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Alumna becomes Writer in Residence at Museum of Carpet

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Local writer, humourist and musician Heather Wastie (BA Mathematics and Music, 1977) has taken up the role of Writer in Residence at Kidderminster's Museum of Carpet.

Heather, who succeeded in acquiring Arts Council Lottery funding to enable the project to happen will be leading a number of workshops enabling visitors of the museum to reflect on their experiences through poetry and music.

At the end of the series of workshops the Museum will hold an event where the participants will have the opportunity to perform their work.

In addition to this role, Heather is the co-director of performance poetry company Brewers' Troupe as well as having published 3 illustrated poetry collections. She was also shortlisted for Birmingham poet laureate in 2011.

The Museum is the only carpet museum in the country, showcasing the association that Kidderminster has had with carpet making since the 1700s. Initially a carpet factory built in 1855, the carpet museum trust was formed in 1981 displaying a collection of machinery, artefacts and archives from the carpet industry.

"It's great that we have the Museum as the carpet industry was the life blood of the community for so long. I want to meet people and write about their experiences for my blog as Writer in Residence, and with the workshops we want people to have the opportunity to give their own interpretations," says Heather.

For more information on the museum and workshop series visit **www.carpetmuseum.co.uk/ (http://www.carpetmuseum.co.uk/)**

Read Heather Wastie's blog at **www.weavingyarns1.wordpress.com (http://www.weavingyarns1.wordpress.com/)**

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