

Thermometer tally on mill fundraising efforts

THINGS have been heating up for the historic Cromford Mills site – with the unveiling of a thermometer to prove it.

The Unveiling by former Blue Peter presenter Simon Groom took place in April and marked the launch of the Arkwright

Society's major public fundraising campaign.

The gigantic thermometer, running the full depth of a mill wall, will be tracking fundraising efforts to secure the future for Richard Arkwright's pioneering Cromford Mills.



Chief Executive of the Arkwright Society Sarah McLeod said: "We're working really hard at Cromford to transform our largest building into a world-class visitor centre and creative industries hub.

"That will make the site self supporting, but in order to reach this milestone we must continue to raise enough funds to ensure we meet our annual obligations to UNESCO to maintain and improve the site for future generations until they can be funded by income from that project."

KEEPING THE WHEELS TURNING: Sarah McLeod with Simon Groom at the unveiling of the giant fundraising thermometer in Cromford Mill yard.



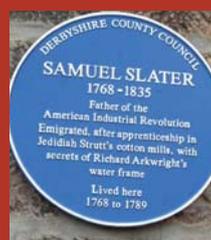
Victoria returns for Jubilee celebrations

AS PART of Derbyshire's Jubilee Celebrations, the only previous Queen to celebrate her Diamond Jubilee – Victoria – returned to Belper after 180 years!

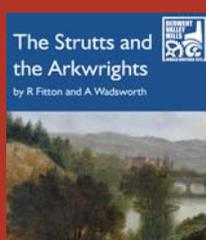
Victoria's 1832 visit was re-enacted by local lookalike Emma Moore on June 3 as

part of a World Heritage Site event in Belper River Gardens. She was escorted around the gardens by Amber Valley Mayor John Nelson in his full regalia.

See page 3 for more on the Derwent Valley Mills jubilee celebrations.



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United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Derwent Valley Mills
inscribed on the World
Heritage List in 2001

Milford's stolen mill bell is recovered

AN HISTORIC mill bell stolen by thieves last September turned up in a scrap yard in Ashbourne.

The bell – one of very few relics to survive the demolition of the Milford Mills in 1964 – has now been returned to the owners of the former mill site.

Nigel Enright, managing director at Inca Metals in Ashbourne, where it was found, paid £560 for the bronze bell and was planning to restore it, until he heard the news about the theft. He handed the bell back despite being considerably out of pocket. The

2ft tall 160kg bell was taken to his scrapyards by a man in a white van.

Heritage Co-ordinator for the Derwent Valley Mills Adrian Farmer said: "We thought we would never see it again and it would be sold on and melted down. Mr Enright should be

applauded for returning the bell – it was irreplaceable."

The site of the bell is owned by Clowes Estates and is to be developed for housing. No decision has yet been made about where the bell will finally be placed.

Harnessing the power of the Derwent

THE DERWENT Valley Mills World Heritage Site not only tells us about the past but, as our resources dwindle, perhaps points a way for the future. We need clean energy to replace dwindling fossil fuels and to lessen the effects of climate change. Can we again harness the river for the good of our communities?

Some may be surprised that work is already underway to do just that. Apart from the new turbine at Derby's Longbridge Weir that will power the Council House there are a number of other hydro generators quietly working away.

The largest of these is at Belper's East Mill but there are also turbines at Masson Mills and at Milford. There are smaller scale generators at Cromford's Corn Mill and at Hamlyn Mill.

Powering 1,500 homes in total and reducing carbon emissions by 2,600 tonnes is not a huge amount in the grand scheme of things but there is even more potential.

Transition Belper have embarked on an ambitious project to develop a community owned hydro scheme and have won support from the Co-operative Community Energy Challenge - one of only seven projects selected from 140 applications.

The project group believe their vision was instrumental in securing this support and are confident it can inspire the community to get involved, support and take ownership of the selected scheme. It reads: "In the area that first harnessed water power on a scale that gave us the industrial revolution, we wish once again to create energy from water, to kick-start a renewable energy revolution in the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage site and surrounding areas."

For more information contact David George, Transition Belper Energy Group Leader, at info@transitionbelper.org or visit the website www.transitionbelper.org

Landscape renewal bid in development

IN SEPTEMBER 2011, £87,000 was secured from the Heritage Lottery Fund to develop a full application for a major landscape renewal initiative through their Landscape Partnership Programme.

If successful this application will lead to a five year, £2.4million project, which will safeguard and restore the iconic landscape of the Lower Derwent Valley – much of it in the World Heritage Site – for many generations to come.

The project is now known as *DerwentWISE - The Lower Derwent Valley Landscape Partnership Project*. It is being led by the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust on behalf of a partnership which, in addition to the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site Partnership, includes Natural England, the Environment Agency, English Heritage, the Forestry Commission, Derbyshire County Council, Derby City Council, the National Stone Centre, Fleet Arts, the Arkwright Society and Amber Valley Community Voluntary Services.

The development phase of the project is now well underway with Kevin Mann appointed as the projects development officer in February this year.

The project area uses the DVMWHS and its protective buffer zone as its core but as it is both a landscape and heritage initiative, it extends further, to include areas such as Middleton and Bonsall in the north.

A consultation exercise has now begun to ensure local communities and landowners are engaged with the project and ideas are taken on board.

Although not fully developed in detail the project is likely to include the following:

- A grant scheme for small landscape, conservation and heritage projects together with advice and help with funding bids for landscape improvements



- Providing better countryside access and interpretation so that people can experience and enjoy the Valley to its full
- Training in a variety of traditional skills, based at the new Derbyshire Eco Centre and National Stone Centre both near Wirksworth
- Restoring, linking and extending wildlife habitats
- Protecting and restoring landscape features like dry stone walls, hedgerows and ancient trees
- Involving volunteers to survey and safeguard archaeological features and geological sites
- Offering opportunities for the public to get involved in arts activities, education activities with schools, a Forest Schools programme and 'twinning' rural and urban

If you would like more information do contact Kevin Mann on 01773 881174 or email kmann@derbyshirewt.co.uk or visit Derbyshire Wildlife Trust's website www.derbyshirewildlifetrust.org.uk

To help with development of the project, visit the website and fill in the on-line survey.

THE DERWENT LANDSCAPE: Woodland, fields and formal gardens, seen from Belper's East Mill.



MILL VISITORS: Emma Moore, her mum Dawn and John Nelson re-enact Victoria's visit to Belper's mills in 1832 (inset).

Celebrating despite the rain

IN 1832, heir to the British throne Princess Victoria and her mother the Duchess of Kent arrived in a horse-drawn carriage to look around the Belper Mills, which were already recognised as one of the most important industrial sites in the country.

On the Sunday of the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations weekend in June, that moment was re-enacted by Victoria lookalike Emma Moore and her mum Dawn, when they arrived by carriage at Belper River Gardens.

Despite a day of heavy rain, children came down to the gardens to greet her, dressed up as the cheering mill-children who greeted Victoria when she arrived as a princess and heir to the throne in 1832.

Flags were distributed for on-lookers to wave, and on arrival Princess Victoria was formally greeted by the Mayor of Amber Valley Councillor John Nelson in his full regalia.

The royal visitors were then escorted into the gardens to switch on a new fountain in the mill pond, cut a ribbon to open the newly franchised boating facilities on the river and present awards to long-serving World Heritage volunteers in the bandstand.

Emma and her mum were then taken to the nearby Strutt's North Mill museum to recreate a scene which featured in newspapers after Victoria's 1832 visit, before returning to the Gardens to depart in the newly renamed rowing boat 'Princess'.

As the rain continued to pour down, a Larks in the Park music event, provided by Belper Town Council, carried on regardless at the bandstand.

The Chairman of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site Board Councillor Andrew Lewer said: "June 3rd not only commemorated Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee, but also celebrated Derbyshire's only

World Heritage Site, and the work of the many people who volunteer their time to make it such a success.

"It was a big day for the Derwent Valley Mills, with the unveiling of a blue plaque in Belper for industrialist Samuel Slater, a visiting delegation from the Blackstone Valley in America, and Open Houses displaying local artists' work around the town."

UNVEILED: Councillor Lewer and Bob Billington of the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council unveil the blue plaque to commemorate the Belper birthplace of Samuel Slater, father of the American Industrial Revolution.



Planning for future of our heritage

THE WORLD Heritage Site Partnership is now well on the way to producing its Management Plan for the next five years. This plan is a key requirement for maintaining the Site's current status with UNESCO.

