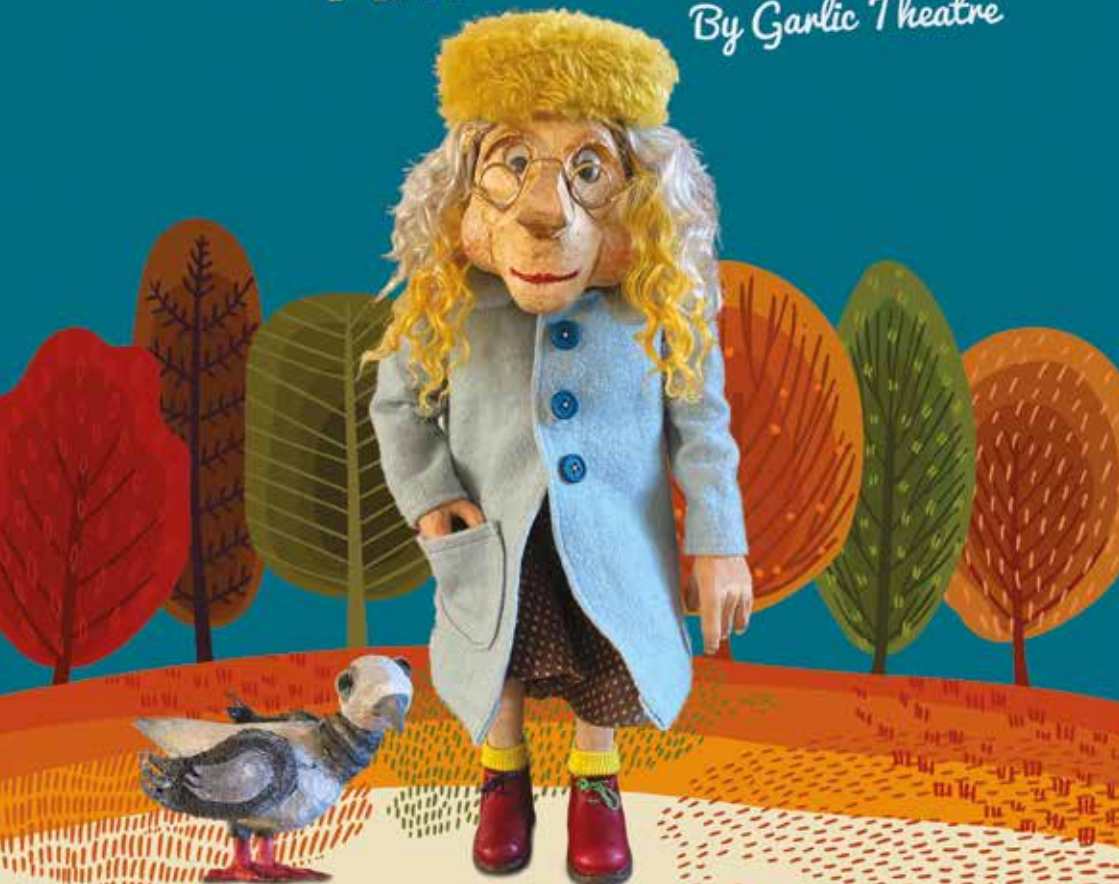


OLDILOCKS AND THE 3 BEARS

By Garlic Theatre



Autumn Winter 2024/25 | www.westberkshireheritage.org/whats-on



© David Hartley Photography

Autumn Winter 2024/25 | www.westberkshireheritage.org/whats-on

WELCOME TO WEST BERKSHIRE HERITAGE

Join us for a guided tour of Shaw House!

We are delighted to announce that guided tours are now available to pre-book on our public opening days between February and September.

The tour will include a guided view of the rooms through the house and will explore the rich layers of history; from the hidden details to the complexities of the restoration.

There will also be additional information about our 'Dressed for Shaw' costume exhibition which gives an introduction to some of the people that once lived at Shaw House and the changes of fashion through time. There will also be the opportunity to view areas not usually open to the public, followed by a complimentary hot drink in the café.

Exclusive private tours can be accommodated outside of our public open days and standard opening hours, depending on availability. There would be an additional fee for this which can be discussed upon booking.

Guided group visits are £8 per person and must be pre-booked. To check for availability and to make a booking please email shawhouse@westberks.gov.uk with details of your expected numbers and potential dates.

OUR VENUES

Thank you for your donations. They help us to buy new items to display, maintain our historic buildings and conserve our collections.

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 features a permanent exhibition, *Lives & Landscapes*, which explores stories of life in the local area, along with regularly changing special exhibitions, family activities and events.

The café, gift shop and galleries are open 10am - 4pm (last entry 3.30pm) Wednesday - Sunday. Entry is free.

