

Village ready for first arts festival

THE first ever Broadway Arts Festival launches on Friday (June 11) and organisers are hoping it will be a huge success.

The inaugural festival, dedicated to acclaimed artist John Singer Sargent and the Broadway Colony, runs until Sunday, June 20 and sees a whole jam-packed programme of events taking place in the village.

The festival celebrates the life of John Singer Sargent who lived in Broadway for some time and created one of his most famous

paintings there, *Carnation Lily Lily Rose*.

During the ten day festival the popular Giffords Circus will be coming to the village and there will be various exhibitions, plays, musical concerts, and a flower festival.

Other highlights will include guided walks with Broadway artist Jeremy Houghton and a unique recreation of the painting *Carnation Lily Lily Rose* using food.

Fruit and vegetable artists, Julie Thomas and Chris Smith, will use locally sourced asparagus, strawberries, raspberries, broccoli, leeks

and onions to create their masterpiece.

Debbie Williamson, one of the festival organisers, said Sargent's famous painting was a highly detailed piece.

"It will take skilled artists to recreate this delightful work using fruit and vegetables and we look forward to it being part of the festival," she said.

For more information about the circus visit www.giffords.com and for more information about the festival and a full list of events visit www.broadwayartsfestival.com.

Broadway Arts Festival Steering Committee members Micaela Schmitz, Angus Brown, Debbie Williamson, Barry Hancox, Sonia Woolven and chairman Michael Ayshford Sanford prepare for the launch. Photograph by Lucy Ford 2310029LFR

