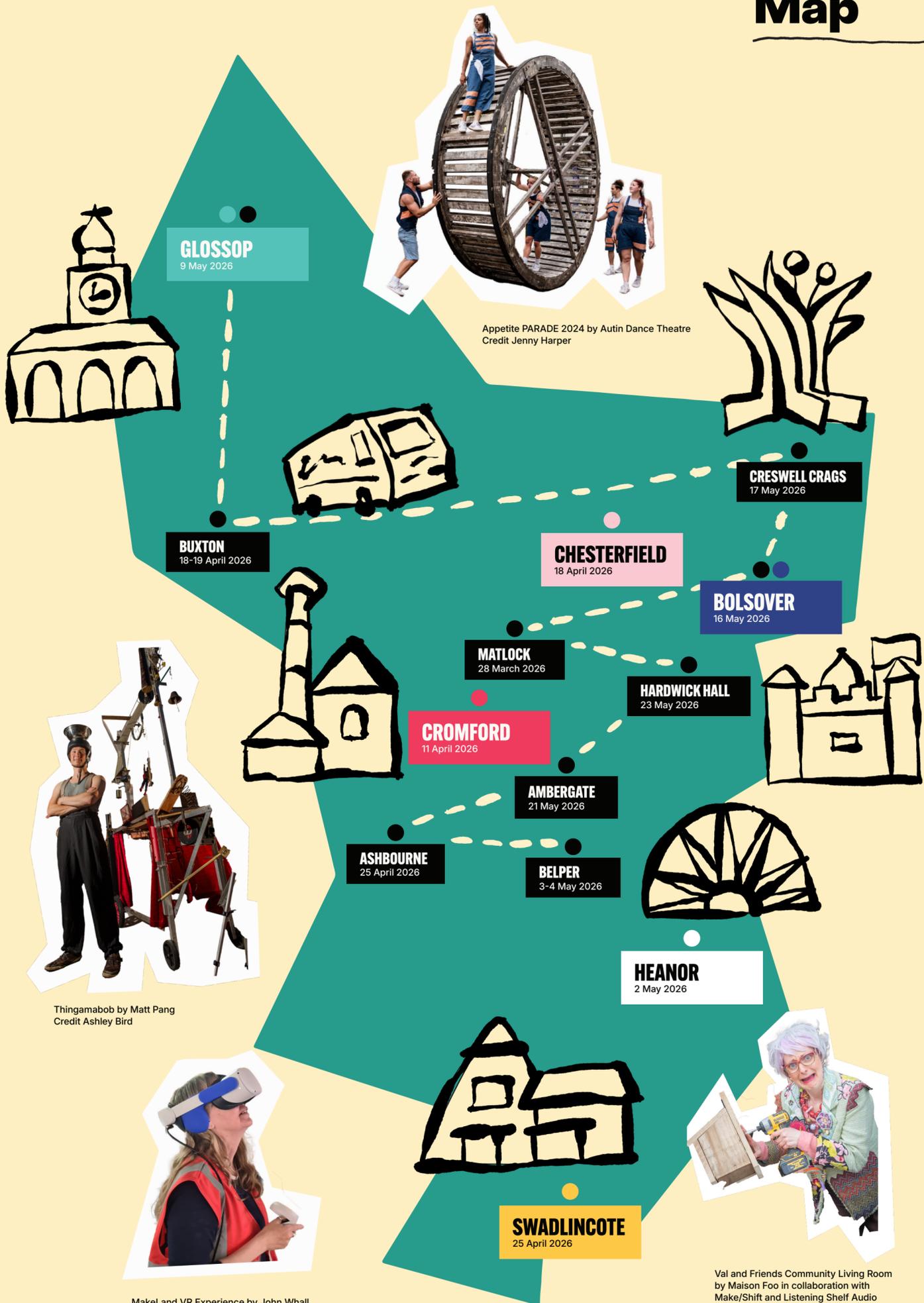


Map



GLOSSOP
9 May 2026

BUXTON
18-19 April 2026

CHESTERFIELD
18 April 2026

BOLSOVER
16 May 2026

MATLOCK
28 March 2026

CROMFORD
11 April 2026

HARDWICK HALL
23 May 2026

AMBERGATE
21 May 2026

ASHBOURNE
25 April 2026

BELPER
3-4 May 2026

HEANOR
2 May 2026

SWADLINCOTE
25 April 2026

Appetite PARADE 2024 by Autin Dance Theatre
Credit Jenny Harper

Thingamabob by Matt Pang
Credit Ashley Bird

MakeLAND VR Experience by John Whall

Val and Friends Community Living Room
by Maison Foo in collaboration with
Make/Shift and Listening Shelf Audio

YEAR ROUND PROJECTS

DARE TO DREAM

Encouraging conversations about heritage, place and aspirations for the future, Derbyshire Makes' signature mass participation project invites people of all ages to take part in a series of community sewing bee events throughout the year.

