

Events

LOCAL
STORIES
AT
THE
MUSEUM
AMERSHAM

SPRING 2020



Amersham Museum
49 High Street
Amersham
HP7 0DP

01494 723700
info@amershammuseum.org

www.amershammuseum.org



ABOUT THE MUSEUM

Amersham Museum reopened in summer 2017 after a major refurbishment. The museum now includes a glass reception area, a complete redisplay of the collection and a new activity and temporary exhibition space. The museum's medieval hall house is now more clearly visible for visitors to see and enjoy.

Throughout the museum there are opportunities to explore Amersham's past through maps, photos, objects and documents. There are hands-on activities, discovery boxes with handling objects and multimedia tablets which provide access to the museum's wider archive.

VOLUNTERING

The museum is supported by an active Friends group and a team of over 125 volunteers. Email info@amershammuseum.org to find out more about volunteering.

FRIENDS OF AMERSHAM MUSEUM

The Friends of Amersham Museum (FOAM) promote, support and assist the museum by raising money through subscriptions, donations and fundraising events. Members benefit from free entry to the museum, early and private viewings to exhibitions and a calendar of social events.

Individual membership and family membership (2 or more people) are available. Contact Jill Mace for more information: jill.mace@ntlworld.com

Front cover: Dorothy, by Marie-Louise von Motesiczky.

TALKS

ARTS & CRAFTS ARCHITECTURE IN AMERSHAM

Wednesday 18th March, 7.30pm in the Market Hall, Amersham, HP7 0DG. Tickets £10

Find out about Amersham's Arts & Crafts architecture, including homes and community buildings. Learn about J H Kennard, who designed many of our early 20th century homes.

See website for booking or email emily@amershammuseum.org

REVISITING METRO-LAND 1890-1940

Thursday 23rd April, 7.30pm in the large Barn Hall, Community Centre, Amersham-on-the-Hill, HP6 5AR. Tickets £10

Author, transport historian and former curator of the London Transport Museum, Oliver Green, will share the fascinating story of the development of Metro-land housing alongside the Metropolitan Railway. Amersham is the last and latest of the Metro-land developments.

LIBERTY: THE BUCKS MAN, THE LONDON SHOP, THE GLOBAL STYLE

Wednesday 20th May, 7.30pm in the museum. Tickets £10 Liberty, the iconic London shop, needs very little introduction. Yet the story of this world famous department store is full of surprises, from its historical connection to Buckinghamshire to the effects of wartime on the company's creative vision. Come and find out more at this talk by Will Phillips, Keeper of Social History at Bucks County Museum.

We regularly give talks to groups and societies in the community for a fee of £75.

To book a talk email emily@amershammuseum.org



EXHIBITIONS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

All of the museum's exhibitions and events are FREE to visit after admission to the museum, unless otherwise stated.

HOME: ARTS & CRAFTS AMERSHAM EXHIBITION

15th February - 29th March

Discover the wealth of the Arts & Crafts style in our local houses and community buildings.

CHILTERN JUNIORS ART CLUB NATURAL SCULPTURE EXHIBITION

1st April - 26th April

The museum's resident art club members will be exhibiting work created during the Spring term, featuring weaving, sculptures with natural materials and works in clay.

PORTRAIT PAINTING

Thursday 9th April 10.30am-12.30 or 2-4pm, £5 per person

Work with artist Katy Cook to create a portrait in acrylics. Your work will be inspired by artists who moved to Amersham during WWII, including Austrian artist Marie-Louise von Motesiczky. This session is for adults and families and places must be booked for adults and children. Booking required: see our website.

These sessions are supported by the Marie-Louise von Motesiczky Charitable Trust.

MINI MUSEUM

Fridays 20th March, 24th April, 22nd May, 10am-11.30am, £3 per child (babies under 1 free)

Join one of our special themed under fives sessions. Each session is linked to the museum collection and includes messy play, craft, a trail and songs.

EXHIBITIONS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

AMERSHAM IN 1945: VE DAY EXHIBITION

Wednesday 29th April - 6th September

Find out who was in Amersham in 1945, learn about their experiences and find out about what people were doing when the war ended.

VE DAY 75 YEARS GARDEN PARTY

Friday 8th May, 12 noon to 4pm, free after usual admissions

Join us to celebrate 75 years since VE Day. Find out who was in Amersham in 1945 and learn about their experiences. Join us in making a giant length of bunting to decorate the garden and museum. Bring your own picnic.