Working with colleagues from across the site, a working group of conservation and planning officers have reviewed current policy documents and produced a position statement for the Site, outlining its strengths and weaknesses and the opportunities available, as well as the threats it may have to face.

DVMWHS Director Mark Suggitt said: "Unlike many other World Heritage Sites, ours is a living community in which thousands of people live and work. Consultation is therefore very important in shaping the Plan.

"Using a web based questionnaire and the Derbyshire County Council Citizens Panel we have had an excellent response. Over 4,000 people responded through the Citizens Panel and 274 through the web survey. Over 50% of them had visited at least one of the sites within the last 12 months and almost half were aware that they were within the World Heritage Site – this figure was higher on the web survey.

"70% would recommend a visit to others. Most people arrived by car and the main reason for their visit was for a family day out.

"We also canvassed people outside Belper Morrison's on a sunny day in March and have held a number of focus groups with local businesses, schoolchildren, a cross section of local people and the Site's Partnership Forum.

"Thanks to the County Council's Policy and Research Unit the results of these activities will help shape our strategy."

Work will continue on the Plan and it is Mark's intention to submit it early in 2013.

FORMAT 2013

ESTABLISHED in 2004, FORMAT is now one of the UK's leading festivals of photography and related media.

A partnership between QUAD, Derby City Council and the University of Derby it is a great place to see a huge range of new work alongside some of the best-known practitioners in the world. Organised by QUAD it runs every two years, with venues in and around Derby.

The theme for 2013 is 'Factory' and has a clear synergy with the history and interpretation of the pioneering mills along the Derwent valley. World Heritage Site Director Mark Suggitt has been working with QUAD to discuss how the Derwent Valley Mills can be involved and act as inspiration for events and commissions.

FORMAT will take place in March/April 2013. Watch out for further details at www.formatfestival.com

Painting the valley

IF in coming months you spot a man sketching or taking photographs in the World Heritage Site you may find it is Barley Beal, the winner of the 2012 Vickers Fine Art Award.

A graduate of Wimbledon College of Art, Barley will create a body of work taking its inspiration from the World Heritage Site and its people. Once completed, his work will be exhibited at Derby Art Gallery in autumn, 2013.

Speaking about the project Barley said: "Each painting will be an honest response to the people and history of the area. It will be an exciting challenge to submerge myself and learn the secrets and stories of a place that is new to me."

Established in 1998 the Vickers Fine Art Award is one of the UK's leading art prizes. It was established by the Derbyshire Community Foundation with the help of a legacy from the estate of the late Jonathan Vickers. In honour of his lifetime devotion to the Arts, the award brings a rising painter to Derbyshire to produce a new body of work inspired by the county's landscape, heritage and people. In addition to this the artist works with schools and students at the University of Derby, where they have a studio.

Said World Heritage Site Director Mark Suggitt: "We're delighted the World Heritage Site is the subject for this year's prize and look forward to working with Barley."

More treasures for the Enlightenment! Project

THE ENLIGHTENMENT! Project has continued to buy and conserve objects relating to Derbyshire and the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site.

The five year Heritage Lottery funded project which comes to an end in June 2013 is a partnership between Buxton Museum and Art Gallery, Strutt's North Mill at Belper and Derby Museum and Art Gallery.

Objects have been purchased from auction houses, private sellers and eBay and include topographical art of the area, scientific instruments and ceramic souvenirs. Here is a selection of some of the purchases over the last 12 months.



View at Cromford, Derbyshire from the bridge by William Day, 1789.

This watercolour shows the view from Cromford Bridge with the smelting mills on the left hand side of the river. This is a rare and unusual view as the mills would soon be demolished to make way for St Mary's Church – Arkwright's private chapel.

William Day was an amateur artist and geologist who went on a tour of Derbyshire with fellow artist and friend John Webber. Webber is the better known of the pair as he was the official artist for Captain Cook's third voyage. The pair travelled through Derbyshire in 1789 and painted many scenes including Arkwright's mill at Cromford and Dovedale. Earlier in the project Buxton Museum and Art Gallery bought two Webber and Day watercolours of Castleton, meaning that the County know holds an important record of their tour.

W.G & J Strutt's Macrame Twine.

Strutt's North Mill at Belper bought this twine in its original packaging from eBay. It dates from 1913 and the box shows a picture of the the Mill. It has survived untouched and in very good condition.



Full Street, Derby by Peter Perez Burdett (c1743 – 1793)

Derby Museum and Art Gallery bought this sketch at auction. It shows Full Street in Derby and includes the artist's house on the left – the tall house, next but one to the almshouses. Burdett moved into the house in 1765 and had his friend, the architect Joseph Pickford remodel it in the fashionable Gothic style. Burdett was a cartographer, surveyor and topographical artist and friend of Joseph Wright. His interests ranged from astronomy to print making and he produced the first aquatint printed in England.



New Bath Hotel by William Saxton

Buxton Museum and Art Gallery bought this watercolour from a private seller and it has since undergone substantial conservation. The image shows the New Bath Hotel in Matlock Bath complete with a rather windswept looking tree, a group of tourists and the ubiquitous angler that graces so many Derbyshire scenes.

You can make out the sign on the gable end of the hotel which reads 'Saxton's New Bath Hotel'. George Saxton and his son owned the New Bath Hotel from around 1787 to the 1850s. While there were many boarding houses to stay at in Matlock Bath, the 'well to do' visitors would stay at the New Bath Hotel, Temple Hotel or Hodkinson's Hotel. Dr Granville writing in 'The Spas of England' in 1841 considered the New Bath Hotel the best of the three with the decorated ball room being its main attraction.

For more information about the project and to see a full list of acquisitions, visit the blog at www.enlightenmentderbyshire.wordpress.com If you know of anything that you think the project might be interested in buying then please contact Anna Rhodes at anna.rhodes@derbyshire.gov.uk

Making good progress at Darley Abbey

During 2012, there has been tangible progress made towards delivering the aims of the Darley Abbey Regeneration Strategy.

In March, the inaugural Darley Abbey Regeneration Stakeholder Forum was held at Derby Rugby Club where an audience of local stakeholders and interested parties were updated on the strategy and heard from mill owners and the Council about plans to bring the mills back into economic use.

Since then the following progress has been made:

- Repairs have been undertaken to North Mill, the Mill Managers House and the Proto Fireproof Building. English Heritage funding was used to complete vital weather-proofing works to the buildings so they can be retained for economic use
- A variety of new and exciting businesses continue to move into the mill buildings, particularly North Mill. New tenants to move to Darley Abbey Mills in recent months include Mackney Photography and Brewer Science. Anthony Attwood from Patterns Property Ltd said "The buildings have been refurbished to provide bespoke spaces for new occupiers who really



appreciate the unique character of the buildings."

- Repairs to the road surface on Haslams Lane, the main entrance to the mills, were completed in June and will help to improve access to the site
- The Stable Block in Darley Park is soon to be tenanted once legal documents and contracts are finalised during the latter part of 2012
- Derby City Council's Heritage Grant Scheme remains available to mill owners for structural repairs to the buildings
- A planning policy framework has been produced by Derby City Council to assist the planning process at Darley Abbey Mills complex to encourage new enterprises at the mills
- The Environment Agency has undertaken consultation with local groups about the 'Our City, Our River' project which is

looking at ways to alleviate flood risk at Darley Abbey and the city centre

- Darley's Restaurant, one of the most popular venues at the mills, won the prestigious 'Restaurant of the Year' award at the end of 2011

In January, the Duke of Devonshire visited the mill site as part of a tour along the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site. He was able to look inside several of the mills and was impressed to see the progress being made in restoring and re-using the buildings.

DELIGHTED WITH PROGRESS: The Duke of Devonshire (right) on his tour of the Darley Abbey Mills with (from left) Derbyshire County Council's Strategic Director of Cultural and Community Services Martin Molloy, Chairman of the Derwent Valley Mills WHS Board Andrew Lower, Anthony Attwood from Patterns Property Ltd and World Heritage Site Director Mark Suggitt.

Activities at Strutt's North Mill attract all ages

AN IMAGINATIVE and more extensive events programme was launched at Strutt's North Mill in Belper this year, to encourage people of all ages to come and enjoy the historic attraction.

Combined with a new leaflet including an events list inside, North Mill manager Natascha Wintersinger is hoping an increase in the number and variety of events will continue to bring new and familiar faces into the mill.

"We are trying to find ways of broadening the scope of events previously offered and would like to make sure there's something fun and interesting for all age groups and profiles - so we've been trialling new and different activities this year," said Natascha.

