

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

News from The Folly (Settle & District Community News, June 2014)

11 May 2014

By the time you read this there will be just four weeks left in which to visit our 'Make It Slow' exhibition. It has attracted visitors from far and wide who have been inspired by the range of skilled craftsmanship on show. We are delighted to be welcoming Sharon Adams, one of the six exhibiting artists, to The Folly on 13th June, to talk about the 'slow' movement and specifically about her own work. Sharon, from a Northern Irish farming family, has always had a fascination with hand tools and for tasks performed by hand, using favourite tools. She says, 'Making is in our nature, but increasingly “work” is now accomplished by clicking buttons'. Sharon wants to reconnect us with the old well-learned ways of working and in her talk she will be describing how she has been inspired by the many curious tools found in museum collections (including some unusual and highly-specific ones from our own!) Do come along and hear what she has to say and rediscover for yourselves the pleasure of taking things slowly.

From 1 July we have a complete change of exhibitions, based on the theme of journeys. To commemorate the outbreak of World War I, we have 'War Beckons' which looks at the early months of the war and its effect on North Craven, under the themes of recruitment, the arrival of Belgian refugees and the impact of war on farming and other local occupations. We are working as part of the Craven and the First World War project and an especially moving aspect will be dramatic performances re-enacting the departure of 'Tunstill's Men', volunteers from the Settle area, exactly one hundred years on from the actual dates. More details of these will be given in the next Community News.

The companion exhibition is entitled 'Journeys Through a Family Archive' and explores the story of the Riley family and their many involvements in the life of Settle and district over a period of nearly 100 years. We are fortunate that the present generation of the family have kindly donated papers, photographs and other memorabilia to the museum which provide a wonderful insight into the changing life of the area and a source of endless fascination to Settleites. There must be a good handful of people in and around the town who still remember Frederic Riley, his wife Bessie and their two children Marjorie (later Longstaff) and James and their connections with Zion, Upper Settle and the bookshop in Church Street. We are having a special evening in The Folly on 11 July to which we should like to invite anyone who remembers the Rileys and who would like to share their own memories with us and with Marina and Paul, two of Frederic's grandchildren. It will be a very informal occasion with a bit of music, a few recitations and supper. Please get in touch with me as soon as possible if you would like to come along.

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For more information, please contact:

Mrs Anne Read, Hon. Curator

Tel: (015242) 51388

E-mail: folly@ncbpt.org.uk

Web: <http://www.ncbpt.org.uk/folly>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/follysettle>