Contact us

museum@westberks.gov.uk
01635 519562



West Berkshire Museum



WBerksMuseum



west_berks_museum

Shaw House

Shaw House is one of the best preserved Elizabethan mansions in England.

Shaw House is the ideal venue to create an inspiring and productive environment for conferences and meetings; we also offer a variety of public open days, special events and celebration drinks receptions.

Public open dates: Every weekend and school holiday from February to September. Entry is free.

Please note; occasionally some rooms will be closed due to private bookings. Check the website for details.

Contact us

shawhouse@westberks.gov.uk
01635 279279



ShawHouseEvents



Shaw_House



shawhouse1581

EXHIBITIONS

West Berkshire Museum

2024:

Bologna in Chiaroscuro, opens Wed 4 Sept

2025:

Focus on Eastern Parishes, closes Sun 02 Feb

Focus on Compton, opens Wed 12 Feb

Works of Marjorie Heather, closes Sun 06 Apr

Treasure Through Time, closes Sun 01 Jun

Volunteers Choice, closes Sun 24 Aug

Shaw House

A Botanic Dream 15 - 19 Feb

Dressed for Shaw

Dressed for Battle

Check the website for public opening dates.

FAMILY

West Berkshire Museum

Heritage Open Days 07, 08 Sept

Roman Family Fun Day Sat 5 Oct

LGBTQ+ Family Morning..... Mon 28 Oct

Arts Award in a Morning Tues 29 Oct

Messy Museum Morning Fri 01 Nov

Dragon Hunt! Fri 01 Nov

Mini Messy Museum, starts Wed 06 Nov

Messy Museum Morning Fri 20 Dec

LGBTQ+ Family Morning..... Mon 17 Feb

Museum Explorers..... Tue 18 Feb

Messy Museum Day Fri 21 Feb

Mini Messy Museum, starts Wed 26 Feb

Shaw House

Heritage Open Days 08, 15 Sept

Rest & Restore Sun 06 Oct

Movie: Hotel Transylvania 2 Tues 29 Oct

Family Activity Day Wed 30 Oct

School of Enchantment Thur 31 Oct

Reindeer Round-Up Sat 30 Nov

Christmas Fair Sun 01 Dec

Visit from the Snow Sisters Sun 8 Dec

Children's Magic Show Sun 15 Dec

Movie in the Hall: Christmas Carol Mon 23 Dec

Movie in the Hall: Wonka Tues 18 Feb

Family Activity Day Wed 19 Feb

TALKS

West Berkshire Museum

Art & Architecture in Ancient Egypt Wed 18 Sept

The Historic Ridgeway Project..... Wed 16 Oct

Treasures in Store Wed 16 Oct

My Choice as a Volunteer..... Wed 12 Feb

The Early History of Compton..... Wed 12 Feb

Shaw House

The Second Battle of Newbury..... Fri 25 Oct

Life of the Duchess of Chandos Thur 20 Feb

LOCAL HISTORY COURSE

West Berkshire Museum

Cloth, Charter & Religious Change From 14 Jan

COMMUNITY

Shaw House

Reducing Stress and Anxiety Thur 10 Oct

Meditation & the Power of Positivity .. Thur 21 Nov

Wedding Fair 13 Oct & 23 Feb

GALLERY HIRE

West Berkshire Museum

Gallery 5 at West Berkshire Museum is available for hire and is the ideal environment to display original artwork, sculpture or crafts.