Alongside the usual variety of guided tours relating to the rich history of the mills and Belper, the

museum has been aiming to offer other types of activities throughout the year, including short walks combined with workshops (such as the chocolate-making workshop at Easter) and a variety of craft workshops.

"Despite the fact that we could always do with a few extra volunteers, we've really been working hard on new events and also on organising more fun stuff for children at the mill," added Natascha. "We've offered a special joint kids day with Chucklebutties and regular craft and story-telling sessions and a series of puppet shows during the summer holidays."

With a variety of new events to continue this and next year, a full programme for participation in the up-coming Discovery Days and an important exhibition in



conjunction with *Enlightenment!* partners for 2013, Strutt's North Mill are determined to keep people coming back for more.

If you are considering becoming a volunteer please get in touch with

Natascha about the wide range of volunteering opportunities at the mill. Telephone 01773 880474.

PAPER CREATOR: North Mill Volunteer Liz Bolton shows her origami skills at one event.

Silk Mill vision is in development

A VISION is being developed for Derby's Silk Mill to become a 'place to inspire the next generation of makers through reconnecting people to a living tradition of engineering, production and world class technology and the making of real and useful things'.

Mixing Derby's engineering, technological and manufacturing origins and achievements with the concept of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art - relating to creativity and innovation - and Maths) the city's heritage will be brought to life through inspirational architectural design, engaging programmes, stimulating exhibitions and innovative use of artefacts alongside cutting-edge technologies.

Through its programmes, the Silk Mill will provide opportunities for people to engage and connect with hands-on experiences, research, experimentation, events, exhibitions and expertise to inspire people to become the next generation of innovators, makers and creators.

The project team is working with Bauman Lyons Architects on the reinvention of the Silk Mill, and exploring the options for redevelopment, with a desire for a first phase to be completed and the Silk Mill reopened in October 2013. It is envisaged they need to raise £15-25million for capital works over the next 10 years to achieve their ambitions.

Phase One proposals, totalling £1.5 million, include the reconfiguration of the ground floor space and development of the courtyard space behind the historic Bakewell gates. This will provide the backdrop for a new entrance and imaginative use of blank walls on the adjacent power station, to create new connections with the city centre. The venue will support a vibrant programme of events and incorporate

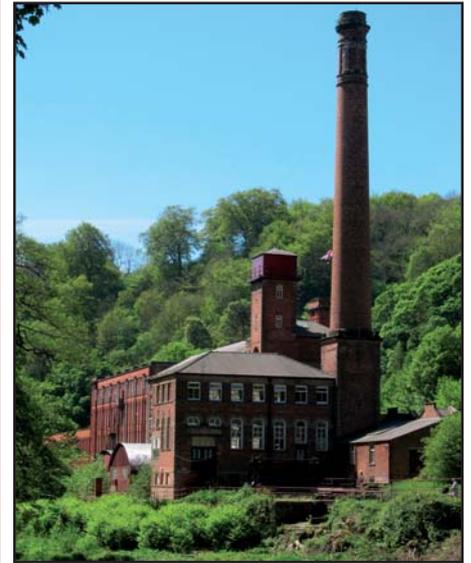
a new retail offer and catering facilities.

Initial consultation has shown respondents want development to go further, which has provided an opportunity for further creative responses, through an extension of the consultation period. Plans for Phase Two will be considered by early autumn and mapped alongside the architectural and business plan options appraisal, to build consensus for the most compelling solution.

Derby City Council has committed £680,000 towards the capital project and following the options appraisal the project team will determine how best to spend this funding.

The concept for the Silk Mill continues to be highly focussed and is currently being informed through experimental programming, the development of new partnerships, research and work with new audiences through the "inspiring making" theme. The programme is proving successful with over 13,000 people participating in creative events in the Silk Mill since the museum was mothballed in 2011.

This live, grass-roots market research is highly innovative, taking inspiration from the best international models while rooting it in Derby's story. It has seen the Silk Mill host the third UK Mini Maker Fair; support the graduate training scheme with Rolls Royce; develop and support the Derby Makers Group; support and co-produce a bi-monthly makers night club with arts collective/ musicians Holy Smokes; deliver Olympic Torch making events and most recently, host a young persons' summer making school, developed to inspire young people to make and invent, use their ingenuity and apply their imaginations to engineer their own magical, mechanical chain-reactive woodland (one example can be seen below).



Have a morning with mill owner

IF MONDAY mornings fill you with dread, or you wake up longing for a duvet-day, get down to Masson Mills, soak up the atmosphere of this 1783 cotton mill and imagine what working life was like 200 years ago. You may even leave with a grateful spring in your step!

You can choose three ways to enjoy Masson Mills Working Textile Museum (above):

- By popular request, the new "Morning with the Mill Owner" has been extended to include afternoons too! This is an opportunity not to be missed. The owner of Masson Mills will personally guide you. Your morning or afternoon starts with an introduction and short film, followed by working machinery demonstrations and a tour of areas of Masson Mills not normally accessible to the public, including the Research Library and Archive Room, Engine House and Turbine House with its working hydroelectric plant. Price of £7.50 per person includes guided tour, tea, coffee, biscuits and lots of great original stories. It lasts 1 ½ to 2 hours to suit – on selected dates only, advance booking essential; minimum group size is 25.
- Or you can pre-book the brand new tour with a Masson Mills guide (approximately 50 minutes). A short film is followed by a tour with working machinery demonstrations.
- Alternatively you can just turn up and self-guide at your own pace using the printed tour guide - machinery demonstrations are at set times every day. No need to pre-book and no guide fee. Your visit can be as long or as short as you like. (For groups of 20 or more, pre-booking is recommended to arrange bespoke demonstration times).

For booking enquiries contact massonoffice@gmail.com. Full details are available on www.massonmills.co.uk. Prices include VAT.



Creating ambassadors



WITH more people than ever coming in to the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site to discover its history and enjoy its attractions, a new scheme has been launched to make sure they get a warm welcome.

The team that promotes and manages the World Heritage Site is now offering free training to shop and business workers in Belper, so that when visitors ask them a question about the town's heritage, attractions and facilities they'll be able to give the right answer.

This pilot scheme is proving popular, with a good take-up by businesses, and it is hoped it will roll out to the other World Heritage Site communities in 2013.

There have been five one-off sessions so far, with more planned for the spring of 2013. To receive information on future training dates ring 01629 536831.

The free training involves a 90 minute walk with World Heritage Site Coordinator Adrian Farmer and Belper historian Mary Smedley, followed by a short session at the end to take attendees through an information pack

with extensive easy-to-use information about the town.

The Chairman of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site Board Councillor Andrew Lewer said: "A warm and welcoming first impression encourages visitors to stay a little longer and if we can provide them with the right information for lengthening their stay they will probably spend more in the town. Every satisfied visitor will go away and tell others about their experience and encourage them to visit. We are trying to make sure this happens."

The project came out of discussions within a new group dedicated to strengthening Belper and Milford as tourist attractions. Another successful initiative for this group, called 'The Belper Cluster Group' has been the production of a promotional film about the town, funded by Amber Valley Borough Council. This will shortly be available to watch through a link on the www.derwentvalleymills.org website.

IN TRAINING: Mary Smedley (right) tells Belper's latest batch of Ambassadors about the former deer park.

Events Guide launched for valley

TWENTY-FIVE thousand copies of the first Derwent Valley Mills Partnership Events Guide have been distributed across Derbyshire and further afield.

The guide was produced in order to provide visitors to the valley with information on lots of events in one publication rather than several.

This pilot publication, for which sites paid a nominal £50 to have up to ten events included, featured a selection of events from different attractions and organisations. These ranged from the Mills to the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, and covered a variety of events from workshops on Bees and Beekeeping to talks on Charles Dickens and Florence Nightingale.

The guide covered events from Easter to Christmas, and it is planned to become an annual publication, which will include more and more events and eventually replace the need for sites to produce their own separate leaflets.

The Events Guide has proved popular with visitors who can see at a glance a selection of events up and down the Derwent Valley throughout the main holiday periods.

Discovery Days volunteer Geoff dies

WORLD Heritage Site volunteer Geoff Errington died suddenly and unexpectedly in May.

Geoff had been a regular walk leader since the Discovery Days Festival began in 2005, and also held a number of voluntary posts in the Derwent Valley.

He was a committee member and founder of the Friends of the Derwent Valley Line (FDVL) and was for many years its Secretary. He devoted a lot of time promoting the line, organising walks and events during Community Rail Days, and was a station adopter at Belper.