Join a sewing bee session to create a flag or banner from repurposed materials, featuring your hopes and dreams for a better future. And when thousands of dreams meet, something powerful becomes visible. Be part of the finale in 2027.

WOMEN WHO MAKE

Women Who Make is a bold, welcoming space within Derbyshire Makes that champions women's creativity, labour and lived experience by bringing together artists and makers who identify as women to share skills, stories and solidarity.

Through talks, guided walks, creative gatherings, and collective making, Women Who Make explores themes of value, care, courage, circular futures, enterprise and belonging.

The programme is co-curated by a small cohort of women who make across Derbyshire.

THE MAKORY

Home to exhibition displays and artist-led, drop-in workshops, The Makory is Derby Museum's mobile makerspace – bringing making and heritage directly to you. Touring town centres and communities throughout the festival, The Makory's stops include Ashbourne, Buxton, Belper, Ambergate, Glossop, Bolsover and Hardwick Hall.

The tour will shine a light on local inventors and inventions from the past and present – helping to inspire future innovators. Look out for The Makory coming to a location near you.

See map for the full tour and dates

DERBYSHIRE MAKES 2026

An inspiring celebration of making in all its forms across Derbyshire.

A FREE FESTIVAL

Returning for a second year of programming cultural activity across the county, the free Derbyshire Makes Festival is an inspiring celebration of making in all its forms. Head to the Derbyshire Makes website to find out more about the programme.

JOIN IN

People from across Derbyshire and beyond are invited to be a part of Derbyshire Makes: families, young people, adults and the elderly.

DISCOVER, MAKE, SHARE AND CELEBRATE DERBYSHIRE

Visit derbyshiremakes.co.uk to plan your visit to the free festival events, and find out more.

VISITOR INFORMATION

Please see our FAQs on our website.

YEAR ROUND PROJECTS

As well as the annual spring festival, new projects such as Derbyshire Makes History, The Makory, Women Who Make and Dare to Dream take place throughout Derbyshire. These projects create a collaborative, countywide programme activating museums, archives and heritage sites, whilst connecting artists, arts organisations, libraries, and schools.

GET INVOLVED

Derbyshire Makes also includes opportunities for communities, creative practitioners, industry partners, designer makers, and heritage organisations, with peer support, grants, competitions and network events – all through the theme of creative innovation and making.

Find out more information on the Derbyshire Makes website.

derbyshiremakes.co.uk



@DerbyshireMakes

Delivery partners:



Brochure design:
sanna

All details correct at time of going to print.

FSC This brochure is printed on sustainably sourced materials and can be fully recycled



FESTIVAL HUB SHOWCASE PERFORMANCES

Enjoy four artistic performances across the Festival, showcased at each of the Festival hub locations. These include:

Parade – The Giant Wheel is a spectacular moving performance featuring a 12-foot Giant Wheel powered by dance artists, travelling through the streets with live music and a community cast of local performers. Created by **Autin Dance Theatre**, an award-winning touring company known for bold, visually striking performances blending storytelling, physical theatre and large-scale design.

Thingamabob Show is a joyful solo street show built around an ingenious handcrafted, self-exploding contraption – blending circus, clowning and mechanical mayhem, the show celebrates invention and comic timing as a chain reaction of playful engineering unfolds. Created and performed by **Matt Pang**, a performer, maker and DIY engineer who has been touring inventive circus-inspired shows around the world since 2005.

MakeLAND invites you to step inside a virtual world where Derbyshire's makers and the landscapes that shape them come vividly to life. This immersive VR (Virtual Reality) experience explores the imagination, skill and deep connection that defines creativity across the county. Created by artist **John Whall**, whose work brings people together through immersive interactive digital experiences, where you don't just watch, but explore and co-create.

Val and Friends Community Living Room welcomes you to a home-from-home experience for brews, bants and a dose of good neighbourly vibes. Created by **Maison Foo**, in collaboration with Make/Shift and Listening Shelf Audio. Maison Foo are a Derbyshire-based theatre company who make theatre, and community experiences that bring people together through creativity.

