

Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens: Autumn 2023 Listings

Exhibitions

Elmer and Friends, the Colourful World of David McKee

Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens

Monday 11 September 2023 to Saturday 6 January 2024 / 10am to 4pm,

Free / No booking required.

Elmer and Friends is a major retrospective of the late author and illustrator David McKee. See striking illustrations and celebrate over 30 years of Elmer the Patchwork Elephant, McKee's most well-known creation.

An exhibition from Seven Stories, The National Centre for Children's Books.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/elmer-and-friends-the-colourful-world-of-david-mckee/>

Unseen

Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens

Saturday 26 August to Saturday 14 October 2023 / 10am to 4pm

Free / No booking required

The pieces in this exhibition reflect the individual interests of the artists from the Older Women Artists' Collective (OWAC) but they all have one thing in common: these works have never been exhibited before.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/unseen/>

Adult Learning

Threads

Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens~

Tuesdays 3 October, 7 November, 5 December / 1pm – 3pm

Free / Drop-in

Threads is a social, self-help group working with yarn and fabric and a variety of textile techniques: knitting, crochet, rag-rug and hand sewing.

The group meets monthly to work on individual projects and share their skills. You can bring your own textile project along and everyone is welcome to drop in and chat.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/threads-2/>

Clay Creations for Christmas

Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens

Saturdays 11 and 18 November / 10.30am - 12.30pm
£35 per person for the 2-session course / Pre-booking required

Join pottery artist Lindsey Grieves to learn some different techniques for working with clay. Use a variety of slab building, moulding and stamping techniques to make beautiful ceramic Christmas decorations to decorate your home, including unique tree decorations and festive tiles. This taster course takes place over two consecutive weeks; making clay pieces the first week and adding colour, pattern with different glazes in the second week. No previous experience is needed.

www.sunderlandmuseum.org.uk

Family Activities

Trail of Rainbows

Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens

Monday 11 September – Saturday 11 November / 10am – 4pm
£1 per trail

Rainbows are a symbol of hope, diversity and happiness. Can you find the objects around the Museum that are all the colours of the rainbow? You can also look for little Elmer elephants hiding in the displays!

This trail supports the exhibition Elmer and Friends, the Colourful World of David McKee.

Trails are £1 each and can be purchased from the Museum Shop. Return your completed trail to claim a prize sticker.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/trail-of-rainbows/>

Rainbow Art Space

Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens

Saturday 21 October 2023 – Saturday 6 January 2024 / 10am – 4pm
Free / Drop-in

Get creative in the Rainbow Art Space and draw amazing characters inspired by the exhibition Elmer and Friends, the Colourful World of David McKee.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/rainbow-art-space/>

Spooky Science Parties

Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens

Monday 23 October / 11am, 1pm and 2.30pm
£4 per child / Age 4+

See amazing science demonstrations and take part in spooky experiments with Big Science UK.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/spooky-science-parties-2023/>

Elmer and Friends Shadow Puppet Play

Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens

Wednesday 25 October / 1pm and 2pm

£2 per child, adults go free / Pre-booking recommended

Create shadow puppet characters from the Elmer storybooks and other David McKee story characters including Two Can Toucan and King Rollo.

Play with your shadow puppets on our projection screen then take them home to continue the adventure.

This activity is inspired by the exhibition Elmer and Friends, the Colourful World of David McKee.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/elmer-and-friends-shadow-puppet-play/>

Make a Rag Rug Elmer

Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens

Friday 27 October / 11am-12.30pm and 1.30pm-3pm

Free / Drop-in

Help to make a giant, colourful rag rug featuring Elmer the elephant using recycled rags and hessian cloth.

Take inspiration from our exhibition Elmer and Friends, the Colourful World of David McKee.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/make-a-rag-rug-elmer/>

Rangoli Elephants

Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens

Saturday 11 November / Drop-in session from 1.30pm-3pm

Free / Drop-in

Celebrate Diwali, the festival of lights, as we make colourful rangoli artworks inspired by Indian elephants.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/rangoli-elephants/>

Elmer's Gift Trail

Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens

Saturday 18 November – Saturday 6 January / 10am – 4pm

£1 per trail

Can you find all of Elmer's Christmas gifts hiding in the Winter Gardens? Find them all to claim a prize sticker. This trail supports the exhibition Elmer and Friends, the Colourful World of David McKee. Trails are £1 each and can be purchased from the Museum Shop.

www.sunderlandmuseum.org.uk

Mini Science Club

Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens

Fridays 22 September, 20 October, 17 November / 1.30pm – 2.30pm

£5 per child / Pre-booking recommended

Join the team from Big Science UK for fun activities for 1 – 4 year olds. During each session your child will not only play and explore, but they will also be actively learning, creating and thinking critically every week. Enjoy age-appropriate hands-on experiments, learning and messy play with a science twist.

<https://sunderlandculture.org.uk/events/mini-science-club/>