

West Berkshire HERITAGE



Theatre, Talks,
Workshops,
Family Activities,
Fairs, Concerts
and much more...

What's On
Spring/Summer
2017

Book online at www.westberkshireheritage.org



Cover image: Boxford Masques, Exhibition runs until 24 April, Free Workshop 4 March, West Berkshire Museum

Welcome to West Berkshire Heritage

We are delighted to open the new permanent exhibition at West Berkshire Museum 'Lives and Landscape' which tells the story of our rich history and archaeology; we hope that it will be enjoyed by people of all ages who are interested in local history. And, as always, we have a huge range of events and activities for all the family from theatre, crafts, talks and music designed to be entertaining and informative. We look forward to welcoming you to Shaw House and West Berkshire Museum very soon. www.westberkshireheritage.org

Paul James, Culture Manager
paul.james@westberks.gov.uk



West Berkshire Museum

West Berkshire Museum is housed in two of Newbury's best loved historic buildings - the 17th century Cloth Hall and the old Granary/Corn Stores in the Wharf. The museum explores stories of life in the local area, from pre-history to today along with six regularly changing galleries. Open 10am - 4pm Wed - Sun and Bank Holiday Mondays.

E: museum@westberks.gov.uk
T: 01635 519562



West Berkshire Museum



WBerksMuseum



west_berks_museum

Shaw House

Shaw House is a Grade I listed building and is one of the best preserved Elizabethan mansions in England, built in 1581. We have nine stunning rooms available to hire as a unique venue for conferences and meetings and we also offer a variety of celebration drinks receptions. Please check the website for public open days.

E: shawhouse@westberks.gov.uk
T: 01635 279279



Shaw House



Shaw_House



shawhouse1581



Company/Shaw House

Lives and Landscape

Permanent exhibition at West Berkshire Museum

Our new permanent exhibition tells the story of West Berkshire, from the rocks under our feet to the stories of the people who have lived here. Our early unnamed ancestors, well known characters like Jack of Newbury and our most recent families - together they have created the towns and villages, roads and canals, fields and farms, industries, pastimes and organisations that we know today.

This exhibition will look at historic local events which have had international resonance such as the Greenham Common protests and national events such as the battles of Newbury which are featured alongside quieter leisure pursuits such as horse racing and theatre going.

Entry is free but donations are most welcome as they help us to buy new items to display, maintain our historic buildings and conserve our collections.



The Long Room, The Cloth Hall and Gallery 5 Hire

Our learning space, The Long Room, is available to hire for community groups and clubs. The Cloth Hall, on the second floor, is ideal for meetings and events. We also hire exhibition space in Gallery 5 to display original artwork, sculpture and crafts. For more information please call 01635 519562 or email museum@westberks.gov.uk

Special Exhibitions 2017



Our second floor galleries host a series of special exhibitions, along with Gallery 5 which can be hired to display original artwork, sculpture and crafts.

Gallery 5:

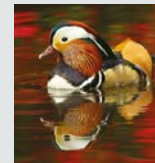
Be Prepared

A history of Scouting in West Berkshire, with objects and information spanning a hundred years. 1 February – 5 March



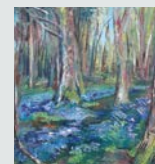
Reflections

Rotary Club Young Photographers competition, giving you the chance to vote for your favourite photograph for 2017. 8 March – 25 March



Artikinesis Springtime Art Exhibition

Original artwork inspired by the region from five local artists, each with their own individual, creative style. 29 March – 23 April



Photographs and Jewellery

A joint exhibition of stunning photographs and unique jewellery from Open Studios artists Simon Ball and Jo Arkell. 26 April – 21 May



Home-Start West Berkshire

An exhibition presented by Home-Start West Berkshire to celebrate 100 years of parenting. 24 May - 2 July



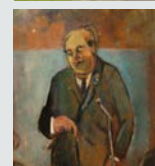
Newbury Camera Club

The camera club present a new collection of spectacular prints for their new 2017 exhibition. 5 July – 31 July



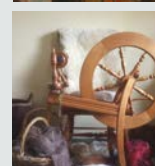
Newbury Art Group

Work from the museum collection chosen by the Newbury Art Group. Members will be sketching in the galleries every Wednesday during the exhibition 11am-3pm. 2 August – 27 August



Warm and Wacky

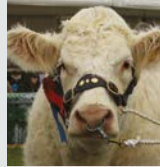
New work from the Kennet Valley Weavers, Spinners & Dyers the group will also be running free workshops at the museum throughout August, see workshop listings. 30 August – 1 October



Special Exhibitions 2017

Gallery 6:

Thatcham Remembered - A study through old photographs from the museum collection. Thatcham Camera Club's photographs compare old scenes of Thatcham to today's view. Runs until 18 June 2017



Trophies & Tractors - A look at the history of the Royal County of Berkshire Show, from its humble beginnings in 1909 to today's highly respected agricultural and rural event. Starts 30 June

Gallery 7:

Boxford Masques - An exhibition which traces the fascinating history of this renowned drama group which can trace its roots back over a 100 years. Runs until 24 April (Free workshop at the museum Saturday 4 March)



Crime & Punishment - A history of crime in West Berkshire with illustrated accounts of crime and punishment from the Martyrs of Newbury to the last use of stocks in the local area. Starts 3 May



Gallery 8:

Something Old, Something New - Crinolines, bustles and frills, they're all here, even a crochet dress made in Northbrook Street. This exhibition tracks the changing designs of wedding fashion through time. Runs until 30 November



Gallery 9:

The Lie of the Land - A collection of paintings of the landscape around West Berkshire from romantic oil paintings of a farmer walking in the Berkshire Downs from the early 1900s to more recent townscapes. Runs until 27 August



Gallery 10:

Cabinets of Curiosity - Taking inspiration from the long history of 'Cabinets of Curiosity', we have gathered together our own collection of strange and wonderful things from the collection. Runs until 31 December



Library:

Cover to Cover - A display of 30 sketchbooks each on a theme that have been exchanged amongst Open Studios artists for a period of 6 months 29 April - 28 May



Local Heritage

The Archaeology Service,
West Berkshire Council,
T: 01635 519534
E: archaeology@westberks.gov.uk



The West Berkshire Council Archaeology Service provides curatorial advice and information about the rich and diverse historic environment of the district.

