

Heritage Open Days in Sunderland 2023

8th-17th
September



Celebrating Sunderland's fantastic heritage and culture!
All events are free of charge.

City of Heritage

www.mysunderland.co.uk

Vintage Bus Tour

 **Saturday 9 September, 10am - 4pm**

 **Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens, Burdon Rd, Sunderland, SR1 1PP**

Join us for a Vintage Bus Tour with the North East Bus Preservation Trust. The bus will call at different heritage attractions around Sunderland and Washington, including Hylton Castle, Ryhope Engines Museum, Washington F Pit Museum and Bowes Railway Museum. To find out more visit: www.sunderlandmuseum.org.uk

Queen Street Masonic Temple - Open Day

 **Saturday 9 September from 10am-3pm**

 **Queen Street Masonic Hall, Queen Street East, Sunderland, SR1 2HT**

Phoenix Hall, Queen Street, Sunderland, was built as a Masonic Temple in 1785 and retains nearly all of its original features, the Temple Furniture dates from 1729 originating from a lodge in Gateshead. The hall is a Grade I listed building built in the Palladian style of Architecture and has just been restored thanks to a grant from Historic England. Members will be on hand to both guide and explain the history attached to the building.

Coal Face

 **Thursday 7 - Saturday 16 September (excluding Sun 10 Sept), 12pm - 3pm**

 **Washington F Pit Museum, Albany Way, Washington, NE37 1BN**

An exhibition exploring the identity of Washington through the perspective of Washington Miners. Using visual tintype portraiture by Andy Martin and biographies and collective pieces created by Dr Louise Powell, the Coal Face exhibition captures the last generation of Washington Miners' memories and sense of belonging in a changing coalfield community. Recalling the era when the pits were still open and operational, examining the layering of place in an area where half a dozen pit villages had the superstructure of a new town imposed on top. Find out more at www.sunderland.co.uk

Ryhope Engines Museum - Open Days

 **Saturday 9 + Sunday 10 September, 11am - 4pm**

 **Ryhope Engines Trust, The Pumping Station, The Waterworks, Sunderland, SR2 0ND**

The Ryhope Engines Museum is based on the former Ryhope Pumping Station which provided water to Wearside for 100 years. This is a unique opportunity to see the wonderful Victorian beam engines working under steam power as they have since 1868. To find out more visit: ryhopeengines.org.uk

A Talk on Dragons!

 **Arts Centre Washington, Saturday 9 September, 1pm**

 **Biddick Lane, Fatfield, Washington NE38 8AB**

The Lambton Worm is only one of many North Eastern dragons. Come along to this talk organised to celebrate Heritage Open Days by local historian Stuart Miller and learn more about these delightful creatures. A touch of dragon identification followed by examining the origin and spread of dragon stories. We will end with a few tips on self defence. Bring a sword and sense of humour. Armour is optional...

To find out more visit www.artscentrewashington.co.uk



A Glimpse Behind the Scenes

 **Saturday 9 September, 11am – 1pm & 2pm – 3.30pm (FREE, drop in)**

 **Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens, SR1 1PP**

Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens has a huge collection of objects that are not on display. Come and have a look at objects usually locked away in the stores of the Museum. Get an insight into happens behind the scenes of museums, talk to collections staff, handle objects and see objects not currently on display. Come and see us in the Launched on Wearside Gallery on Level 3. To find out more visit: www.sunderlandmuseum.org.uk

North East Land, Sea & Air Museum - Open Day

 **Saturday 9 September from 10am-4pm**

 **NELSAM, Washington Road, Sunderland, SR5 3HZ**

Free admission to the museum for the Open Day. NELSAM - sits on the former RAF Usworth and Sunderland airport site, next to the Sunderland Nissan factory, and comprises of the former Aircraft museum (NEAM), military vehicles collection, and the North East Electric Traction Trust. To find out more visit www.nelsam.org.uk



Historic Life Drawing Workshop

 **Saturday 9 September at 1:30pm**

 **Seventeen Nineteen, Holy Trinity Church, Church Street East, SR1 2BB**

A unique life drawing class – instead of nude models we'll have models dressed in fine Georgian clothes, working Victorian clothes, eccentric flappers, land girls and teddy boys! Drawing period costumes allows you to tap into your creativity and imagination. You can explore different historical eras, styles, and fashion trends, and have the freedom to interpret and recreate them in your own artistic style. To find out more visit www.visitchurches.org.uk/1719/

Meet the Author event with book signing at Ryhope Engines Museum

-  **Saturday 9 September – 10am-4pm**
-  **Ryhope Engines Museum, Waterworks Road Ryhope, Sunderland, SR2 0ND**

Meet bestselling author Glenda Young at Ryhope Engines Museum where she will be signing and selling copies of her historical novels set in Ryhope.