Contact us for more information

01635 519 562

museum.roomhire@westberks.gov.uk

WORKSHOPS

Shaw House

Christmas Wreath Making 3, 4, 5 Dec

THEATRE

Shaw House

Oldilocks and the Three Bears Mon 28 Oct

Three Little Pig Tails Mon 17 Feb

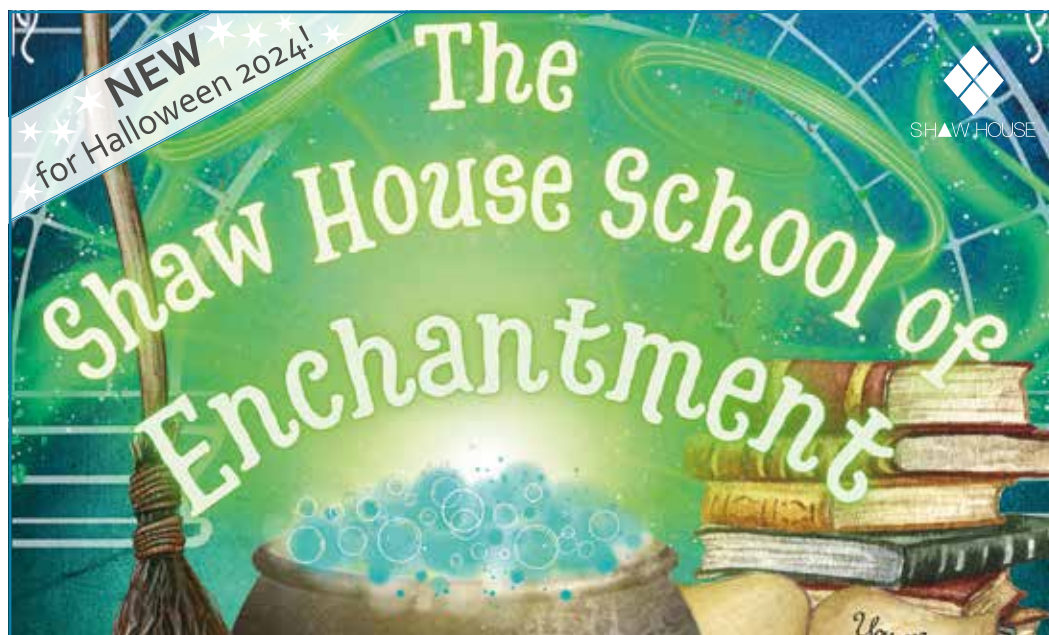
MUSIC

Shaw House

Game of Queens Sun 10 Nov

Christmas Carol Concert Fri 13 Dec

Please note, children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult for all of our activities and events.



Special Exhibitions

Bologna in Chiaroscuro:

Between Photography and Iconography

Exploring the contrast of light and shadow in Bologna's historic streets vividly portrayed through photography and timeless maps and chronologies by José Loureiro.

4 Sept– 3 Nov 2024
West Berkshire Museum

MUSEUM EXHIBITIONS



Our second floor galleries host a series of regularly changing special exhibitions. **Gallery 5** can be hired to display original artwork, sculpture and crafts. Contact us for info.



Treasure Through Time

A history of West Berkshire's Treasure

In 2023, both the new Treasure Act came into force and 11,000 finds had been recorded on the Portable Antiquities Scheme for the whole of Berkshire (all 6 unitary authorities), eight thousand of which came from West Berkshire.

West Berkshire Museum and the Berkshire Finds Liaison Officer are celebrating those landmarks with this exhibition, which will look at the history of treasure as well as displaying some of the fascinating treasure finds that have been recorded.

Runs until 1 June 2025
West Berkshire Museum

FOCUS_{on}

'Focus On' is a series of exhibitions that celebrate the heritage, community and landscape of our much loved parishes within West Berkshire.

The current exhibition in this series is **Focus On the Eastern Parishes**, which will explore the history and archaeology of Burghfield, Beech Hill and Wokefield through objects from the Museum's collection and loans from the local community. Runs until **2 Feb 2025**.

The next exhibition is a **Focus on Compton** which opens on **12 Feb 2025**.

Open Wed to Sun, 10am - 4pm
West Berkshire Museum

To see Gallery 5 exhibitions please visit: www.westberkshireheritage.org/whats-on

Our second floor galleries host a series of regularly changing special exhibitions.
Gallery 5 can be hired to display original artwork, sculpture and crafts, contact us for info.



The Works of Marjorie Heather

An exhibition displaying works in the Museum collection by local artist **Marjorie Heather (1905-1989)**.

Heather was a painter of semi-caricature figure groups in oil and watercolour who was born and lived in Newbury, Berkshire.

As a mature student she attended Ruskin School of Drawing, Oxford, 1945-8, and then at Byam Shaw School of Drawing and Painting, 1948-50 and was a founding member of Newbury Art Group in 1947. For over 30 years her work has been regularly selected for display locally and abroad.

Runs until 6 Apr 2025
West Berkshire Museum



Volunteers' Choice

Celebrating 10 Years

When the Museum re-opened in 2014, the volunteers who had helped move and document the collection were invited to choose a favourite object and write about why they chose it.

To reflect their invaluable continued work since then, our volunteers have selected two items each, one accessioned since 2014 and one from before. The exhibition commemorates the history of the building, the collection and the people who work to conserve and share it with our visitors.

Runs until 24 Aug 2025
West Berkshire Museum



Dressed for Shaw

Discover 400 years of history with this exhibition of replica period costume.

Admire the recognisable ruffs of Elizabethan England, the flamboyant frills of the Georgian gentleman and the weathered wool of the Edwardian era, and understand how those items shaped the history of Shaw House.

The exhibition, at Shaw House, is a wonderful visual display for everyone to enjoy with a trail available for younger visitors. There is also a detailed exhibition guide available from the gift shop.

You can visit these exhibitions during public open days. Check website for dates.
Shaw House



Dressed for Battle

A fascinating display of English Civil War arms and armour on loan from the Royal Armouries.

