



Using the Creative Art of Maps and Map-making to Deepen our Conversations with Others and Ourselves

With Val Davies & Sue Holland
Fri 22nd (6pm) – Sun 24th Nov (4pm) 2019

Maps and mapping help us to orientate ourselves, often geographically in a place, and sometimes in time, like a timeline map or memory map.

Although the maps we often use are created by someone else, with symbols, language and scales, it can be useful and creatively rewarding to craft a map that has unique meaning and significance for oneself.

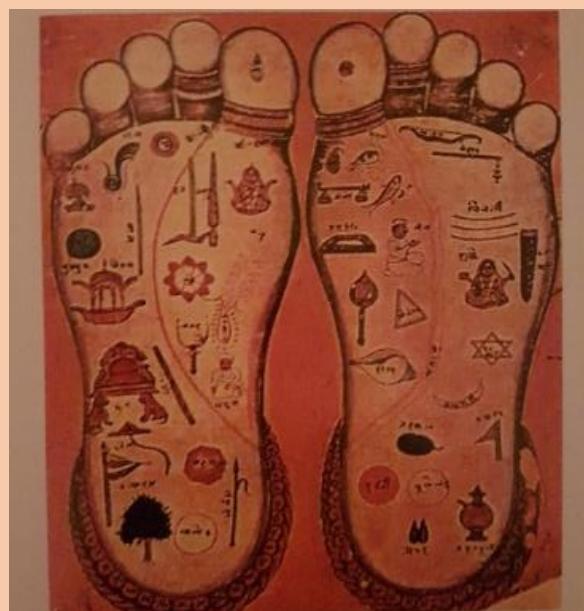


A map that is bespoke can open new possibilities, lead to exploration or capture a time of life, a memory, an experience or relationship. They can help us make sense of the past or in shaping the future. They can also be incredibly beautiful articles, so the process of crafting and map-making can sometimes be reward enough... and fun!

There is a lovely line in a poem by the Spanish poet, Antonio Machado:

*"Traveller, there is no path,
the path is made by walking"*

We could read this as a wonderful invitation to create a map with new paths, to walk freely, to craft one's own life and to simply choose to walk in the long grass for a while!



Until now, Val and I have run half-day workshops on personal map-making which have been tremendously rewarding and fun. However, many attendees suggested that we extend the time so that rather than leaving with a hurriedly sketched piece, some attention could be paid to making something more beautiful (painted / drawn / stitched / felted / collage). The suggestion has turned into this weekend, the first of which we ran in November 2018 - a gathering for anyone who fancies spending some time in the company of other would-be map-makers.

The Invitation:

Up to 10 of us (including Val and Sue) will gather at Creative Beings, The Old Rectory Studio, Awliscombe, Devon on Friday 22nd Nov from 6pm and eat, drink, sleep, walk, talk, share, craft and map-make through until 4pm on Sunday 24th Nov 2019.



The Studio

Course fee:

- The 2-day course fee is £150pp (which includes lunch and refreshments on Saturday & Sunday)
- We have 3 letting bedrooms at The Old Rectory so if you would like to stay here, the Dinner, Bed & Breakfast rate starts at £80 per night (depending on the room)
- There are other B&Bs close by that we can recommend and if you prefer something more predictable, there is a Premier Inn in Honiton. If you are not staying with us but would like to join in our course dinners on the Friday & Saturday – the charge will be an extra £10 per dinner.
- We have plenty of creative materials included for you to use and a list of things to bring will be emailed to you nearer the time
- There will be extra new materials available for you to purchase at cost if you need / want them (e.g. drawing books / specialist paper / wool fibre etc.

Sue Holland:

Sue has been making maps all her life, in her head and on paper, to find treasure (as a child!), to explore purpose and more latterly, to locate herself! Some of them have been literal representations of places, many more of them have been figurative and metaphoric, a way of gaining insight from an experience, a relationship, or an organisation.



Val Davies:

After a variety of early work, Val achieved a combined arts degree and started her life as a textile artist. The threads that run through her work revolve around personal memory and memory loss. The challenge of memory recall led her to find visual ways to record her thoughts, journeys and experiences, and so she became involved in map making. Her maps are of journeys, real, geographic, imagined and explore the meaning of things