DERBYSHIRE MAKES HISTORY

Derbyshire's remarkable heritage of making and manufacturing has shaped its landscapes, livelihoods and communities for generations.

With funding from The National Lottery Heritage Fund, Derbyshire Makes History will bring these stories to life through six newly commissioned films. It will champion heritage craft skills through hands-on activities in The Makory and bursaries for craftspeople, while also supporting Derbyshire's heritage organisations with grants, training and events to help them thrive.

Derbyshire Makes 2026

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

April-May



DERBYSHIRE County Council

LOTTERY FUNDED

Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

Made possible with
Heritage Fund

DERBYSHIRE MAKES FESTIVAL

APRIL - MAY

CROMFORD
11 April 2026

10.00am -4.00pm Forest School Fun Day: Bushcraft Art for All Ages Aqueduct Cottage

10.00am -12.00pm Derbyshire Makes History: Wheels of Change Weaving Workshops Cromford Community Centre

11.00am -4.00pm Art Wilding: Mosaic, Felting and Tile Workshops Cromford Mills

11.00am -4.00pm Wheel of Fortune: Interactive Sculpture with Fleet Arts Cromford Mills

11.00am -4.00pm Meet Community Arts Groups and Have-a-go Cromford Mills

11.00am -4.00pm Revolutions - Imagination Train: Miniature Worlds Workshop Cromford Mills

11.00am -4.00pm Local Live Music with John Gill Cromford Mills

11.00am -4.00pm Black Pig Border Morris Dancers Cromford Mills

11.00am -4.00pm Have-a-go Punch Needle Embroidery Cromford Mills

11.00am -4.00pm Heritage Craft Demonstrations Cromford Mills

11.00am -4.00pm Display from Arkwright Spinners of traditional spinning techniques. Cromford Mills

11.00am -1.00pm Heritage Birdswood Canal Boat Trips Cromford Mills

CHESTERFIELD
18 April 2026

8.00am -8.00pm Chesterfield Makers Photography Exhibition 16 Apr to 17 May. Discover 10 local makers and artists The Pavements Shopping Centre.

10.00am -4.00pm The Great Chesterfield Make Off Live art show featuring 40 artists. An exciting mash-up. From ceramics to illustration, theatre to crochet. Discover new talents and be inspired. Chesterfield Market

10.00am -4.00pm Chesterfield Postcard Show Workshop Sorbo Lounge

10.00am -4.00pm Showcase Performance. MakeLand VR Experience by John Whall The Pavements Shopping Centre

10.00am -3.00pm Derbyshire Makes History: Celebrating Lace Making in Chesterfield Exhibition Chesterfield Library

10.00am -10.45am Showcase Performance. Matt Pang's Thingamabob Show Chesterfield Market Place

SWADLINCOTE
25 April 2026

10.00am -1.00pm Repair Cafe Advice Station - saving items from landfill People Express

10.00am -3.00pm Songwriting Workshop with Sonic Boom Sharpe's Pottery Museum

10.00am -4.00pm 'Stitches in Time' Banner Exhibition Sharpe's Pottery Museum

10.00am -4.00pm ClayMates Exhibition Sharpe's Pottery Museum

10.00am -4.00pm Derbyshire Makes Miniatures - Birds, Toys and Shops Workshops Sharpe's Pottery Museum

10.00am -4.00pm The Creation of 'SUNBURST' Exhibition Sharpe's Pottery Museum

10.00am -4.00pm Animating Archives with Youth Landscapers Collective Workshop Sharpe's Pottery Museum

10.00am -4.00pm Derbyshire Makes History: LAMPLIGHT Stories from Mining Past Audio Trail Starts at Sharpe's Pottery Museum

10.00am -4.00pm Derbyshire Makes Ceramics - Pottery Workshops Sharpe's Pottery Museum

10.00am -4.00pm Burton and South Derbyshire College Exhibition inspired by Bargeware Sharpe's Pottery Museum

HEANOR
02 May 2026

9.00am -4.00pm Heanor Community Craft Fair St Lawrence's Church

9.00am -4.00pm Heanor Market Heanor Market Place

10.00am -2.00pm Greenfolk Festival Shipley Community Garden

10.00am -2.00pm Cyanotype Workshop Shipley Community Garden

10.00am -3.00pm Making Musical Monsters Workshop Infinite Wellbeing Community Centre

10.00am -3.00pm Meet the Musical Monsters Installation Infinite Wellbeing Community Centre

