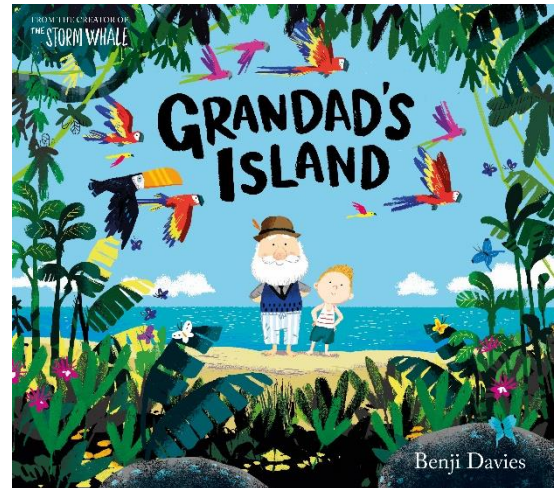


# Grandad's Island: From Page to Pavement

Wood Street  
Neighbourhood Commission  
Story Dens



## The Opportunity

Do you invent intriguing temporary shelters for people to enjoy?  
Do you enjoy co-creating artworks with residents?

Artillery is looking for artist collaborators to design and create robust, dismantable, re-usable 'Story Dens' with residents living in and around Wood Street responding to elements of your choosing in the picturebook *Grandad's Island*. The resulting structures will be visually curious to encounter. They will accommodate groups of different generations congregating within to share stories and/or participate in creative activities.

The Story Dens will create a neighbourhood installation for Bisterne Avenue Park with a complimentary programme of activities on day(s) to be agreed between 4<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> October. The Story Dens will be installed in Langthorne Park for the borough wide finale of *Grandad's Island*: from Page to Pavement on 13<sup>th</sup> October.

Structures can be created with sustainable materials suitable for:

- repeat assembly,
- moderate weather conditions (e.g. rain, wind speeds up to 30mph),
- packing down, simple transportation and storage,
- visually referencing themes and ideas in *Grandad's Island*.

This commission has been informed by children and adults participating in a three day Make and Play programme in Bisterne Avenue Park, and the tradition of den-building in nearby Epping Forest.

Artists & designer-makers interested in the commission are welcome to contact Artillery to discuss possible proposals. Artillery especially encourages artists with an ongoing connection with Waltham Forest to apply.



## About Grandad's Island: From Page to Pavement

Grandad's Island: From Page to Pavement invites neighbourhood communities in Waltham Forest to respond to the themes and ideas in Benji Davies' vivid and compassionate picture book: Grandad's Island. Taking the community and artist-led approach of the E17 Art Trail, "Grandad's Island: from Page to Pavement" is an invitation for everyone to get creative, drawing on the many themes of the book. The book is already translated into 35 languages reflecting the diversity of our borough - it speaks of so many things that affect families, communities and individuals including migration, sharing memories and stories, linking generations, love and loss, ecology and travel.

For a flavour of how this project is unfolding please see our latest [newsletter](#).

### Budget and working in partnership

Artillery can invest £4000 (inclusive) for artists' time, materials, workshop activity facilitation, transportation of artworks, and artwork installations/performance created for this neighbourhood commission. This budget includes the temporary installation and accompanying activities in Bisterne Avenue Park on 1-2 days to be agreed 4<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> October, and installation in Langthorne Park for the From Page to Pavement finale on 13<sup>th</sup> October.



Artillery have additional event budget for activities within the Story Dens at Langthorne Park.

Artillery will agree a payment schedule with the commissioned artist(s).

Artillery will familiarise the commissioned artist(s) with *Grandad's Island: From Page to Pavement* in August, including the creative development of the project to date.

Artillery has delivered some creative neighbourhood projects in the area, we will share our local insights about engaging Wood Street residents to inform a participative and creative neighbourhood approach for the project.

Artillery will coordinate the programme and infrastructure for the borough wide celebration in Langthorne Park.

Artillery will create overarching publicity for Grandad's Island: from Page to Pavement. The commissioned artist(s) will prepare information for inclusion in digital and print materials to promote their project.

Artillery will supply print and digital materials to publicise the workshops and events arising from this neighbourhood commission.

Artillery will inform the commissioned artists of future installations of the Story Dens as they arise and as is appropriate for the structures (i.e. Artillery may revisit this project as part of the Barbican's Open Fest in May 2020 and/or Walthamstow Garden Party in July).

Artillery will be happy to introduce commissioned artists with sessional workshop facilitators in complimentary fields such as ecology & forest school practice.

The commissioned artist(s) will utilise their communication channels to promote and celebrate their involvement.

