

Museum Events – April to June 2011

Castle Adventure @ Colchester Castle - Monday 11th April - Friday 22nd April (weekdays only)

Dress-up as a trainee knight and go on an adventure where you will explore behind the scenes at the Castle and even go onto the roof! This is your chance to discover the secrets of Colchester's most famous building.

Adventure times are 10.30am and 11.30am each day

Event is £1 per person (after normal castle admission)

Normans in the Castle @ Colchester Castle - Monday 11th April - Friday 15th April

Find out about everyday home life in Europe's largest Norman Castle, in Colchester! Come face-to-face with a Norman Lord who ruled over the locals and was a sign of authority and fear. Experience how the castle overshadowed the town and the local peasant's lives. Hear from a peasant who's unhappy with their life under difficult and threatening Norman rule.

Storytelling at 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2.30pm and 3.30pm

Free event (after normal castle admission)

Favourite Things Trail @ Colchester Castle - Monday 11th April - Monday 25th April

This is a chance for your family to discover and explore the Castle in a different way. Grab a trail sheet from the front desk and find your way around the museum as we uncover some more of our favourite things. Answer a question at each point and enter your sheet into a competition to win a prize.

Drop-in 10am - 5pm

50p per trail sheet (after normal castle admission)

Fun Art Trail @ Ipswich Art School - Tuesday 12th April - Saturday 11th June

Grab a trail sheet and have fun whilst learning how to look at art and ask questions. Use your imagination to find your own hidden stories in the art you can see.

50p per trail sheet

Drop-in 10am - 5pm

Designer China @ Christchurch Mansion, Ipswich - Tuesday 12th - Friday 15th April

Have you checked out our weird and wonderful collection of crockery in the Mansion? Would you like to design a piece yourself? Choose a piece of mini-crockery and decorate it with your own unique design, inspired by the museum. Take it home and impress your family and friends. Who knows, maybe one day yours might be on display here?

Sessions at 10.15am, 11.15am, 12.15pm, and 1.15pm

£1.50 per person

Please book your place on 01473 433691, or by dropping into Christchurch Mansion, Ipswich

Timelord Tales @ Ipswich Museum - Tuesday 12th - Friday 15th April

From mammoths to mummies our Timelord has seen it all - join him as he takes you on a journey through time, bringing the museum to life. Be inspired by stories from the past and remember anything is possible for a Timelord. Of course this is suitable for 'all ages'!

Time traveller sessions at 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30pm, 2pm and 3pm

£1 per person

Tardis Trail @ Ipswich Museum - Tuesday 12th - Saturday 23rd April

Are you a natural time traveller? Test your skills and explore the past with your eyes and minds. Grab a sheet from reception and complete the tasks and you can be entered into a competition and maybe win a 'timeless' prize!

50p per trail sheet

Drop-in 10am - 5pm

Cupboard Collage @ Ipswich Art School - Wednesday 13th April and Thursday 14th April

Be amazed Transmetroplitan' a wonderful painting of a city. Explore your imagination and design the city of your dreams by using food labels, fashion images and other art materials. Make your own magical world without the planning permission! Will you have a Jimmy Choo Choo station or a cupcake castle?

Sessions at 10.15am, 11.15am, 12.15pm and 1.15pm and last 45 minutes

£1.50 per person

Please book your place on 01473 433691, or by dropping into Christchurch Mansion, Ipswich

The Home Front @ Hollytrees Museum, Colchester - Thursday 14th - Friday 15th April

Go back to when the country pulled together for the war effort. Find out about this fascinating period through handling real objects and talking to an air raid warden and land army girl about what they are doing to help.

All children during the war time were issued with a gas mask and had to carry it around with them all the time, get creative and make your own gas mask.

Drop-in between 10am-4pm

Meet the characters - Free event

Gas making activity is £1.50 per person

Medieval Tales @ Colchester Castle - Monday 18th - Thursday 21st April

Join our costumed storyteller as he takes you back to the days of old to hear some wonderful stories from medieval times, in the surroundings of Colchester Castle.

Sessions at 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2.30pm and 3.30pm

Free event (after normal admission to the castle)

Foam Flowers @ Natural History Museum, Colchester - Tuesday 19th - Wednesday 20th April

Spring is here, the flowers are out and everything is coming to life! Spring flowers are beautiful but we don't want to pick them. So here's your chance to make your own flowers out of coloured foam, to brighten up your home.

Sessions at 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30pm, 2.30pm and 3.30pm

£1.50 per person

Book your place by dropping into Hollytrees Museum, Colchester or by phoning 01206 282940.

Victorian Spring Clean @ Christchurch Mansion, Ipswich - Tuesday 19th April - Thursday 21st April

Join in with this servants eye view of life in a rich household as she goes about her daily chores serving the Fonnereau family - she'll let you handle some real Victorian objects, and keep you up to date with the latest gossip from below stairs!

Sessions at 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30pm, 2pm and 3pm

£1 per person

Spring Week @ Ipswich Museum - Tuesday 19th - Friday 22nd April

Spring is here, it's getting warmer, flowers are blooming and the world is full of colour and life, as are our museums. So come and celebrate the start of the warm season with fun craft activities. There will be a different one each day from colourful flowers to rocking chicks, there's plenty to be inspired by. Especially suitable for little visitors, with their own adult helper!

