

11th September 2006

PRESS RELEASE

Festival Returns for Second Successful Year

Saturday 16th September, 2006

The Women Chainmakers' Festival returns to the Black Country Living Museum on Saturday 16th September for a second successful year. Live music, street theatre, poetry, storytelling and Black Country comedy promise to hit the right note with visitors.

Stirring speeches fly the banner ensuring the Macarthur legacy lives on with a grand costumed procession bringing to life the Women Chainmaker's strike of 1910. The Festival aims to raise funds for the Worker's Institute so that it may continue the Macarthur vision and promote, support and inspire the positive role of women in industry.

Described as the perfect festival band 'Bleeding Hearts' are a traditional guitar band with 'a bucketful of anger, emotion, great big tunes and a lot to say'. A combination of big guitars, strong vocals and melodic, uplifting tunes ensure that once heard they are never forgotten.

The Badgers are back by popular demand and will be jazzing things up with their unique and instantly recognisable brand of music - a rhythmic beat of gypsy jazz, blues, bluegrass, Celtic and western swing. Stacy Blythe performs her specially written Chainmaker's Song and delivers a contemporary twist on the protest theme.

Black Country voices are in fine fettle with Billy Spake Mon, Laurence Hipkiss, Keith Whitehouse, Sue Hulse, Carol Midwood and Greg Stokes captivating audiences with their

bostin' brand of storytelling, performance, poetry, music and song.

Heavenly voices continue with gospel choir Chorale Ministries who have sung with big name stars including Jools Holland, Paul Young, Mick Hucknall, Heather Small and Sam Brown. This singing sensation promises a powerful repertoire sent straight from heaven above.

The Festival takes a dramatic twist as Fizzog Theatre Group and the Black Country Players enter stage left and tread the Museum's boards. Phoenix brass band blow their own trumpet and ensure the Women Chainmakers' Festival plays out with a musical fanfare. Celebrate the legacy of the Women Chainmakers' and become part of living history!

Admission price £6 for adults and £3 for children and concessions
Group bookings discount available for groups of ten at £54 for ten tickets.

(10 for the price of 9)

Tickets obtainable from Dudley Booking Office Tel: 01384 812812 or Lynn Sinclair on
0121 521 5690

-Ends-

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The Museum is three miles from Junction 2 of the M5 Motorway, and six miles from junction 10 of the M6 and is easily accessible from the Midlands Motorway network.