He developed and maintained the FDVL website, and one for the Friends of Belper River Gardens, where he was also secretary.

Trevor Griffin, who chairs the Friends of Belper River Gardens, said: "Geoff has given the group lots of valuable support, including tirelessly producing the minutes, arranging meetings, producing and managing the excellent website and joining in our working parties.

"He also worked hard in preserving rights of way and supporting local rail services, and will be greatly missed."



SADLY MISSED: Geoff (right) at that start of one of his many Discovery Days walks.

Key books back in print

DEVELOPMENTS in Derbyshire's Derwent Valley during the late 18th century led to enormous technological and cultural changes which still resonate around the planet today.

These world-changing events – now celebrated by World Heritage status for the Derwent Valley Mills – are told in two newly reprinted books by Robert Fitton and Alfred Wadsworth, and published by the Derwent Valley Mills Educational Trust.

Fitton and Wadsworth came together in the 1950s to research the relationships and personalities which shaped the birth of the factory system, resulting in the publication in 1958 of *The Strutts and the Arkwrights*, about the two most influential families in the World Heritage Site's story. Fitton was a Manchester-based researcher who spent a lifetime piecing together the Arkwright story. Wadsworth was the one-time editor of the Manchester Guardian and writer on the history of the cotton industry.

Their work in promoting the area

inspired a succeeding generation to gain the highest possible recognition for the Derwent Valley Mills – inscription on The United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) World Heritage List.

Fitton later wrote *The Arkwrights: Spinners of Fortune*, and both books have now been reprinted by the Derwent Valley Mills Educational Trust. The Trust was created with funding from the University of Derby, the Derbyshire Building Society and the East Midlands Development Agency to provide public access to works about the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site.

This reprinting has been warmly welcomed by Andrew Lewer, the Chairman of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site Board, who has written new prefaces for the books. He said: "Fitton was

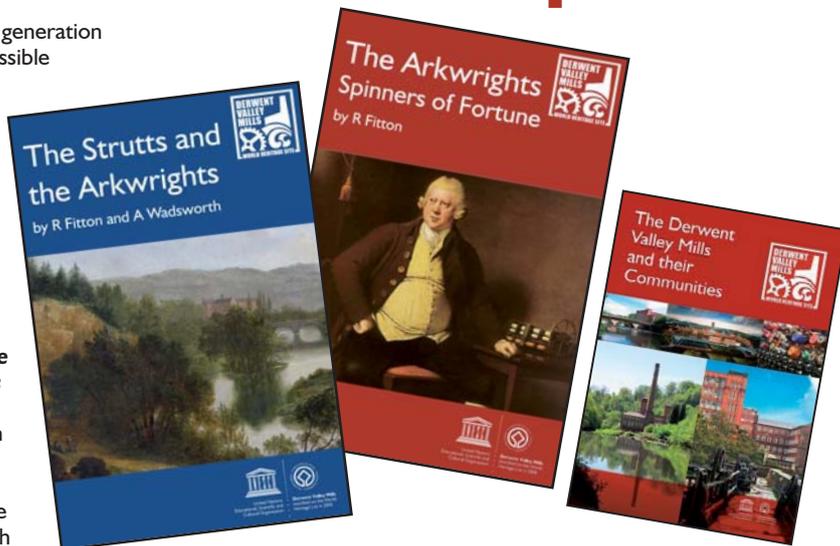
methodical in his work and painstakingly fitted together the surviving documents from Arkwright's time to provide a detailed history of a man whose ideas transformed the way society works today."

Both books were previously out of print – *The Strutts and the Arkwrights* for over 40 years. Proceeds from the sale of these books will fund future publications about the Derwent Valley Mills

and related topics.

A third book, *The Derwent Valley Mills and Their Communities*, based on the inscription document which helped secure World Heritage status for the mills in 2001, has also been reprinted with a new introduction.

The books are available in some of the mills and bookshops along the Derwent Valley, as well as on line at www.derwentvalleymills.org.



Mill's busy year

THE Arkwright Society has been enjoying a varied programme of events during 2012.

Its annual Art and Makers Festival in July had some 50 artists and designers exhibiting their work; Notty Hornblower's sell-out show "Putting on the Ritz" showcased the fashions of the 1920s and 1930s, and 1623 Theatre's performances of Romeo and Juliet and Macbeth were both received to much acclaim.

Neil steps down

NEIL Dye has now retired from Sir Richard Arkwright's Masson Mills, where he had been manager for several years. He was presented with two books on the Arkwright family by the World Heritage Site's Operations and Development Panel members, as a thank you gift for all his help since the mills were inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2001.



One of a kind track bike created for John Smedley



AS A SALUTE to the launch of John Smedley's **Representing Great Britain** campaign and in time for the Olympic cycling, the company worked

with artisan frame builder, Ricky Feather, to create a 'one of a kind' British track bike.

A competition was run over

the summer, offering a chance to win the impressive looking bike (pictured). You can read more about Ricky at www.feathercycles.com



Mills backdrop for screening

'TO WHERE it begins...', the inspirational film created last year to celebrate the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site, had a very special screening in early February, projected on to the largest building in the Cromford Mill Site.

On the coldest night of the year, with only the moonlight reflected on the snow, the mill yard where Richard Arkwright created the modern factory system was the perfect setting for over 100 people to see a five-storey high external projection – the first in the Derwent Valley.

The video artwork was created by Matt, Rob

and Ella Vale of Illuminos, and projected using state of the art digital equipment provided by the Collaborators, following a successful bid from the World Heritage Team for the loan of the equipment.

The film and accompanying poem follow a figure as she dances through season and space around buildings and landscapes up and down the Derwent Valley, bringing the site to life in a powerful and moving way.

After the showing of the film, the team gave a lecture to over 70 members of the Arkwright Society about plans for the future of the World Heritage Site, its conservation and promotion.

DVMWHS students at UNESCO 2012 summit

FIVE students from Highfields School in Matlock represented the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site at the UNESCO Youth Summit in June. This is what they had to say:

"We had a wonderful time in London. Our accommodation was close to the famous Cutty Sark in Greenwich. There were representatives from 15 of the UK's 28 world heritage sites. It was interesting to hear about the different places, as well as hear the many and varied accents! People came from all over - from the Orkneys, the Giant's Causeway in Northern Ireland, Stonehenge and many places in between. We were able to contribute confidently as ours could describe itself as the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution with potentially the greatest influence of all! The diverse nature of world heritage was clear to us all and made us realise how important it is to look after it.

"Over the three days we did so much! We toured the Greenwich World Heritage Site; we had a formal dinner; and we travelled on the Thames Clipper to Ravensbourne College where we were filmed for an item to be shown during the Olympics. This was particularly terrifying under the lights in the television studio, but we felt very proud when it was over, and this was a unique opportunity for us all to tell the world about our site. We also took part in a digital treasure hunt and attended a careers convention to learn about opportunities in the heritage world.

"Our trip was an exciting opportunity to sample life in the capital, buzzing with preparations for the Olympic Games, as well as to meet young people from other world heritage sites. We won't forget it in a hurry!"

Starring roles for mills

THE DERWENT Valley Mills are set for starring roles next year after a series of television filming visits over the summer.

Tony Robinson (right), famous for heading up Time Team and perhaps even better known as Baldrick from Blackadder, visited a number of locations within the World Heritage Site during August. He was filming a series called Walking Through History, a new Channel 4 series which he is presenting.

In one episode, to be screened next spring, he will be walking from Bakewell to Derby, uncovering the story of the Industrial Revolution as he passes through the World Heritage Site.

During the filming Tony interviewed Bob Faithorn, a trustee of the Arkwright Society, World Heritage Site Coordinator Adrian Farmer

and Mary Smedley, a guardian of Belper's Unitarian Chapel.

Also to be aired in 2013 on ITV is "Rory Bremner's Great British Views" which will see him visiting well known places in Britain as well as discovering its hidden gems.

Rory dropped in to film at Cromford Mill and, whilst there, practised spinning with the Arkwright Spinners. He also visited Cromford where he managed to get locked in the former village lock-up.



A GREAT VIEW: Rory Bremner (below centre) during filming at Cromford Mill, with Mark Slack and Sarah McLeod from the Arkwright Society.





Co-ordinator's tourism award

WORLD Heritage Site Heritage Co-ordinator Adrian Farmer has been named a Tourism Superstar for promoting his Derbyshire hometown.

Adrian, from Belper, beat off stiff competition to win the accolade from Visit England and The Mirror newspaper which teamed up to find the country's unsung tourism heroes. He was one of two people commended by judges for their work publicising their local area. The winner was a taxi driver from the North East.