The commissioned artist(s) will schedule sessions at times and locations to maximise neighbourhood participation in co-creation and programmed activities.

The commissioned artist(s) will agree a lead contact for this commission.

## Commitment from commissioned artists

The artists will draw on their experience:

- to co-create structures and decorative features with children and adults.
- to devise a programme informed by Grandad's Island themes and ideas and the From Page to Pavement approach for the period outlined in the timeline below.
- to observe all necessary health and safety procedures appropriate for the work being undertaken.
- to create temporary installations that meet British Standards for event structures.

- engage collaborating artists and workshop facilitators committed to Artillery's values, approach and observing our policies.

The commissioned artist(s) will ensure they have public liability cover for participative workshops and the installation and use of the 'Story Dens' in public places.



## Indicative Timeline

### August 27<sup>th</sup>, 5pm

Deadline for artists to submit outline proposals responding to the brief.

### August 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>

Shortlisted proposals discussed in more depth with artists.

### August 30<sup>th</sup>

Commissioned artists selected.

### September 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>

Commissioned artist prepares a creative programme for co-creating with Wood Street area residents and supplies a schedule outline for Artillery including details of additional artists to be involved.

Copy deadline for Grandad's Island: From Page to Pavement public programme print literature.

Commissioned artist prepares indicative outline for 'Story Den' installations in Langthorne Park.

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> – October 14<sup>th</sup>

Artist commission underway.

### October 4<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>

Grandad's Island: From Page to Pavement neighbourhood programme with artworks shared in the neighbourhoods in which they are created. Artillery anticipate the Wood Street area neighbourhood activities to happen in Bisterne Avenue Park.

### Sunday October 13<sup>th</sup>

Grandad's Island: From Page to Pavement in Langthorne Park – a celebration giving a platform for all the artworks created across the borough to be shared in one location.

### October 14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>

Initial evidence sharing for project evaluation such as anecdotal and photographic images, and simple form demonstrating participation.



## About Wood Street area & Bisterne Avenue Park

Wood Street is a residential area of Walthamstow. It is a very mixed residential population and includes a substantial amount of housing association properties, some alongside the most expensive properties in Walthamstow. There are a number of developments underway or planned for the area which is resulting in long-term uncertainty for some residents and businesses. One development has resulted in the extended (temporary) demolition of a major playground. Bisterne Avenue Park is the only sizeable park in the area, and is not universally known as an asset by families for the area. It is compact with three distinct areas including some very established trees. Epping Forest borders some of the Wood Street area very close to Bisterne Avenue Park.

Artillery has initiated participative projects including E17 Art Trail, Cultivate, Beans on Balconies and Make & Play Bisterne Ave Park. Over the years we have built relationships with some community groups and residents, this commission helps to continue our offer in this area engaging creative opportunities for residents less likely to participate in regional or national cultural offers. There is potential for this commission to link with another strand of Grandad's Island: from Page to Pavement project – a project devised with the Waltham Forest Asian Seniors Club who meet in nearby Shernhall Street.

## How to submit a proposal

Please provide an outline concept indicating the experience of you and your collaborators. Please include examples of your previous relevant work and a CV of the lead artist(s) or equivalent (e.g. artists own website / LinkedIn etc.).

Submit your information to [events@artillery.org.uk](mailto:events@artillery.org.uk) by 5pm on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> August.

To arrange an informal chat prior to preparing your proposal, please send your indicative availability to [events@artillery.org.uk](mailto:events@artillery.org.uk) and we will reply to book a call with you.



*Photographs of the launch of Grandad's Island: From Page to Pavement at the Walthamstow Garden Party 2019 © James Robertshaw*



## **Mobilising creativity in neighbourhoods**

Artillery is an arts development organisation specialising in mobilising creativity in neighbourhoods. This year saw us mark the 15<sup>th</sup> year of our flagship project, the E17 Art Trail with 8,500 artists and residents inspired to contribute creatively to the programme including 29 learning settings.

Artillery devises and delivers high quality, inclusive participative community projects and festivals and provides support to creative practitioners. Artillery's projects strive to bring communities together and build community cohesion through shared interests and shared experiences.

Artillery achieves high levels of participation with diverse residents by delivering activities in the places they live, work and play, co-authoring our creative programme together with residents. Our initiatives have expanded the cultural ecology of our neighbourhoods and the cultural capabilities among our communities.

We believe art can happen anywhere

We celebrate creativity and talent

We foster collaborations

We welcome everyone

We support local economies

Grandad's Island: from Page to Pavement commissioned by Waltham Forest London Borough of Culture 2019.

Artillery CIC

The Mill, 7-11 Coppermill Lane, E17 3NW

Company number: 9359140