On display at Shaw House, this is a rare chance to see examples of what soldiers wore and likely fought with during the Battles of Newbury in 1643 and 1644. The representative selection on display once formed part of the most important surviving English Civil War armouries before being purchased by the Royal Armouries Museum in 1985.

Curated by West Berkshire Museum.



Art and Architecture in Ancient Egypt

Ancient Egyptian art is instantly recognisable and a famous characteristic of this enthralling civilisation. This talk by Beth Asbury is an overview of art, tomb, temple, and domestic architecture. Come along to find out more about a statue that influenced Henry Moore and the second largest religious complex in the world.

Beth is West Berkshire Council's Assistant Archaeologist. She has also worked as an assistant to Dr Zahi Hawass at the Ministry of State for Antiquities in Cairo, and at the Pitt Rivers Museum and Ashmolean Museum. She is a committee member of the Thames Valley Ancient Egypt Society (TVAES) and the Council for British Archaeology Wessex Group.

This talk complements the
From the Nile to Newbury special exhibition.

Wed 18 Sept | 7pm | £5
West Berkshire Museum
Book online



The Historic Ridgeway Project

This talk by Daniel Bashford will look at the evidence for the use of the Ridgeway and the evolution of the surrounding landscape over time. It will examine the evidence such as earthworks, artefacts and below ground archaeology and explore the people who used and lived on the Ridgeway.

The Historic Ridgeway Project is a 3-year project to better understand and improve the management of the exceptional archaeological sites along the Ridgeway. Daniel, who is leading on this project, is a professional archaeologist with over 30 years of experience. He is principally a landscape archaeologist and grew up in the spring-line villages on the north face of the Downs where he still lives.

Wed 16 Oct | 1pm | Free
West Berkshire Museum
Book online



Treasures in Store

Sue Ellis will explore a volunteer's choice of the treasures in store, and on display, at the Museum, looking at what they tell us about history, about ourselves, and about our culture and the society in which we live.

Sue Ellis is a local historian, a committee member of both Thatcham Historical Society and West Berkshire Heritage Forum, and a volunteer who is cataloguing the library collection at the Museum.

These talks complement the
Volunteers' Choice special exhibition.

Wed 16 Oct | 7pm | £5
West Berkshire Museum
Book online



My Choice as a Volunteer

Museum collections volunteer, Tom Allen, will explore his choice of items on display, focussing on material relating to Captain Robert Hawkes and its connection to his time at The Royal Logistic Corps Museum in Worthy Down.

Tom has been working in museums since 2008, mostly with military collections, and has written several articles for the journal *Soldiers of the Queen*, published by the Victorian Military Society.

Wed 12 Feb | 1pm | Free
West Berkshire Museum
Book online



Early History of Compton

This talk by local historian David Peacock will take a selective look at the history of the Compton area from prehistory to the Tudor period, including a Roman pottery industry, the Battle of Ashdown, Domesday records and Tudor sheep-farming.

David Peacock has researched, written about and taught the history of West Berkshire and the Newbury area for many years.

This talk complements the
Focus on Compton special exhibition.

Wed 12 Feb | 7pm | £5
West Berkshire Museum
Book online



The Second Battle of Newbury

Join us to commemorate the 380th anniversary of the Second Battle of Newbury at Shaw House, which became an integral part of the Royalists defensive position during the battle in 1644.

Bringing history to life, Dr. Christopher Scott will explore the campaign and battle that saw the Royalist army defending northern Newbury against the combined Parliamentary forces of Essex, Waller and Manchester.

With self-led audio tours of Shaw House available before the talk along with the opportunity to enjoy a private view of the Dressed for Battle exhibition, displaying 17th century arms and armour on loan from Littlecote House.

Fri 25 Oct | Tour 6pm, Talk 7pm | £5
Shaw House
 Book online



Cassandra Brydges, Duchess of Chandos

Wife, Stepmother and Interior Designer

Exploring the role of the 18th century wife and the life of Cassandra Brydges who lived at Shaw House from 1728 - 1735.

Artist, Anne Griffiths will discuss the representation of Cassandra's role, responsibilities and her pastimes. Having married her cousin, the Duke of Chandos, she took on the management of not just Shaw House, but also Canons, one of the finest properties in England of its day. Visitors can also enjoy Anne's exhibition 'A Botanic Dream' looking at 18th century gender roles in the newly discovered science of botany, with displays of beautiful hand stitched linens, collages and wallpapers.

Thurs 20 Feb | 11am & 2pm | £5
Shaw House
 Book online



Heritage Open Days



Shaw House

Sunday 8 & Sunday 15 Sept

Meet us in the Great Hall for introductory talks about the history of the House throughout the day.

Then explore areas of the House which are not usually open to the public, including the Elizabethan bake house at **12pm, 1pm, 2pm & 3pm** (pre-book online).

