

Heritage Centre looks to the future with local MP

16 September 2010: For immediate release

A leading Forest of Dean tourist attraction and charity will, later this month, show off its past achievements and future plans to local MP Mark Harper.

The Dean Heritage Centre, based in Soudley, has invited Mr Harper to visit the museum, meet trustees, staff and volunteers and take a tour of the site. The trip will enable Mr Harper to discover how the charity works to preserve and promote the history and heritage of the Forest of Dean.

Centre Manager Nathalie Hall explained: "We are delighted Mr Harper has agreed to visit the museum. It shows his commitment to promoting a vibrant tourism industry in the Forest of Dean and will allow us the opportunity to show him how we are working hard to promote the area by showcasing its unique and special history.

"Mr Harper will see our large collection of artefacts, five onsite galleries and will be invited to join a lesson with local children in our Victorian classroom. Education is a key part of what we have to offer and I am keen to highlight this to Mr Harper in order to gain his ongoing support and advice on how we continue to develop in difficult economic circumstances.

"We have many exciting plans for the future that I am keen to share with Mr Harper, including sustainable energy projects, joint ventures with local businesses and other tourist attractions as well as an exciting calendar of events."

Speaking about his planned visit to the centre, Mr Harper said: "I'm looking forward to my visit to the Dean Heritage Centre. The Forest of Dean is a beautiful area with many unique traditions and the Dean Heritage Centre is doing great work to promote it. It'll be good to see in person the plans they've got in place to do more to promote the Forest in the future."

Mark Harper MP will be at the Dean Heritage Centre on September 24th from 12 noon.

- End -

To send a photographer, reporter or to request images from the visit please contact Kathryn Ashcroft on 01594 822170 or email: Kathryn@deanheritagemuseum.com

Notes to editors

- The Dean Heritage Centre is based in five acres of scenic woodland and is home to the 'Museum of the Forest'. It tells the story of the Forest of Dean and its' people spanning 10,000 years of history, from the ice age to present day.
- It is open 363 days a year and offers a full diary of events, activities and exhibitions.
- The Museum is a centre of education and offers tailored educational workshops and activities to tie in with the school curriculum. For more information please call Sarah Fuller on 01594 822170.
- The Centre has been awarded the accreditation of Quality Assured Visitor Attraction.
- The Dean Heritage Museum Trust (DHMT) is a company limited by guarantee and is a registered charity.

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