

BEAUTIFUL
STUFF etc
MATERIALS

18 APRIL - 6 JUNE 2026 - OPEN EVERY SATURDAY 10 - 4PM

Curated by artist Nicola Atkinson, is **STUFF etc** exhibition presented at the Beautiful Materials Gallery, located within the Avenue Shopping Centre.

Nicola Atkinson's STUFF 2026, exhibition in the Main Gallery serves as a profound meditation on the physical and emotional weight of material possessions. At its core, her artwork confronts a universal dilemma: what are we supposed to do with the things we make, the objects we inherit, and the constant influx of new items?.

The inspiration for this introspective body of work arose from a convergence of major life transitions. Following the passing of her uncle, Atkinson was tasked with the daunting responsibility of managing the objects he accumulated over a lifetime. Simultaneously, she faced the challenge of sorting through her own extensive archive of 150 artworks while relocating her studio to a gutted, redundant office space in March 2026. These events elicited a mixture of emotions—the distinct joy of uncovering forgotten pieces from her past, paired directly with the burden of clinging to so much physical history.

This tension is physically manifested in the gallery space, which displays hundreds of Atkinson's ceramic artworks created between 2009 and 2018. In addition to her older works, the exhibition features large, painted plywood cable reels. Originally left behind by an electrical installation team in her new studio, Atkinson resourcefully repurposed them unconventional canvases, breathing new life into them and saving them from the landfill.

Louise Shambrook's, HOME 2026, exhibition in the ABOVE THE SOFA space. The starting point for the "Home" series for Louise Shambrook, is Bottesford Beck, a brook in North Lincolnshire. This place holds particular significance for Shambrook, as she spent much of her childhood there, cycling and hanging around with her friends. Shambrook is still drawn to Bottesford Beck and returns on a regular basis when to visit her family. While the physical landscape has changed over time the location still evokes a strong sense of restoration and reflection.

Celine Mcilmunn's, MAKING ENDS MEET 2026, exhibition in the A MODEL GALLERY. It is a series of artworks created from reconstructed fragments of Bank of England banknotes, here displayed within a miniature gallery space. By reconstructing money that has been physically destroyed, the work reflects on value, labour, wealth and vulnerability. The portraits are some of those found on defunct sterling banknotes. These traditionally depict notable historical figures chosen to represent cultural, scientific, and political achievement and are paired with imagery linked to their life and work. Removed from circulation, the currency no longer holds monetary value, yet gains a different kind of worth—inviting reflection on what endures beyond economics.

Beautiful Materials Gallery Open Every Saturday 10-4 Avenue Shopping Centre G77 6AA

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