West Berkshire Museum

Saturday 7 & Sunday 8 Sept

Meet members from the Kennet Valley Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers who will show you some traditional skills associated with the Cloth Hall, then explore the Museum attic. **10.30am - 3pm, drop-in.**

Shaw House - Sun 8 & Sun 15 Sept
Museum - Sat 7 & Sun 8 Sept
 Free



Cloth, Charter and Religious Change

The Newbury area in the Tudor period

This eight week course covers the Tudor cloth industry, with locally produced cloth exported across Europe; religious persecution and upheaval as it affected the Newbury area; surviving buildings from the Tudor period; changes in local government with the grant of Newbury's first charter; and an investigation into the historical sources for the Tudor period, including an opportunity to look at Tudor wills.

David Peacock has researched, written about and taught the history of West Berkshire and the Newbury area for many years.

From Tues 14 Jan | 1.30pm - 3.30pm
West Berkshire Museum
 £85 (8 weeks) Book online



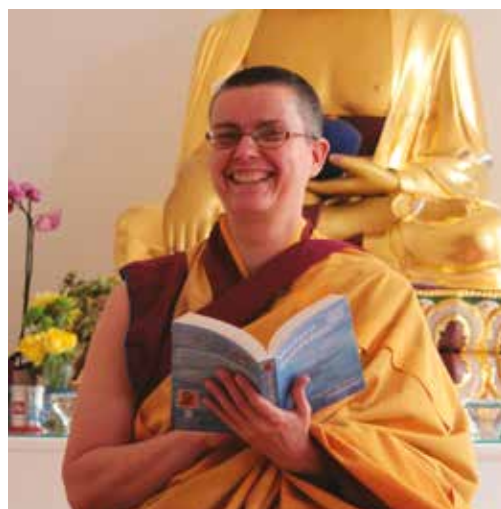
Rest & Restore

Join us in the historic grounds of Shaw House to enjoy a healing crystal bowl sound bath with instructor Veronika from Nourish by V.

Appreciate the present moment with soothing sounds that will provide a grounding and relaxing afternoon. The café will be open selling drinks and light refreshments.

Outdoor event, approximately 1.5hrs, please bring a yoga mat and warm, comfortable clothes. Should there be poor weather conditions the class will be moved indoors.

Sun 6 Oct
1pm - 2.30pm
Shaw House
£5 per person
Book online



Meditation & Mindfulness

Feeling overwhelmed by the demands of everyday life is increasingly common.

At these events Buddhist nun, Gen Nyingpo, will explore meditation methods and ways of thinking derived from the Buddhist teachings that will help us to let go of our stressed and anxious minds and deal with our negative emotions more confidently and effectively.

Reducing Stress and Anxiety
Thurs 10 Oct

Meditation and the Power of Positivity
Thurs 21 Nov

Thurs 10 Oct & Thurs 21 Nov
7.30pm - 8.45pm
Shaw House
£10
To book: www.learntomeditate.org



Image courtesy of White Rose Bridal Rooms & Your Digital Memories

Wedding Fair



The ideal way to do all your wedding planning under one roof!

With over 40 wedding suppliers and specialists, the Shaw House Wedding Fair is the perfect way to plan for your big day and will suit couples marrying at any location in and around the Berkshire area.

Organised by Berkshire Wedding Fairs.

To register please visit
www.berkshireweddingfairs.co.uk

Sun 13 Oct & Sun 23 Feb
11am - 3pm
Shaw House
Free
info@berkshireweddingfairs.co.uk



Mini Messy Museum

Held over five consecutive Wednesday mornings are our art and craft sessions for children aged 2 to 5 years.

Take part in a fun and simple art and craft themed around a museum object, and then you'll have the opportunity to do a self-led gallery visit (treasure hunt) to find the museum object linked to the morning's art and craft.

We will use a variety of materials, such as water-based paint and modelling clay, to make something you can take home and display, so please dress for mess!

Session start dates: 6 Nov & 26 Feb
10.15am - 10.45am
West Berkshire Museum
£12 for five sessions
Book online



© David Hartley Photography

Roman Family Fun Day

Bringing history to life!

Do you know what a bulla is? Find out from the historical re-enactors of Butser IX Legion.

Dressed in historical costume, they will show you what life in Roman Britain was like, demonstrating skills that you can have a go at.

There will be an opportunity to take part in Roman-inspired crafts as well as to complete a themed trail.

Sat 5 Oct, 10am - 3pm

West Berkshire Museum

Free

Drop-in, no need to book



LGBTQ+ Family Morning



Join us for a relaxed morning in the Museum's Long Room, providing a safe space for local LGBTQ+ families to meet one another and be involved in a creative activity.