There are over 500,000 years of human activity in West Berkshire, our mission is to promote the understanding and preservation of this fascinating resource for the benefit of all. For more information please visit www.westberks.gov.uk/archaeology

Find out more

We maintain the West Berkshire Historic Environment Record (HER), the primary index of archaeological and historical sites in our area. It is the evidence base for planning and land-use changes, but also a public record that can be used by anyone interested in West Berkshire's past. We can tell you about heritage assets and archaeological investigations, provide lists of sources and explain about the historic character of the landscape.

www.westberks.gov.uk/HER.

Tell us what you've discovered

Our database has developed over many years and is continually updated. You can help by passing on your knowledge or discoveries.

If you have found any interesting objects while digging or metal detecting, these can be identified by Anni Byard, the Finds Liaison Officer for West Berkshire and Oxfordshire, who will be holding **Finds Surgeries** in the West Berkshire Museum from 2pm - 4pm on the following Wednesdays;

15 February, 15 March, 17 May, 21 June, 19 July, 16 August, 20 September and 15 November 2017.

No need to book, but dates may be subject to change, so please contact Anni beforehand if you are making a special journey; anni.byard@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Carrying out research

The Berkshire Record Office is the archives of the Royal County of Berkshire, it is free to visit and research or you can request copies. www.berkshirerecordoffice.org.uk



 Portable
Antiquities
Scheme
www.finds.org.uk

 **BRO**
The Berkshire Record Office
The Archives of the Royal County

Talking History

Tickets £5

Available to buy from the museum 01635 519562
or westberkshireheritage.org/whats-on

A series of illustrated talks about history, heritage and culture at West Berkshire Museum

Wednesday 15th | February
Before TV: what did Victorians and Edwardians look at in their leisure time?
2.30pm - 3.30pm

Ros Clow has been leading the History Group of the Friends of Newtown Road Cemetery since 2009. The group's research has shed light on local life. Painters, authors, archaeologists, ministers, masons, horticulturalists, all made their contributions to the richness of life. Many are now forgotten. This talk by Ros Clow will bring back to life some of these characters from West Berkshire's past.



Wednesday 15th | February
The Alehouses & Inns in 17th Century West Berkshire
7pm - 8pm

The term Common Alehouse had a specific meaning in the law relating to licensed premises serving beer or spirits. Very little evidence or buildings remain to bear witness to these important semi-public institutions, early incarnations of the great and varying tradition of the English Pub. Piecing together information from all over the district, local historian **Phil Wood** tells the story of these establishments through a century of religious and political turmoil.



Wednesday 15th | March
Shaw House in the 17th Century
7pm - 8pm

The continuing story of this grand Tudor house on the edge on Newbury, the home of generations of the Dolman family throughout the 17th century; with royal visits and the part played by Shaw House in the Second Battle of Newbury, during the Civil War. A talk by local historian **Dr David Peacock**.



Wednesday 17th | May
Thatcham in Old Photographs
7pm - 8pm

A talk by **Dr Nick Young** to tie-in with one of our current exhibitions, Thatcham Remembered. The talk will include a tour around Thatcham in old picture postcards. Familiar and not so familiar buildings, locations and events will be seen with historical information. Views of the Broadway in the 1860s, Chapel Street in the 1890s and Bath Road in the 1910s are just some of the scenes to be looked at along with many events such as Anvil Firing.



Please note that all seating is unreserved.

Archaeology Talks

The West Berkshire Council Archaeology Service offer talks to local groups and societies on the following topics;

- The Archaeology of West Berkshire (with reference to particular places if requested)
- How to find out about the historic environment of your area
- Archaeology and Planning

Cost £1 per person, minimum of £20

To enquire about availability please contact the archaeology service

T: 01635 519534 E: archaeology@westberks.gov.uk





Adult Craft Workshops

To book courses at
West Berkshire Museum

T: 01635 519562

E: museum@westberks.gov.uk

To book courses at
Shaw House

T: 01635 279279

E: shawhouse@westberks.gov.uk

Landscapes in Watercolour

Tutor: Isobel Carmona, Architect & Artist

Venue: **West Berkshire Museum**

Introduction to landscape painting:

Gathering information

Friday 19th May | 10am - 12pm | £25

As an introduction to the series we will look at various landscapes in the Lie of the Land exhibition at the museum, discuss the pictures and draw some conclusions of what is it that makes a good landscape. We will then make drawn diagrams and will practice various techniques to record shapes, paths, light and shade, and practice composing a picture.

Landscapes in Watercolour I:

Washes and mark making techniques

Friday 26th May | 10am - 1pm | £30

We will begin by practicing a few simple wash techniques and then build up complexity and our mark making repertoire. We will learn about mixing colours and practice different colour compositions. You can work from sketches produced in the previous workshop or you can bring along information that you have gathered about a landscape.

Landscapes in Watercolour II:

Composition - Sky is the limit

Friday 9th June | 10am - 1pm | £30

In this workshop, we will look at composition and explore a few of the techniques that are exemplified by the work in the Lie of the Land exhibition. We will use watercolours to paint a series of pictures with different focus depending on the composition. As skies are an important part of any landscape and we will practice different sky techniques to help change the mood of a painting.

Landscapes in Watercolour III:

Seasonal moods: branches, leaves, colours

Friday 16th June | 10am - 1pm | £30

Our final workshop will explore variations from season to season. What makes a picture feel autumnal or wintery? We will use watercolours to paint a series of pictures with different moods. We will practice trees and their seasonal changes as well as changes to overall colours and light.