OPENING UP LITERATURE

On Tuesday afternoons, the Tony Woodcock Room is host to a range of classes that offer a new perspective on literature. Join us to take part in seminars that range from Shakespeare to Creative Writing and Classical Mythology to the latest fiction. All welcome - absolutely no prior knowledge needed.

Contact marysharp@btinternet.com

or call 01494 773139 for details of courses and to book your place.

MUSEUM GOLF DAY

Thursday 18th June

A repeat of our successful golf day at Harewood Downs Golf Club. Great prizes for a fun 18 hole individual stableford competition with dinner to follow. Golfers welcome to participate.

Contact Stuart Jaggard on 07860 293710 for further details, or email emily@amershammuseum.org



TUDOR WALKS



J H KENNARD WALK

ADULT WALKS

WALKS OF AMERSHAM OLD TOWN

Every Sunday, April to October, 2.30pm, £5 per person, children free, no booking required

A fascinating walk, led by a guide, around old Amersham. Discover the historic buildings and the interesting stories of the people who lived in and shaped the town in the past. 1½ to 2 hours.

TUDOR WALKS

Last Saturday of the month

April to September, 2.30pm, £5 per person, children free, no booking required

These walks tell you about life - and death - in Amersham in Tudor times; food and drink, work and housing, fairs and markets, sickness and cures, clothing, and ghosts and religious beliefs. Costumed guides will tell you about the Lollard martyrs as you visit some of the places relevant to their story. Note the walk includes a steady climb through fields to the martyrs memorial. Walks start at the museum and usually last about 2¼ hours but can be shortened by request.

J H KENNARD AND AMERSHAM-ON-THE-HILL WALK

Sunday 17th May, 2pm, £5 per person, children free, booking required

Discover one of the most important architects in Amersham's 20th century development, J H Kennard. Join this walk around Amersham-on-the-Hill and find out about the many projects undertaken by this Arts & Crafts architect. The walk starts outside Amersham station and lasts 1½ to 2 hours. To book: www.visitchilterns.co.uk/walkingfest or email info@amershammuseum.org

ADULT WALKS

FRIENDS OF AMERSHAM MUSEUM

SPONSORED WALK, Sunday 17th May

An easy three mile walk flat walk, with the option of a longer more challenging leg of a further two miles, ending up with a (bring your own) picnic on the banks of Shardeloes Lake. See website for more information.

J H KENNARD AND CHESHAM BOIS WALK

Sunday 31st May, 2pm, £5 per person, children free, booking required

Discover one of the most important architects in Amersham's 20th century development, J H Kennard. Join this walk around Chesham Bois and find out about the many projects undertaken by this Arts & Crafts architect. The walk starts outside the Parish Centre, Glebe Way, Chesham Bois and lasts 1½ to 2 hours. To book: www.visitchilterns.co.uk/walkingfest or email info@amershammuseum.org

A POOR KING AND RICH COMMONERS MADE AMERSHAM

Thursday 21st May, Thursday 28th May, 11am, £5 per person, children free, booking required

No other medium sized town has a medieval street plan untouched by post 1800 development. A short woodland walk starting at Amersham station through the beech woods down to old Amersham. The walk around the medieval street plan will finish outside Amersham Museum. To book: www.visitchilterns.co.uk/walkingfest or email info@amershammuseum.org

Special walks for groups or schools can be organised at any time of the year. A guided walk outside of advertised times costs £7 per person or £10 for both a walk and a museum visit.



REMINISCENCE GROUP



MAKING MEMORY BOXES

AGE FRIENDLY

REMINISCENCE GROUP

Amersham Museum runs a monthly reminiscence group where we share our stories and memories from the past. These sessions are both stimulating and fun and give us the opportunity to meet new people.

The sessions cost £3 per person and last for around an hour and always include tea, coffee and biscuits. The sessions are on Monday mornings, 10.30am-11.30am

The dates for 2020 are: 2nd March, 30th March, 4th May, 1st June, 6th July, 7th September, 5th October, 2nd November, 7th December.

SINGING GROUP

Join us for a sing-a-long to much loved songs from the 20th century. This session is once a month on a Thursday, 10am-11.30am and it's FREE and drop-in.

The dates for 2020 are: 5th March, 2nd April, 7th May, 11th June, 9th July, 10th September, 15th October, 12th November, 10th December.

AGE FRIENDLY

MEMORY BOXES

The museum has developed a collection of memory boxes which contain various objects, (including sensory objects for scent, sound and touch) photos and documents that help to promote discussion, sharing memories and laughter in a friendly environment. The boxes can be borrowed for a fortnight with a hire charge of £20 or we can facilitate a session for £40.

