

Artsreach

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LAND FELT



COVER PHOTO: DORSET POLL SHEEP

The South Dorset Ridgeway Feltmakers Exhibition

Exhibition Tour

Upwey Village Hall, DT3 5QE
Saturday 15th & Sunday 16th March

West Stafford Village Hall, DT2 8AG
Saturday 22nd & Sunday 23rd March

Strangways Hall, Abbotsbury, DT3 4JR
Friday 11th, Saturday 12th & Sunday 13th April

Free Admission to all Venues
Opening Times 10.30am – 4.00pm

‘Have a Go’ Sessions

See exhibition tour for venues

Sat 15th Mar and Sat 12 Apr, 1:30pm - 3:30pm
Wet Felting & Needle Felting

Sat 22nd Mar, 1:30pm-3:30pm
Wet Felting

Sat 22nd Mar & Fri 11th Apr, 10:30am-12:30pm
Dorset Button Making

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Stretching parallel to the coast, from Eggardon Hill in the west to the villages of Osmington and Poxwell in the east, the South Dorset Ridgeway has been a place of importance since the Neolithic period (4,000 – 2,000 BC), with over 500 ancient monuments recording the history of the Ridgeway since that time. On this Ridge, sheep have grazed for centuries, their fleece being used in the wool trade and horn used in the early production of Dorset Buttons.

The Land Felt project has focused on the archaeology, natural history and stories related to the Ridgeway. In a series of felting workshops at Upwey and Martinstown, as well as sessions with Age UK Dorchester and Winterbourne Valley C of E First School, participants have learnt about plants growing in the area that can be used as a natural dye, how to prepare fleece ready for felting and then created some wonderful felted work inspired by the South Dorset Ridgeway for this exhibition.

To support the Dorset farming community, all fleece used in the project has been sourced locally.

Special thanks to workshop leaders Pauline Stanley, Penny Blogg, Mary-Clare Buckle, Clare Hughes, Di Pattinson and Annabel Wilson.

Thanks also to Val Ghose and the Dorset Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers .

