 2016 honey harvest from the Princesshay City Bee Project's rooftop beehives.

From prehistoric times to the present day, humans have felt a mysterious connection to bees, delighted by their honey and fascinated by their communal behaviour and ecological function. But bees are in trouble. In recent years, significant worldwide honeybee losses have accelerated to severely threaten honeybee populations as well as wild bees and other crucial pollinating insects. Their precipitous decline has much to teach us about the human impact of the indiscriminate use of insecticides, modern agricultural practices and habitat decline.

The Honeyscribe Hive project aims to celebrate the presence of the industrious winged workforce we share our city with, and salute their remarkable work in the essential pollination service they carry out for our crops, orchards, parks, allotments, wild flower patches, hedgerows and gardens across the city.

Honeyscribe invites us to consider how the story of urban pollinators can propel future conversations and inspire further conservation by starting a new chapter in reconnecting city dwellers to nature and



Detail of *Princesshay Honey Flow* by Amy Shelton (2016)

each other with all the therapeutic benefits this can bring.

Honeyscribe Hive events will enable people to gain an exciting new shift in perspective of their city through an uplifting bees-eye view of Exeter. Activities are open to all and include bee-centric drawing and printmaking workshops, talks and honey tastings, a botanical pressed flower workshop, a Punch and Judy show by the amazing Professor Queen Bee, and a series of beekeeping workshops for Exeter primary school children taking place at Buckfast Abbey.

The *Princesshay Honey Flow* (2016) by Amy Shelton



Princesshay Honey Flow (detail) by Amy Shelton (2016). Photo credit: Neon Circus
(Pressed botanical samples, herbarium linen tape, glassine envelopes, graphite, lightbox)

The *Princesshay Honey Flow* light box by Amy Shelton is a bespoke, specially commissioned public artwork installed in Princesshay, Exeter, illuminating the melliferous (honey yielding) floral sources across the seasons which are vital for honeybees to sustain their colonies. The artwork is created from all of the most important bee plants visited by pollinators

across the city, starting with the first flowers of spring, building towards the flourishing crescendo of the summer months, before ebbing towards the quieter coda of autumn and winter and the end of the flowering season. In this light box, Shelton has gathered together an extensive collection of botanical samples which become a vibrant palette with which to document the



activity of Princesshay's foraging honeybees over an entire year. The *Princesshay Honey Flow* light box is a story map of sorts – a sensuous, felt way to record and make visible the fleeting rhapsody of the pollen and nectar-rich bio diverse forage available for bees across the city of Exeter.

The recent renaissance in beekeeping has resulted in many landmark buildings and cultural institutions across the world installing beehives and pollinator friendly gardens on their rooftops. The Princesshay Bees are Exeter's very own contribution to this phenomenon. This artwork is installed at street level and celebrates the beautiful rooftop garden and apiary where Princesshay's honeybee colonies are situated, directly above the shoppers and diners in the very heart of Princesshay.

Amy has documented the plants grown in the rooftop garden in Princesshay over an entire calendar year. She then traced the flight

paths of the bees as they headed out across the city seeking out the wild, cultivated and agricultural plants from which they create their honey.

The pressed samples, collected at the peak of their bloom, are arranged chronologically in order of their first emergence. Gathered together they record and capture the fleeting and subtle choreography of the plant-pollinator relationship month by month presented as a unique herbarium of honeybee friendly plants collected from the window boxes, gardens, parks and allotments as she followed the bees across the complex labyrinths of pathways, fields, cycle-paths and rivers banks of Exeter.

www.amyshelton.co.uk



‘A TASTE OF HONEY’

An authors talk about honeybees & a honey tasting

With writer Hattie Ellis and Q&A with Orlando Murrin

Friday 23rd September 4pm – 5pm

Venue: Chandos Deli, Roman Walk, Princesshay, City Centre, Exeter, EX1 1GN.

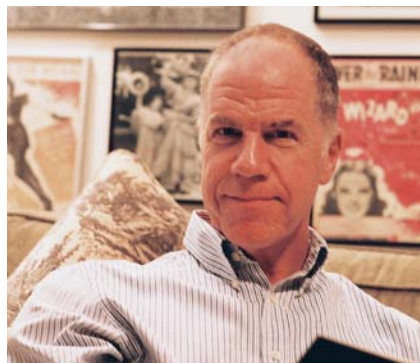
Booking information: This event is free but please book a place as there are limited places.

Join Food Writer Hattie Ellis for an afternoon event devoted to honey as she dips into her collection of 100 pots from around the world to celebrate the extraordinary diversity of this liquid gold miracle for a tutored honey tasting. Hattie will talk about the culinary uses of honey and share her keen interest in, and knowledge of the story of the honeybee in a discussion with Orlando Murrin. Signed copies of her honey-themed books will be available to buy.