10.30am -2.00pm Orchestra of Possibilities Performances Infinite Wellbeing Community Centre

11.00am -3.00pm Heanor's Patterned Past Workshop and Town Centre Trail Infinite Wellbeing Community Centre

11.00am -4.00pm Val & Friends Community Living Room by Maison Foo Heanor Market Place

11.00am -4.00pm Make Do, Mend and Reinvent Workshops with The Upcycling Allstars Heanor Market Place

11.00am -4.00pm Make Do and Mend with Crich Share & Repair Café Heanor Market Place

11.00am -4.00pm Make Do, Mend and Reinvent Workshops with Swanwick Men's Shed Heanor Market Place

GLOSSOP
09 May 2026

10.00am -10.00pm Dark Peak Photo Exhibition Glossop Market Hall

11.00am -11.15am Lady of the Loom: Opening Ceremony Norfolk Square

11.00am -4.30pm Yarn Bombing and Knitting Displays The Bureau, Bank House

11.00am -5.00pm The Makory Outdoor Market, Glossop Market Hall

11.15am -4.30pm Springtime Stage Music performances 11:15am-11:45am Olta 12:30pm-1:30pm Matt Hill 1:15pm -1:45pm Rosie Arnfield 2:30pm -3:00pm Ollersett Folk *More acts to be announced*

11.20am -4.30pm Norfolk Square Men's Shed Making Demonstrations Norfolk Square

11.20am -4.30pm Springtime Makers Market Glossop Market Hall

11.30am -4.30pm Spring Time Weaving Demonstration Norfolk Square

11.30am -4.00pm Storytelling 12:15pm -12:45pm Creeping Toad 1:00pm - 1:30pm Joe Winstanley 1:45pm -2:15pm Michelle Collier *More acts to be announced*

11.30am -4.30pm Partington Theatre

BOLSOVER
16 May 2026

10.00am -5.00pm Bolsover Festival of the Arts Featuring live music, spoken word, dance, art installations, and artisan markets. Bolsover Castle

10.00am -2.00pm Teenage Market Explore unique products created by Bolsover's talented young entrepreneurs, plus live performances. Town Square, Cotton Street

10.00am -3.00pm English Heritage Conservation in Action Van The Cenotaph, Town End

10.00am -3.00pm Made in Bolsover A vibrant photography exhibition and short film experience shining a light on Bolsover's creative community. Old Bolsover Yard

10.00am -3.00pm Lantern Making Workshop The Pillar of Rock

10.00am -3.00pm Creative Women's Network Drop-in Activities Castle Street

10.00am -3.00pm Interactive Family Portraits Castle Street

10.00am -4.00pm Derbyshire Makes History: Bedrock of Bolsover Heritage craft construction demo Bolsover Castle grounds

10.00am -3.00pm Blackwell Brides Audio installations Castle Street

FESTIVAL HUBS

CROMFORD Arkwright Society
Join us for Cromford's free, hands-on celebration of arts and making. Enjoy workshops, demonstrations, performances and have-a-go activities! All inspired by wheels.

From water wheels and spinning wheels to wheels of fortune and the spectacular Giant Wheel Parade, we're celebrating the creativity that keeps this place rolling. Based at Cromford Mills, with events taking place across Cromford, Aqueduct Cottage and Masson Mills, this is your chance to get involved, have fun and try something new.

HEANOR Make Shift
Join us in Heanor for a celebration of all things handmade. Learn to transform everyday objects into things of wonder thanks to an all-star team of local makers, repairers and creative up-cyclers. Step into a world of playful sound-making with live performances and relaxed craft tables, welcoming families and all ages, to listen, play, join in and make some noise.

Celebrate the past, present and future of textiles with films, talks, exhibitions and the chance to get hands on making with local fibres. Then head out onto the streets for a town wide pattern spotting trail turning the town into an open air gallery.

CHESTERFIELD Junction Arts
Derbyshire Makes Chesterfield will be a vibrant celebration of creativity that will transform Chesterfield Market and beyond into a live, immersive festival of making, showcasing the town's rich artistic talent and heritage.

The festival headliner is the Great Chesterfield Make Off, where 40 local artists create brand-new work live in the marketplace, turning the space into a buzzing hub of creativity.

GLOSSOP High Peak Community Arts
Celebrate spring, creativity and local stories with a day inspired by seasonal folklore. From live music and storytelling to workshops, makers markets, weaving, photography and traditional crafts, there's something for everyone to enjoy and take part in.

