

- Press Release -

**From fungi forays to spooky stories,
the DHC has lots to offer this October**

25th October: For immediate release

Mad about mushrooms, taken with toadstools or a fungi fanatic? Then why not visit the Dean Heritage Centre (DHC) this October for a fun fungi foray.

October is a busy month for fungi. Cool damp weather encourages spores to grow and a wide variety of fungi are popping up all over the Forest of Dean.

On Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st October the Dean Fungus Group will be at the Dean Heritage Centre (DHC) with their team of experts eager to share their encyclopaedic knowledge of all things fungal.

The Fungi Weekend at the DHC has become increasingly popular over the years and the high demand for the forays proves it is a fun day out for all ages.

Marketing Manager, Kathryn Ashcroft, said, 'People are increasingly interested in rediscovering tradition and hunting for mushrooms is gaining in popularity. Tickets are now available for the forays which will start at 2pm on each day of the weekend in order to keep the groups manageable. Our foray leaders have an amazing amount of information and we want to share their wealth of knowledge as effectively as possible.'

Tickets cost £2 for the two-hour forays and can be reserved by calling the DHC on 01594 822170. Tickets must be collected and paid for by 1pm on the day of the foray as any tickets uncollected will be put up for resale.

Keith Davies who runs the Dean Fungus Group said, 'The Fungi Weekend is an important date in our calendar and we are looking forward to returning to the DHC.'

In addition to the fungi forays, the DHC will also be celebrating Halloween in true spooky style on Sunday 31st October. A pair of witches will be taking up residence and telling spooky stories relating to items that visitors will be encouraged to pull out of their sack. At 12.30pm, 1.30pm and 2.30pm there will be a walk around the DHC as one of the sinister crones shares a tale of good intentions gone bad which allegedly happened on the very spot the visitor attraction is now located! Young visitors will also have the chance to create Halloween masks and hunt for the creepy creatures that will be hiding throughout the site.

Come and join the fun!

- End -

For more information or if you would like a photograph to illustrate the 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.

- In March 2007 the Centre was awarded the accreditation of Quality Assured Visitor Attraction.