



The Harley Gallery was built in the ruins of the 5th Duke of Portland's Victorian gasworks, which provided light and heat at Welbeck.

The gallery was designed by local architect Leo Godlewski, and opened in 1994. Exhibitions change five times a year, please pick up a copy of our latest 'What's on' Guide for details.

The Portland Collection gallery is located within the Victorian 'Tan Gallop'. This was a covered area for training horses which was the length of four football pitches, heated and with a soft floor surface – covered with spongy wood chippings which were left over from the leather tanning process. This gallery was designed by the award-winning architect Hugh Broughton, and opened in 2016.

Displays will change every three years.

COLLECTION HIGHLIGHTS

- 1 Large Horse paintings**
Artist Unknown, c. 1630
From a group of 12 commissioned by William Cavendish, 1st Duke of Newcastle.
- 2 Charles II as a young boy**
Sir Anthony Van Dyck, c. 1638
Commissioned by William Cavendish, 1st Duke of Newcastle.
- 3 The Portland Silver**
One of the glories of The Portland Collection.
- 4 Pearl earring worn by Charles I at his execution**
17th Century
Given to the 1st Earl of Portland by Charles I's granddaughter Queen Mary II.
- 5 The Portland Tiara**
Cartier, 1902
Worn by Winifred, Duchess of Portland at the Coronation of Edward VII.
- 6 Madonna del Silenzio**
Michelangelo Buonarroti, c.1538
Bought by the 6th Duke of Portland in the 1900's.
- 7 The Portland Miniatures**
Displayed in a specially built viewing gallery. Exhibits change every six months.
- 8 Yacht for William III**
Maker Unknown, 1690
Given to the 1st Earl of Portland by King William III

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KEY

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|-----------|------------------------------|
| Lift | Shop |
| Stairs | Toilets |
| Reception | Creative Space Activity Area |



THE HARLEY GALLERY

VISITOR GUIDE

Visit us at Welbeck
www.harleygallery.co.uk

THE HARLEY FOUNDATION WELBECK

WELCOME TO THE HARLEY GALLERY



Our gallery spaces show works of art from the 1600's to the present day. These pieces are immensely varied; exhibits might range from hefty silver platters to tiny miniature portraits, contemporary abstract painting to traditional landscape scenes.

What brings all these objects together is the amazing ways that they are made, by highly skilled artists and makers – whether by a Tudor court painter or a master craftsman working in The Harley Studios today.

Set at Welbeck, in North Nottinghamshire's area of rich aristocratic heritage known as the 'Dukeries', The Harley Gallery is a unique place to immerse yourself in the arts.

Lisa Gee
Director



A changing programme from leading contemporary artists and makers are displayed over three exhibition spaces.

We run regular children's activities and have an award-winning Gallery Shop with contemporary craft and design. Next door, our second gallery is dedicated to the historic Portland Collection.



While visiting The Harley Gallery today, be sure to visit The Harley Café, Welbeck Farm Shop and Dukeries Garden Centre.

If you'd like to stretch your legs, please ask at reception for a free map of walks at Welbeck, including a short hop over the road to our neighbours Creswell Crags, a prehistoric gorge featuring Ice Age rock art.

We hope that you will enjoy your visit. If you would like us to keep in touch with details of our exhibitions and events, please join our mailing list at www.harleygallery.co.uk or leave your email address at Reception.

INTRODUCING THE PORTLAND COLLECTION



The Portland Collection of fine and decorative arts was developed by members of the family who have been at Welbeck since 1607. It reflects centuries of changing taste, passions and ideas.

Further objects from The Portland Collection can be seen during the summer, on our walking tours of the State Rooms at Welbeck Abbey. Works on show include portraits from the 17th Century onwards as well as furniture, tapestries and landscape paintings.

Ask at Reception or visit www.harleygallery.co.uk for full details.

MEET THE COLLECTORS

This timeline follows key collectors in the family, who have all left their own mark on The Portland Collection

Elizabeth Talbot,
Countess of Shrewsbury,
"Bess of Hardwick"
About 1521/2 – 1608

"Bess of Hardwick" amassed land and wealth through a series of four marriages. She had three sons, William inherited Chatsworth and Charles acquired Welbeck

William Cavendish,
1st Duke of Newcastle
1593 – 1676

Lady Margaret Cavendish,
Duchess of Newcastle
1661 – 1716

Married

John Holles,
4th Earl of Clare, Duke of Newcastle
1662 – 1711

Lady Henrietta Cavendish-Holles,
Countess of Oxford
1694 – 1755

Married

Edward Harley,
2nd Earl of Oxford
1689 – 1741

Lady Margaret Cavendish-Holles-Harley,
Duchess of Portland
1715 – 1785

Married

William Bentinck,
2nd Duke of Portland
1709 – 1762

William Henry Cavendish-Bentinck,
3rd Duke of Portland
1738 – 1809

William Henry Cavendish-Bentinck-Scott,
4th Duke of Portland
1768 – 1854

Lord John Cavendish-Bentinck-Scott,
5th Duke of Portland
1800 – 1879

Arthur Cavendish-Bentinck,
6th Duke of Portland
1857 – 1943



Unusually, Margaret was the third female in a row to inherit Welbeck. Like her father Edward Harley, Margaret was a renowned collector. She married William Bentinck, 2nd Duke of Portland – a dukedom that would remain in the family for six generations.



The 6th Duke of Portland and his wife, Winifred, set about restoring the State Rooms at Welbeck Abbey and adorning them with objects from the Collection. They created a grand interior fit for Edwardian high society, and enjoyed entertaining guests who included royalty, politicians and socialites.



The 5th Duke of Portland is famous for his building projects, including Welbeck Village and his network of underground rooms and tunnels. He had no children, so Welbeck passed to his cousin, Arthur.

Welbeck Abbey remains the family home of descendants of The Dukes of Portland.