Discount: Book all 4 workshops for £100 (save £15). For a list of materials needed for these courses please see the website listings.

Floral Arrangements

Tutor: Kim Harrison, Florist

Venue: **Shaw House**

Flowers in a Basket

Wednesday 8th March | 1pm - 3pm | £25

Baskets can be arranged with flowers for many special occasions, gifts, weddings or simply for your home. Come and join in the fun, arranging seasonal flowers in a basket.

All materials provided and you can take your creation home.

Bridal Flowers

Are you getting married and want to be involved in creating your own wedding flowers, or a friend or relative who wants to help with the preparations?

During these workshops Kim will run through the itinerary of planning your flowers to create the perfect arrangements for your special day. Suitable for complete beginners and you will take all individual creations home.

Button holes to garlands

Wednesday 5th April | 6pm - 8.30pm | £25

During this workshop you will learn how to wire a simple button hole and a corsage, we will then move on to floral wedding favours and cake top decorations. To finish, we will work in a group to create a garland.

Top table and guest table

Wednesday 10th May | 6pm - 8.30pm | £25

Join us to learn a few basic techniques that will help you to create bespoke wedding flowers. We will also learn how to make top table and guest table arrangements.

Bouquets and bridesmaids

Wednesday 7th June | 6pm - 8.30pm | £25

In this workshop we'll be making a simple hand tied bouquet which can be used for a bride or bridesmaid, we can also cover how to create a larger bouquet. Then we will learn how to create a beautiful bridesmaid flower basket.





Collections Care

Tutor: Sue Hourigan,
Senior Conservator, Berkshire Records Office

Picture and photograph mounting
Monday 6th February | 12pm – 4pm | £25
Venue: **Shaw House**

Learn to cut and decorate window mounts for your pictures and photographs. Sue will teach you how to use the correct materials, tools and techniques to make your pictures look their best. This workshop is suitable for complete beginners or for those wanting to refresh their mount cutting skills.

Preserving Your Family Memorabilia
Friday 30th June | 12pm – 4pm | £25
Venue: **West Berkshire Museum**

Discover how to take care of, protect and preserve cherished keepsakes, treasured documents, important family history items, collectibles, artwork and antiques. Sue will show you how to clean documents, remove sellotape, repair paper documents and how to make simple preservation boxes.

Handmade Books

Tutor: Anne Griffiths,
Contemporary Textiles Artist

Start Your Own Scrapbook/Sketchbook
Monday 20th March | 12pm - 4.30pm | £35
Venue: **Shaw House**

Keeping a scrapbook or sketchbook is an excellent way to build a collection of images that have inspired you. Whether it's a useful place to keep leaflets, photographs and tickets from your travels, special recipes or is a private journal, we will look at how to arrange the material you have collected and how you can add windows, folds and inserts to alter the structure of the book.

Please bring along your own collection of materials plus a sketchbook or scrapbook, pencil scissors and metal ruler. If you have a cutting mat then please bring it along with you, otherwise one will be supplied.

Do note there is no sketching or drawing involved in this class!

Handpainted Ceramics

Tutor: Piet van den Beuken,
Owner of Roelofs & Rubens

Delft Tile Painting
Friday 5th May, 23rd June & 7th July
10am – 1pm | £40
Venue: **West Berkshire Museum**

Delftware, also known as Delft Blue, is the charming variety of blue and white ceramic pottery originating from Delft in the Netherlands, with many of the classic tile designs dating from the 16th century.

Starting with blank, unglazed ceramic tiles, you will learn all the techniques you need to paint four tiles with your own design or pattern in the Delft tradition whilst taking in a brief history of this fascinating craft. You can even take inspiration from the original tiles in-situ at the museum.

The tiles will be taken away to be fired, finished and delivered to your house. Materials and postage are all included.

Kennet Valley Weavers, Spinners and Dyers



FREE, drop in between 1pm - 4pm
Venue: **West Berkshire Museum**

In connection with their forthcoming exhibition at the museum, the Kennet Valley Weavers, Spinners and Dyers are running three workshops which are open to people of all ages.

Knitting and Crochet | Saturday 12th August
Come and try traditional sized knitting and crochet as well as some wacky knitting where you can work out while you knit.

Spinning and Weaving | Saturday 19th August
It's not difficult, honest, and everyone brings their own style and you won't know what yours is until you try Spinning and Weaving.

Braiding | Saturday 26th August
Warning: this is addictive! It's really easy and can be used in everyday life, before you know the whole family will want to do it too.

To book courses at Shaw House T:01635 279279 E: shawhouse@westberks.gov.uk

To book courses at West Berkshire Museum T:01635 519562 E: museum@westberks.gov.uk



Blaze's Buddies



Come and meet Blaze, the museum dragon, and join in with an action poem, simple craft, treasure hunt or sing-a-long!

Held in the museum's comfortable and child-friendly learning space, Blaze's Buddies will encourage your child to take part in fun and interactive activities, including a simple craft, linked to the treasure (museum object) Blaze has found that day. The session closes with a hunt to find a museum object or a sing-a-long!

| Date | Theme |
|------------|------------------|
| 2 February | Blaze the dragon |
| 2 March | Buses |
| 6 April | Squirrels |
| 4 May | Teapots |
| 8 June | Otters |
| 6 July | Puppets |

11am - 11.30am
FREE

Tickets are available from 10am on the day - it is on a first come, first served basis as places are limited.



Saturday Stories at the Museum

West Berkshire Museum Saturdays 11am – 11.30am

4 March
1 July

1 April
5 August

6 May
2 September

3 June



The Corn Exchange family story sessions are back! Held in the West Berkshire Museum's intimate learning space amongst beanbags and cushions, these fun, interactive sessions will feature stories themed around a Museum object.

Explore the Museum's exhibitions afterwards and make it a full morning of family fun! These sessions are for families with children aged 7 years and under.

