

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Artists Trail: Shining the spotlight on Abington Street and The Ridings**

*15<sup>th</sup> August 2016* – The Discover Northampton Artists Trail spotlight shines this week on Abington Street, The Ridings arcade and the surrounding area, with seven businesses hosting artwork by seven talented local artists.

Artists Trail explorers might choose to begin in **Northampton Central Library** on Abington Street, already one of the town centre's cultural hotspots. Also on Abington Street is the UK's favourite chocolate shop, **Thorntons**, where visitors can pick up a sweet treat while looking for Artists Trail work. Artists Trail host **Edinburgh Woollen Mill** is also on Abington Street, as is hair salon **Daniel Granger**. Meanwhile Family-run **Watts Furnishers** on Abington Street has been trading since 1896.

Inside The Ridings, **Peppertrees** is a quirky and award-winning gift shop, while **G&E McIntyres** is a well-established hair salon.

Featured artists include Northampton-based Jane Denton, who has been painting with watercolours for over a decade, and Sydney-born carpenter and artist Matt Burgess. Gemma Murdoch likes painting people and animals with an abstract twist, and trained cartoonist Adam Alexander, who has recently branched out into graphic design too.

Aiden Tagg enjoys working with oil paints and Aason Stephenson works with an expansive range of materials; fallen leaves, discarded ephemera, leather and even paper money. Cathy Sacco creates prints and paintings inspired by nature, while James Tebbutt is a paint specialist.

Pick up an Artists Trail leaflet from the Tourist Information Centre or a participating business, or download a digital version from the BID website at [www.northamptonbid.co.uk](http://www.northamptonbid.co.uk), and get exploring!

#### **About the Discover Northampton Artists Trail**

The Discover Northampton Artists Trail has been organised and funded by the Northampton Town Centre Business Improvement District (BID). It is a celebration both of local creative talent and of the vibrant, diverse businesses within Northampton town centre. 44

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businesses and destinations have volunteered to host artwork for the Trail, which will run from through to Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September.

Join in the conversation on Twitter by following @NorthamptonBID and using the #ArtistsTrail hashtag.

**ENDS**