
Messages of lockdown hope go on display at Bamber's West Horsley Place

GLADRAGS TOOK OVER A YEAR TO COMPILE

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SMALL messages of hope have been united in a new textile banner on display at West Horsley Place, which has re-opened for the spring and summer.

The GladRags community banner, a product of the Covid lockdowns, has gone on public display in Place Farm Barn.

The idea of artist Diana Burch and delivered in partnership with West Horsley Place Trust, the project launched during the first Covid-19 lockdown in April 2020.

Members of the local community were invited to create small textile

squares, using whatever they had available, to represent what made them feel glad during the challenging time.

The project continued throughout 2020. The squares have now been collected and sewn together by a group of local volunteers.

The display is supported by the Horsleys Community Fund Panel Chair, Clare Mathias, said the exhibition "promises to be a gem on our doorstep that showcases the strength of our community".

It can be viewed Wednesday to Friday until June 10.

Upcoming events at West Horsley Place, the Grade I listed mediaeval manor house which was inherited by original University Challenge quizmaster Bamber Gascoigne in 2014, include guided tours, open days, and theatrical performances.

It is the first time the house has re-opened since his death earlier this year.

Ben Pearce, director of West Horsley Place Trust, said: "Bamber and Christina Gascoigne's vision for West Horsley Place was that it should become a welcoming space for the community to share and enjoy with arts, history, heritage and nature at its heart, and our spring events programme has opportunities across each of these areas.

"Whilst we mourn the recent loss of Bamber, we are determined to uphold his extraordinary legacy, ensuring that as many people as possible can benefit from this wonderful place."