Tickets £3 Adults, £3 Child

Please remember to book places in advance from the Corn Exchange on **08455 218 218** or via **www.cornexchangenew.com**. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Touch to See

West Berkshire Museum Mondays 10.30am – 12pm

13 March
12 June

10 April
10 July

8 May
11 September



This is a sociable discussion group for those with visual impairments that meets monthly for a chat and a cup of tea. The group has access to tactile and audio resources from the Living Paintings library enabling them to explore the work of famous artists, architects and designers. Local artists and guest speakers are also invited to talk about their work.

To find out more, call the Corn Exchange on **01635 582 666** or email **getinvolved@cornexchangenew.co.uk**. This activity is free to attend and no booking is required.

"I find it a very friendly group, we have some laughs and lots of fun! At first it doesn't seem that art can be accessible to visually impaired people but it really can be!"

Touch to See participant

Mrs. Farquhar's Afternoon Tea

Named after the Honourable Mrs. Farquhar, one of the most distinguished owners of Shaw House; afternoon tea is served in the traditional setting of the Chandos Dining Room.

Afternoon tea includes a selection of Fair Trade tea, finger sandwiches with fillings of smoked salmon, grated cheese, Wiltshire gammon, egg mayonnaise & cress, a scone with clotted cream and locally produced jam and a generous slice of homemade Victoria sponge and fruit cake.

Afternoon tea £14.95 pp
(includes a selection of Fair Trade tea)

Prosecco Afternoon Tea £18.95 pp
(includes one 170ml glass of Prosecco)

Afternoon tea will be served at 2pm on the following Fridays in 2017:

February 17th, April 21st, June 2nd
July 28th, August 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th
Sept 1st & Oct 27th

Please book and make your payment in advance by telephoning 01635 279279 or online www.westberkshireheritage.org/whats-on

Events Spring/Summer 2017

February

Spring half term

Shaw House is open to the public every weekend from 11th February to 24th September 2017, 11am – 4pm and during school holidays 10am – 4pm. Entry to Shaw House and the museum is free!

Family Activity Days

Wednesday 15th | February

Shaw House 10am-3.30pm

Make and decorate a rainstick (instrument that produces the sound of rain) from a variety of craft materials. A new house trail will also be available.

Rocking Romans Craft Days

Thursday 16th | February

West Berkshire Museum 10am - 3:00pm

Make and decorate a simple catapult and find out about the Roman catapult it is based on.

Friday 17th | February

West Berkshire Museum 10am-3.00pm

Make and decorate an eagle standard similar to one a Roman army would have carried into battle. Then see the local Roman artefacts on display.

Linking the Landscape: Under the Microscope

Friday 17th | February

West Berkshire Museum 10am - 1:00pm

What can you see under the microscope? Local Wildlife Trust experts will be on hand with microscopes, and an array of remarkable mini-beasts up-close. Learn about this fascinating essential world happening unseen all around us. Suitable for all ages. No need to book, just drop in. FREE.

£2 per child.
For 4-11 year olds
but younger and older
children are welcome.
No need to book,
drop in.



Photo by Ric Mellis

Saturday 25th | February

My Ladye Loves

Charivari Agréable - Early Music

Shaw House Doors open 7pm, performance 8pm

Award-winning early music ensemble Charivari Agréable present this popular programme encompassing themes of dangerous, forbidden and courtly love.

The programme is held together by a narrative containing anecdotes, letters and speeches from Queen Elizabeth I and her close circle and is both entertaining and educational, which together with beautiful music and Shakespeare's incomparable poetry makes for a rich and varied evening.

www.charivari.co.uk

The café will be serving wine and local beer/cider.

Tickets Adults **£16**, under 16's **£4**

Available from Shaw House **01635 279279** or www.westberkshireheritage.org/whats-on

Concert

'Exquisitely performed, these exemplified the best of Baroque style'
The Henley Standard



book online

March

Friday 3rd | March

Hoagy, Hornpipes, Handel and Hoedown
With Simon Mayor & Hilary James

Shaw House 7.30pm – 9.30pm

An evening of magical music and merriment with Britain's leading 'hot-fingered mandolin virtuoso' Simon Mayor, and silver-voiced songstress Hilary James. It's probably the diversity of their repertoire that surprises people most: from folk songs to Berlioz, blues, classical mandolin show-stoppers, swing fiddle and maybe a couple of their own infamous comic songs – all spiced with Simon's unique brand of off-beat humour and Hilary's honey-dripping voice. Oh, and Hilary might even manage a step dance if the wind's in the right direction.

A hugely entertaining evening not to be missed. Serious stuff – but don't take it too seriously!

www.mayorandjames.com

Tickets Adults **£14**, under 16's **£4**

Available from Shaw House **01635 279279** or www.westberkshireheritage.org/whats-on

Concert

'A witty and captivating mix of folk, swing, blues and classical showstoppers'. **The Guardian**



Saturday 4th | March

Performing in the Boxford Masques

West Berkshire Museum 2pm – 4pm

A fun workshop and taster session

The Boxford Masques is a large scale community theatre performance held in the grounds of Welford Park. The Masques were originally staged before the First World War and were revived by the Watermill Theatre in 2000, with new scripts created by local author Geraldine MacCaughrean. Now an independent charity the Masques have become a regular and popular feature of West Berkshire summer life.

The performance workshop will be a fun introduction to some of the acting techniques and skills that a potential community performer would need in the Masques, aimed at actors of any experience or none at all, of any age (you don't have to admit to) over 18, and designed to give a non-threatening glimpse of what being an actor in the Masques in 2017 might involve. The workshop will be led by regular Masques Director Ade Morris.

This is a FREE workshop and places are limited. Please book your place in advance by calling **01635 519562**, email museum@westberks.gov.uk or pop into the museum.

Workshop



Saturday 11th | March

Civil War at Shaw House

The Earl Rivers Regiment Muster (Members of The Sealed Knot)

Shaw House 11am – 4pm

Immerse yourself in history with a day out in the 17th Century.

