

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

News from the Folly

9 Sept 2007

Our exhibitions this season, with their anniversary theme, have attracted visitors from near and far. Local people and especially former students of Settle High School and College have enjoyed recalling old friends and memories through the College's Centenary exhibition and the sound of laughter has frequently echoed round the building! The story of the fifty-year friendship between Sir Edward Elgar and Dr Charles Buck, featured in 'Elgar in Craven' has proved especially popular with the composer's many admirers and gained an appreciative review in a national newspaper. Members of Settle Orchestra have given much pleasure by playing live music on several Sunday afternoons, reminding us of how ideally suited The Folly is to this kind of performance. The Orchestra has also contributed an interesting display to commemorate its own 40th anniversary. We have received more favourable comments than ever before from visitors this year, one describing it as 'a little gem of a museum' and many others praising the quality of the exhibitions and the lovely atmosphere of the house. Our final opening of the 2007 season, to coincide with half term, is on 20, 21 and 23 October, so if you have not yet been along to The Folly, do come and have a look – you will not be disappointed! Alan Hemsworth and friends have kindly agreed to provide their eagerly-anticipated annual recital of Christmas music (accompanied by mince pies and mulled wine!) on Saturday morning, 15 December, so please put the date in your diaries now. Our new publication 'Connections: artists and writers in North Craven' is selling well and finding its way to many parts of the globe. Priced at only £3.99, it makes an ideal present for family, friends and Yorkshire people who now live elsewhere. Copies are available from Archway Books in Settle, TICs in the area and other local outlets. They may also be ordered by post through our website (see below)

I should like to end this note with an appeal. The poor weather we have experienced this summer has served to underline the importance of The Folly as one of North Craven's few indoor attractions. We are often criticised for not being open every day during the season and of course we should love to be able to do this, but are totally dependent on finding enough volunteers to act as stewards. Volunteering is very enjoyable and the more we can be open, the more visitors we shall attract, thus boosting our local economy as well. Please consider helping the community in this way if you can. You do not have to be able to commit more than a few hours a month and if you would like to find out more I shall be delighted to hear from you. I can be contacted either by telephone (015242) 51388 or via our website at www.ncbpt.org.uk/folly.

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