

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

**News from The Folly (Settle & District Community News (Oct 2014))**

8 Sept 2014

By the time you read this there will only be a few weeks left of our main opening season, so if you haven't yet visited, time is running out! Those of you who keep an eye on the Craven Herald and the Yorkshire Post will know we've had lots of welcome and highly complimentary publicity in the last few weeks about all our current exhibitions. We are pleased to report that 'War Beckons' is attracting both local people and those from further afield to contribute more material about their family members who played a part in World War I, so do come in and see if you can add something too. The Riley family exhibition 'Journeys Through a Family Archive' and the displays of Derek Soames' memorabilia are also bringing plenty of new information and stories to light. One of the most rewarding and exciting things about displaying local material in Settle is that we never know what is going to turn up next!

As I write this on 7 September, I've just returned from a very memorable and moving re-enactment in the Victoria Hall of the first recruitment meeting which took place exactly 100 years ago today in that very place. Gilbert Tunstill, a local man from Otterburn, set himself the task of recruiting 99 men from Craven to volunteer immediately in Kitchener's Army. Today's re-enactment is being followed by a number of promenade performances of 'Tunstill's Men' across the district. These have been written and performed by staff and students of Skipton Academy (formerly Aireville School) and on Friday, 17th October, Dr Bill Smith who has masterminded the whole project is coming to talk in The Folly about Tunstill and his remarkable achievement. Dr Smith is a superb speaker and this is an evening not to be missed, so please book your tickets early.

We are, as ever, delighted to be taking part in this year's Settle Storytelling Festival, by hosting a workshop on Saturday, 11th October being run by Anna Greenwood on the theme of collecting stories from family members and creating your own archive. With our current crop of exhibitions all around her Anna has an ideal venue in The Folly.

Then at the end of the month, on 26th October, it's 'Big Draw' time again. This national free event grows year by year and we are lucky that Sam Dalby has once again agreed to lead it for us. Sam's enthusiasm and ability to encourage even the most unlikely people to draw makes this a very happy afternoon for people of all ages and there is always plenty of laughter and some really amazing results!

Looking ahead to 29th November, we are running our highly-popular free 'Christmas fun in The Folly' family activity to coincide with the switch-on of Settle's lights. So, once again plenty to come and see, hear and do right on your own doorstep!

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