Discover what life was like for those who had to take up arms against their fellow countrymen. Witness soldiers training to use swords, muskets and pikes and visit some of the tradesmen and civilians who accompanied the armies. Plus Living History demonstrations inside Shaw House.

Shaw House and cafe open from 11am – 4pm with free entry to the House. FREE.



SPRING Food & Craft



Shaw House
Sunday 2nd April
11am – 4pm



Entry £1
per adult,
children 16
and under
FREE



Spring animal
handling and
feeding with
Miller's Ark
Animals



Spring is in the air and we are celebrating with the launch of our new Spring Food and Craft Fair. The House will be packed full of artisan food, drink and locally produced crafts giving you the perfect opportunity to shop for unique gifts and treats.

Local brewers will be on hand to keep you refreshed and we'll also have cream teas and barbecue.

April

Easter Holidays

Family Activity Days

Tuesday 11th | April
Shaw House 10am - 1pm



£2 per child.
For 4-11 year olds
of all abilities.
No need to book,
drop in.

Wild About Plants

Come along for this fun packed session and learn about the importance of planting wildflowers with local charity Growing 2gether and the RENEWAL Project. Children can decorate a pot and then plant a wildflower seedling ready to take home, all whilst finding out about the amazing ways that wildflowers support the natural environment.

This activity will take place in the newly renovated Kitchen Garden at Shaw House, in the case of bad weather it will be moved to the Great Hall, please purchase your tickets on the day from Reception.

www.renewalproject.org.uk



Wednesday 12th | April
Shaw House 10am - 3.30pm

Springtime animals

Make a Springtime rabbit or chick and take part in the Easter egg hunt trail!

Thursday 13th | April
West Berkshire Museum 10am - 3pm

Egg decorating

Make and decorate a polystyrene egg with Deco pens, sequins and sequin pins. Finish with a loop of ribbon so you can hang your decorated egg when you get home.



Tuesday 18th | April
Shaw House 10am - 1pm



Wild About Plants

Another chance to join us for this fun packed session and learn about the importance of planting wildflowers with local charity Growing 2gether and the RENEWAL Project. Children can decorate a pot and then plant a wildflower seedling ready to take home, all whilst finding out about the amazing ways that wildflowers support the natural environment.

This activity will take place in the newly renovated Kitchen Garden at Shaw House, in the case of bad weather it will be moved to the Great Hall, please purchase your tickets on the day from Reception.
www.renewalproject.org.uk



Wednesday 19th | April
Shaw House 10am - 3.30pm

Cool Coasters

Decorate and varnish a spring themed coaster and take part in the Easter egg hunt trail!

Thursday 20th & Friday 21st | April
West Berkshire Museum 10am - 3pm

Crazy CRAFT Days



£2 per child.
For 4-11 year olds
but younger and older
children are welcome.
No need to book,
drop in.

There will be at least three crafts to choose from each day (while stocks last). You can pick the craft you wish to do and complete it using the craft materials available.

Dress to Impress on Thursday: choose between making a fan, top hat or Elizabethan ruff.

Springtime Fun on Friday: choose between making a mask, wooden flower and any of the crafts still available from Thursday.

Saturday 22nd | April
Local Heritage Roadshow
West Berkshire Museum 10am - 4pm

Pop in to the museum and find out more about the many local clubs, groups and societies in the area dedicated to our local history and archaeology. Heritage staff will be on hand to advise on what's in the museum collection, what we do for schools, what to do if you discover an archaeological find, how to take care of heritage sites and assets and more. Free.



Saturday 29th | April - Tuesday 30th | May
Open Studios
Open Air Sculpture Exhibition
Shaw House



The Orangery Lawn at Shaw House will be transformed into a sculpture trail where you can discover artworks by local sculptors in this lovely historic setting. The exhibition is part of the annual West Berkshire and North Hampshire Open Studios whose accreditation is a seal of high quality, innovation and craftsmanship.

Some sculptors exhibiting at Shaw House will also be opening their studios at various times throughout the month of May and welcome browsers. Open Studio brochures will be available from the House and the works on display will be available for purchase.

The Orangery Lawn is open to visitors everyday **11am - 4pm**. The House will also be open to the public at weekends and during May half term, entry is free. Opening times for individual studios available from www.openstudios.org.uk.



May

Friday 5th | May

Linking the Landscape: Bats at the Museum

West Berkshire Museum 8pm - 9:30pm



Photo by Emma Bradshaw

Did you know one bat can eat 3000 insects in a night? Find out lots more amazing facts about bats on this Local Wildlife Trust talk and walk by local bat expert James Shipman.

James explains where bats live, how they fly in the dark, and why they are so important and protected by law. After a short talk, James will help us see and hear several species that emerge at dusk near the museum (weather dependent).

Suitable for 11+ years. You will need comfortable footwear and warm clothing. Please bring a torch, we also welcome any additional bat detectors if you have one! **£5**. Book online at wbl@bbowt.org.uk/whats-on or in person at the museum.

Berkshire
Buckinghamshire
Oxfordshire



Supported by
The National Lottery
through the Heritage Lottery Fund



Tuesday 16th | May

Newbury Spring Festival Talk: Jane Austen on Our Doorstep

Shaw House 3pm (ends approx 4.30pm)

Jane Austen died in the summer of 1817. To mark this bicentenary, writer and journalist Gill Hornby discusses the short but extraordinarily productive life of one of England's best-loved authors: her work, her family, her Hampshire home – and in particular the people and places of West Berkshire which Austen knew so very well.

In 2006 Gill Hornby brought out a biography of Jane Austen for young people, *The Girl with the Magic Pen*, and is currently writing a novel around the same subject. Gill lives in Kintbury – a Berkshire village that the Austen family visited on numerous occasions.

Tickets **£12 talk only, £18 talk with tea and cake**.

