

PRESS RELEASE

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**Attention: Forward Planning desks
Cultural round-up pieces**



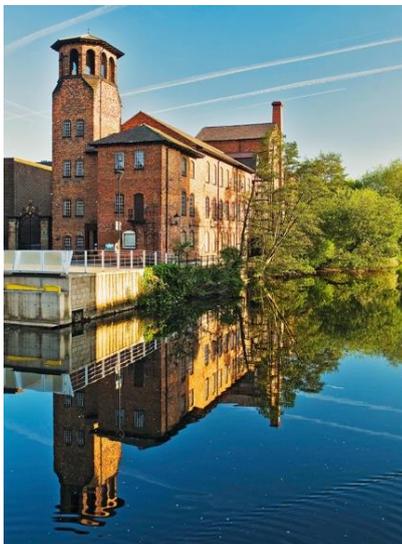
Derby's new Museum of Making set to open in September 2020

On the site of the world's first factory this new museum will inspire the makers of tomorrow

The countdown to the opening of the new Museum of Making in Derby has begun! On Saturday 19th September 2020, the new Museum of Making will open to the public for the very first time. The Museum has been designed to inspire those who visit with new creativity, while showcasing Derby's 300-year history of making and celebrating the area's rich history of innovation. The Museum is located in the Derwent Valley Mills UNESCO World Heritage Site, and stands on the site of the world's first factory, the Derby Silk Mill.

Designed and made by the people and industries of Derby, the Museum of Making is truly unique and will be a must-visit destination for those in the East Midlands and beyond. To enter the Museum, visitors will walk through the iconic 18th century Bakewell Gates (part of the original structure of the Silk Mill) to be greeted by an impressive Rolls-Royce Trent 1000 engine which will hang above visitors from the ceiling in the Civic Hall. This engine has already been dramatically winched into place as due to its size, and the impressive Civic Hall, a triple height glass atrium that forms the entrance to the new Museum is being constructed around it – a testament to the engineering strengths of the region.

Visitors will have full access to the 50,000 objects in the Museum's collections, which will showcase a range of items from Derby's Palaeolithic past and its rich industrial history to the modern day. There will also be bespoke workshop spaces where those who want to come and create can do just that, making this Museum more than just a place where people can *look* at its collections; as the name suggests, at the Museum of Making, visitors will be encouraged to create and make.



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The Silk Mill from the bridge, credit Derby Museums (L) and an artists' impression of the front entrance of the Museum of Making, credit Bauman Lyons Associates (R)

Ahead of the opening in 2020, the public are also being offered a once in a lifetime opportunity: to make their mark on the new Museum of Making by having their name, or the name of a loved one, permanently displayed in the entrance hall of the Museum. They can choose to sponsor either a small or large name plaque, adding to and helping to secure the Museum's future with their donation. As all donations to the Museum's endowment are currently being doubled with match funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, this means that a donation of £250 including gift aid becomes £625 and a gift of £500 becomes £1250 at no extra cost to you. These unique gifts are available to the public now, so visit <http://bit.ly/DM-MYM> to find out more.

Tony Butler, Executive Director, Derby Museums says: *"So far, over 1000 people have been involved in making the new Museum of Making, ensuring that the Silk Mill – a site of global significance – will be protected and enhanced for future generations to enjoy. With exhibits, workshops, regular activities and events, there will be something for everyone in this Grade II listed building, which, for the first time will be fully accessible to all. With less than one year to go, we can't wait to share the new Museum of Making with those living locally, and further afield, next September."*

Anne Jenkins, Director of England, Midlands & East, The National Lottery Heritage Fund, says: *"2020 is set to be a very exciting year as we welcome the Museum of Making's opening, and it is sure to be a must-see destination for many National Lottery players who have raised the money to make this important project possible. It's been wonderful to see the Museum take shape within the significant heritage setting of the Silk Mill - it's the perfect home to showcase the spirit of innovation that Derby is famed through the Museum's remarkable collection."*

The new Museum will also boast a new destination café, serving up tasty treats to its visitors, and the Museum of Making shop will offer a range of gifts to suit all interests and budgets. From weddings and charity balls to business meetings and conferences, the Museum will be able to offer a range of unique spaces available for private hire, as well as educational and creative environments dedicated to learning and making.

