

Meet Saxons at Celebration of Exhibition Opening

Opening day celebrations on Saturday 7th March

Anglo-Saxon Art in the Round

Gallery 3, Ipswich Town Hall Galleries

Exhibition open 7th March – 5th September 2009

FREE

A brand new exhibition opens at Gallery 3, in Ipswich's Town Hall Galleries on Saturday 7th March and to celebrate special activities will be taking place throughout the day, absolutely free.

Visitors who come along on Saturday 7th March from 11am – 3pm can meet Thorulf the Monier and watch as he strikes coins on the steps of the Town Hall from 11am – 3pm. Thorulf the Monier will tell stories of being caught making money illegally and will also talk about how the Saxon monetary system worked. Thorulf will be making coins from the reigns of Eric Bloodaxe and Knut and visitors can take away a souvenir coin for just £1.00.

Inside Gallery 3 visitors will be able to meet two Anglo-Saxon characters throughout the day who will be on hand to talk all about what life was like in Anglo-Saxon times. Oswine and Gyda of Gippeswic will be doing presentations throughout the day, demonstrating life in Anglo-Saxon times.

At 11am Oswine and Gyda will talk about runes and how they were used as a means of reading and writing, talking about their magical context. Oswine and Gyda will talk about rune poems, codes and how Saxon runes were different to Viking runes. Visitors can also have a look at some of the runes in the exhibition afterwards too!

At 1pm visitors can discover more about what the Anglo-Saxons ate and learn about how food was cooked and preserved. Oswine and Gyda will talk about where the Anglo-Saxons sourced their food and the availability of different foodstuffs – it wasn't as easy as just popping to Tesco's!

Oswine and Gyda will round off their journey back to Anglo-Saxon times at 2pm where they will talk all about weapons and fighting methods and tactics. Visitors will be able to discover the differences between ordinary and elite Anglo-Saxon warriors – so visitors are urged to come along and discover more.

Anglo-Saxon Art in the Round features rare items that have never been on display in Ipswich before, including a collection of gold and silver coins that are over 1200 years old. The pieces come from the De Wit collection, recently purchased by The Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, with support from the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Art Fund.

The exhibition has been produced by Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service with the grateful support of Fitzwilliam Museum Cambridge, Norwich Castle Museum, Braintree and District Museum Service, Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology Cambridge, Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service and the many individuals who loaned items.

Anglo-Saxon Art in the Round can be enjoyed free of charge in Gallery 3 and visitors are urged to see the stunning objects and discover the stories behind this fascinating and rare exhibition.

Opening day activities are free of charge and take place from 11am – 3pm on Saturday 7th March.

**Free admission to Gallery 3 and free exhibition
Open Tue – Sat 10.00am – 5.00pm
www.ipswich.gov.uk/Museums**

Sharon Carter

Assistant Marketing Officer

01206 282938

sharon.carter@colchester.gov.uk

Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service

Our vision is to create a museum service that is a source of pride, inspiration and fun.

Plus...

17 in Print

Colchester Castle 29th November – 26th April

An exhibition of beautiful prints from 17 of the region's finest artists.

Anglo-Saxon Art in the Round

Gallery 3, Ipswich Town Hall Galleries - 6th March – 5th September

Discover mighty kings and fabulous beasts as you journey back in time to explore Anglo-Saxon art and beautiful coins.

FREE