

News Release



YORKSHIRE DALES
National Park Authority

‘Fabric Of Place’ opens at DCM

Bainbridge, 2 October, 2018

Four artists and more than two hundred members of the Swaledale community, including children at Reeth and Gunnerside Primary Schools, have shaped “Fabric of Place”, the Dales Countryside Museum’s [autumn exhibition](#) opening this week.

On display are dozens of artworks inspired by local life and created during the past 18 months as part of a ‘Slow Art’ project run by Gargrave-based [Chrysalis Arts](#).

Ultraviolet wool drawings, exhibited in a tent, nod to Swaledale’s dark skies. A hand-stitched umbrella appears in colour and texture to be like local lichen. A hand-made rucksack – the essential piece of kit for visitors - has maps sown into the lining.

“Fabric of Place” will run from Thursday 4 October to Monday 26 November. The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority’s [Sustainable Development Fund](#) was one of the funders, granting £2,500 to the project.

Emily Wilson from Chrysalis Arts said: “Delivering a project over a longer period allowed connections to be developed with a wide spectrum of the community. The project has engaged some more isolated residents, particularly older people. The artwork you will see in the exhibition gives a very true reflection of ‘place’.”

Each of the four artists – textile artist Joanne B. Kaar; textile artist Serena Partridge; illustrator and printmaker Ed Kluz; and potter Graham Taylor – worked with different groups within the community. Joanne B. Kaar worked with a group of local crafters and makers, as well as with year 5 and 6 pupils. Serena Partridge worked with Swaledale Youth Club and young carers via Hambleton and Richmondshire Carers’ Centre. Ed Kluz collected stories and songs from elderly people within the community; people visiting the exhibition can hear some of the recordings. Graham Taylor ran workshops for families and the Swaledale and Arkengarthdale Archaeology Group to experiment with clay.

Museum Manager Fiona Rosher said: “The ‘Fabric of Place’ project has helped open the eyes of people to what is all around. Some of the artworks in the exhibition are remarkable for their colours and attention to detail. Many, many hours of labour have gone into producing them. This has been an innovative community-based artist-in-residency project which has, in some surprising ways, teased out fresh stories about the people, culture and heritage of Swaledale”

Note to Newsdesk

Image: Close up of a lichen-inspired umbrella made as part of the Fabric of Place project and now on display at the DCM. (YDNPA)

For more information, please call the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority's Media Officer Andrew Fagg (Mon, Tues and Fri) on 01969 652374 or Communications Manager Richard Payne on 01969 652394.

1. The DCM is housed in the former Hawes railway station in Wensleydale, in the north of the National Park. More information is available at www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk. Stay up to date with what's happening by following DCM on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).
2. The museum is owned and managed by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority. Its collection was started in the 1940s by Marie Hartley, Ella Pontefract and Joan Ingilby and is the most comprehensive in the country relating to Dales heritage. It ranges from prehistoric to modern day objects.
3. It is open daily between 10am and 5pm from February to October and between 10am and 4.30pm in November and December. Entry charges (which include the exhibition) are £4.80 for adults and £4.30 for concessions and groups of 10 people or more, while children visit free. An annual pass is £9.
4. The Yorkshire Dales National Park is one of 15 National Parks in the UK. It is administered by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, which has two main purposes: "to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage" and "to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park". In carrying out these purposes, the Authority has a duty "to seek to foster the economic and social well being of local communities". The National Park Authority comprises 25 members, made up of county and district councillors and members appointed by the Secretary of State for the Environment to represent parishes or in recognition of their specialist skills or knowledge.
5. All of our work is guided by the vision for the future of the National Park set out in the Yorkshire Dales National Park Management Plan: "Through their passion for this special place, local people and businesses will keep the Yorkshire Dales National Park a thriving area. Its unique cultural landscape will be treasured for its stunning scenery, exceptional heritage and wonderful wildlife, and every year millions of people will be inspired to be a part of it." www.yorkshiredalesmanagementplan.org.uk
6. All Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority media releases can be viewed online by visiting www.yorkshiredales.org.uk