

FORGE MILL Needle Museum HERITAGE DAY September 13th 2026



Forge Mill Needle Museum in Redditch illustrates the rich heritage of the needle and fishing tackle industries. Models and recreated scenes provide a vivid illustration of how needles were once made, and how Redditch once produced 90% of the world's needles.

On the same site, just a short walk from Forge Mill Museum, are the ruins of Bordesley Abbey - a medieval Cistercian Abbey which has been extensively excavated. The Abbey Visitor Centre, is in an original reconstructed 16th century barn. Our Community Supported Heritage Day runs from 11am to 4.00 pm on the day, the site opens at 10 am.

Activities

Amongst the wide range of local activities which we will have are:

- A range of iconic motorbikes from the Royal Enfield owners Club
- Meticulously built model boats from the Little Radford Model Boat Club
- We will have music throughout the day from Indigo Arts our local community charity supporting young people. They will be presenting 'The Eye of the Needle', a musical history of needle making at Forge Mill Museum from the 18th to 21st September (entry entry cost involved) and will giving a preview at our Heritage Day on the 13th of September.
- AIR (Arts in Redditch), a charitable organisation promoting and supporting arts, will be on-site with local artists and information on art in the town.
- Worcestershire Wildlife Trust will be promoting wildlife in Worcestershire.
- plus, other local organisations.
- Free entry to the current exhibition in the Museum gallery
- Free entry into the museum - with the only existing water powered scouring mill which has been refurbished for 2026.
- Tours by experienced volunteer guides of the Needle Museum and the Bordesley Abbey Ruins.
- Access to the newly refurbished children's play area plus activities for children.
- Gifts, local produce, and needles can be purchased from the Museum Shop.
- Refreshments and light lunches are available from the refurbished and extended Mill View Coffee Bar.