

2016

Forge Mill Needle Museum

Exhibition

# Forge Mill Needle Museum

## Exhibitions





Exhibition - Sew Small  
12<sup>th</sup> March to 24<sup>th</sup> April 2016



A fascinating new exhibition entitled 'Sew Small' at Forge Mill Needle Museum gallery runs from Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March until Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2016.

The exhibition is of work by members of the Miniature Needlework Society International <http://www.mnsociety.org.uk/>

In the showcases you can explore the world in miniature, with an exhibition of everyday items worked small enough for the tiniest and prettiest of doll's houses. The items show outstanding craftsmanship and fine detailed work and demonstrates a variety of needlework techniques from lace making and tatting, to crochet work and embroidery. There are over 250 miniature items on display by 35 members of the Society.

Also on display is a beautifully furnished doll's house, made by a specialist maker, complete with a stunningly stitched garden.

There will be demonstrations by members of the group in the gallery on Tue 22 March, Mon 28 March, Tue 29 March and Fri 1 April. Read more on the Forge Mill Museum events page. <http://www.foragemill.org.uk/events.htm> where you can also find opening times etc.



Exhibition **TANGENT TEXTILES: WARRIORS**  
Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April to Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2016



As part of their series of exhibitions celebrating the world of contemporary and traditional textiles, Forge Mill Needle Museum is hosting a splendid exhibition from the Tangent Textile Group in the Museum Gallery.

This group of talented and enthusiastic textile artists, who are based in the midlands, are presenting work which has been inspired by warriors from the ancient world. Each artist has taken a different warrior as their inspiration and the mix of subjects illustrates their diverse strengths and expertise. The result is an amazing fusion of ancient motifs, form and colour reworked for today's textile audience.

The exhibition began on Thursday 28th April and continues until Sunday 5th June.

You can also meet the Artists for an informal chat about their work in the gallery on Wednesday 11th May and Wednesday 1st June.



Exhibition 'SCOUR: THE HIDDEN LANDSCAPE'  
Friday 10th June to Sunday 3rd July 2016



In this event, artists Keith Ashford and Elizabeth Turner explored underlying threads that connect Forge Mill's needle collection and its unique scouring mill to the medieval landscape of Bordesley Abbey and its environment using the mediums of sculpture, video and sound.

While not an immediate 'showstopper', it was well worth a visit and showed an intriguing combination of artworks using a combination of techniques to illustrate the theme.

Keith and Elizabeth also created a number of artworks in the area including the 'silver fishes' on the Arrow between the five tunnels and Papermill Farm and there are also temporary artworks under the Parkway and Coventry fly-overs.



**Exhibition CLASS ART!****Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July to Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July 016**

From Wednesday 6 July to Sunday 17 July 2016 we had an exhibition in the Forge Mill Needle Museum gallery entitled 'CLASS ART!'.

This was a wonderful and inspiring work from St Bede's Catholic Middle School, where the students showcased their artistic talents using a variety of mediums



Exhibition: WAY OF THE WARRIOR  
Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July to Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September



There is an amazing new exhibition in the Forge Mill Needle Museum Gallery for the summer season. Entitled 'the Way of the Warrior: Epic Movies and Armour', it runs from Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July to Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2016.

It features props and costumes that have been used in epic historical blockbuster movies, including selections of warrior costumes and armour, and 'screen used' props from some of the biggest 'sword and sandal' epics of recent years, including Troy, Hercules, Alexander, Centurion, The Eagle, King Arthur, and the hit TV series Spartacus.

Of particular interest are the Oscar winning costumes from the multi award winning Gladiator (2000) and a full suit of Sarmatian armour used in the climactic battle scenes of King Arthur (2004) which was created by the legendary screen armourer Terry English, who worked on Excalibur and Aliens. Visitors will also be able to see the armour and costume of Spartacus as worn by Liam McIntyre from the Starz series Spartacus Vengeance (2012).

In addition, this exhibition also offers a range of interactive replica handling armour and movie props so visitors can experience what it would have been like to wear the armour and handle weapons from the ancient world. This exhibition is highly recommended and is suitable for all ages.



Exhibition - Made in Britain: Concealed  
9<sup>th</sup> September to 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2016



From Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September to Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2016 Forge Mill Needle Museum was host to a new exhibition entitled 'Made in Britain: Concealed'.

The exhibition involved a creative range of exhibits from some of Britain's most well-known and respected textile artists: Louise Baldwin, Pauline Barns, Hilary Beattie, Ineke Berlyn, Cas Holmes, Rosie James, Edwina MacKinnon, Sandra Meech, Stephanie Redfern, Christine Restall and Jenny Rolfe.

They encompass a breath-taking range of textile art interpretation methods and styles, with every participant demonstrating what the term 'concealed' means to them. This can range from physical concealment to hidden histories, hidden kingdoms, cities, civilisations, veiled faces, expressions and views.

The images shown do not show the vibrancy and colour of the originals and a visit was well worthwhile.



## Exhibition: Redditch Farming History

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October to Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2016

For last 2016 exhibition in the museum's gallery we hosted a display by Redditch Local History Society entitled 'Redditch: Its Farming History'.

The exhibition began on Wednesday 26th October and ran until Sunday 27th November. The exhibition uses maps, photographs, drawings, sales documents and information to show the farming history of Redditch over the past 100 years.

During the Wednesdays of the exhibition the Society had 'drop in' sessions where members of the History Society will be available to discuss the exhibition with visitors.

This was a very successful exhibition and had a lot of response from local residents and the History Society obtained much useful information for their archives.



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