

**Welcome** to Wells & Mendip Museum's newsletter with information about exhibitions, talks, events and developments at the Museum. If you would like to receive a copy by e-mail please contact [admin@wellsmuseum.org.uk](mailto:admin@wellsmuseum.org.uk)

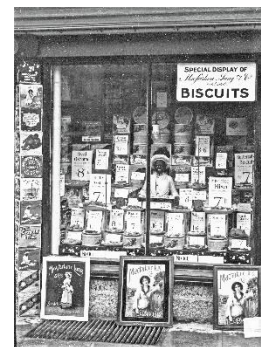
**Opening hours: Tuesday – Saturday 10am – 4pm (Closed Sundays & Mondays)**

**PLEASE NOTE: The museum will be open 10am – 4pm on each day of the Jubilee weekend 10am – 4pm Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday 2-5 June, and also on Monday 6 June**

### FIRST FLOOR EXHIBITION ROOM “THE CHANGING SHOPS OF WELLS IN PHOTOGRAPHS”

**Due to popular demand, this exhibition has been extended and will now end on Thursday 16 June**

The exhibition features a collection of photographs of the heart of the city of Wells from the 1890s to the present day, spanning the decades and stimulating memories of shopping in Wells. **Normal museum entry fees apply**



### 22 JUNE – 2 JULY – ART EXHIBITION BY THE OLD BAKERY ARTISTS



The OBA was formed by a group of local artists from the Radstock area in around 2000. They meet every month in The Fromeway Inn, Radstock where they coordinate regular exhibitions across the area. In 2019 they were the first group in the world to open a gallery within a Supermarket and took up residence in the RADCO shop, Radstock from November 2019 until March 2020 when the gallery had to close due to the pandemic. It was a very successful,

groundbreaking initiative and very much enjoyed by those who visited, introducing many people to the idea of owning original, local art, some for the first time. The OBA maintain a regular calendar of events with exhibitions in Wells Museum, Wells Cathedral, Black Swan Arts, Frome; The Tithe Barn, Bradford on Avon; The Cellars, Paulton; a biannual art trail and much more....

For exhibition news and details about the artists involved visit their website, follow them on Instagram & Facebook @oldbakeryartists [www.oldbakeryartists.co.uk](http://www.oldbakeryartists.co.uk)

**Free entry to exhibition only**

### 5 – 16 JULY – “SHADES OF SHIPHAM” MIXED MEDIA EXHIBITION

This group of professional artists have been exhibiting as 'Shades of Shipham', the Mendip village where they all live, for over seventeen years. Anne Carpenter exhibits internationally specialising in fabric collage, which she describes as painting with fabric and drawing with focusing on animal forms and Tina Dodd is known for her landscape drawings and monoprints of the Mendip Hills and trees.



Samantha Gilraine is a photographer who will be exhibiting fine art prints and Jean Edmonds will have paintings on show with a flora and fauna theme.

In addition to the artwork there will be greetings cards and prints for sale and entry is free. There will be a chance to meet the artists as they will be taking it in turns to steward the exhibition and very much look forward to meeting you.

**Free entry to exhibition only**

## 19 – 29 JULY – MENDIP CALLIGRAPHY



Everyone is welcome to the Mendip Calligraphy Group exhibition which is usually held every other year at the museum – it's been some time since their last one so we are looking forward to sharing their group 'lockdown' projects and our individual artworks and handmade books. They are on Facebook – search for Mendip Calligraphy Group and on Instagram and you'll see examples of the practice pieces which will now be on show as

finished work in the exhibition. The group meets every month for a workshop day at Shipham Village Hall, please email if you are interested in joining their group and exploring the world of lettering art. [mendip.calligraphy@blagdon.org](mailto:mendip.calligraphy@blagdon.org)

**Free entry to exhibition only**

## UPDATES ON OUR NEW “SEARCH & LEARN” PROJECT

From our Project Manager, Victoria Northwood

### NEWS

The Search & Learn project was launched in 2021 following the announcement of a grant of £194,600 by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. Over the next few years we will be refurbishing the two Wells City Galleries, restoring the study of our founder, Herbert Balch, installing new displays and interactives and developing an exciting new programme of activities, including a series of family days organised in partnership with Somerset Art Works.

