



Folk museum plans heritage and craft event

A CELEBRATION of heritage and craft skills is set to take place next month at the Ulster Folk Museum.

The museum has announced

the return of its annual Making Festival for a second year. Taking place on Saturday and Sunday, August 17 and 18, to coincide with August Craft Month, the festival is dedicated to celebrating traditional crafts

and revitalising Northern Ireland's most-treasured heritage skills.

Hosted in partnership with the Construction Industry Training Board NI (CITB) NI, the inaugural festival attracted

over 2,000 visitors in 2023. Building on this success, this year's two-day event will offer a wide range of traditional crafts including thatching, blacksmithing, wool weaving,

leatherworking, and goldsmithing.

Visitors will have the chance to observe skilled artisans in action and engage in these time-honoured practices kept alive by the museum as part of its core visitor offering, as well as enjoying traditional music sessions and film screenings at the Ulster Folk Museum's historic Picture House.

Susan Starrett, general manager at the museum, said: "Ulster Folk Museum was established in 1964 to safeguard and celebrate the unique way of life that defined the people of Ulster, and the Making Festival wholeheartedly embodies this tradition.

"The event is more than just a celebration but an opportunity to showcase and honour the rich skills and talents of Northern Ireland's people as well as



Craft printing demonstrator Andy, Kathryn Thomson, Isabel McKernan and craft weaver Roisin.

providing insights into our past, inspire creativity in the present, and ensure their continuation for future generations.

"We look forward to welcoming visitors to join us for a second year of what will be a

memorable celebration of our cultural heritage," she said.

Booking is advised for the Making Festival event. For more information visit: www.ulsterfolkmuseum.org/whats-on/festival-making