Available from the Corn Exchange **08545 5218 218** www.cornexchangenew.com



ACE SPACE @ SHAW HOUSE Saturday 20th May 1pm to 10pm

Due to unforeseen circumstances the ACE Space one day festival, has been postponed until 2018. Please look out for more details on www.westberkshireheritage.org/whats-on

A one day festival with performers from Newbury's Arts and Community hub, ACE Space, in the House and grounds at the beautiful Shaw House. With music, storytelling, comedy, arts and crafts, local food and drink. Suitable for all the family.



Adults **£3, 12yrs and under free**

17yrs and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Bucket collections in aid of Ace Space and Shaw House.

ACE Space are a Newbury based charity organisation who provide a home for live music and a platform for local artists. www.acespace.org.uk

Summer half term

Family Activity Days

Wednesday 31st | May
Shaw House 10am - 3.30pm



Marvellous mini beasts

Make a mini beast (bug) of your choice out of a selection of polystyrene shapes, pipe cleaners, Deco pens and craft materials. There will also be a new activity trail.

Thursday 1st | & Friday 2nd | June
West Berkshire Museum 10am - 3pm

Beautiful brooches

Make a jewelled Anglo Saxon brooch from modelling clay, gems, gold paint and badge pin. Then you can go and see what treasures we have on display. Dress for mess! Disposable aprons will be provided.



Thursday 1st | June

The Pied Piper

Presented by Norwich Puppet Theatre
Shaw House House and cafe open 10am,
performance 2pm



When the Pied Piper plays his flute the rats run, the greedy mayor rubs his hands and the children dance...

Norwich Puppet Theatre's humorous and irresistible one person show combines a skilful mix of puppetry, foot-tapping music and storytelling and will have audiences young and old entranced. The show is a lively re-telling of the traditional tale drawing on the story's historical origins, the Brothers Grimm and the Robert Browning poem of the Pied Piper.

Tickets: £9 Adult; £7 Under 16s
Available from Shaw House or online
www.westberkshireheritage.org/whats-on
Suitable for ages 3 – 7 but younger and older children are welcome. Running time 45 minutes.



July

Thursday 6th, Friday 7th & Saturday 8th | July

The Importance of Being Earnest

Outdoor Theatre
Shaw House Gates open 6pm,
performance 7.30pm



A trivial comedy written for serious people
Written by Oscar Wilde.
Directed by Stephen Bennett

New Era Players, a locally based amateur theatre group, will be presenting what is considered to be Oscar Wilde's best play 'The Importance of Being Earnest'. Join us on the Great Lawn where Shaw House will provide the perfect backdrop to add to the sense of grandeur and style.



First presented in the West End in 1895, the play still inspires gales of laughter even today. It is a comedy where serious things are treated with triviality and trivial things are taken seriously culminating in a hilarious series of mistaken identities, when everyone learns the vital importance of being earnest!

Tickets Adults £10 (£9 with WBC), 16 and under £4 (£3.60 with WBC)
Available from Shaw House 01635 279279 or online
www.westberkshireheritage.org/whats-on

Performance approx 2hrs (20 min interval time). Please bring your own seating/rug, warm clothes and picnic. The café will be open serving serving light refreshments including ice cream and locally produced beer and cider.

Saturday 15th - Sunday 30th | July
Festival of Archaeology

Co-ordinated by the Council for British Archaeology, the Festival offers hundreds of events nationwide, allowing people to get hands-on experiences with the past. Within West Berkshire there will be a varied programme of archaeological activities for all ages at West Berkshire Museum and other venues - for a full list of events please visit www.westberkshireheritage.org/whats-on





Shaw House

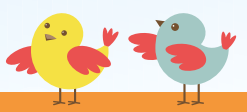
Summer Fair

11am-4pm

SUNDAY 16TH JULY

Come and share the beautiful surroundings of Shaw House and enjoy all the fun of the Summer Fair, with craft stalls, bouncy castle, children's rides and fun dog show. We will also have performances from Mr Muddles the Magician and live music. After all that fun you'll be in need of refreshments, we'll have locally produced ales, as well as a Pimms tent and barbecue.

**ENTRY £1 PER ADULT,
CHILDREN 16 AND UNDER FREE**



Summer Holiday activity days

Wonderful Wildlife Craft Days with new Wildlife Spotters trail!

Shaw House 10am-3.30pm

£2 per child. For 4-11 year olds but younger and older children are welcome. No need to book, drop in.



Wednesday 26th | July
Make a wise owl

Wednesday 2nd | August
Happy hedgehogs hanging decoration

Wednesday 9th | August
Create a pop-up puppet mole

Wednesday 16th | August
Paint a pebble mini beast

Wednesday 23rd | August
Decorate a beautiful ceramic bird

Wednesday 16th & 23rd | August
BBOWT Go Wild at Shaw House



You can take part in both the Go Wild and indoor craft activity at Shaw House for the usual cost of £2 per child.



Come on a Wildlife Safari of the Shaw House gardens with your local Wildlife Trust. Hunt out beautiful and bizarre mini-beasts and help us make them a wonderful bug hotel! Explore the fabulous leaves in the garden; learn how to identify them and make a lovely leaf creature.

You can take part in both the Go Wild and indoor craft activity for the usual cost of £2 per child. Suitable for all ages. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

Wednesday 30th | August
Make a dragonfly fridge magnet



Family Activity Days
West Berkshire Museum
10am - 3pm



It's Friday fun at the museum all summer!

Friday 28th | July

Cave art

Do some cave painting on a clay tile using twigs, feathers and other Stone Age-inspired painting equipment. Find out about cave painting and handle a real Stone Age artefact.

Friday 4th | August

Go potty!

Make a Neolithic pot from clay using some replica ones as inspiration. You can then see some local Stone Age artefacts in our galleries.

Friday 11th | August

Magnificent mummies

Make a mummy out of a clothes peg, modelling clay and other craft materials. Some real Egyptian artefacts will be available to view.

Friday 18th | August

Face it!

Make a face out of clay using some replica Medieval and Tudor face jugs as inspiration.

Friday 25th | August

Write stuff!

Make a quill from a variety of craft materials and then ink some pictures or try writing with it.