Members of the Newbury Pride committee will be on hand to answer questions and to deliver the craft session.

The craft is aimed at children 7-12 years, although younger and older children as well as accompanying adults are very welcome to take part. A child under 16 years must be accompanied by an adult throughout the session.

Mon 28 Oct & Mon 17 Feb

10.30am - 12pm

West Berkshire Museum

Free

Book online



Oldilocks and the Three Bears

Oldilocks finds a teddy bear in the park and remembers a delicious bowl of porridge she tasted years ago in the woods.

Something else happened but she can't quite remember what, so she sets off for another adventure followed by a scruffy old pigeon. Will she find the bears' house and what will happen then?

A wonderfully funny and warmhearted celebration of the classic story starring a naughty old lady who looks very familiar.

Garlic Theatre hold their young audience spellbound with lovingly crafted puppets, music and some steaming bowls of porridge.

Show time approx. 45 minutes.

Suitable for 3 - 7 year olds, but younger and older children are welcome.

Running Time: 45 minutes.



Mon 28 Oct

House and cafe open 10am | Shows 11am & 1pm

Shaw House

Adults £10, Child £7 (free for 2 year olds and under with a paying group)

Book online



Arts Award in a Morning

Achieve your Arts Award Discover in a morning, in three fun-filled sessions at central Newbury venues!

Start your journey at the Corn Exchange with a drama session, then move to Newbury Library for a story-based session and on to West Berkshire Museum for a craft and museum trail. You will finish at the Corn Exchange again, to complete your 'Discover' level Arts Award (Arts and Culture Passport).

To book a place, please contact the Corn Exchange on 01635 522733 or go to www.cornexchangenew.com

Tues 29 Oct, 10am - 12.30pm

West Berkshire Museum

£6.50 per child (and an additional £4.70 for the Award certification). Places are limited.



Movie in the Hall

Hotel Transylvania 2

Dracula and his friends try to bring out the monster in his half human, half vampire grandson in order to keep Mavis from leaving the hotel.

The café will be open serving themed cinema sweets and treats. Feel free to come along in Halloween fancy dress!

Certification: U | 2015
Running time 1h 29min
Sony Pictures

Tues 29 Oct

Doors 10am, film 10.30am

Shaw House

Adult £5, Child £3

Book online



Family Craft Days

Family Activity Day

Shaw House

Wed 30 Oct | 10am - 3pm

Pumpkin Perfection:

Using porcelain pens, decorate a ceramic pumpkin hanging decoration. A free pumpkin themed trail will also be available.

Messy Museum Morning

West Berkshire Museum

Fri 1 Nov | 10am - 1pm

Ancient Artefacts:

Choose an ancient Egypt wooden shape to decorate with paint sticks; the Sphinx, a pyramid, or the god Anubis (subject to availability).

£2.50 per child

No need to book, just drop in.

Suitable for 7 - 11 year olds but younger and older children are welcome.



Shaw House School of Enchantment

Calling all young witches, wizards, and magical creatures... Join us as we open the doors to our School of Enchantment for one magical night only!

Discover your school house, follow the Dragon Egg Trail through the grounds, create monstrous crafts in the Great Hall and take home your very own Conjuring Licence. Plus family friendly games, trick or treating and a spellbinding story time.

Please wear your finest fancy dress and bring a torch!

Suitable for ages from 4 years.

Thurs 31 Oct,

Doors 6pm, Event 6.20pm - 8.30pm

Shaw House

Children £6, ticket includes one free adult
Additional adults £1



Dragon Hunt!

Some of our dragons are missing!

Family friendly event involving a free dragon hunt through a dark or dimly lit Museum.

Blaze, the Museum dragon, and his dragon friends have decided to play hide and seek in the Museum. Help Blaze to count the newly hatched glow-in-the dark dragons as well as Blaze's dragon friends and then find the greatest treasure of them all – a dragon's egg!

Please bring a torch.
Last entry to the event is at 6.40pm.

Fri 1 Nov, 5pm - 7pm
West Berkshire Museum

FREE
No need to book, just drop in



Game of Queens

Early Music ensemble Charivari Agréable present the extraordinary story of the 16th century female monarchs, consorts and regents who wielded power in England, Scotland and France and the complex relations between these three Kingdoms.

Isobel Collyer, Layil Barr and Kah-Ming Ng take us back to a time when Shaw House was a new and lively country mansion, and fill its Great Hall with the music, speeches and poetry of the period, performing music by Attaignant, Arbeau, Bataille, Dowland and Guédron, as well as the sonnets and speeches of Shakespeare.

Sun 10 Nov
Doors 1pm, Performance 2pm
Shaw House
Adult £16, Child £4
Book online

Christmas

AT SHAW HOUSE

Reindeer Round-Up!