We have recently appointed Far Post Design as the Interpretation Design and Build contractors for the project. FPD have worked with a wide range of museums and heritage attractions, including the National Motor Museum at Beaulieu and the Russell-Cotes Museum in Bournemouth. We are looking forward to drawing on their expertise to help us present our social history collections in new and exciting ways.

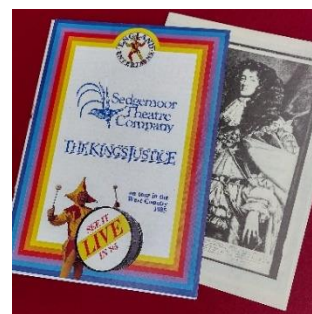
You can keep in touch with our progress in the project blog, at:

<https://www.wellsmuseum.org.uk/search-and-learn-project>

## A WARM WELCOME TO OUR FIRST WORK EXPERIENCE PLACEMENTS

As part of the Search & Learn project, we will be encouraging people to undertake work experience placements at the museum.

First to join us has been Aubrey Banks, a student from Bath Spa University, who has been visiting us since April as part of her Masters degree in Heritage Management. Aubrey has been assisting in a project collecting information around artefacts within the Museum collection to do with the Monmouth Rebellion and its commemoration over the years. Some items of note include a delftware charger from 1696 decorated with the likeness



*Pamphlet advertising 'The King's Justice' a play by Sedgemoor Theatre Company, part of the 300th anniversary commemoration of the Rebellion*



*Bristol Delft platter with a portrait of James, Duke of Monmouth*

of James Scott the Duke of Monmouth, as well as many social history items from commemoration events in 1985 for the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the rebellion such as battle strategy games, colouring pages, and performance leaflets. Some items are being reviewed by specialists with a view to dating them and finding out if they might be contemporary to the Monmouth Rebellion. Aubrey will be with us until mid-June and we have been delighted to have her as part of the team!

We are also excited to welcome Matthew Chislett, who will be joining us for 8 weeks. Matthew has experience in digital marketing and social media content creation and will be helping the museum team to explore how we can promote our activities more effectively.

## **COME AND JOIN OUR TEAM!**

### **Could you be a Museum Mentor?**

We are looking for people to become Museum Mentors – volunteers who help us to welcome socially isolated people, who may feel nervous about entering a museum setting, and encouraging them to engage with our collections. Our Museum Mentors will play a vital role in helping us to deliver the Search & Learn project, and training will be provided. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Victoria Northwood, Search & Learn Project Manager at: [community@wellsmuseum.org.uk](mailto:community@wellsmuseum.org.uk)

## **FAMILY DAYS AT THE MUSEUM**

### **SATURDAY 13 & THURSDAY 25 AUGUST 2022**

We are excited to be working with Somerset Art Works to plan a series of free family days at the museum, inspired by our collections. We will be sharing further information via the museum noticeboard and social media accounts nearer the time, so do keep an eye out! Further days are planned for September and October, and February half-term.

**Victoria Northwood, Search & Learn Project manager**

## **THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE**



The stage is set for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

Looking back to June 1953, an actual stage was built outside Wells Town Hall for the Coronation celebrations by the local builders, decorators and signwriters, W.H.Paul Ltd.

Photo: Wells & Mendip Museum

**SATURDAY 9 JULY 11am – 3pm**  
**SUMMER CRAFT MARKET**



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There will be lots of stalls selling all sorts of hand-crafted goods - Silver and gemstone jewellery, candles, wax melts, bags, macrame, gift cards, print and artwork, sweets, and much more..... Refreshments will also be on sale.

**We still have stall space if you would like to join us!**

Pitch £10 to include 1 trestle table. Please contact the museum for details and for an application form.



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