Hattie Ellis is the award-winning author of 12 books on food and drink focusing on where it comes from and the people who grow, farm, collect and produce it. Books include: *Spoonfuls of Honey* (Pavilion 2014) & a social history of honeybees, *Sweetness & Light: the mysterious history of the honeybee* (Sceptre 2004). Journalism: the Telegraph Magazine, the Times, FT weekend, Independent on Sunday & The Spectator.

Orlando Murrin is a food writer, magazine editor (founder of Olive Magazine & editor of BBC Good Food) and columnist for Crumbs Devon Magazine.





PUNCH & JUDY SHOW 'IT'S BEE-HIND YOU'!

With Professor Queen-Bee

Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th September

Venue: Princesshay Square. **FREE EVENT**

Time: Performed at intervals between 11am – 3pm.

Professor Queen-Bee (AKA Teresa Verney-Brookes) presents her traditional Punch and Judy show, with a distinct green twist. As well as all of his usual comedy shenanigans, in this show, the badly behaved Mr Punch also turns his slapstick on an important stripy species - the bee! So, come along and shout at Mr Punch and join us in telling tell him to “buzz-off” and “its bee-hind” you.

“It’s Bee-hind You” draws on Teresa’s background in the conservation field as well as her passion for the traditional, eccentric art of Punch and Judy to put across important ecological messages in a fun and accessible way to audiences of all ages. At the end of the show, Prince Charles makes an appearance to advise on how planting wild flowers can help bees and to give out information from the charities supporting the work of Honeyscribe in Exeter: Devon Wildlife Trust, Exeter Wild City Project & Buglife.



Professor Queen-Bee has performed her show at Camp Bestival, The Goodwood Revival, Twinwood Festival, Caversham Arts Festival, the Traditional Boat Fair and also at various local nature reserves and green/environmental events in her mission to communicate bee conservation to a broad spectrum of people.

Professor Queen-Bee (AKA Teresa Verney-Brookes) originally trained as an ecologist and has worked in the conservation sector for over 20 years. She has worked for large conservation organisations including RSPB Berks, and Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) as an Environmental Education and Forest School Specialist. She also has a Flea Circus.



‘THE ART OF THE BEE GARDEN’

Botanical art workshop & visit to Princesshay Roof Garden

With artist Amy Shelton

Saturday 24th September 10am – 1pm

Venue: Café Rouge in Princesshay & Princesshay Roof Garden

Places available: 12

Cost: £10.00 (minimum age 16)

Concessions: £5.00 (students, over 60's, & low waged)

(Meet at the Princesshay customer service point on Bampfylde Lane between Superdry and Chandos Deli for a tour of the rooftop apiary before heading to the function room of Café Rouge for the art workshop).

In this workshop, led by artist Amy Shelton, you will learn how to create your own miniature herbarium artwork using real pressed flowers, and discover how Amy collected and pressed the flowers for her newly installed public artwork the *Princesshay Honey Flow* lightbox. Participants will create an intricate framed artwork of their own using real pressed flowers in response to visiting Amy's piece. You will also have the chance to visit Princesshay's wonderful rooftop garden where Amy collected many of the samples for the commission. You are welcome to bring along any special plants you have already pressed in advance. All other materials (including pressed flowers and a frame) will be provided.

Amy Shelton is an artist and Artistic Director of Honeyscribe. Recent exhibitions; Southbank Centre, the Eden Project, Peninsula Arts, Wellcome Collection, Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh, Gallery of the Literary Bureau Schwalenberg, Germany & DAAD Gallery, Berlin.



Photo credit: Lloyd Russell



'BEE PRINTS FROM SCRATCH' Dry point print

With artist Catherine Cartwright

Sunday October 16th October

Venue: Large Meeting Room, Kaleider, Bathurst House, Smythen Street, Exeter, EX1 1BN.

Places available: Morning 10am - 1pm (6 places)
Afternoon 2am - 5pm (6 places)

Cost: £10.00 (minimum age 16)

Concessions: £5.00 (students, over 60's, & low waged)

In these two half-day workshops guided by expert printmaker Catherine Cartwright, you will get the chance to make a beautiful bee print from scratch. Drypoint is a printmaking method that is great for capturing the detail and surface texture of bees. Catherine will begin the workshop encouraging participants to make drawings of bees in graphite and Indian Ink; these may or may not inform the final drypoint scratching, but it will engage you in looking at and feeling the form of the bee. Drypoint involves scratching directly into perspex and when inked up, the perspex plates will create beautifully intense miniature prints. You will be working directly from specimens and images of a variety of bee species, looking closely to observe their individual character. All materials will be provided.