Friday 1st | September

Mini masterpieces

Paint in the style of Claude Monet and produce your own mini masterpiece to take home.

£2 per child.
For 4-11 year olds
but younger and
older children are
welcome. No need
to book, drop in.

Dress for mess! Disposable aprons will be provided.



August

Monday 14th | August

The Wind in the Willows
Outdoor Theatre

Shaw House Gates open 5pm,
performance 6pm



*"...an afternoon's jollity and laughter...
The performers kept up a brisk pace,
successfully holding the attention of
younger audience members...
Lots of fun, a really entertaining
outing for all the family."*

Mumsnet

Award-nominated Immersion Theatre brings a spectacular musical adaptation of the classic, "The Wind in the Willows" to Shaw House this summer.

Pack your picnics and join the boat-loving Ratty, the sensible yet curious Mole, wise old Badger and the fantastically irrepressible Toad as they embark on the adventure of a lifetime culminating in a colourful battle with the sly weasel to save Toad Hall! Eye-catching costumes, toe-tapping music and larger than life characters promise to capture the imagination of the youngest of audience members whilst the sheer nostalgic charm of this beloved story is guaranteed to take older generations on a glorious trip down the riverbank onto memory lane. The perfect summer holiday treat for all the family!

Tickets Adults **£12 (£10.80 with WBC)**, 16 and under **£8 (£7.20 with WBC)**. Available from Shaw House **01635 279279** or online **www.westberkshireheritage.org/whats-on**

Performance approx 1hr 40mins (plus 20 min interval time). Please bring your own seating/rug, warm clothes and picnic. The café will be open serving serving light refreshments including ice cream and locally produced beer and cider.

"Immersion Theatre brings musical theatre to the river bank with precision and flair with catchy, well-delivered numbers which had the children eager for more... Don't miss this delightful show."
LDNTheatreBloggers

A LARGER-THAN-LIFE OPEN-AIR MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

The WIND in the WILLOWS





August | September
Open Air Cinema - Cult Screens
Shaw House

Cult Screens will be returning to Shaw House in August & September. Join us for the ultimate open air cinema experience with a choice of comfy deckchairs or beanbags to relax on and watch the film, plus fantastic food and drink options including cocktails, local ales, wine, fresh popcorn and their famous speciality hot dogs.

Dates and film titles to be confirmed. Look out for more information at www.westberkshireheritage.org/whats-on or the Shaw House Facebook page. Tickets will be available from cultscreens.co.uk

September

Heritage Open Days

Heritage Open Days is England's biggest heritage festival. It celebrates our fantastic history, architecture and culture; offering people the chance to see hidden places and try out new experiences - all of which are free to explore.



Thursday 8th - Sunday 11th | September
West Berkshire Museum 10am - 4pm

Drop in to the museum to pick up a specially designed trail – one available for adults and another for children – based around the historic buildings that house the museum; the Cloth Hall and Corn Stores. Free.

Saturday 10th - Sunday 11th | September
Shaw House

Join us in the Great Hall for introductory talks about the history of the House at 11.30am, 12.30pm, 1.30pm, 2.30pm and visitors will be able to self navigate their way through the rest of the House. No need to book, just drop in. Free.

www.heritageopendays.org.uk. For more details of activities at both venues please see www.westberkshireheritage.org/whats-on

Forthcoming Events

HALLOWEEN

Join us for some crazy crafts and spooky fun this October!

Family Activity Days

Wednesday 25th | October Shaw House

Thursday 26th & Friday 27th | October West Berkshire Museum

Museums at Night

Friday 27th | October West Berkshire Museum

Museums at Night



Halloween Party Night

Tuesday 31st | October Shaw House

Christmas at



Christmas Fair, children's Parties with Mr. Muddles and Santa, Wreath Making Workshops and Family Concerts.

For more information visit www.westberkshireheritage.org/whats-on



The Friends of West Berkshire Museum

Friends support West Berkshire Museum through fundraising, social and other activities as well as promoting the museum within the community.



Become a Friend

There are many benefits to becoming a Friend such as a programme of talks, visits to museums, galleries and heritage sites as well as playing an important role in supporting the museum. If you would like more information please email membership@fowbm.info. www.friendsofwestberkshiremuseum.org.uk

In addition to the Friends we also have a separate organisation of volunteers which supports the everyday running of the museum and Shaw House. For more information please visit www.westberkshireheritage.org/volunteer-with-us

Full list of events

location, event, date, type of event

At Shaw House At West Berkshire Museum

February

| | | |
|---|------------------|----------|
| Picture and photograph mounting | Mon 6 | Workshop |
| Before TV | Wed 15 | Talk |
| Alehouses & Inns in 17th Century West Berks | Wed 15 | Talk |
| Family Activity Days | Wed 15 | Family |
| Rocking Romans Craft Days | Thur 16 & Fri 17 | Family |
| Linking the Landscape: Under the Microscope | Fri 17 | Family |
| My Ladye Loves | Sat 25 | Concert |

March

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Hoagy, Hornpipes, Handel and Hoedown | Fri 3 | Concert |
| Performing in the Boxford Masques | Sat 4 | Workshop |
| Flowers in a basket | Wed 8 | Workshop |
| Civil War at Shaw House | Sat 11 | Family |
| Shaw House in the 17th Century | Wed 15 | Talk |
| Start Your Own Scrapbook/Sketchbook | Mon 20 | Workshop |

April

| | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Spring Food and Craft Fair | Sun 2 | Family |
| Bridal Flowers | Wed 5 | Workshop |
| Wild About Plants | Tues 11 | Family |
| Family Activity Days | Wed 12 | Family |
| Family Activity Days | Thurs 13 | Family |
| Wild About Plants | Tues 18 | Family |
| Family Activity Days | Wed 19 | Family |
| Crazy Craft Days | Thurs 20 & Fri 21 | Family |
| Local Heritage Roadshow | Sat 22 | Family |
| Open Air Sculpture Exhibition | Sat 29 – Tues 30 May | Visual Art |

