

Hat Works

Press Release

HUNDREDS "BREAK FOR THE WAKES" AT HATWORKS

Hundreds of visitors enjoyed their outing to Hat Works on Sunday 1st June, as the museum hosted a special event to celebrate the North West tradition of 'Wakes Week'.

During the height of its popularity in the 1930s, all local industries would close for 'Wakes Week' and hundreds of workers would head towards the North West Riviera. Many of the hatters based in Stockport were included and enjoyed trips to Blackpool, Southport and Morecambe for the usual holiday activities of building sandcastles, donkey rides and eating candy floss.

Honouring this tradition, Hat Works created its very own beach for the 'Break for the Wakes' event, enabling many of the 200 hundred visitors to play in the sand as well as enjoy traditional games such as Hook a Duck. Excited children watched performances by renowned Punch and Judy performer, Rurple the Clown whilst NK Theatre Arts performed excerpts from their new production of 'Oliver'. With the children occupied, their accompanying adults were free to listen to favourite holiday tunes performed by Hazel Grove Brass Band and the Barrel Organs, with the Brisingamen Morris Dancers providing authentic dancing.

Councillor Shan Alexander, Executive Member for Leisure, at Stockport Council, said: "It was great to see so many people enjoying the Break for the Wakes event at Hat Works. There are many more fantastic events planned during the summer at Hat Works such as Hobby Horse Making and Funky Felt Making, so make sure you join in the fun!"

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