Weeds and why they are so successful

-  **Saturday 9th September, from 2pm**
-  **The Learning Space, Sunderland Museum and Winter Gardens, SR1 1PP**

Friends of Sunderland Museums (FOSUMS) present a talk by Eileen Shone.

No booking required.

The Old Rectory

-  **Saturday 9 September, 12 – 4pm**
-  **Acumen Community Buildings Ltd, The Old Rectory, The Broadway, Houghton Le Spring, DH4 4BB**

Come to The Old Rectory and discover Sunderland's dark past during the cholera outbreaks in the 19th Century, with an exhibition created by our Youth Theatre Production Group. Also explore local craft stalls in the outside market on the day. No booking required.





Sunderland Maritime Heritage

-  **Monday, Wednesday & Friday 10am-3pm**
-  **Unit 2, Church Street East, Sunderland, SR1 2BB**

Sunderland has been a place of fishing, shipbuilding and seaborne trading for several hundred years. Sunderland Maritime Heritage is a totally self-funded and part-time volunteer manned Local History and Heritage organisation, preserving and publicising the significant Maritime Heritage of Sunderland.

To find out more visit www.sunderlandmaritimeheritage.org.uk

Creativity Unwrapped Guided Tours

-  **Tuesday 12 and Thursday 14 September from 1pm-2pm & 2.30pm-3.30pm**
-  **Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens, Burdon Road, SR1 1PP**

Explore the Museum's art collections on special guided tours with our volunteer guides. Places must be pre-booked.

To find out more visit: www.sunderlandmuseum.org.uk

Bedrock and Building Stones Talk

How geology built old Sunderland

 **Tuesday 12 September, 2 – 3pm**

 **Seventeen Nineteen, Holy Trinity Church, Church Street East, Sunderland, SR1 2BB**

Discover the geological wonders of old Sunderland's architectural heritage at our community lecture, "Bedrock and Building Stones: Unearthing Geological Heritage in Old Sunderland." Join us on a journey through time, back to the days when this coastal town's bedrock played a pivotal role in shaping its fascinating history.

Booking: www.visitchurches.org.uk/1719/



Proggy Pride Party

 **Wednesday 13 September from 6pm-9pm**

 **Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens, Burdon Road, Sunderland, SR1 1PP**

Are you proud of your heritage? Be proud of who you are and join the Celebrate Different Collective to explore TRANS-formative heritage crafts with the WHOLE LGBTQIA+ community and their allies. In this New Wave funded event for young adults aged 18 – 25 years, we hope to show people the hidden crafts of the past including proggy mat-making and its connection to the working-class mining communities of North-East England. Booking: www.sunderlandculture.org.uk

The Story Behind Roker Pier and Lighthouse

 **Tuesday 12 September, 2pm**

 **Adventure Sunderland, Marine Walk, Roker, Sunderland, SR6 0PL**

An hour-long talk about the history of Roker Pier and Lighthouse and the genius of Henry Hay Wake, an unsung hero. Numbers Limited

The Oaks: The History of a Street and Some of its Residents

 **Wednesday 13 September, 2pm**

 **Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens, Burdon Road, Sunderland, SR1 1PP**

A talk about the history of The Oaks, Sunderland. The street, of grand Victorian and Edwardian houses, was built between 1866 and 1905 for well-to-do businessmen and professional people. Its residents have included two knights of the realm, and an MP, as well as a number of Mayors and Councillors. But it has not been without a darker side. One resident went bankrupt in a spectacular fashion in the 1880s and did not seem to know where his money had gone; another was charged with manslaughter in the early 20th century, and two residents committed suicide.

Booking: www.sunderlandculture.org.uk

The Hetton Legacy - Film Screening

 **Friday 15 September, 2 – 3pm**

 **Seventeen Nineteen,
Holy Trinity Church,
Church Street East,
Sunderland, SR1 2BB**

Take a journey through time as The Hetton Legacy brings to life the gripping story of Hetton's railway, collieries, and its vibrant community. The film beautifully weaves together the tapestry of historical events, from the humble beginnings of the railway and collieries in 1822 to the significant milestones that shaped the town's development and community spirit over two centuries. Booking: www.visitchurches.org.uk/1719/



'Southwick Streets' Exhibition

 **Friday 15 September from 1.30pm-3:30pm**

 **Austin House Family Centre, Shakespeare Street, Southwick, SR5 2LS**

Together in Southwick project – Southwick REACH (Research, Education, Arts and Culture Home).