The festivities begin with the Lady of the Loom awakening ceremony in Norfolk Square, as this majestic puppet emerges from winter slumber. Help to make seasonal creatures and celebration flags throughout the day before joining the final Celebration Parade – a joyful procession celebrating the season.

SWADLINCOTE People Express
Meet local makers, try hands-on workshops, explore brand-new exhibitions, watch live demos, and enjoy performances across Swadlincote town centre. This year's festival celebrates how our past, present and future are woven together, from mining and pottery to textiles, flax and sustainable craft inspired by the National Forest.

Have a go on the pottery wheel in Sharpe's Museum, take part in textile workshops in the Town Hall, make your own Bretby Pottery sunburst logo at the Magic Attic, or explore Lamplight: an interactive story trail centred on our mining heritage. There really is something for everyone.

BOLSOVER Junction Arts
Bolsover is a must-see celebration of creativity, bringing the town centre to life with a packed day of art, making and performance that everyone can enjoy and take part in.

From live music, film, dance, spoken word and poetry to lantern making and hands-on heritage activities, the festival showcases the incredible makers and creators of Bolsover.

DISCOVER YEAR ROUND PROJECTS

Women Who Make

01 April WWM Creative Network: Radical Rest AMFREC, Oakerthorpe 9.45am-1.00pm

10 April Forest Bathing Walk Shining Cliff Woods, Ambergate 10.00am-1.00pm

11 April Ada Lovelace and the Language of Weaving: Jacquard Workshop Masson Mills, Matlock Bath Part of the Cromford Festival 11.00am-3.00pm

15 April Women Who Gather Webinar Online 1.00pm-2.00pm

22 April Women Who Walk Webinar Online 1.30pm-2.30pm

29 April Making as Soft Power Webinar Online 1.00pm-2.00pm

07 May WWM Creative Network: The Business of Making Bolsover Castle 9.45am-1.00pm

13 May Where Women Create Webinar Online 1.00pm-2.00pm

15 May Mixed-Media Collage with Steph Coley: A Creative Workshop Online 12.30pm-2.30pm

30 May Women Who Make Festival at Hardwick Hall Hardwick Hall, Doe Lea 10.00am-4.00pm

05 June Wirksworth Walk of Wonder: Photography and Breathwork Wirksworth 10.30pm-1.30pm

23 July Birchen Edge Walk: Nature Connections and Sketching Baslow 10.00pm-1.00pm

10 October Women Who Make Festival at Masson Mills Matlock Bath 10.00am-4.00pm

10 May Sewing Bee - Glossop Glossop Market Hall 10.00am-2.30pm

30 May Sewing Bee - Hardwick Hall Hardwick Hall 10.30am-4.00pm

20 May Sewing Bee - Ashbourne Ashbourne 10.30am-4.00pm

10 October Sewing Bee - Masson Mills Masson Mills, Matlock Bath 10.30am-4.00pm

Derbyshire Makes History

21 May Heritage Business Marketplace and Networking Event Great British Car Journey, Ambergate 4.30pm-7.00pm

Supported by Derbyshire Makes History

The Makory

28 March Matlock 10.00am-4.00pm

18-19 April Buxton 10.00am-4.00pm

25 April Ashbourne 10.00am-4.00pm

03-04 May Belper 10.00am-4.00pm

09 May Glossop 11.00am-5.00pm

16 May Bolsover 10.00am-3.00pm

17 May Creswell Crags 10.00am-4.00pm

21 May Ambergate 4.30pm-7.00pm

23 May Hardwick Hall 10.00am-4.00pm

MEET THE MAKERS

Meet the Maker talks, part of Derbyshire Makes in Cromford

16 April Gavin Munro - Full Grown Chairs Gothic Wharf, Cromford Mills 6.00pm-7.30pm

23 April Derek Harbison - Harbison Ceramics Gothic Wharf, Cromford Mills 6.00pm-7.30pm

30 April Peter Knight - Printmaker Gothic Wharf, Cromford Mills 6.00pm-7.30pm

06 May Emma Croman - Storytelling Photography Gothic Wharf, Cromford Mills 6.00pm-7.30pm

13 May Alice Moyland - Beauvamp Lighting Gothic Wharf, Cromford Mills 6.00pm-7.30pm

20 May Johnny White and Amanda Wray - Sculpture Gothic Wharf, Cromford Mills 6.00pm-7.30pm



DISCOVER MORE DURING THE FESTIVAL
Visit the website to explore the full listings and see everything happening across the Derbyshire Makes Festival.

Derbyshire Makes

