

FASCINATING FIND

CARDING MACHINE



In the past a lot of mattresses and padded furniture contained coconut fibre or horsehair as filling. Carding is the process of brushing or teasing raw or washed fibers to prepare them for use as filling, or for further processing into textiles.

The Gauntlett's Carding Machine Company was established in 1889 in Trowbridge, Wiltshire, England. They manufactured carding machines for horsehair, fibres, kapok, flocks, wools and textile wastes. It appears they had their castings made by Roberts and Morris.

A brass plate on the machine describes the operation by hand cranking, but a pulley fitted to this machine indicates that it was powered by an engine.

It was donated by Ray Stallon, and is on display in the breezeway, along with heaps of other old tools and gadgets from the past.