Bumble Bee a drypoint engraving by Catherine Cartwright

Catherine Cartwright is a multi-disciplinary artist, working primarily in printmaking, drawing, and film to explore the concept of freedom, the passage to refuge and the associated socio-political agendas particularly those impacting women. Catherine is a Director of Double Elephant Print workshop in Exeter and has exhibited widely.



‘UNDER THE MICROSCOPE IN THE AGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT’

Artist’s talk & rare books handling session looking at Hooke’s *Micrographia* & Nehemiah Grew’s *Anatomy of Plants*

With artist Stephen Park & Dr. Felicity Henderson - Lecturer in Archives and Material Culture University of Exeter

Saturday 19th November 10am - 2.30pm

(allowing an hour for lunch)

Venue: Richard Eyre Room (West Wing, Bishop’s Palace) Exeter Cathedral Library & Archives. The Bishop’s Palace, Palace Gate, Exeter.

Places available: 15

Cost: £10.00 (minimum age 16)

Concessions: £5.00 (students, over 60’s, & low waged)

In 1665, the year before London’s Great Fire, Robert Hooke published the world’s first fully illustrated book of microscopy. *Micrographia* revealed to its readers a new world crowded with unimagined life and intricately designed natural structures. A few years later in 1682 English botanist Nehemiah Grew published a similarly pioneering book *Anatomy of Plants* with it’s exquisitely intricate plates showing their inner structures and revealing the visual beauty of plant morphology at a cellular level.

Join Dr. Felicity Henderson & Stephen Park for this exciting opportunity to spend a few fascinating hours with Exeter’s very own copies of these first editions from Exeter Cathedral’s Rare Books Archive. Dr. Felicity Henderson will give a talk about these book’s and their significance to scientific understanding, philosophy and religion. Stephen Park will give a talk about the effect seeing *Micrographia* at this library had on his own practice, and will talk about his methodology in the creation of an artwork he made in response to seeing Hooke’s magnificent illustrations. Anyone wanting to make some drawings during the day are welcome (please bring your own sketch book



& drawing materials), or you are welcome to just come and enjoy looking at these exquisite books and learning how they continue to inspire artists and writers.



Photo credit: Juliette Mills

Stephen Park's work has been included in *New Contemporaries* at the ICA, the Serpentine, "Freeze" curated by Damien Hirst, and numerous other exhibitions, most recently a solo show at CCANW. He received a 1st class degree in fine art from Goldsmiths College and an H Dip from the Slade School of Art where he returned as the Henry Moore Fellow.

Felicity Henderson is a Lecturer in Archives and Material Culture at the University of Exeter. Her broad topic is 17th century intellectual culture, and within this has a particular interest in early-modern institutions (particularly the universities and the early Royal Society) and the circulation of ideas through manuscript, image and print.



BOOKING INFORMATION



All workshops and talks have a limited amount of places available. All events need to be booked either online or by phone except Professor Queen Bee and Punch & Judy which is a free event.

To book a place you can do so online or by telephone

Online: www.princesshay.co.uk/honeyscribe

Phone: 01392 459838

Honeyscribe was established by Artist Amy Shelton in 2011, to explore the relationship between bee health, human health, the environment and the arts. The aim of the project is to create dialogue and exchange about bees between scientists, artists, writers, bee keepers, school children and the general public through artistic practice - developing new artworks, delivering workshops and curating public events. www.honeyscribe.com

Princesshay City Bee Project. In 2012, Princesshay created a rooftop garden paradise for honey bees as part of an environmental initiative which is supported by landlords The Crown Estate and TIAA Henderson Real Estate and forms part of a wider biodiversity strategy. Honey harvested from the beehives installed in the rooftop garden is sold in Chandos Deli (located in Roman Walk) with proceeds being donated to Princesshay's Charity of the Year which, this year is Exeter Deaf Academy.

www.princesshay.co.uk/community/princesshay-city-bee-project

PRINCESSHAY CUSTOMER SERVICES POINT

Over the course of the weekend 23rd-25th September the Princesshay customer service point on Bampfylde Lane (between Superdry and Chandos Deli) will become a temporary exhibition space where the artists book *Melissographia* by Amy Shelton & award-winning author John Burnside will be exhibited as well as copies of Hattie Ellis's books on honey will be for sale. It will also be possible to buy Princesshay gift cards with a limited edition bee-themed gift card wallet created especially to coincide with these events.

Throughout Princesshay bee related merchandise will be displayed by retailers including Neal's Yard Remedies, Chandos Deli, Joules, Cath Kidston, Pandora & Insideout. Or pop into Coal Grill & Bar for a honey inspired cocktail – *Gold Rush* – a delicious creation using Makers Mark bourbon shaken with lemon and honey & served over ice!

Special thanks to Chandos Deli, Café Rouge, Kaleider,
University of Exeter, Exeter Cathedral Library