May

| | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| Linking the Landscape: Bats at the Museum | Fri 5 | Family |
| Delft Tile Painting | Fri 5 | Workshop |
| Bridal Flowers | Wed 10 | Workshop |
| Jane Austen on Our Doorstep | Tues 16 | Talk |
| Thatcham in old photographs | Wed 17 | Talk |
| Introduction to landscape painting | Fri 19 | Workshop |
| ACE Space @ Shaw House | Sat 20 | Family |
| Landscapes in Watercolour I | Fri 26 | Workshop |
| Family Activity Days | Wed 31 | Family |

June

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Messy Museum Days | Thurs 1 & Fri 2 | Family |
| Bridal Flowers | Wed 7 | Workshop |
| Landscapes in Watercolour II | Fri 9 | Workshop |
| Landscapes in Watercolour III | Fri 16 | Workshop |
| Delft Tile Painting | Fri 23 | Workshop |
| Preserving Your Family Memorabilia | Fri 30 | Workshop |

location, date, event, type of event

At Shaw House At West Berkshire Museum

July

| | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|----------|
| The Importance of Being Earnest | Thurs 6, Fri 7 & Sat 8 | Theatre |
| Delft Tile Painting | Fri 7 | Workshop |
| Festival of Archaeology | Sat 15 – Sun 30 | Family |
| Summer Fair | Sun 16 | Family |
| Family Activity Days | Wed 26 | Family |
| Messy Museum Days | Fri 28 | Family |

August

| | | |
|---|-----------------------|----------|
| Family Activity Days | Wed 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 | Family |
| The Wind in the Willows | Mon 14 | Theatre |
| BBOWT Go Wild at Shaw House | Wed 16 & 23 | Family |
| Messy Museum Days | Fri 4, 11, 18, 25 | Family |
| Kennet Valley Weavers, Spinners and Dyers | Sat 12, 19 & 26 | Workshop |
| Open Air Cinema | TBC | Cinema |

September

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------|--------|
| Messy Museum Days | Fri 1 | Family |
| Open Air Cinema | TBC | Cinema |
| Heritage Open Days | Thurs 8 – Sun 11 | Family |
| Heritage Open Days | Sat 10 – Sun 11 | Family |

Terms and Conditions - ONLINE BOOKINGS

The Corn Exchange (Newbury) provide box office services, including online booking, for selected events. Where online booking is available you will be directed to a booking page hosted by the Corn Exchange. Online bookings are subject to a £1 booking fee per ticket, participatory workshops are exempt from the fee.



BOOKING AT THE VENUE

Bookings made in person, or by telephone at Shaw House, West Berkshire Museum or the Corn Exchange Box Office will be processed free of charge.

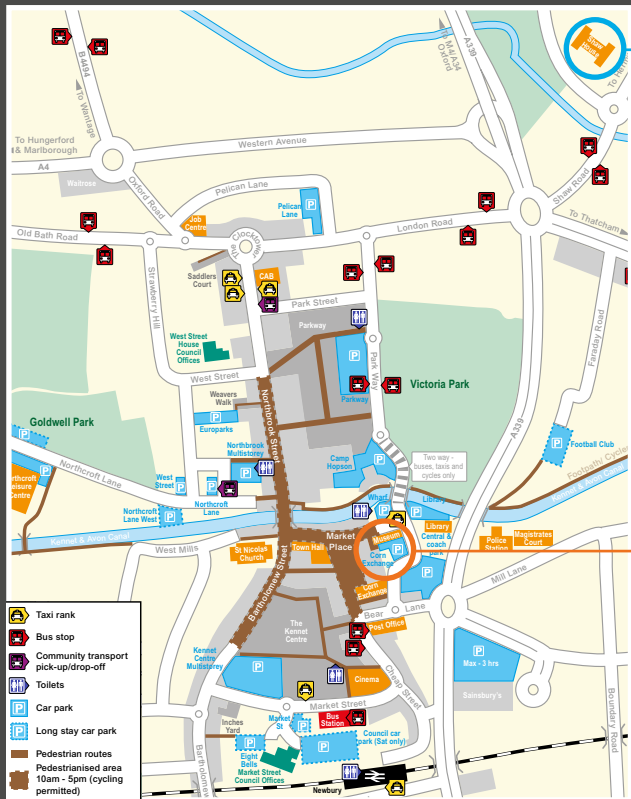
DISCOUNT WITH WEST BERKSHIRE CARD

Discount is available on selected events, one discounted ticket per card. Cards available from www.westberks.gov.uk/wbcard

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

- Tickets are non-refundable except in the event of cancellation by the venue/promoter, in which case a refund to the full value of the tickets will be offered
- Tickets can be collected free of charge from the venue that you have purchased from, if you would like tickets posted there will be a charge of £1.20
- All events have unreserved seating unless otherwise stated
- All children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult
- In the case of severe weather, outdoor events may be postponed to an alternative date
- Pushchairs and prams are not permitted inside Shaw House, because of restricted space available in a Tudor building – however, they can be left safely by reception.

Contact us



Shaw House

Church Road
Newbury
Berkshire
RG14 2DR

E: shawhouse@westberks.gov.uk
T: 01635 279279

West Berkshire Museum

The Wharf
Newbury
Berkshire
RG14 5AS

E: museum@westberks.gov.uk
T: 01635 519562

Corn Exchange Box Office

E: boxoffice@cornexchangenew.co.uk T: 0845 5218 218

Mon 10am – 5pm | Tues – Sat 10am – 7pm | Sun 11am – 5pm

Calls cost 2p per minute plus your telephone company's access charge

West Berkshire Heritage is a service provided by West Berkshire Council committed to safeguarding the local heritage whilst supporting education and encouraging community involvement.

www.westberkshireheritage.org

The information contained in this brochure was correct at the time of going to press, but no guarantee can be given that it will not be amended before the commencement of any event. Any changes to times or venue will be made available on the website listings.