Explore the House to find the hidden reindeer!

Begin by creating an antler headband and then explore the House to round-up the reindeer.

There will be clues along the way in this festive trail, as well as themed craft and colouring in our Activity Room. Afterwards, enjoy some seasonal refreshments in our café.

This is an indoor event, suitable for 3 - 8 year olds, but younger and older children are welcome. An adult must remain at all times.

Sat 30 Nov, 11am - 2pm
Shaw House
£1 per child
Pay on the day



Christmas Fair

It's the most wonderful time of the year! Join us to begin the festive season with our annual Christmas Fair.

The House will be host to over 70 stalls selling locally made gifts, food, drink, decorations and craft; the perfect time for a spot of Christmas shopping. Warm up with hot mulled wine from our outdoor bar whilst enjoying the carol singing, as well as getting lunch and seasonal treats in our café and from outdoor caterers.

For our younger visitors there will be themed craft in our Activity Room. All to be enjoyed with the pleasure of vintage music from Gramofun at the bottom of the grand staircase.

Sun 1 Dec, 11am - 3pm
Shaw House
£2 adults, £1 child | Pay on the day
(3yrs and under free)



A Visit from the Snow Sisters

We are delighted to welcome the Snow Sisters back to Shaw House this Christmas!

The princesses will entertain young audiences with a fun sing-a-long, themed games and story time.

At the end of the show there will be plenty of time to take photographs.

The café will be open offering light refreshments and seasonal treats.

Suitable for 3 - 8 year olds but younger and older children are welcome.

Each child ticket includes ONE FREE ADULT. Book early to avoid disappointment.

Due to space restrictions, only one accompanying adult (free) is permitted alongside a child ticket.

Free for 2 year olds and under with a paying group.

Running Time: 45 minutes.

Sun 8 Dec
House and cafe open 10am | Shows 11am, 1pm and 3pm
Shaw House

£8 per child, one accompanying adult free
Book online



Wreath Making

Join in the festive fun creating your own bespoke Christmas wreath. You will learn how to master the technique of mossing your own wreath and then add seasonal foliage.

To decorate your wreath, there will be a selection of dried fruits and cinnamon sticks, fir cones, baubles and ribbons. Kim Harrison and her Lavenders Floristry Team will be on hand to guide you through and demonstrate techniques to help you create your unique design.

Suitable for beginners.

Price includes a hot drink and mince pie!

Tues 3 & Wed 4 Dec, 10am & 6.30pm
Thurs 5 Dec, 10am & 2pm
Shaw House

£55
Book online



Christmas Carol Concert

We are delighted to welcome back Cantemus, a Newbury-based chamber choir, who will be giving a concert of old and new festive music to prepare you for the Christmas season.

The programme will include music which tells the Christmas story from Advent to Epiphany, with poems and readings along with traditional carols for audience participation.

The café will be open, serving mulled wine and mince pies plus wine, local beer and cider to get you into the Christmas spirit.

Fri 13 Dec
Doors 6.30pm | Concert 7.30pm
Shaw House

Adult £12, Child £6
Book online



Children's Magic Show

Children's Magic Show

Join us for a festive Magic Show!

Featuring Mr Muddle, the charming, if muddlesome magician, who captivates and amazes children with his comical slapstick magic and laugh-out-loud antics!

Show times:
11am, 12.30pm & 2pm

The café will be open offering light refreshments and seasonal treats.

Each child ticket includes ONE FREE ADULT. Book early to avoid disappointment.

Due to space restrictions, only one accompanying adult (free) is permitted alongside a child ticket.

Free for 2 year olds and under with a paying group.

Running Time: 45 mins.

Sun 15 Dec
House and cafe open 10am
Shaw House

£8 per child, one accompanying adult free
Book online

www.westberkshireheritage.org/whats-on



Messy Museum Morning

Tree-ific Festive Fun

Decorate a ceramic Christmas tree hanging decoration with porcelain pens and glitter. Take home to put on the tree.

Suitable for 7-11 year olds, but younger and older children are welcome.

An adult must remain with the child at all times.

Last entry to the activity is at 12.45pm.

Fri 20 Dec, 10am - 1pm

West Berkshire Museum

£2.50 per child

No need to book, just drop in



Movie in the Hall

A Christmas Carol

An animated retelling of Charles Dickens' classic novel about a Victorian-era miser taken on a journey of self-redemption, courtesy of several mysterious Christmas apparitions.

The café will be open serving themed cinema sweets and treats. Feel free to come along in Christmas fancy dress!

Certification: PG | 2009
Running time 1h 36min
Walt Disney Pictures

Mon 23 Dec,
Doors 10am, film 10.30am
Shaw House

Adult £5, Child £3
Book online

www.westberkshireheritage.org/whats-on



Three Little Pig Tails

A wonderful retelling of the classic story of the three little pigs set in Paris. A grumpy old wolf is a chef who wants some pigs' tails for his soup. Will the little pigs outwit the wolf and what kind of house will they build?