Drop-in anytime between 10.30am-4pm

£1.50 per person

3D Eggsperience! @ Ipswich Art School - Wednesday 20th April and Thursday 21st April

What's hatching this spring? Make your own clay egg and 'eggcellent' creature to take home. Be inspired by the 3D shapes in the Sculpture Room and have fun bringing your imagination to life.

Sessions at 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30pm, 2pm and 3pm and last for 45 minutes

£1.50 per person

Royal Wedding T-shirts @ Hollytrees Museum, Colchester - Wednesday 20th - Thursday 21st April

Get prepared for the Royal Wedding, by designing your own T-shirt to commemorate the occasion. Have a look at our collection of memorabilia before you start. Will you do a Union flag? Maybe a Will and Kate motif? It's your design, so your choice.

Sessions at 11am, 12pm, 2pm and 3pm

£3 per person

Book your place on 01206 282940, or by dropping into Hollytrees Museum, Colchester

Torchlight Tours @ Ipswich Museum - Friday 13th and Saturday 14th May

A rare opportunity to take a tour of the museum and see things in a very different light - by torchlight! Your tour will be led by museum staff and will open up some special stories for you. Bring your own torch. Suitable for ages 8+.

Tours at 5.30pm, 6.30pm. 7.30pm

£4.50 per adult, £3 per child

Please book your place on 01473 433691, or by dropping into Christchurch Mansion, Ipswich

Roman Legionary Life @ Colchester Castle - Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June

Be amazed as you are confronted with our very own Roman soldier. He'll bring to life how the army works, show and demonstrate the weaponry he uses and the clothes he wears to protect himself in these turbulent times. Don't forget to bring your camera!

Meet the Roman soldier at 11am, 12pm, 2pm and 3pm

Free event (after normal admission to the castle)

Sock Toys @ Hollytrees Museum, Ipswich - Tuesday 31st May - Wednesday 1st June

Do you enjoy the museums wonderful toy collection? Here is a chance to make your own toy out of socks and other materials, just as children had to do this in the Second World War. So put your best foot forward and create a soft toy to take home and enjoy.

Sessions at 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2.30pm and 3.30pm

£1.50 per person

Please book your place on 01206 282940, or by dropping into Hollytrees Museum.

Making Masks @ Ipswich Museum - Tuesday 31st May - Wednesday 1st June

Come face-to-face with our Egyptian and African mask collection and be inspired to make your own mask to take home. Will you choose a Pharaoh, or perhaps an African tribal mask?

£2 per person

Sessions at 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30pm, 2pm, 3pm

Please book your place on 01473 433691, or by dropping into Christchurch Mansion

Tudor Tales @ Christchurch Mansion, Ipswich - Tuesday 31st May - Friday 3rd June

Join our colourful storyteller in the surroundings of the Mansion's fantastic Tudor room. You will feel like you have gone back in time as you are zipped away from the 21st century to the tremendous Tudors, you will be amazed!

Then get creative and design your own coat of arms and turn it into a card for someone special in your family. What would you like on your coat of arms - a bird, a cat, jousting knights? It's your choice!

Storytelling sessions at 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30pm, 2.30pm and 3.30pm

£1 per person

Coat of arms activity drop-in anytime between 10.30am-2.30pm

£1.50 per person

Hot Off The Press @ Ipswich Art School - Wednesday 1st June and Thursday 2nd June

Experiment with printing, try using the tables, play dough, potatoes and much more in this fun and messy experimental workshop. Bring an old T-shirt or apron, as the ink can be messy!

Sessions at 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30pm, 2pm and 3pm and last for 45 minutes

£1.50 per person

Aboriginal Art @ Natural History Museum, Colchester - Thursday 2nd - Friday 3rd June

Nature has been 'wildly' inspirational from the earliest forms of art to the contemporary art of today. The Aborigines of Australia are a great example of art stretching back for millennia. Here's your chance to have a go at painting animals in the style of the Australian aborigines.

Sessions at 11am, 12pm, 2pm and 3pm

£1.50 per person - limited places

Please book your place on 01206 282940, or by dropping into Hollytrees Museum, Colchester

Step back in time! The census has a rich and colourful history, providing countries and civilisations the world over with a reliable system of finding out more about their people. Today you can follow the census through 6,000 years of change with the 2011 Census history timeline

<https://remote.colchester.gov.uk/https/0/webmail.colchester.gov.uk/exchweb/bin/redir.asp?URL=http://2011.census.gov.uk/en/index.php?content_id=1485> .

A large scale version of the census time is also available to see along Colchester Castle's bridge over February half-term or why not visit Hollytrees Museum to see the original Round family census records?

Alternatively, why not find out how people are using the census to research their own family histories on the national census website

<<https://remote.colchester.gov.uk/https/0/webmail.colchester.gov.uk/exchweb/bin/redir.asp?URL=http://2011.census.gov.uk/Censushistory>> ?

The 2011 Census will take place on Sunday 27th March - please take the time to complete and return your census form and shape the future of your local area.

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