

**9th June**  
**Great Expectations**  
**Outdoor Theatre**  
 by Quantum Theatre



**4th Sept - 20th Oct**  
**Honouring the Past;**  
**Creating the Future**

An exhibition by Hilary Beattie & the Viewpoint Group

Privileged access to the heritage textiles from the Welsh Quilt Association's Collection at the Minerva Art Centre in Llanidloes, proved to be a rich source of inspiration - drawing upon the creativity & innovation of our Welsh stitching ancestors. The result is a vibrant exhibition, which beautifully links between the old & new & pays homage to those who came before.

**15th Sept**  
**Heritage Day**



**OPENING TIMES FOR MUSEUM, SHOP & VISITOR CENTRE**

**1 FEB TO 22 MARCH** Every day: 10am - 3pm  
 (Inc. Coffee Bar & Grounds)

**23 MARCH TO 31 OCT** Every day: 10am - 4pm  
 Coffee Bar & Grounds: 10am - 4.30pm

**1 NOV TO 24 NOV** Every day: 10am - 3pm  
 (Inc. Coffee Bar & Grounds)

**Last admission 30 minutes before closing time.**  
**MUSEUM CLOSED FROM 25 NOVEMBER.**  
**REOPENS 1 FEBRUARY 2025.**

**ADMISSION RATES**

**ADULTS: £6.80**  
**CHILDREN: £2.20**  
**FAMILY TICKET: £15.50**

**Textile Connoisseurs Club Pass £13**  
 see website for info

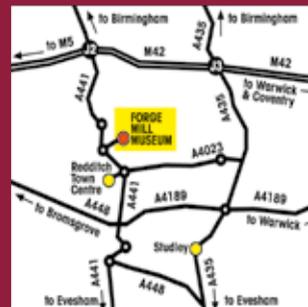
**FACILITIES**

The museum has ample parking, toilets, a shop, large play area & picnic tables throughout the grounds. Bicycle stands are available at the visitor centre. Only registered assistance dogs are allowed inside the museum.

- Guided tours of the mill every Tuesday, April - Sept at 11am.
- Venue hire available for weddings & private parties.

**DISABLED FACILITIES**

The museum has designated car parking, toilet, & manual wheelchair available. Guides in Braille & large type on request. An interactive guide is available for the top floor displays.



**CONTACT US**

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**Forge Mill 2024**



**NEW FOR 2024**  
**Textile Connoisseurs Club**

**Needle Museum & Bordesley Abbey Visitor Centre**

- Specialist textile centre
- Historical buildings & excavations
- National collections
- Exhibitions & events
- Activities & fun days
- Children's play area

**forgemill.org.uk**  
**01527 62509**

Find us on



**Medieval Weekend**  
**15th & 16th June**



**18th July - 1st Sept**  
**THE TOYS STRIKE BACK**

An exhibition featuring one of the UK's largest collections of vintage Star Wars toys & collectables.

Travel back in time to a 1970's childhood & relive the thrill of the Rebel's struggle against the evil Empire!

All your favourite characters, starships & lots of memorabilia will be there for you to enjoy.



**23rd Oct - 24th Nov**  
**'Spaces to Dream'**

An Exhibition by Stitch in the Middle group

Using a visit to Packwood House (a NT Tudor mansion) as inspiration, these talented textile artists incorporated into their work many of the house's features such as the iconic gardens with its famous collection of Yews, its 16th century textiles, furniture & architecture. All of these themes are richly interpreted in this exhibition of contemporary textiles.

**1st & 8th Dec**  
**Christmas Craft Fair**



# FORGE MILL

Tells the fascinating & sometimes gruesome story of needle making in Victorian times. The Mill is a listed building which houses original water-powered machinery. Models & recreated scenes provide a vivid illustration of how needles were once made & how Redditch came to dominate the world needle trade. The museum was opened by the Queen in 1983.

Step back in time & experience the atmosphere of a Victorian needle polishing mill. The scouring mill is the only one of its kind remaining in the world.

## CONTEMPORARY TEXTILES

To celebrate our association with needles, Forge Mill regularly hosts textile exhibitions. Please see our website for more details.

## PLAY AREA

Our play area has been refurbished for our younger visitors with new play equipment surrounding our extensive sand pit.

## ENJOY LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AT THE

### Mill View COFFEE BAR

Which serves a range of hot drinks, including specialist coffees.

These can be accompanied by a selection of light refreshments from teacakes to toasties & delicious, locally made homemade cakes.



# BORDESLEY ABBEY



Just a short walk from the Mill are the Medieval ruins of Bordesley Abbey, once a thriving Cistercian Abbey.

The site has been extensively excavated & many of the archaeological finds can now be seen in the Visitor Centre in which the story of the Abbey is told; from its early development to its destruction in the 16th Century by Henry VIII, during the Dissolution.



# EVENTS & EXHIBITIONS

## 1st Feb - 3rd March Wildlife & Nature

An exhibition by the Redditch Photographic Society



Members showcase their talent for capturing stunning photographs of animals & insects in their natural habitats. They skilfully show how a variety of techniques (& a bit of patience) can elevate a good photograph into a work of art.



## 6th March - 14th April Transport & Buildings - An Exhibition by the Bristol Modern Quilt Group

The Bristol Modern Quilt Group are a group of enthusiastic quilters who enjoy the challenge of interpreting themes in an abstract way, using bright modern colours, negative spaces & a reinterpretation of traditional blocks.

## 23rd - 31st March Easter Egg Trail



## 17th April - 2nd June Making Connections

An exhibition by The Midlands Textile Forum



The MTF are a group of artists who are drawn together by their passion & enthusiasm for textile art. They all work in a diverse range of media including weaving, printing, fabric manipulation, lacemaking, & machine embroidery. The inspiration for this exhibition is the connections we make with others, the natural environment, the community & beyond.



## 11th & 12th May

## 5th June - 14th July Now and Then By Tangent Textiles

The focus of this new body of work from the creative skills of the Tangent Textile group is the diverse & unique history of both Forge Mill & the medieval ruins of Bordesley Abbey. Historical motifs, textures & colours are beautifully incorporated in their work.

