

History of the Old Silk Mill

Built around 1790, the Old Silk Mill originally supplied silk to the ribbon trade in Coventry. By the middle of the nineteenth century, the mill had fallen into disrepair, but it was on the verge of its most famous incarnation.

In the summer of 1902 some 150 men, women and children from C.R. Ashbee's Guild of Handicraft relocated from East London to Chipping Campden, "the jewel of the Cotswolds". Workshops for metalwork, furniture, jewellery, silversmithing, wrought-iron and printing were set up in The Old Silk Mill, then renamed Essex House, and its surrounding buildings.

The Essex House Press was situated on the ground floor. Alongside it were the drawing offices and showrooms. On the floor above went the jewellers and on the top floor the carpentry workshop with the blacksmith's shop being set up in the yard.

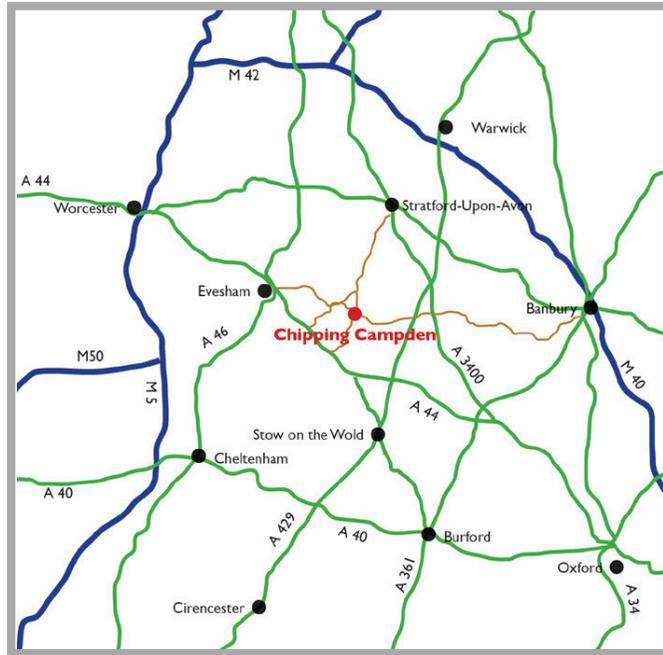
Ashbee's dream was short lived. The Guild began to make losses in 1905 and went into liquidation in 1908. Although this was the end of Ashbee's project, it was the beginning for many other craftsmen, some of them original guildsmen, who began working under their own names in The Old Silk Mill.



Charles R. Ashbee

Perhaps the best known of these is silversmith George Hart whose business is still run here by his grandson together with his son and nephew.

Over a hundred years after C.R. Ashbee's world renowned Guild of Handicraft arrived in a sleepy corner of the Cotswolds, a co-operative of artists and craftspeople is breathing new life into his dream.



the gallery at the guild

The Old Silk Mill, Sheep Street
Chipping Campden
Gloucestershire
GL55 6DS

Tel: 01386 840345

Open daily 10am - 4pm



The Old Silk Mill by David W. Birch

An outstanding co-operative with 28 members across a broad range of traditional and contemporary arts and crafts

- Painting • Ceramics • Sculpture •
- Jewellery • Studio Glass • Textiles •
- Photography • Printmaking •
- Stone Carving • Silk Painting •
- Woodturning • Stained Glass •
- Fine Art •

For further information please visit:



www.thegalleryattheguild.co.uk



info@thegalleryattheguild.co.uk



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the gallery

at the guild

2026 Exhibition Schedule

'School's Exhibition'

Thurs 15th Jan to Wed 21st Jan

Work by A level Fine Art students from Chipping Campden School

'New Light'

Fri 23rd Jan to Wed 4th March

Adam Hussain
Louise Regan
Mary Day
Ros Ingram

'Human...Nature'

Fri 6th March to Wed 15th April

Caroline Barnett
Lizzie Bentley
Peter Lovelock
Guest artist

'From the Ground Up'

Fri 17th April to Wed 27th May

Kate J. Barry
Jane Emmerson
Phil Irons
Guest artist

'Here Comes the Sun'

Fri 29th May to Wed 8th July

Bridget Steel-Jessop
Gaby Spencer
Hilary LaForce
Jackie Stringer

'Imprints of the Wild'

Fri 10th July to Wed 19th Aug

Louise Regan
Phil Irons
Sue Calcutt
Guest artist

'Inspirations'

Fri 21st Aug to Wed 30th Sept

Amanda Glanville
Binks Edmonds
David W. Birch
Wendy Chapman

'Ebb and Flow'

Fri 2nd Oct to Wed 11th Nov

Anna Pike
Louisiana Chapman
Robin Wade
Sarah Davis

'Christmas Show'

Fri 13th Nov to Thurs 24th Dec

A festive exhibition of work by all co-operative members

About Us

Established in 2005, our co-operative has 26 members across a broad variety of arts and crafts media. Our members all live within a 30 mile radius of Chipping Campden and take turns to steward the gallery, giving visitors an opportunity to meet them in person.

All our members display work in the gallery all year with the opportunity to take part in a scheduled headline exhibition. Our **'Meet the Maker'** events provide an opportunity to meet with the headline artists. These are usually held on the first Saturday after opening, but we advise checking our website for updates.

Our Members

Adam Hussain
Kiln formed glass
ahcontemporaryglass.co.uk

Amanda Glanville
Lamp-worked glass
makeroftinyglasstuff.co.uk

Anna Pike
Mixed media & Manager
annapike.co.uk

Binks Edmonds
Ceramics and Jewellery
binkart.com

Bridget Steel-Jessop
Textile art
steel-jessop.co.uk

Caroline Barnett
Sculpture
carolinebarnett.co.uk

David W. Birch
Painting
thegalleryattheguild.co.uk

Gaby Spencer
Printmaking
gabyspencerart.co.uk

Hilary LaForce
Ceramics
hilarylaforceceramics.wordpress.com

Jackie Stringer
Textiles
thegalleryattheguild.co.uk

Jane Emmerson
Ceramics
janeemmersonceramics.wordpress.com

Kate J. Barry
Photography
katebarryphoto.co.uk

Lizzie Bentley
Painting
lizziebentley.com

Louise Regan
Painting and Stonecarving
louisereganart.com

Louisiana Chapman
Jewellery
thegalleryattheguild.co.uk

Mary Day
Silk painting and textiles
marydaysilks.com

Paula Lingard
Co-operative manager
thegalleryattheguild.co.uk

Peter Lovelock
Photography
peterlovelock.com

Phil Irons
Woodturning and woodcut prints
philironswoodturning.co.uk

Robin Wade
Ceramics
clayworks.co.uk

Ros Ingram
Ceramics and found objects
rosingramceramics.co.uk

Sarah Davis
Stained glass
sarahdavisglass.co.uk

Sue Calcutt
Ceramic sculpture
suecalcutt.com

Wendy Chapman
Photography
wendyachapmanphotography.com