



Hi everyone!

I've found some very strange looking objects in Headstone Manor and Museum. I wonder if you can guess what they are and what they were used for?

Look carefully at the object –what is it made from? Are there any clues to help you guess what it is?

They are all on display in the museum- perhaps you can go and visit when we are open again!

**Have fun guessing!
Love Bill.**



Teachers ideas:

- You could post an image each week onto your home learning platform and invite the children to guess what it is, perhaps on a forum. Then give the answer the following week, along with a new mystery object. This encourages lots of shared thinking and discussion.
- You could post all the pictures at once and give children longer to guess the answers.
- You could extend their thinking and ask them to explain exactly how their ideas would work.
- If anyone guesses correctly, you could ask them to complete more research-maybe produce notes and pictures about how they were used. They could then share their findings with the class.
- This could lead to further work-for example, what might the mystery objects of the future be? What might future generations make of some of our modern objects?



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History Mystery Answers

<p><u>'Yard of Ale' glass</u>, 1970, in Kingfisher Blue. It holds approximately 2½ pints of beer. Named after its length, a yard (or 0.9 metres). It is very difficult to drink from and was only used for special occasions or competitions. This one was made by Whitefriars glass factory, which was in Wealdstone, where Whitefriars School now stands. Their glass vases and ornaments are very famous and colourful.</p>	<p><u>Wooden butter pats</u> Once milk had been churned to form butter, salt would be added to stop it from spoiling. These wooden pats (sometimes referred to as 'butter hands') would then be used to shape the butter into blocks.</p>
<p><u>Metal knife cleaner</u> A knife would be set in the slot and the handle turned, sweeping an abrasive powder across it to polish the blade. Cutlery would still have to be washed after it had gone through the cleaner.</p>	<p><u>Lamp for bicycle/motorbike with blackout hood</u> From WWII. Due to the rationing of petrol, many people chose to travel by bicycle instead. Strict blackout regulations meant that lamps had to be adapted so the cyclist could travel after dark. The hinged hood directed the light towards the road. Many people were injured because of the blackout, not only from road collisions, but also from falling down and bumping into things.</p>
<p><u>Buttonhook</u> Metal with an ivory handle. Used to help pull fiddly little buttons through buttonholes on Victorian clothing like boots and gloves.</p>	<p><u>Mangle</u> A mangle was used to squeeze out wet washing, before the invention of modern washing machines and dryers. You would feed the washing through the rollers, turning the handle to squeeze the water out. This is an old toy one!</p>
<p><u>Wooden hat stretcher</u>, 1920. You would put it inside your hat, and then turn the centre peg to widen the two halves of the oval, stretching your hat so that it would not be too tight for your head.</p>	<p><u>ARP Rattle 1939-45</u> Air Raid Precautions gas warning device. The wooden rattle was swung round by the handle, making a loud noise, to warn people of a gas attack. Similar rattles were used by football supporters to cheer on their teams during matches.</p>

Decorated Hatpin

Hatpins reached a peak of popularity between the 1880s and 1920s as prominent ladies, as well as stage and silent-movie screen actresses, fuelled the popularity of large elaborate hats without bonnet strings. Having originated in the 1850s to secure straw hats, hatpins became longer and more ornate over time.

Skirt holder/lifter

The skirt-lifter was an immensely popular tool used by Victorian women. Devised in the nineteenth century, they were usually made of brass or silver and would attach to a lady's belt, hanging at hem level. There was a catch to lock the grips in place and the wearer would pull the chain to lift the skirt clear of any dirt or mess. The cushioned or felted grips protected delicate fabrics from the grease of the hand or from dirty gloves.