"Adrian is a truly brilliant ambassador for Belper and the Derwent Valley Mills," said Derbyshire County Council leader and cabinet member for culture Councillor Andrew Lever.

"Not only does he work hard making sure the Derwent Valley Mills is recognised as the outstanding tourist destination it is, he also tirelessly promotes Belper as a volunteer and I would like to congratulate him on his success."

In his spare time, Adrian is a volunteer tour guide around the town; a member of Belper Civic Forum, and vice-chairman of both Belper Historical Society and The Friends of Belper River Gardens; he gives talks on Belper to local groups and societies and writes books on the town.

He was nominated for the award by Sukie Khaira, development co-ordinator for the World Heritage Site, and Joanne Bamford, tourism and culture co-ordinator for Amber Valley Borough Council.

After receiving the award, Adrian said: "This commendation came completely out of the blue – I didn't know I'd been nominated. I was very touched when I found out.

"I couldn't have got the annual Discovery Days Festival started in 2005 without the help of scores of volunteers who now contribute every year to its success. They're as passionate about the Derwent Valley as I am – and all superstars in their own right!"

AWARD: Adrian with his certificate.

PSiCA funds bring benefits to historic mill communities

THE PSiCA three-year repair and enhancement grant scheme continues to make a positive impact on the historic buildings in Belper and Cromford.

Conservation work is supported thanks to a partnership between English Heritage and the local authority councils of Derbyshire County, Derbyshire Dales District and Amber Valley Borough, including Belper Town.

Former Belper Grammar School and Durbel Hosiery factory



ORIGINALLY BUILT around 1830 as an academy, later known as Belper Grammar School, the site will be better remembered as a factory shop for the hosiery company George Brettle and Company.

It is now in the process of being altered for the next phase of its varied history. From its set-back position within Chapel Street, this architecturally-distinctive building has accommodated numerous alterations and uses. Its generously projecting roof eaves survive, although a once-impressive Regency copper canopy across its entire frontage only exists in a historic photograph and clues found from studying its building fabric.

The Durbel Hosiery company, sensitively for the period, adapted the traditionally-constructed and domestically-scaled building to create open manufacturing spaces behind a retained brick façade, complete with its variety of window openings, which survive today.

More recently, the building's subsequent owners, Silkolene, let the building to Brettles who operated a factory shop. Following its closure in the 1980s, the vacant buildings have suffered progressive decay, water damage and dry rot, causing significant loss to the original structure and internal decorative features, and creating structural instability.

Thankfully, preparation for commercial use by

its current owner has been progressing since April. The buildings will soon be suitably set up for a new chapter in the site's history, whilst retaining the majority of its historic authenticity and interest.

The Derwent Valley PSiCA has offered financial assistance toward the reinstatement of the large, distinctive sash window frames to the Chapel Street frontage, based on a single survival on the ground floor.

Pigsty tidied-up



A rare surviving pigsty in Long Row has been saved from further deterioration and potential loss with financial support from the Derwent Valley PSiCA.

The pigsty was in need of sensitive conservation work, carefully undertaken by Andrew Churchman, of Belper.

The pigsties, both in Belper and Cromford, contribute to the Outstanding Universal Value of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site, being physical attributes of the domestic economy practiced within the mill community.

Funding was offered towards traditional repairs to stabilise and re-point its stonework walls using hydraulic lime, reinstate the roof with Staffordshire Blue tiles and repairs to its timber door and gate.

Partnership Schemes in Conservation Areas (Derwent Valley PSiCA)

Strutts

BELPER'S former Herbert Strutt Grammar School – now a volunteer-run community centre – is currently undergoing essential roof repairs, without which internal decorative plasterwork would have been at risk of further damage.

This grade II listed building was built by George Herbert Strutt, in 1908, as the latest facility for the town provided by the paternalistic Strutt family who built the town's mills.

Ownership of the former school building was handed over, in September 2009, to the 'Guardians of Strutts', a charitable trust set up to keep it as a community asset in line with the wishes of George Herbert Strutt.

The Trust has already successfully demonstrated the value of the building as a resource for the community and aims to increase its usefulness following the current repairs and alterations.

George and Dragon re-covered



REINSTATEMENT of traditional roof covering is the latest phase of work for the George and Dragon public house, once an important coaching inn in Belper. With the earliest part of the building being late-17th century or early-18th century, it is a valuable survival from the town's pre-textile manufacturing period. Listed in grade II, the building makes a significant contribution to the Belper Conservation Area, both historically and as one of the most visually prominent buildings in the characterful townscape of Bridge Street.

Grant assistance from the Derwent Valley PSiCA has enabled the concrete tiled hipped roof to be replaced with the correct plain clay tile in addition to the previous restoration of a number of lost features to the building over a period of time, including leaded lights to its

stone mullioned window openings, its timber bay and sash windows, distinctive gutter brackets and signage.

Long Row Garden Railings

FRONT garden railings to a former mill-worker's house in Long Row, Belper have been reinstated on the surviving stone plinths. The railings have restored definition to the gardens at the front of the house.

Detailed as authentically as possible with design work by local architects Evans Vettori, the railings are the first replacements to re-establish the height of the originals. Within the limitations of the mild steel version, all components have been guided by the small surviving remnants of the original railings, including the braced stays fixed to stone blocks within the gardens.

Stone repairs in Bridge Street



A LISTED HOUSE at the bottom of Belper's Field Lane has recently had the vulnerable low-level parts of its front wall and adjoining stone garden boundary wall sensitively repaired by Andrew Churchman of Belper. Matching stone, in both colour and surface tooling, has replaced the worst of the decayed stone, which has been accompanied by appropriate re-pointing.

Stone repairs at Cromford Mill

BUILDING 18 and the Carriage House on the Cromford Mill site have been the latest buildings to have stone repairs to their Mill Lane frontages, carried out by the Arkwright Society's own skilled masons.



Cemetery panel

THE LATEST addition to the growing number of World Heritage Site interpretation panels in the Derwent valley is at Belper Cemetery.

The cemetery has been the final resting place for several members of the Strutt family who built the Belper mills. It is an arboretum-style site created by William Barron, who designed the gardens for Elvaston Castle. The panel discretely helps visitors to understand the history of the cemetery. A walk leaflet has also been produced and will be available shortly.

Pupils in concert

STUDENTS from Cromford Primary School, founded in 1832 by the Arkwrights, were among 180 young people who took part in a project to bring our industrial heritage to life through music.

The "*Oh How That Valley Did Change*" project was a collaboration between Sinfonia ViVA orchestra, Derbyshire-based Mills and Chimneys folk ensemble, the World Heritage Site and the county's poet laureate Matt Black. It brought together pupils from Cromford, Crich Carr, Beckett and Griffie Field primary schools and music students from Belper and Murray Park secondary schools.

After visiting Masson and Cromford Mills, the young people wrote poems on the county's industrial heritage which were the inspiration for a series of songs – some written by the children and some written and composed by Matt Black and ViVA composer Jack Ross. The songs were performed by a mass choir of primary school children accompanied by Sinfonia ViVA, Mills and Chimneys folk group and musicians from the two secondary schools at the Derby Assembly Rooms in June.

Cromford School Headteacher Mrs Elizabeth Foster said: "We jumped at the chance of being involved in this project as it enabled the children to learn more about their heritage, be involved in the community and be part of a musical project which is so important to their education. All of our 19 junior school children took part and thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience. The chance to perform alongside professional musicians was very exciting".

The concert was a resounding success and an enthralled audience at the Assembly Rooms gave the young people a standing ovation.

Packed programme is best yet for Discovery Days 2012

THERE'S over 160 events planned for the World Heritage Site Discovery Days this autumn - making it by far the biggest in the Festival's eight-year history.

The programme has now been unveiled in a 48-page events booklet, with a host of new activities and old favourites planned for the county's biggest heritage festival.

"It is the eighth year of Discovery Days, but we've tried to make sure the mix of activities stays as fresh as ever," said World Heritage Site Learning Co-ordinator John Rogers. "As ever, the annual favourites are still there but there's plenty of new experiences to enjoy, many of them free-of-charge."

Events kick off on the weekend of 27 and 28 October with a wide range of activities, from walks and exhibitions to theatre performances and dance demonstrations. Several historic properties in Belper will open their doors to the public on the Sunday.

This is the busiest year yet for midweek events, with activities including Singing round the Calendar with Pete Castle, Keith Kendrick and Sylvia Needham singing and telling stories which celebrate holidays and holy days, and walks and talks every day.

