

- Press Release -

MP's visit promotes tourism in the Forest

1st October 2010: For immediate release

On Friday 24th September, Soudley based tourist attraction, the Dean Heritage Centre (DHC) welcomed Forest of Dean MP, Mark Harper through its doors.

Mr Harper made a tour of the popular tourist spot to discover what is being done to develop the local attraction and to discuss future business plans.

Centre Manager, Nathalie Hall, said: "We are extremely pleased Mr Harper took the time to visit our site and see what changes we have planned.

"At present we are looking to optimise the current site with our proposed entrance redesign, new forest theatre and giant monster trail in order to raise our profile and attract more visitors. In 2011 we will be increasing our education offer, sustainability projects and working to form joint business ventures with other attractions in the Forest of Dean."

Speaking of his visit Mr Harper said, 'I am really impressed with the plans to make the Dean Heritage Centre even more welcoming and show off the comprehensive collection to best effect. There's a huge amount to see; I'd encourage everyone locally as well as visitors to the area to see what they have to offer.'

Miss Hall continued, 'The current economic climate presents many challenges to visitor attractions in the area but we are committed to protecting, preserving and promoting the history and heritage of the Forest of Dean whilst at the same time providing an interesting and commercial tourist attraction that represents the people and culture of the region. With the help of our dedicated team of trustees, staff and volunteers, I look forward to the challenge of turning the centre into a profitable and sustainable tourist attraction.'

- End -

For more information article please contact Kathryn Ashcroft on 01594 822170 or email: kathryn@deanheritagemuseum.com

Visit: 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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