



PRESS RELEASE

18th November 2014, for immediate release:

Christmas Fair Success at the Warner Textile Archive

The **Warner Textile Archive** in Braintree, Essex, hosted its third annual **Christmas Fair** on Sunday 16th November 2014, with over 200 visitors joining staff and volunteers for a day of festivities.

Gifts and decorations had been hand picked to highlight beautiful design and originality, offering a truly unique Christmas shopping destination. Many of the decorations on display had been carefully stitched by a team of the Archive's volunteers, who were integral to the delivery of a warming and enjoyable experience, away from the wind and rain of the day.



Stockings filled, shoppers gained inspiration for their own Christmas crafts, with demonstrations in smocking, wool appliqué and traditional German cut paper work, with Marian Chapman and Jill Beard.

Festive tours of the Archive Collection with former Warner & Sons employee Jan Weavers, brought an extra touch of Braintree's textile heritage to the day, with pretty printed cottons, sumptuous silks and luxurious velvets.

Cllr. Jo Beavis, Braintree District Council Cabinet Member for People and Participation said: "I was delighted to attend the Christmas Fair at the Warner Textile Archive, and joined one of the tours to learn more about the beautiful fabrics and textiles. The Fair was a great success with hundreds of people visiting and a wonderful display of Christmas gifts. You too could learn more about this amazing archive by signing up to regular newsletters and attending open days and workshops."

For those who were unable to make it to the Christmas Fair, the Archive is hosting a **Christmas Shopping Evening** on Thursday 27th November, 5pm – 8pm. Entry is free, with mulled wine and a mince pie on arrival.

The Warner Textile Archive's **Christmas Gift Shop**, with its hand-finished decorations and unique stocking fillers, is open every Wednesday until 17th December, and Saturday 6th December, 10am – 4pm.



Birds & Blossom

Hand block-printed cotton (1927)



For further information or high-res images, please contact:

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