The final two days, November 3 and 4, will see the usual mix of walks and talks around the Cromford area, and for the first time there will be houses open to view on North

Street. The Festival ends on the Sunday with a children's torch-lit procession.

The booklet explaining all the events planned for the Discovery Days Festival is now available from the mills and county libraries. Alternatively contact the booking line on 01629 536831 between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday or email info@derwentvalleymills.org.

For some events it is essential you book a place before the day - check the events booklet for details. For other activities it is not essential to book, but those who don't pre-book risk being turned away. No charge is made for booking.



ALL SET FOR A BUSY WEEK: John Rogers and Gwen Wilson at last year's festival. They and the rest of the World Heritage Team will be about to ensure events run smoothly and offer information to visitors.

is a short walk from the rear of the Silk Mill. FREE, but donations welcome. No need to book – just drop in. One of only six surviving bridge chapels in England, it dates from the 14th century.

Joseph Wright's Derby

11.00am - 12.30pm, from the Joseph Wright Gallery at Derby Museum and Art Gallery. FREE. Booking essential. Internationally respected 18th century artist, Joseph Wright, had a strong connection to Derby – the place he lived, worked and died. Join Assistant Head of Museums Jonathan Wallis for a walk around Wright's Derby.

A very QUAD Morning

11.00am – 1.00pm at the QUAD, Derby Market Place. FREE. Places limited, so booking essential on 01332 290606. An insight into the variety of things you can get up to at QUAD. Includes a tour of the BFI Mediatheque.

Silk Mill Family Activities

11.00am – 4.00pm at the Silk Mill, Derby. FREE, no need to book, just drop in. Fun family activities, using the collections as inspiration.

Historic Bus Tour

11.00am, 1.00pm and 2.30pm from the Silk

Great turnout for festival in 2011

The 2011 Discovery Days Festival celebrated the tenth anniversary of inscription on to the World Heritage List for the Derwent Valley Mills.

Volunteers across the Site – home to the world's first modern factories – marked this milestone with a ten day festival of over 120 events.

A launch event was held at the University of Derby's Kedleston Road Campus as part of the celebrations, with a tester session of activities for the week ahead.

Events continued in Derby the following day with an enlightening walking tour of the City inspired by the 18th Century Derby Historian, William Hutton, and the Silk Mill and St Mary's Bridge Chapel were open for the day. That evening, the 1623 Theatre Company presented 'Supernatural Shakespeare' in Belper's River Gardens, a look at the Bard's Most Haunted to a capacity crowd.

On the first Sunday, activities continued at Belper, including an exhibition of local crafts in the former Herbert Strutt School, and events in Strutt's North Mill. Several historic properties around the town also opened their doors to the public.

It was the busiest year yet midweek; activities included Singing round the Calendar with Pete Castle, Keith Kendrick and Sylvia Needham, and a Canal Folk Opera from Keeper Lock.

The final two days saw the usual mix of walks and talks around the Cromford area, as well as performances of Street Child, a mix of shadow theatre, music and storytelling about Jim Jarvis, a true-life orphan who has to survive in the dangerous and lonely streets of Victorian London.

Diary dates for Discovery days

There's so much happening during the World Heritage Site Discovery Days this year, we can only tell you about some of the highlights on these pages. For the full programme of events, pop in to your local library for a festival booklet, take a look at the www.derwentvalleymills.org website or ring 01629 536831 for more details and to book events.

Saturday 27 October

Derby

Arts and Craft Fair

10.30am - 4.30pm, Derby Market Place. FREE admission - no need to book, just drop in. Around 40 talented artists and crafters will be exhibiting and selling their unique creations.

St Mary's Bridge Chapel Opening

10.00am – 4.00pm. St Mary's Bridge Chapel

Mill. Fares: Adults - £5, children - £3. Pre-booking recommended on 01629 536831. A circular guided tour lasting around one hour, in a vintage Derby bus. The tour includes sites associated with all periods of Derby history.

Cathedral Green to Darley Park Walk

2.00pm – 4.00pm, meet outside the Silk Mill. FREE. Pre-booking recommended on 01629 536831. A guided walk along the River Derwent from Cathedral Green to Darley Park highlighting landmarks on the way. Approximately 3 mile walk at a gentle pace.

Belper

The Strutts' Dalley Farm Walk

2.00pm - 5.00pm, from Strutt's North Mill, Belper. FREE. Pre-booking essential on 01629 536831. Discover the impact of the Strutt family on Belper, including a visit to Dalley Farm. Led by Jenny Say.

Cromford

Morris Dancing Workshop for Beginners

2.00pm – 4.00pm, Cromford Mills. FREE. Booking essential on 01629 536831. A chance for all the family to learn a traditional Morris dance or two.

Saturday 27 October

Milford

Milford Village Tour

10.00am, from Nealies car park, Milford. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. A walk around the historic village with Heather Eaton.

Milford Hydro "How it Works"

11.30am. Next to the Mill House. FREE. No booking necessary. Learn about hydro power being produced in Milford with Derwent Hydroelectric Power Ltd and Transition Belper.

Darley Abbey

St Matthews Church Tour

1.00pm. FREE. Pre-booking recommended on 01629 536831. Tour around the Parish Church of St Matthews, built in 1819 by Walter Evans.

Darley Abbey Village Tour

2.00pm – 4.00pm, from St Matthews Church. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. Take a tour round the mill complex and village, meet some of the mill complex tenants, and visit the old school room at the top of Long Mill. Walk led by Roy and Sheila Hartle.

Sunday 28th October

Belper

Open House – 7 Long Row

10.00am – 12.00 noon, 2.00pm – 4.00pm. FREE. No need to book – just drop in! Take a look inside one of the three-storey stone-built terraced cottages built by the Strutt family for their millworkers in the 1790s.

Craft Activities at Strutt's North Mill

10.00am – 4.00pm in Strutt's North Mill, Belper. FREE activities. No need to book – just drop in! Big knitting and other unusual craft activities and games. The museum will be open as normal, where the usual entry prices apply.

Open House – The Cedars (up the drive to the rear of 55/57 Field Lane, Belper)

10.00am – 4.00pm. FREE. No need to book – just drop in! Take a look inside the former home of a Belper Nail-master, built in 1828.

Arts and Crafts Fair

10.00am – 4.00pm in Strutts Community Centre, Derby Road, Belper. FREE. No need to book. Belper Artists and Makers from the Belper Arts and Crafts Trail Weekend will be displaying work in the main hall.

Berkin's Court Open Day

10.30am - 3.30pm. Access via Chevin View off the A6, opposite the Lion Hotel. FREE.

No need to book. Step back in time and share with the residents the back-to-back living accommodation, walled gardens and outhouses. Participate in a traditional wash-day and join in with games from times past.

Belper River Gardens Guided Tour

11.00am, from Strutt's North Mill. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. Tour looking at the garden's past, changes and plans for the future.

Belper River Gardens Stalls and Activities

11.00am – 4.00pm. FREE. No need to book. Stalls and demonstrations in the River Gardens. Belper Short Play Festival "On Tour" performing plays and monologues.

Derbyshire Wildlife Trust Activities



11.00am – 4.00pm in Belper River Gardens. There may be a small charge for some activities. No need to book. Find out about Local Nature Reserves or join in with activities – batty bingo, or make a pom-pom creature.

'Poetry – past and present'

11.00am, from the bandstand in Belper River Gardens. FREE. Booking recommended. A 3–4 miles walk round the 20 poetry places on Beth's Poetry Trail. Enquiries: 01773 827274.

Open Bird Hide at Wyver Lane Reserve

11.30am – 3.30pm. FREE. No need to book. Visit the hide to see birds near the pond. Trips to the hide through the day, starting from the Wildlife Trust stand in Belper River Gardens.

Tour of the Bridge Hill Ice House

11.30am from Strutt's North Mill. FREE. Pre-booking essential. See inside the only surviving structure belonging to Bridge Hill House, the Strutt residence demolished in the 1930s.

Central Methodist Chapel Opening

1.00pm – 4.00pm, on the A6 next to De Bradelei, Belper. FREE. No need to book – just drop in! Explore this fine Georgian building.

Open – The Unitarian Chapel, Field Row

1.00pm – 5.00pm. FREE. No need to book. Look inside the chapel built by Jedidiah Strutt in 1788 and visit the Strutt family vaults.

Along the Old Turnpike

2.30pm. FREE. Pre-booking essential. Join Stella Howitt on a walk from the North Mill to

Strutts Community Centre looking at historic buildings en route.

