

Museum of Carpet

Programme of Talks, Walks & Films

No.1. " Woven in Kidderminster "

The history of the development of the carpet industry in the Kidderminster area, including Stourport, Bewdley and Bridgnorth. Foundation talk illustrated with samples, pictures, artefacts and good audience participation.

No.2. " Mills and Tall Chimneys " of Kidderminster. - Talk and slide show.

A recommended follow-up to "Woven in Kidderminster".

An interesting look at Kidderminster's heritage including a tour around a carpet factory to see the carpet industry at work with some unique historic pictures.

No.3. " The Magic Carpet " - Hand knotted carpets from the Orient.

Talk and slide show reviewing the history of hand knotted carpets.

No.4. " The Kidderminster & Stourport Electric Tramway Co. "

Talk & slide show including a ride on the tram. Not carpets but very much a part of the life of the towns between 1898-1929. Melvyn's Grandfather was one of the first Motormen.

No.5. Town Centre Carpet Walk. approx 1.5 hours duration. Ideal for around 20 people.

No.6. Canal Towpath Carpet Walk. approx 2.0 hours duration

Caldwall Mill to Limekiln Bridge. A fascinating walk at a pace to suit your group

No.7. "Reel Stories" A night at the movies with some of our carpet archive footage

The talks are given by Melvyn Thompson or one of the Museum's volunteers. Melvyn worked in the carpet industry for the whole of his working life and speaks from experience.

Over 400 talks have been enjoyed by a variety of organisations.

The talks normally last about 60 minutes but can be tailored to your requirement.

We have our own projector and screen if necessary. Kidderminster is known for its carpet industry and the talks appeal to all, not just the Kidderminster area.

The carpet talks are based on the books "Woven in Kidderminster" and "Mills & Tall Chimneys" both by Melvyn Thompson. Copies can be made available with a good discount for your members. Also available "Weaving in Bridgnorth" and "The Illustrated History of The Kidderminster & Stourport Electric Tramway Company" both part written by Melvyn Thompson.

Cost : The Carpet Museum Trust is a registered charity and donations [depending on the size of the organisation but a minimum of £50] are invited towards the cost of maintaining the Museum of Carpet and its extensive Archive Collection.

Speakers are happy to travel reasonable distances but would request assistance with petrol and any other expenses.

For Bookings or further information, please contact :

Melvyn Thompson, 2 Flint Close, Kidderminster, Worcestershire DY10 1YF.

Telephone : 01562 67077

E-mail : mel.thompson@sky.com