



Henry's Buttons



Email: henrysbuttons.co.uk

Newsletter

January 2010

Thank you all for showing such interest in the Dorset Button Workshops and both Charlotte and I wish you a very Happy New Year. We are very surprised and delighted with the response we received as a result of our publicity about the two workshops and thank you all for your support with this project.



Both workshops were held in Respect Organics Gallery and Studio, Bell Street, Shaftesbury. Our expert instructor, Joan Nicholls, took participants through the first stages on how to make a Dorset Button. She also chatted informally about the history of the industry and participants were able to share their experiences and discuss how they could use their buttons in today's world...

Results of the Questionnaire

Our thanks also to all of you who attended the workshops and took the time to return your questionnaire. The general consensus from your response is that this is a very worthwhile project and many of you wish to bring the Dorset Button Industry back to Shaftesbury; develop the opportunity for a social enterprise; and start a co-operative through which people can collectively provide goods and services based around the Dorset Button industry. You also wanted to attend a brainstorming meeting to see how this project could develop, I'm all for this and look forward to meeting you all soon.

Dorset Button News

Wedding Dress. I was delighted to receive a phone call from a lady in Blandford St Mary who had read about our project in the Blackmore Vale Magazine. She sent me photographs of her daughter's wedding dress which featured Dorset Buttons. The Regency style dress in cream with a pale blue slash to the sleeves was set off by five beautiful pale blue Dorset

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For further details



Buttons in the exact same shade of blue down the back of the bodice and a further cream button on each of the puff sleeves.

History re-enacted. One of the ladies who attended one of the workshops is an English Civil War re-enactor and wanted to reintroduce Dorset Buttons into their period costumes.

Button House. Charlotte and I were contacted by a gentleman who moved to Shaftesbury and had purchased a collection of original Dorset Buttons. We were given permissions to photograph this collection and must thank professional photographer, James McMillan, for giving his time to help us.

2010 - Workshops

With the New Year we aim to organise three further workshops, two for all of you who were unable to attend either of the workshops last year and another for those who have attend the first workshop and have asked to learn the techniques for making some of the more intricate buttons.

Saturday 27th February

Introduction on how to make Dorset Buttons

Venue: Shaftesbury Abbey Museum & Garden, Park Walk, Shaftesbury

Time: 10.00am – 4.00pm

Saturday 6th March

Introduction on how to make Dorset Buttons

Venue: Shaftesbury Abbey Museum & Garden, Park Walk, Shaftesbury

Time: 10.00am – 4.00pm

Saturday 24th April

Advanced course on how to make the more intricate Dorset Buttons

For anyone who has completed the 'Introduction on how to make Dorset Buttons' workshop.

Venue: To be confirmed.

Time: 10.00am – 4.00pm

All courses are £17.00 for the day and include instruction from an expert, all materials with making a Dorset Button, lunch, tea and coffee.

To book contact Anna McDowell, Undercliffe Cottage, Donhead St Mary, Shaftesbury, Dorset, SP7 9DG. Tel: 01747 829010 or by email: henrysbuttons@aol.com. All places are reserved once payment has been received.

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