Belper Hydro "How it Works"

2.00pm – 3.30pm. In the East Mill car park, Belper. FREE. No booking necessary. Learn about the hydro power produced in Belper, with Derwent Hydroelectric Power Ltd and Transition Belper.

Water Power – Mill Water Courses Walk

2.15pm, from Strutt's North Mill, Belper. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. A walk around the water courses of the Belper mill complex, to see how the Strutts used water from the Derwent to power their cotton mills.

Discovery Days Film Season

5.30pm at The Ritz Cinema, King Street, Belper. Ring 01773 822224 for seat prices and to book. www.ritz-belper.co.uk. One of two special heritage-related screenings to celebrate Discovery Days 2012, in one of the finest cinemas in the UK. More details in the Ritz's October Programme, out in mid-September.

Cromford

How Children Lived and Worked in Cromford in Arkwright's Time

12.15pm – 1.15pm, from outside the shop in Cromford Mill Yard. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. A tour for children aged 7-12.

Talk – "1811 and all that: 200 years on the Cromford Canal" Part one

7.00pm – 8.30pm, in the Gothic Warehouse, Cromford Wharf. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. Friends of Cromford Canal Archivist Hugh Potter journeys along the canal of 200 years ago. Part Two on Thursday.

Darley Abbey

Walk - Fungus Foray

10.00am – 12noon, Darley and Nutwood Local Nature Reserve. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. A walk in the Nature Reserve led by Peter Smith and Beverley Rhodes.

Heage

Heage Windmill Open and Giant Cobweb

11.00am – 4.00pm, Heage. Adults £3.50, concessions £3, children 5-15 £1.50. No booking necessary! See the six sails of Heage Windmill in operation, and discover the mill's history. Heage Windmill volunteers will be making another Giant Cobweb at 12 noon.

Matlock

A Walk Along the Lumsdale Valley

3.00pm – 5.00pm, Lumsdale, nr Matlock. Bookings must be made in advance on 01629 825995. A guided three mile walk including a visit to the Lumsdale Conservation Project.

Monday 29th October

Belper

Belper Channels Walk

2.00pm from Belper Market Place. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. Discover the hidden pathways of Belper with John Morrissey.

Chapels and Chills Walk

6.30pm. Meet in the Chapel Yard at St John's and bring a torch. Adults £3, accompanied children FREE. Pre-booking recommended on 01773 880474. A torchlit tour with Mary Smedley, ending in the Unitarian Chapel vaults.

Talk - History of Bullbridge and Sawmills

7.30pm at Strutts Community Centre, Belper (Room 14). FREE. Pre-booking recommended. Freda Raphael talks about the industrial heritage of Bullbridge and Sawmill.

Derby

Longbridge Weir Hydro "How it Works"

12 noon – 3.00pm. Longbridge Weir, by Derby bus station. FREE. No booking necessary – just turn up. Learn about hydro power, with Derby City Council and Transition Belper.

Tuesday 30th October

Belper

Protecting Photographs and Documents

9.30am – 1.00pm, Belper Library. FREE. No need to book, just call in. How to look after precious old photographs and documents.

Workshop: Knitting and Crocheting

10.30am – 1.00pm at Strutt's North Mill, Belper. Adults £6.50, under 8s free. Booking recommended on 01773 880474. Knitting and crocheting drop-in session and Halloween decoration-making workshop for children.

Talk - Prehistoric Railways of Derbyshire

7.30pm Strutts Centre, Derby Road, Belper. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. Trevor Griffin with historical context and stories behind the railway walks later in the week.

Bullbridge

Walk – History of Bullbridge and Sawmills

11.00am from Lord Nelson, Bullbridge. Booking essential. Walk to Crich Town End, following the route of George Stevenson's Clay Cross Company railway, led by Freda Raphael.

Cromford

Reserve Work Party, Cromford Canal

9.30am – 4.00pm, Cromford Canal. FREE, but booking essential. Join Derbyshire Wildlife Trust for practical conservation work. Contact the Wildlife Trust for details 01773 881188.

Wednesday 31st October

Belper

Supernatural Shakespeare – 1623 Theatre Company

7.30pm – 8.15pm, Belper River Gardens (meet at Strutt's North Mill). FREE, booking essential. Join the Macbeth witches to meet Shakespeare's terrifying ghosts and spooks.

Crich

Butterley Gangroad Walk

10.00am - 11.30am. FREE. Pre-booking essential. The first of many early railways built by Benjamin Outram. Visits to private sites associated with the railway included.

Cromford

Tours of St Mary's Church



10.00am and 1.30pm, from Cromford Mill Yard. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. Take a tour around St Mary's Church, originally a private chapel for the Arkwright family.

Creating Creatures Workshop

10.30am and 1.30pm at High Peak Junction Workshop. Free family event. Design and build a creature from natural materials.

How Children Lived in Arkwright's Time

12.15pm, from Cromford Mill Yard. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. A tour and talk for children aged 7-12.

Lantern-Lit Halloween Storywalks

5.30pm and 7.15pm in the Café in Cromford Mill Yard. Cost: £6 (£4 children). Booking essential on 01629 825995. Storywalks around Cromford Mill and village with traditional folk tales of magic, mystery and spooky mayhem from Derbyshire storyteller Sophie Snell.

Derby

Longbridge Weir Hydro "How it Works"

12 noon – 3.00pm. Longbridge Weir, by Derby bus station. FREE. No booking necessary – just turn up. Learn about hydro power, with Derby City Council and Transition Belper.

Whatstandwell

Station to Station Walk

10.30am, 8 mile walk, from Whatstandwell Train Station. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. Following two of the routes in the revamped Derwent Valley Walk leaflets.

Thursday 1st November

Ambergate

Betty Kenny Story Walk

10.00am – 1.00pm, from Holly Lane, Ambergate FREE. Booking essential. Join Debbie Alston on a walk around Shining Cliff Woods. See the ancient Betty Kenny Yew.

Belper

Reserve Work Party, Wyver Lane, Belper

9.30am – 4.00pm, Wyver Lane, Belper. FREE, but booking essential. Join Derbyshire Wildlife Trust with practical conservation work. For more details ring 01773 881188.

Derbyshire Diaries

7.30pm – 9.00pm at Belper Library. FREE. Pre-booking essential. Lisa Langley-Fogg looks at diaries in readings from the 1680s-1900.

Bullbridge and Sawmills

Talk – 1811 and all that Part 2

7.00pm at Sawmills Village Hall. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. Hugh Potter continues his journey along the Cromford Canal 200 years ago – from Bullbridge to Langley Mill.

Derby

Joseph Wright's Life and Work

1.00pm, Derby Museum and Art Gallery. FREE. Booking essential. Jonathan Wallis talks on 18th century artist Joseph Wright.

Cathedral Green to Darley Park Walk

2.00pm outside the Silk Mill. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. A walk along the Derwent highlighting landmarks on the way.

Little Eaton

Little Eaton Gangroad Walk

2.00pm – 3.30pm. FREE. Pre-booking essential. From the New Inn, Little Eaton, a walk to see remains of the Derby Canal Company wharf and horse-drawn railway.

Friday 2nd November

Belper

Belper and Morley Park Railway Walk

10.45am – 2.00pm, from Openwoodgate Crossroads. FREE. Pre-booking essential. A circular walk of 5 miles, tracing the various routes of this mysterious early railway.

Cromford

Tour of Cromford Canal Wharf

11.00am from Cromford Mill Yard. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. Tour incorporates two warehouses, an office and two cottages.

2nd November (continued)

Cromford

Singing round the Calendar

7.30pm, Gothic Warehouse, Cromford. Pre-booking recommended. Pete Castle, Keith Kendrick and Sylvia Needham take you through the folk customs of the English year.

Derby

Collecting Cultures – Enlightenment!

1.00pm, Derby Museum and Art Gallery. FREE. Booking essential. Matt Edwards on the project that enabled Derby Museum to add to its collection of objects from the Enlightenment.

Holloway

Vintage Motorcycle Collection

11.00am and 1.00pm. FREE. Pre-booking essential. A unique collection of vintage motorbikes in this privately owned museum.

Saturday 3rd November

Bullbridge and Sawmills

Heritage Exhibition (repeated on Sunday)

12.00noon – 5.00pm. Sawmills Village Hall, on the A610. FREE. No need to book – just call in. The brickworks and quarries of the locality, plus memories of other past industries.

Heritage Walk (repeated on Sunday)

1.30pm, from the Lord Nelson, Bullbridge. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. A walk through two hundred and fifty years of history with Bullbridge & Sawmills Area Civic Society.