The Museum of Making is being developed by Derby Museums, an independent charitable trust that manages two other museums in the city - the Museum and Art Gallery and Pickford's House. This £17m project is being funded by The



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National Lottery Heritage Fund, Arts Council England, D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership and a range of trusts and foundations.

Tony Butler, Executive Director, Derby Museums concludes: *“The new Museum of Making will open on Saturday 19th September 2020, so add this to your diaries and we look forward to seeing you next year!”*

Follow the project’s progress on [@MuseumofMaking](https://twitter.com/MuseumofMaking) or via the museum’s Tumblr blog at: <https://derbysilkmill.tumblr.com>.

-Ends-

For more information about the new Museum of Making, interview requests, or high res images, please contact the Culture Communications Collective, on:

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Notes to editors

About the Museum of Making

- The Museum of Making is a £17 million development that is creating a new visitor attraction in the heart of Derby, exploring 300 years of Derbyshire’s manufacturing history. On the site of the world’s first factory at Derby Skill Mill, and launching in September 2020, the new Museum will open up the whole of the former Silk Mill which is part of the Derwent Valley Mills UNESCO World Heritage site.
- Completely designed and put together with the people and industries of Derby, the Museum will have on display over 50,000 objects, the vast majority of which have not been seen by the public before. It will be telling the stories of our making past to inspire the modern maker in all of us. The Eagle Engine that will go on display at the new Museum of Making is on long term loan to Derby Museums from the Science Museum.
- The redevelopment of Derby Silk Mill as the Museum of Making is a project of Derby City Centre Masterplan which is owned by the Vibrant City Partnership – a private/public sector partnership that guides redevelopment of the city centre.

About Derby Museums

- Founded in 2012, Derby Museums is an independent charitable trust that manages three museums in the city, the Museum and Art Gallery, Pickford’s House and the new Museum of Making and holds and curates all the art and collections within them, including the world’s largest collection of paintings by Joseph Wright of Derby. www.derbymuseums.org
- Derby Museums inspires all generations to be makers, artists and thinkers. It aims to bring as many of the objects and treasures in the collections into the public domain as possible and to present them in ways that delight and inspire via education and learning programmes, events and exhibitions, in order to share knowledge and inspire creativity and making amongst the people of Derby.
- As a charitable trust, Derby Museums relies on funding and grants from organisations, as well as donations from businesses and the general public, all of which is gratefully received in order to ensure that admission to the museums remains free for all. It is also a National Portfolio Organisation supported by Arts Council England.



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About The National Lottery Heritage Fund

- Using money raised by The National Lottery, NLHF inspires, leads and resources the UK's heritage to create positive and lasting change for people and communities, now and in the future. www.HeritageFund.org.uk

About Arts Council England

- The national development body for arts and culture across England, working to enrich people's lives. It supports a range of activities across the arts, museums and libraries – from theatre to visual art, reading to dance, music to literature, and crafts to collections. Great art and culture inspires us, brings us together and teaches us about ourselves and the world around us. In short, it makes life better. Between 2018 and 2022, Arts Council England will invest £1.45 billion of public money from government and an estimated £860 million from the National Lottery to help create these experiences for as many people as possible across the country. www.artscouncil.org.uk

About D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership

- The D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) is one of 38 LEPs across England. D2N2's private sector-led Board represents business, local authorities, skills and training providers, and voluntary and community organisations. It promotes economic growth and jobs creation in Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire; using UK Government and European funding.
- Local Enterprise Partnerships are playing a vital role in driving forward economic growth across the country, helping to build a country that works for everyone. That's why by 2021 Government will have invested over £12billion through the Local Growth Fund, allowing LEPs to use their local knowledge to get all areas of the country firing on all cylinders. Analysis has shown every £1 of Local Growth Fund invested could generate £4.81 in benefits. www.d2n2lep.org

About Midlands Engine

- The government is committed to making the Midlands an Engine for Growth in the UK, increasing economic growth and improving the quality of life for everyone. The Midlands is home to over 10 million people and over 780,000 businesses. Its economy is worth £217.7 billion.
- Government has awarded £1.9billion in 3 rounds of Growth Deals across the Midlands.
- 8 Enterprise Zones have been established in the Midlands Engine since 2012, and 3 zones have been extended. By March 2016 these had attracted almost £1billion of private investment, and created 85 new businesses and 7,291 jobs.



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