

Brent Museum and Brent Archives: Exhibitions and Projects 2008

The British Sari Story: Patterns that Speak of Lives

This exhibition ran at Brent Museum's Special Exhibitions Gallery from 28 September 2007 – 30 January 2008.



The British Sari Story exhibition was the result of a competition run by Bridging Arts in during 2007 asking people to design a sari pattern that reflected the lives of Asian people living in Britain. As well as the 10 shortlisted competition patterns and the winning entry, printed up as saris, the exhibition explored traditional saris and sari patterns, from a wedding sari to an everyday sari that would be worn to work. A project completed with Barham Primary school explores saris and their owner's relationship with them. Original drawings by Helen Scalway from a shop in Tooting are also on display allowing people to see the journey from inspiration for The British Sari Story Project, to the wonderful result and debate it has brought, 60 years after the independence of India and Pakistan.

The original publicity for the exhibition ran as follows:

The British Sari Story presents patterns that speak of lives – traditional saris from around India, saris from schoolchildren in Wembley and new saris with 21st century designs reflecting British Asian life today.



Brent Black Music History Photo Exhibition

This community-curated exhibition, coordinated by BTWSC, ran in Brent Museum's Community Gallery from November 2007 – November 2008.



The exhibition featured photographs from the Brent Black Music History Project, which was run by curated by BTWSC (Beyond the Will Smith Challenge), a Brent-based pan-London voluntary organisation, which uses the creative arts to raise aspirations and promote social inclusion. It looked at the development and records the history relating to Black music in Brent. BBMHP used photographs taken recently of buildings and people significant to the history and ongoing story of Black music in Brent as well as historic photographs sourced from places such as Brent Archives and private collections.

Brent - An Olympic Borough 1908-2012

This touring exhibition was exhibited around the borough between 2008 and 2010.



Brent Museum created an exciting new touring exhibition which explored Brent's participation in past and future Olympic Games. *Brent – An Olympic Borough: 1908-2012* was launched at Wembley Arena as part of the Cultural Olympiad handover. It then travelled to eight locations across the borough between October 2008 and July 2010. The exhibition highlighted athletes, events and the part played by Brent in the 1908, 1948 and 2012 Olympic and Paralympic games.

The original publicity for the exhibition read as follows:

To celebrate London becoming the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic city, Brent Museum has created an exciting new touring exhibition which will be travelling across the borough during 2008-2010.

Find out why the 1908 marathon winner was disqualified but received a gift from the Queen; who won four gold medals in the 1948 Olympics; see an image of the first photo finish used to decide the winner of the race and find out what prospective 2012 Olympians think about the Olympic and Paralympic Games coming to London.

Many residents still remember the excitement of when the Olympics came to Brent. Today, young athletes are looking forward to the Games returning and taking part. Visit 'Brent – An Olympic Borough: 1908-2012' and catch the Olympic spirit.

Light and Optics

This exhibition ran in Brent Museum's Special Exhibitions Gallery from Monday 11 February – Sunday 4 May 2008.

Taking inspiration from local industrial history, and two world-renowned manufacturers which were based in Brent, Osram and Dallmeyer, this exhibition looked at lenses, lighting and luminosity through interactive displays and information on the science behind them, as well as objects from the Museum and Archives' collections relating to these companies.

The original publicity read as follows:



Brent Museum's latest exhibition, Light and Optics, allows you to experiment with lenses, lighting and luminosity to find out how they affect the way our eyes view the world.

Come and see if you can draw an image by looking at a mirror and watch the sparks fly across a disc when you make a noise. This is an exciting and interactive exhibition with lots of hand on displays and historical objects that allow families to come and learn about light and optics together. All interactive displays have an explanation on how to use them properly to get the most out of them. The interactive displays are complemented by objects to do with light and optics from Brent Museum's collection, these items include a

selection of historic spectacles a camera timeline and objects to do with the Osram and Dallmayer industries in Brent.

The exhibition will be on at Brent Museum from Monday 11th February 2008 – Sunday 4th May 2008 with lots of free fantastic activities during the school holidays for families to participate in.

Journeys of Change

In partnership with The Imperial War Museum London and local supplementary schools

This project ran during 2008 and 2009.

Journeys of Change was a programme run by the Imperial War Museum London, to link with four other museums (Churchill Museum & Cabinet War Rooms, HMS Belfast, Brent Museum & Archive and Hackney Museum) and 12 supplementary schools. Supplementary schools are community-based Saturday schools, often run by volunteers from the community they serve. Supplementary schools range widely in their focus; including cultural, religion and language. The project aimed to develop and pilot new ways for museums to work with supplementary schools and consider what the museums could learn from the experience

Working with Brent Museum, the supplementary school pupils completed a project on the theme of 'Hidden Histories'. Sessions took place both at Brent Museum and at supplementary schools, and the children and young people who participated developed a wider understanding both of local, national and international history, but also of museums themselves, and the roles of the people who work in them.

The original publicity which was circulated to schools read as follows:

Journeys of Change: Supplementary Schools Learning with Museums. The Imperial War Museum, Churchill Museum and Cabinet War Rooms, HMS Belfast, Brent Museum and Archives and Hackney Museum are working together to pilot a new project working with Supplementary Schools.

The aim is to deliver high quality learning projects for supplementary schools to support them in their work with young people. The theme of the projects will be 'hidden histories', and can be 4 to 6 session long. Taking part in the project is free! Each group will also be invited to the Imperial War Museum for a celebration day in February. If you would like to know more please get in touch with your area's museum.

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Greenopaedia

This exhibition ran in Brent Museum's Special Exhibitions Gallery from 23 May to 2 November 2008.

The exhibition aimed to explain the benefits of sustainable living, and explain to visitors the difference they could make by 'going green'.

The original publicity ran as follows:

A new exhibition, showing how we can all play our part in protecting the planet for future generations, is launching at Brent Museum.



Greenopaedia, which opens on Friday 23 May and runs until Sunday 31 August, explains how easy it is to 'go green' through fun activities and displays for both adults and children.

As well as seeing the benefits of taking a more sustainable approach to living, residents can find out what the council has already done to make Brent cleaner and greener and learn what we've got planned for the future. The cartoon character Professor Planet will lead visitors through the exhibition giving expert tips on being greener.

After appearing at the Brent Museum in Willesden Green Library Centre, the exhibition will tour various road shows and festivals across the borough. It will also be available for hire. For more information call the museum on 020 8937 3600.

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Drawn!

This exhibition ran in Brent Museum's Special Exhibitions Gallery from Saturday 6 December 2008— Sunday 8 February 2009.



Drawn! was Brent Museum's first contemporary art exhibition, and featured the work of graphic artists including Marc Ellerby, Antonia Hazelrigg, Adrian Stapleton, Jenika Ioffreda, Meiko Kikuta, Drew Hussey and Elena Sainz.

The original publicity for the exhibition read as follows:

Brent Museum has collaborated together a range of artists from varied backgrounds to present their work under the title of 'Drawn!' Cartoonists, illustrators, students and designers come together to express their interpretation of 'graphic design'. Test your own understanding of the term and be prepared to draw your own conclusions!