Cromford

Art and Artefacts (repeated on Sunday)

10.00am-4.00pm, Cromford Wharf. FREE. No need to book – just drop in! Cromford Canal Exhibition; traditional craft demonstrations and Friends of Cromford Canal stand. Activities for children, from mask making to brick laying.

Celebrating the Canal (repeated Sunday)

10.00am – 4.00pm at Wheatcroft's Wharf, Cromford. FREE. No need to book – just drop in! Miniature traction engines plus boats on the canal, canoeing and a mobile climbing wall.

Masson Mills Tours & Traction Engine

10.00am – 4.00pm. Adults: £3.00, child (5-16) £2.00, Family £6.50, Concessions £2.50. No need to book, just drop in. Weaving and spinning demonstrations at 11am and 2pm.

Wild about the Mill (repeated Sunday)

10.00am – 4.00pm, Cromford Mill Yard. No need to book, just drop by! Fun activities for children including batty bingo and a quiz.

Discover Willersley Castle (repeated Sunday)

10.00am, 12.00noon and 2.00pm, Willersley Castle. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. A short history of the house, followed by a 40 minute stroll around the grounds.

A Walk Through 200 Years of History

11.00am from the Gothic Warehouse, Cromford Wharf, DE4 3RQ. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. Mike Kelley leads a walk along the Cromford Canal.

High Peak Junction Railway Workshop

11.00am to 3.00pm – every hour on the hour. No need to book – just drop in! FREE. Learn about some of the oldest railway workshops in the world and have a go at the forge.

Leewood Pumphouse (repeated Sunday)

11.00am – 4.00pm on the Cromford Canal. FREE, but donations welcome. Just drop in! Experience the power of this steam engine.

Meet the Author: Pauline Chandler

11.45am and 2.00pm in the Gallery, Cromford Mills. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. Pauline Chandler wrote 'Dark Thread', set in Cromford Mill. She will be reading passages from the book, and answering questions.

Open Houses: 10 and 16 North Street, and School Master's House (repeated Sunday)

12noon – 4.00pm. FREE. No need to book, just drop in! Visit two of the oldest examples of industrial housing in the world, and the school master's house built with the school in 1832.

Slinter Wood Walk

1.30pm, from outside the Greyhound Hotel. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. Bernard Holden leads a walk to Slinter Mill.

The Walk to Rock House

2.00pm, from outside the Greyhound Inn. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. Barry Joyce reveals research on Arkwright's former home.

John Smedley's Mill

7.30pm at the Gothic Warehouse. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. Illustrated talk on the project to catalogue the company's heritage.

Holloway

Vintage Motorcycle Collection

11.00am and 1.00pm. FREE. Pre-booking essential. Unique collection of vintage motorbikes in this privately owned museum.

Sunday 4th November

Cromford

Living History Display and Muster

10.00am – 4.00pm in Cromford Mill Yard. FREE. Just turn up! See the Georgian Home Guard prepare the mill against the invaders.

Masson Mills Tours and Traction Engine

10.00am – 4.00pm. Adults: £3, child (5-16) £2, Family £6.50, Concessions £2.50. No need to book. Self-guiding tours with weaving and spinning demonstrations at 12 noon and 2pm.

Painting the Valley: Bartholomew Beal

11.00pm – 4.00pm in the Marquee, Cromford Mills. FREE. Come and meet Barley Beal, winner of the 2012 Vickers Fine Art Award. He will be creating work inspired by the World Heritage Site, its history, landscape and people.

Woodland Skills

11.00am to 3.00pm at High Peak Junction. FREE. No need to book – just drop in! Have a go on a Pole lathe, sample some wild cooking or create some willow weaving.

1911 Classroom

12.00noon – 4.00pm, Cromford School. FREE. No need to book, just drop in. Become a pupil to take part in a mini-lesson.

A Walk Through 200 Years of History

1.00pm from the Gothic Warehouse. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. Mike Kelley leads a walk along the Cromford Canal.

From Cottages to Grand Houses

2.00pm, from outside the Greyhound Inn. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. Barry Joyce visits Alison House, on a walk past the housing built for the mill-workers on North Street.

Fibres and Fabrics Workshop

2.00pm – 4.00pm at Cromford Mills. FREE. Pre-booking essential on 01629 825995. A chance to learn about fibres and fabrics.

Meet the Author: Theresa Tomlinson

3.15pm in the Marquee at Cromford Mills. FREE. Pre-booking recommended. Teresa Tomlinson wrote 'Scavenger Boy', set in Cromford and the mill. She will read passages from the book, and answer questions.

The Spinning Bobbin

4.00pm, Cromford Mill Yard. FREE. Multi media performance based on 'Scavenger Boy'.

Children's Torchlit Procession

4.30pm from Cromford Mill Yard to Masson Mills. FREE. No need to book, just come along with your electric torch.

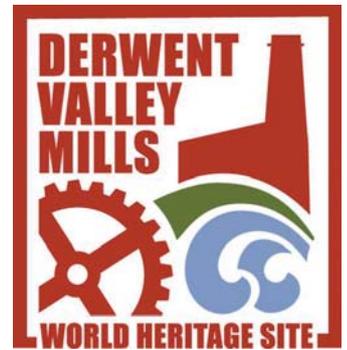
Mills and Chimneys

5.30pm at Masson Mills. Entry £7 (adults) and £5 (concessions). Pre-booking recommended. Concert by the folk group Mills and Chimneys.

Wirksworth

3 Railways Walk

10.00am – 4.00pm, at Wirksworth Station. Pre-booking essential. Walk and ride round the Ecclesbourne and Derwent Valleys.



Transition facelift for station



BELPER Railway Station has had a facelift this year – and the work was completed in time for the national finals of the 2012 Britain in Bloom Competition.

Volunteers from Transition Belper, who have adopted the station, cleared away the overgrown vegetation and brambles, assisted by a number of offenders from Derbyshire Probation Trust's Community Payback scheme. This first phase of work was followed by a replanting programme.

Transition Belper have reached an agreement with Network Rail and East Midlands Trains to manage parts of the station in a sustainable, wildlife friendly manner.

Initially the volunteers concentrated on four areas immediately behind the platforms. The work will then extend into another area on the Derby bound platform once Network Rail has carried out improvements to one of the walls behind the platform.

Kathy Fairweather from Transition Belper said: "We are extremely happy to be working on this project and hope to have the station restored to some of its former glory.

"We would like to involve the community as much as possible and invite the members of

the public to join us in this work."

Anyone interested in helping should contact Kathy on 07779 412702.

Belper has seen a massive 119% surge in the number of people using the station in recent years, from less than 80,000 in 2007/8 to over 170,000 journeys in 2011/12. Transition Belper hope to encourage local businesses to get involved and sponsor the work and make the station a great place for train passengers and for the whole community to appreciate.

Funding from the project so far has come from the Derwent Valley Line Community Rail Partnership.

Councillor Garry Purdy, who chairs the Partnership, said: "We are very pleased to be supporting a local group with real enthusiasm and commitment to look after the extensive areas of planting at Belper station.

"I am sure, thanks to Transition Belper and the co-operation of the rail industry, that very soon the station will be looking fantastic once again."

MAKING AN IMPACT: Transition Belper members get to work (top left) and with the results of their labours (left).



Derwent Valley walking guides launched

DERBYSHIRE County Council has just launched a range of walks linking the train stations along the Derwent Valley.

The routes are set to encourage walkers to leave the car at home while they experience the countryside on their doorstep.

Twelve scenic walks beginning and ending at stations along the Derwent Valley are detailed in three newly-printed guides.

There are walks between two and eight miles between Matlock, Cromford, Whatstandwell,

Ambergate, Belper and Duffield stations. They offer excellent views of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site and landmarks such as Ribber Castle, the Heights of Abraham and Duffield Castle.

Visitors can choose one or more walks to create a circular route or use the train to get back to their starting point. Frequent trains run between Matlock, Derby and Nottingham and the Derwent Valley stations.

Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport Councillor Simon

Spencer said: "These routes give walkers a great opportunity to leave the car at home and head out to experience the beautiful Derwent Valley".

Guides are available from Derbyshire County Council countryside centres and the mill shops in the World Heritage Site at a cost of 35p each.

For train times call National Rail Enquiries 08457 48 49 50 or visit



www.nationalrail.co.uk

ON THE MOVE: Heritage Co-ordinator Adrian Farmer with one of the new guides at the launch event on Cromford Station.