



About Us

Horse + Bamboo is an arts organisation & charity, based in Waterfoot. Since 2006, we have been in a building standing at centre of the Rossendale Valley with a 90-seat venue, café/bar, rehearsal, workshop, meeting rooms and large store of H+B's extensive visual theatre archive. H+B was formed in 1978 to take visual & predominantly non-verbal performances to places neglected by conventional forms of theatre. The name comes from the use of horses to pull a caravan when touring, a central feature of the company's work until 1999.

Horse + Bamboo's Core Values:

- Everyone is creative
- Our cultural lives matter. They are vital to who each of us is. It is a human right.
- We will not allow lack of finance to limit participation
- We take our civic responsibility seriously
- We will show leadership in environmental sustainability within our organisation and in developing partnerships

H+B's activities include :

Year-Round Programme

Horse + Bamboo has a year-round programme of children's theatre, film, music & workshops running from our venue in Waterfoot. Our venue includes a 100-seat theatre space and bar, as well as housing our Creation Centre upstairs and Horse + Bamboo's unique 45-year archive of masks, puppets, banners & more!

Waterfoot Wakes

Wakes is our summer festival, running for 10 days across Waterfoot, including a parade featuring bands, schools and community groups through the centre of Waterfoot.

Baby Boo

Horse + Bamboo's early years programme of work, directed by Sue Auty.

- Fortnightly relaxed, open-ended sensory play sessions at Horse + Bamboo in Waterfoot.
- Sessions across Rossendale delivered for community groups.
- Professional Development for Early Years practitioners across the North West, in partnership with Manchester Metropolitan University.

Creation Centre

New from April 2023, Horse + Bamboo's Creation Centre comprises workshop spaces, hot desking and rehearsal room for artists and theatre companies.

CottonShed Theatre

CottonShed Theatre currently delivers activities across Rossendale, with the support of Horse + Bamboo.

- Weekly inclusive theatre sessions
- Parent & baby sessions 'Sign & Rhyme'
- Silver Shed, intergenerational project bringing together care home residents & primary school children.