

PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY THE MUSEUM OF NORTH CRAVEN LIFE, SETTLE

Time to Celebrate

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This is a very special year for the Museum of North Craven Life, housed in Settle's historic Folly and it is appealing to local residents to help celebrate. The museum was founded as a Silver Jubilee project back in 1977 and now, in Diamond Jubilee year, is planning an exhibition around the theme of community and personal celebrations.

Curator Anne Read says: "Many villages in North Craven will be holding Jubilee celebrations this year. These will be part of a long tradition of commemorating important local and national events, such as royal occasions, V.E. Day etc. We want to show how local people have celebrated special occasions over the years, and how these celebrations bring communities together. Some of these are far from obvious; for instance, the people of Upper Settle celebrated a heavy fall of snow in 1886 by building a giant 'snow castle' on the green and serving tea inside! Different villages have their own traditions, as, for example, Austwick with its Cuckoo Festival and Long Preston its Maypole dancing. We are hoping for a good mix of old and new, so some places might wish to come and redisplay a part of their own Diamond Jubilee celebrations in The Folly for the rest of the season."

The Museum hopes to gather items from every parish in North Craven to display in The Folly in Settle in its "Time to Celebrate" exhibition which runs from 3 July to 28 October. Of particular interest is memorabilia with a local angle that has a story attached to it about community life or the celebrations of individual people. An example of the latter is a double-spouted teapot made for the wedding of a Langcliffe couple in 1902.

Anne Read continues, "We've already received offers of some fascinating objects, photographs and programmes but we're hoping for more so that as many villages and individual stories as possible are represented. So, please give your imagination free rein and delve in your cupboards and attics for items such as local pottery, diaries or letters, centenary flags and regalia which you could lend. We should love to hear from you and we will, of course, take great care of all loans and display original material in locked cases."

The Museum can be contacted by telephoning 015242 51388 or emailing info@ncbpt.org.uk

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