

Hawley Collection Trust Newsletter

Winter 2011/12

TWO NEW EXHIBITIONS IN THE GALLERY

New Temporary Exhibition
A Cut Above The Rest!
Cutlery for the Victorian Table
December 2011 – March 2012

This exhibition looks at how and why the cutlery industry grew in Sheffield during Queen Victoria's reign as well as giving an insight into how tableware was made.

Amongst the Collection items on show are photographs of workshops with work in progress, a full Victorian table setting and a fascinating variety of tableware from a nut pick to a lunatic knife!



In the Shop Window
The Final Cut
250 years of smoothing plane development

This new exhibition chronicles the development of commercial smoothing planes from the 1750s to the present day with particular reference to the involvement of local Sheffield firms and the well-known 'Record' brand.



GIANT SPADE RETURNS!

If you didn't manage to see it last year the giant Bulldog Spade has returned to the Gallery and will be on show until the middle of January 2012. We have been lucky enough to have the spade for a second time as its visit last winter was curtailed due to the heavy snowfall.

Bulldog tools made the world's largest spade to celebrate 230 years of British tool manufacturing. The spade was made at their Wigan factory, and took over 160 man hours to make. The blade and socket are made of solid steel and the spade stands 3.610m (11'8") tall.



Ken Hawley with the
Bulldog Spade

COMING SOON

Trade Information Sheets

These will give information about specific Sheffield trades, what they involved and the tools used.

Loan Boxes for Adult Community Groups

These are excellent for reminiscence sessions, containing items relating to local trades and working life in Sheffield.

[Click here for more information](#)

Website: www.hawleytoolcollection.com

TRUST NEWS

Year Knife on the Move

The famous Year Knife is on the move and will be on display in the Hawley Gallery early in the New Year. **Check our website for updates.**

The knife was made by Joseph Rodgers & Sons Ltd in the year 1822 with, it is said, 1822 blades. At a height of 80cm (32") it shows the exceptional skills of the Sheffield cutler - it is fitted with scissors, corkscrews, a nail file, a hacksaw and button hooks, alongside the crucible steel blades. Some of the blades have been engraved to commemorate special events, e.g. the 1966 World Cup and the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977. The last blade was added to the Year Knife in the year 2000 to mark the Millennium. This blade was made by Sheffield cutler Stan Shaw using silver donated by the Sheffield Assay Office.

EVENTS ROUND UP!

We have had a very exciting few months with some different and exciting events.

The Tools and Trades History Society joined Hawley volunteers for another 'Wotsit' session on 7th August.



On 9th October we had a Family History Day linked to our exhibition 'What Great Grandfather Did'. Visitors were able to listen to talks from members of the Sheffield Family History Society giving advice on researching their family tree as well as see tools from the collection relating to trades carried out by their ancestors. Some even had a go for themselves!



A murderer was revealed at our evening event in the Museum and Hawley Gallery on 20th October when teams played 'Cluedo at the Museum'. They worked out clues and puzzles to find the murderer and the weapon, which was of course an item from the Hawley Collection! The evening was rounded off with a pie and pea supper.

