



'Enlighten a Dark Passage'

**Artist-led workshops as part of Milton Keynes Open Heritage Weekend
10th September 10.30am-3.30pm Central Milton Keynes Library**

Come along and explore the possibility of turning an underpass into a space of imagination and inventiveness in celebration of this iconic element of Milton Keynes' urban heritage.

Artist collective RARA will be hosting a creative workshop in the event space of Milton Keynes Central Library on the 10th September 10.30am-3.30pm as part of Open Heritage Weekend.

Underpasses are a unique part of Milton Keynes urban design. This artist-led workshop will attempt to subvert the usual perception of an underpass – that of a dark passage approached with trepidation – into a space valued by those who use it. The free, drop-in event will involve participants discussing creative ideas, sketching and making simple objects. No previous experience is required - just imagination - all ages and abilities are welcome.

The workshop is part of On the Verge's 'Underpasses, connecting people, connecting places' project.

RARA are a collective of architects, builders, artists, makers, writers, designers, enabling them to develop unique approaches to range of community based projects. For further information please visit: <http://r-a-r-a.com>

RARA, which stands for *The Redundant Architects Recreation Association (RARA)*, will be working with communities based on Conniburrow and Downs Barn. Through their practice, they collaborate on a broad spectrum of works with a commitment to bringing people together through the creative processes of design and making. More information on previous projects and members of the group can be found at: www.r-a-r-a.com.

If you want to find out more about the artist-led events taking place in your area please look at the On The Verge website **www.ontheverge.org.uk**

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Notes to Editors

On the Verge and its partners MK Council, The Parks Trust MK and the MK City Discovery Centre, are delivering the yearlong 'Underpasses' project with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), the MK Community Foundation and MK Council. On the Verge is a Community Interest Company.

On the Verge has been awarded an 'Our Heritage' grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund towards the '*Underpasses connecting people, connecting places*', which will see a series of heritage and cultural events taking place in 4 communities in Milton Keynes designed to explore its heritage and unique system of underpasses. On the Verge will be working with partners and artists to deliver a series of community engagement events to uncover local history, collecting artistic responses and oral histories. Artwork for two underpasses, a heritage trail and series of exhibitions and publications will be created through the project, culminating in a celebration event next year marking Milton Keynes' 50th Anniversary.

For further information images and interviews please contact either

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On The Verge website: <http://www.ontheverge.org.uk>

The Underpasses project is supported by: The Heritage Lottery Fund, Milton Keynes Community Foundation, and Milton Keynes Council and delivered in partnership with The Parks Trust MK, MK City Discovery Centre, and MK Council

