

PRESS RELEASE

World Party in the Park, 2 July 2011

Basingstoke Celebrates the World

[The Making](#) and [Basingstoke Multicultural Forum](#) have come together to create Basingstoke's first annual *World Party in the Park* on 2 July 2011 in **Eastrop Park, Basingstoke**.

With support from **Basingstoke & Deane Borough** and **Hampshire County Councils**, this FREE family event builds on the hugely successful World Arts Day held in Market Place in June last year.

World Party in the Park celebrates world cultures and the 2012 Olympics. It will bring together local, national and international artists to produce colourful craft, music, art, dance and other activities whilst showcasing the culture of North Hampshire's diverse communities in the popular setting of Eastrop Park.

It will be the town's first professionally run large scale world arts community event with an extensive associated education programme. It is part of an ambitious three year audience development programme to put professional artists, performers and community representatives in schools throughout Basingstoke and North Hampshire

In the weeks leading up to the event, **The Making** will run workshops in 17 local primary schools to create celebratory costumes, masks and performances. The workshops will be themed to link to Basingstoke's Five Gold Rings programme which has divided the borough into 5 zones each representing a continent. The results will be displayed in an exhibition at the [Willis Museum](#), and the children given an opportunity to take part in a spectacular parade to open the World Party on 2 July 2011.

Chetna Kapacee, a music agent and arts manager, has been appointed as event project manager for The Making. Chetna says "This is a wonderful opportunity for the many talented performers and community members of Basingstoke and North Hampshire to be part of a unique event. We are also looking forward to working with volunteer members of the town's **Youth of Peace**."

Hampshire County Council through its Hampshire Action Team and county councillors in the Basingstoke area has funded the project manager post and the education programme in 2011 to give a strong launch to the project. It is hoped that Basingstoke's international business community will support this year's event and the programme in future years.

For further information about the event, contact Chetna Kapacee at The Making on 01256 845786 or event@themaking.org.uk

THE MAKING®

Editors notes:

The Making (www.themaking.org.uk) is the leading craft and design charity in Hampshire. It exists to inspire people of all ages to take part in the making of art. Based in Basingstoke, it has initiated the World Party in the Park in order to meet key objectives of the borough and county councils and to achieve the following outcomes:

- A sustainable and high quality annual World Arts festival for North Hampshire families that grows in ambition and popularity, raises the profile and appeal of Basingstoke and surrounding area, and becomes a major regional event
- An effective world arts education programme that engages all sectors of the community
- A greater understanding of, and communication between businesses and communities in North Hampshire
- Greater engagement in mainstream activities by the borough's diverse communities and young people.

The Making is working on this project in partnership with the borough and county councils and with the Basingstoke Multicultural Forum and The Youth of Peace.

Basingstoke Multicultural Forum exists to promote a better understanding between different faiths and cultures in the borough of Basingstoke and Deane.

www.bmforum.org.uk

The Youth of Peace

The Youth of Peace (formerly the Basingstoke Interfaith Youth Group) is an initiative that gives young people between the ages of 11-19 the chance to meet people from different cultures and religions, to form friendships, and learn about the community they live in. Young people are encouraged to get involved in community projects that raise awareness about social issues and promote harmony, and well being on their neighbourhoods.