A funny, warmhearted and interactive rustic tale to make you squeal with laughter, bristling with puppets, live music and lots of joining in.

Garlic Theatre entertain the whole family with beautifully crafted puppets, music and a garlicky French twist to the tale.

Show time approx. 45 minutes.

Suitable for 3 – 7 year olds, but younger and older children are welcome.

Free for 2 year olds and under with a paying group.

Mon 17 Feb
House and café open 10am | 11am & 1pm

Shaw House

Adults £10, Child £7

Book online



A Botanic Dream

Exploring eighteenth-century gender roles in the newly discovered science of botany, this installation is a beautiful display of hand stitched linens, collages and wallpapers by artist Anne Griffiths.

Taking a gentle look into how men displayed their wealth and status through their plant collections and knowledge of botanical taxonomy. In comparison, women who were discouraged from botanical study, found other ways to express their interest through what might now be deemed interior design.

Suitable for all ages.

Sat 15 - Wed 19 Feb
10am - 4pm

Shaw House

Free

No need to book, just drop-in



Museum Explorers

A relaxed morning for children with special needs and their families to enjoy West Berkshire Museum when there is less hustle and bustle (as we are closed to the public on Tuesdays).

The downstairs museum galleries will be open, and there is an opportunity to take part in a craft. There will be free self-service refreshments in the museum café.

Places are limited and must be pre-booked online.

Tues 18 Feb
10.30am - 12pm
West Berkshire Museum

Free

Book online



Movie in the Hall

Wonka

The wondrous story of how the world's greatest inventor, magician and chocolate-maker became the beloved Willy Wonka we know today.

The café will be open serving cinema sweets and treats.

Certification: PG | 2023
Running time 1h 56min
Warner Bros. Pictures

Tues 18 Feb
Doors 10am, film 10.30am
Shaw House
Adult £5, Child £3
Book online



Family Craft Days

Family Activity Day - Pop-up Puppets Wed 19 Feb | **Shaw House**

Make and decorate a simple card and straw pop-up puppet in the design of your choice, such as a mouse popping out of a block of cheese, a princess in a tower or a mole coming out of a mole hole! Free House trails will also be available.

Messy Museum Day - Shiny!

Fri 21 Feb | **West Berkshire Museum**
Make an Iron Age gold coin (also called a stater) from air-drying clay and then paint it shiny gold. Afterwards, visit the Treasure Through Time exhibition to see more precious treasure.

10am - 3pm, £2.50 per child
No need to book, just drop in.
Suitable for 7 - 11 year olds but younger and older children are welcome.
Last entry 2.45pm.

Local Heritage



West Berkshire Heritage



WbHeritage



west_berks_heritage

Get in touch: The Archaeology team | 01635 519534 | archaeology@westberks.gov.uk



The West Berkshire Council Archaeology team 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 the historic character of the landscape.
www.westberks.gov.uk/HER.

Tell us what you've discovered

If you have found any archaeological objects while digging or metal detecting, they can be identified by Philip Smither, the Finds Liaison Officer for Berkshire, who holds regular Finds Surgeries at West Berkshire Museum.

To arrange an appointment please contact Phil:
07825 054035 | philip.smither1@westberks.gov.uk

Carrying out research

The Royal Berkshire Archives hold the archives for the county. Its is free to visit and research, and you can request copies of documents.
0118 937 5132 | www.royalberkshirearchives.org.uk



**Portable
Antiquities
Scheme**
www.finds.org.uk



Forthcoming Events

2025



Earl Rivers Muster
Shaw House: Sat 8 Mar



Talk: Treasure Through Time
Museum: Wed 19 Mar



Love Local Artisan Fair
Shaw House: Sun 13 Apr



Talk: Archaeology of Compton
Museum: Wed 23 Apr



Open Days
Shaw House: 25 & 26 May



Wind in the Willows
Shaw House: Mon 11 Aug

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

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
- All events have unreserved seating unless otherwise stated
- All children under the age of 16 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, however, they can be left safely by reception.

Workshops cancellation policy

Workshops are non-refundable, however, you can transfer your booking onto any other session at either Shaw House or West Berkshire Museum and pay any higher price difference. Please contact reception directly (not the course leader) to transfer your booking.

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.

Our Venues



Shaw House

Church Road
Newbury
Berkshire
RG14 2DR

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

West Berkshire Museum

The Wharf
Newbury
Berkshire
RG14 5AS

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

Booking Information

Online:

www.westberkshireheritage.org/whats-on

In person:

Bookings can be made at the respective venue in person.

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