

Collections Handling & Display: Crafted 2025 Selling Exhibition (Sheffield Museums)

Collections care, documentation, and collaborative display curation for a seasonal selling exhibition.

This project was completed as part of my volunteer role with Sheffield Museums Trust, supporting the Crafted exhibition – a seasonal display celebrating the work of local artists and makers. My responsibilities combined practical collections handling with documentation and exhibition preparation, contributing to the museum's curatorial and retail operations ahead of opening.

Methods:

I assisted with object handling, documentation, and inventory management in alignment with Spectrum 5.1 and ISAD(G) standards. Tasks included updating location records, condition checking items pre-display, and supporting the safe movement of objects during installation. I also co-curated two display cases, selecting layouts, arranging objects for visual balance, and ensuring interpretive consistency with curatorial guidance.

Key Outcomes:

- Applied Spectrum 5.1 and ISAD(G) principles in documentation and collections care
- Supported exhibition installation through object handling and display arrangement
- Co-curated two themed display cases ahead of public opening
- Strengthened understanding of preventive conservation, documentation workflow, and team-based exhibition setup

This project provided valuable insight into the operational and interpretive aspects of museum display. It strengthened my confidence in handling and documentation, deepened my understanding of curatorial collaboration, and reinforced the importance of combining care, accuracy, and creativity in exhibition work.