REMINISCENCE AT HOME

The Reminiscence at Home project works with people in their homes helping them to create a booklet of stories about their lives. People will have the opportunity to work with museum staff and volunteers to turn their memories into a keepsake for themselves and their families.

If you would like to come along to one of our sessions, be involved in Reminiscence at Home, book a memory box session, or borrow a box, then please contact the museum: 01494 723700, jane@amershammuseum.org.

With the support of





FAMILIES

Visit the museum for one of our many arts and crafts sessions linking Amersham's history with hands-on fun. Drop-in (unless otherwise stated). Subject to availability, during busy periods there may be a short wait for some activities. Usual admissions apply. More details on our website.

CREATE! WEAVING

Wednesday 19th February 12 noon - 4pm, £3 per child
Create a fantastic woven landscape using natural and recycled materials.

SPRING TRAIL, THROUGH THE EASTER HOLIDAYS

4th April - 19th April during normal opening hours, £2 per child
Hunt the museum and garden for signs of spring. Find them all and make a decorated plant pot to take home.

CREATE! NATURAL COLLAGE

Wednesday 8th April 12 noon - 4pm, £3 per child
Create a beautiful collage using pressed flowers and plants.

CREATE! PORTRAIT PAINTING

Thursday 9th April 10.30am-12.30 or 2-4pm, £5 per person
Work with artist Katy Cook to create portraits. Your work will be inspired by artists who moved to Amersham during WWII, including Austrian artist Marie-Louise von Motesiczky. This session is for adults and families and places must be booked for adults and children. Booking required: see our website.

These sessions are supported by the Marie-Louise von Motesiczky Charitable Trust.



FAMILIES

CREATE! NATURAL COLLAGE

Wednesday 15th April 12 noon - 4pm, £3 per child
Create a fantastic woven landscape using natural and recycled materials.

VE DAY 75 YEARS GARDEN PARTY

Friday 8th May, 12 noon to 4pm, free after usual admissions
Join us to celebrate 75 years since VE Day. Find out who was in Amersham in 1945 and learn about their experiences. Join us in making a giant length of bunting to decorate the garden and museum. Bring your own picnic.

CREATE! BUNTING

Wednesday 27th May 12-4pm, £3 per child after usual admissions
Add to our giant length of bunting, made to celebrate 75 years of VE Day. Make and decorate fabric bunting, both for the museum and to take home.

MOBILE MUSEUM

The Mobile Museum is a mobile exhibition, housed in a retro-style vehicle, which tells the story of Amersham in the 20th century.

The Mobile Museum will travel to fetes and festivals in the local area as well as care homes and schools. If you're interested in the Mobile Museum attending your event, please get in touch: emily@amershammuseum.org

Support for the Mobile Museum has come from the National Lottery's Heritage Fund, the HS2 Community and Environment Fund, Amersham Local Area Forum through Amersham Decides, Chiltern District Council, Amersham Action Group and the Friends of Amersham Museum.



SCHOOLS AND CHILDREN'S ART CLUB

CHILTERN JUNIORS ART CLUB

Our accredited arts club for children aged 7-11 will run termly throughout 2020. Topics range from watercolour painting, printing, and illustration, to sculpture and glasswork. We use objects in our collection and local artists for inspiration. Children work towards Arts Award Discover and Explore. Course fees are £70 a term. Email emily@amershammuseum.org for further information

YOUNG CURATORS

Young Curators is an Amersham Museum run after-school group for 14-18 year olds. The group provides opportunities for young people to work with museum professionals to develop their skills and understanding of museum curation. The sessions are fortnightly on a Wednesday and can be used to support DofE and school work experience. To find out more email emily@amershammuseum.org

SCHOOLS

The museum runs an engaging and interactive programme for KS1 and KS2. Themes include:

- Traditional toys from the 20th century
- Amersham and the coming of the railway (this is a good topic for a local history study)
- Fossil Hunters and their collections
- Amersham in Tudor times
- Settlements and the Chilterns
- Amersham in WWII

For more information please visit our website or contact emily@amershammuseum.org

OPENING TIMES AND ADMISSIONS

The museum is open Wednesday - Sunday and Bank Holiday Mondays 12noon-4.30pm. Admission £4.50, children free.

We can open for groups at any time of the year. Visits to the museum outside of advertised hours cost £7 per person or £10 for both a walk and a museum visit.