An exhibition of recent artwork and research featuring Southwick Streets will be open to the public. Southwick Streets evolved from people's interests in researching the history of Southwick Streets and places that are special to them in Southwick. Members have created artwork relating to their particular interests and research. Funded by the Lottery Community Fund.

Stained Glass Art Jars Family Workshop


 **Saturday 16 September at 10am**

 **Seventeen Nineteen, Holy Trinity Church, Church Street East, Sunderland SR1 2BB**

Learn about copper foiling and transform a recycled jar into a stunning work of art. Get ready to bond with your loved ones and Unwrap your Creativity in a fun and engaging workshop! Booking: www.visitchurches.org.uk/1719



National Glass Centre – Free Guided Tours

 **Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th September at 10.00 am, 11.00 am and 1.30 pm.**

 **National Glass Centre, Liberty Way, Roker, Sunderland SR6 0GL**

Everyone taking part in a tour will be offered the chance to take part in a short quiz based on what they've seen. The winning entry with all the correct answers will win a gift voucher to spend anywhere in National Glass Centre! No booking required.

St John's Methodist Church

 **Friday 15 September 10am-12noon & Saturday 16 September, 2 pm - 4 pm**

 **St John's Methodist Church, Ashbrooke Road, Sunderland, SR2 7HQ**

Gothic Grandeur from a great age of Prosperity.

An exploration of the creative grandeur, inside and out, of the building, including the gothic style architecture and the creativity shown in the decorative elements of the stained glass windows, fine stone carvings and brass work.

For more information call 0780 892 5761.

Sunderland Empire Theatre Heritage Tour

 **Saturday 16 September from 11am-12.30**

 **Sunderland Empire Theatre, 4-5 High Street West, Sunderland, SR1 3EX**

Join us for a unique historical tour of our iconic Sunderland Empire Theatre! Our Grade II* listed building is steeped in history and has been a cultural hub for over a century, making it the perfect place to discover our city's rich theatrical heritage. Explore the stunning interiors of the theatre and learn about the famous performers who have graced our stage over the years. Booking: sunderlandeducation@theambassadors.com



Stockton Road United Reformed Church

-  **Saturday 16 September 12-4pm**
-  **Belvedere Road, Sunderland, SR2 7BT**

The red sandstone church of 1890, with its lantern tower, is a well known local landmark. The features that can be seen inside include impressive stained glass windows, along with war memorials and furniture from several former Presbyterian and Congregational Churches.

For more information call: 0191 5110452.

World clean-up day – Silent Disco Litter Pick

-  **Saturday 16 September at 1pm**
-  **Seventeen Nineteen, Holy Trinity Church, Church Street East, SR1 2BB**

The history of care and community in Sunderland's East End predates the building of Holy Trinity in 1719, from the building of poor houses, schools and health boards to the amazing work CHANCE continue to do in the community. We're honouring that history with a litter pick around Old Sunderland – where you can help maintain monuments while listening to songs inspired by the East End. Booking: www.visitchurches.org.uk

Bishopwearmouth Geology Walk

-  **Saturday 16 September, 2 – 3.30pm**
-  **Sunderland Minster, Mowbray Almshouses, Sunderland, SR1 3PU**

Join Dr Ian Kille to discover the secrets held in the stone of Sunderland's beautiful buildings in this fascinating geology walk. The rocks which sit underneath Sunderland have an epic history in deep time over 300 million years. Clues to this history can be found built into the fabric of the city. This walk will explore where these clues are to be found with a look at the legendary concretionary limestone and other local stones used within the city's walls.

Booking: www.visitchurches.org.uk

Celebrating Sunderland Book Launch

-  **Saturday 16 September, 1pm**
-  **Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens Burdon Road, Sunderland, SR1 1PP**

Join Marie Gardiner for the launch of her new book, Celebrating Sunderland. We'll take a look at the people, places, achievements, and events that make Sunderland great. Discover how a local architect created a lasting legacy after a chance encounter with a homeless boy and find out why a cholera epidemic was responsible for the development of our stunning Mowbray Park. Marie will be signing copies of Celebrating Sunderland on the day. To find out more visit: www.sunderlandmuseum.org.uk