

Devon Guild of Craftsmen

Exhibition news:

Tannery: Photographs by Paul Glendell

Exhibition: 5 January - 4 March 2018

Venue: Devon Guild of Craftsmen, Riverside Mill, Bovey Tracey, Devon TQ13 9AF

The last oak bark tannery in the UK at Colyton in Devon is celebrated in the black and white photographs of Paul Glendell showing at Devon Guild of Craftsmen in Bovey Tracey early in 2018.

The tannery has been processing leather in this traditional way for centuries on the same site to produce top quality leather which is favoured by distinguished shoemakers and top stables for its quality, durability and finish.

This exhibition will explain the tanning process, emphasising the time and care taken as well as showing some beautifully made items crafted from the oak tanned leather.

Paul describes his photography at the tannery:

"I spent five days photographing around the tannery over a period of two months with free access to the site. I wanted to show the care taken and the effort made to produce such high quality leather, and to document a working practice that has changed so little over time. In our race for the new and

latest 'must have' I feel we lose our understanding and forget the need to sometimes wait for quality to be created. Much of the work at the tannery is physically hard and I have tried to portray that and capture the feeling of being in this unique place."

About Paul Glendell

Paul holds a Post Graduate Diploma in Photojournalism from University Of Wales Cardiff. His award-winning work documents environmental issues and disappearing cultural history, gaining an 'award of excellence' in the 54th 'Pictures of the Year' competition in 1996, USA and nominated in the UNESCO 'Humanity Photo Awards' in 2002 and 2014 for his reportage of rural life in Romania and the Tannery images on show here.

Paul's photos have appeared in leading publications, including *Time*, *Nature* and *Life* magazines; he regularly photographs and produces audio slideshows for the BBC News website and undertakes commissions for a variety of magazines and charities.

Paul's photography projects include travels around Britain, Germany, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Romania and Israel and have been exhibited in Britain, France, China, Slovakia and Hungary.

Supported by the Leathersellers' Company Charitable Fund

Opening: Exhibition is free entry and open daily 10am-5.30pm from 5 January to 4 March.



THE DEVON GUILD OF CRAFTSMEN

RIVERSIDE MILL · BOVEY TRACEY · DEVON TQ13 9AF · 01626 832223 · WWW.CRAFTS.ORG.UK · devonguild@crafts.org.uk

Registered charity no. 296568 · Company no. 2026446

Devon Guild of Craftsmen

Associated Events

E Opening event

Friday 19 January 6 - 8pm

Celebrate the opening of this exhibition and the *Jerwood Makers Open* in the Jubilee Gallery.

E Meet the Maker: Paul Glendell

Sunday 21 January 2-4pm

Paul will show and talk us through a selection of his BBC-commissioned short audio slide shows.

Free, drop-in event. No booking required.

E Leather workshop with *Green Shoes*

Thursday 15 February 10am - 12.30pm & 1.30 - 4pm

Use coloured leathers and simple techniques to make a keyring, purse or bracelet.

Free, drop-in family event.

No booking required but limited numbers on a first come first served basis.

Press:

Contact Paul Glendell on paul.glendell@btinternet.com

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or Simon Williams simon.williams@crafts.org.uk and Anna Trussler anna.trussler@crafts.org.uk 01626 832223 at the Devon Guild. www.crafts.org.uk

[Images] Paul Glendell

About Devon Guild of Craftsmen

Based in Bovey Tracey, Devon Guild is the most popular contemporary crafts venue and charity in the South West (110,000+ visitors annually) and is a hub for makers and artists. With a national reputation and influence, the exhibitions are ground-breaking with related events that are fun, free and open to all. Inspiring craft education activities are organized for local schools and the community including craft workshops. There are high quality craft displays in the shop from Devon Guild's South West based Membership as well as a lively, friendly café with a rooftop terrace, located alongside the River Bovey. www.crafts.org.uk

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