

## PRESS RELEASE

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### ANOTHER LOCAL ARTIST SIGNS UP TO THE 'RETFORD ARTS FESTIVAL' 2017

**Polly Warren was once a nurse she then became a teacher but then returned to nursing and eventually retired as a nurse. Her passion is now for linocut printmaking.** She attended an exhibition of prints many years ago and it ignited something within her that she would see grow into her staging exhibitions of her own. An opportunity arose for her to attend a three-day summer school course with the renowned artist Richard Bawden which she grasped with both hands. She was so inspired that she went back year after year. Polly eventually set up her own studio in her garage at home and set to work capturing memories of gardens and places in her work with linocuts. Her art has since been displayed in many galleries and exhibitions. Although her work has been displayed in open exhibitions and various galleries her first solo exhibition will take place in the Spotlight Gallery at Newark Town Hall from 8 February - 11 March 2017. She is a member of the local art-group Artempo, Lincoln and Retford Art Societies and Sheffield Printmakers. Polly enjoys taking part in the annual Open Studios too.



Polly will exhibit her work again this year in Retford's own celebration of creativity - the second 'Retford Arts Festival' which will bring together art, creativity, theatre and music in many venues across the town. And lots more local artists will be joining her too. It's not too late to sign up if there are any artists out there who would like to include their work in Retford's own Arts Festival.

There are also opportunities to demonstrate support of this festival through: sponsorship of individual events, provision of printed materials and signage, donations to help toward the costs of hiring equipment and of course, volunteering in any capacity. For further information concerning any aspect of the festival please visit [www.retford-hub.org](http://www.retford-hub.org) or call the Hub on 01777 860414.

Chris Daniels, of the organising committee commented: 'Ret-

ford's first art festival was a huge success. It was a challenge with so many venues and artists but it worked extremely well and we estimate work from about 250 artists and artisans was on display. We learnt a lot from the first festival - this year's will be even better! If anyone would like to get involved in next year's event, please contact [chris@retford-hub.org](mailto:chris@retford-hub.org). Retford is probably Nottinghamshire's best kept secret and this art festival is one way that we can get together and put it on the map!