

Knit, Stitch and Sew @ Christchurch Mansion

**Fri 21st Nov, Fri 12th Dec & Fri 23rd Jan
2pm – 4pm**

Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service's outreach team are working with Suffolk Artlink's Culture Club to offer the chance to sit and stitch in the beautiful surroundings of Christchurch Mansion, as part of a project called 'Stitching Time'.

Free, artist-led sessions are being held in the Wolsey Gallery at Christchurch Mansion where participants in the project can share traditional knitting, stitching and sewing skills. The project is bringing together people from all over the community, including those from sheltered housing and ethnic minority groups.

The participants in the project are working on a new piece of artwork created from older materials, which will be inspired by techniques from the past as well as objects from the museum service's collection. As well as sessions taking place in Christchurch Mansion additional outreach sessions will be taking place for older participants at other venues in Colchester and Ipswich.

The museum service and the Suffolk Artlink's Culture Club hope to have the project sewn up in time for a new exhibition at Hollytrees Museum, Colchester which opens on 14th March 2009. The new exhibition '**Stitching Time**' features a fine display of needlework from Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service's costume collection, and many of the items in the exhibition have not been seen in the museums before.

The exhibition celebrates how sewing and needlework has been taught and passed on as part of everyday life for over 400 years. Objects in the exhibition include samplers from the 1600s, 1700s and 1900's, as well as magazines and embroidery patterns.

**Stitching Time Exhibition at Hollytrees Museum
14th March – 14th June 2009
FREE**

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