

**We are delighted to announce our autumn and winter special events programme!**

**Autumn/Winter Events Programme 2008/2009:**

**Make Your Own Terracotta Figure @ Colchester Castle**

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September**

Now you can have your chance to make your very own piece of history! Taking inspiration from the 'Guardians to the King' exhibition you can make your own ancient figure out of clay. What will your figure be like? Come along and let your imagination run wild in this fun and creative workshop.

£1 per person after normal admission to the castle

Book in advance on 01206 282940 (10am-4.45pm), or drop into Hollytrees Museum

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

Suitable for ages 4 and up

Sorry, we are unable to accept large group bookings

**A Victorian Open Day @ Christchurch Mansion FREE**

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September**

Take part in a Victorian schoolroom, play traditional games, try crafts and meet a seamstress who will help you develop your weaving skills and see the different raw materials that were used. Listen to stories from the Fonnereau family's maid and take the chance to see how good you would have been at washing their eleven children's clothes! Whilst trying these activities follow a trail, which will lead you to beautiful examples of crafts in the portraits and costume. There will also be highlights from the Gallows Song Young Roots performance that shows what life might have been like for those Victorians who were not as fortunate as families of Christchurch Mansion.

Free admission to Christchurch Mansion

Free drop-in activities 10am – 4pm

Meet the Victorian Maid at 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2.30pm and 3.30pm

Victorian schoolroom at 11.30am, 12.30pm, 2pm and 3pm

Gallows Song Performance at 1pm, 2pm and 3pm

**Dragon Stories @ Colchester Castle**

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September**

Meet two young European dragons and enjoy an encounter with these charming and mischievous creatures, before you enjoy some fabulous storytelling. Our dragon handlers are accomplished in the weaving of tales that bring laughter and thrills to audiences of all ages. Come along and enjoy stories from around the world.

Storytelling sessions take place at 11.30am, 12.30pm, 2.30pm and 3.30pm

Plus meet the dragons in person as their handlers take them around the museum.

Free event after normal admission to the castle

**Make Your Own Terracotta Figure @ Colchester Castle**

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September**

Now you can have your chance to make your very own piece of history! Taking inspiration from the 'Guardians to the King' exhibition you can make your own ancient figure out of clay. What will your figure be like? Come along and let your imagination run wild in this fun and creative workshop.

£1 per person after normal admission to the castle

Book in advance on 01206 282940 (10am-4.45pm), or drop into Hollytrees Museum

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

Suitable for ages 4 and up

Sorry, we are unable to accept large group bookings

### **Chinese Kite Making @ Gallery 3, Ipswich Town Hall Galleries**

**Saturday 4th October**

Did you know the Kite originated in China 2,800 years ago? Now that autumn has arrived, why not come and have a go at making your own kite. Take inspiration from the collection and design and make an amazing kite to fly in your local park.

Make your own kite, £1.50 per person

Bookable activity, sessions at 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2.30pm and 3.30pm

Spaces for kite-making are limited, please book by calling 01473 433554

Free entrance to Gallery 3, 10am-5pm

### **Chinese Storytelling @ Colchester Castle**

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup>, Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October**

Come along to the castle and hear some stories of Chinese legends with our resident storyteller. Sit back in the beautiful surroundings of Colchester Castle and enjoy listening to tales from the East that will leave you enchanted. Don't forget that as part of your visit you can enjoy the Guardians to the King exhibition too.

Sessions will last approximately one hour and will take place at:

11am (4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> only), 12pm, 1pm, 2.30pm and 3.30pm

Sessions are free after normal entry to the castle.

### **Make Your Own Terracotta Figure @ Colchester Castle**

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October and Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October**

Now you can have your chance to make your very own piece of history! Taking inspiration from the 'Guardians to the King' exhibition you can make your own ancient figure out of clay. What will your figure be like? Come along and let your imagination run wild in this fun and creative workshop.

£1 per person after normal admission to the castle

Book in advance on 01206 282940 (10am-4.45pm), or drop into Hollytrees Museum

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

Suitable for ages 4 and up

Sorry, we are unable to accept large group bookings

### **Tick Tock Make a Clock @ Christchurch Mansion**

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October**

Come and have a go at designing your own clock face this half term at Christchurch Mansion. Be inspired by the clocks in the collection and the way they work. Why not leave your clock face to be entered into a competition in our Education Room? Your design will be on display for a limited period of time and first, second and third prize will be judged by Bernard Mason, well known local clock collector from Colchester, on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November at 12pm.

£1.50 per person

Set sessions at 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2.30pm and 3.30pm

To book call 01473 433554

Free Admission to Christchurch Mansion

(Electronic clock mechanisms can be purchased at an additional cost)

### **Chinese Paper Folding @ Colchester Castle**

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October**

Celebrate the 'Big Draw' by taking part in Chinese paper folding this half term.

Using lots of bits of paper you can create beautiful and intricate sculptures and amaze and impress friends and family alike. We provide the materials, you provide the dextrous fingers!

Booked sessions at 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2.30pm and 3.30pm.  
£1 per person after normal admission charge to the castle.  
Please book in advance by phoning 01206 282940, or by dropping into Hollytrees Museum (10am-4.45pm).  
Sorry, we are unable to accept large group bookings  
Ages 6 and up.

### **Your Own Colchester Piece of Crockery! @ Hollytrees Museum**

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October**

It's the 'Big Draw', so what better way to celebrate than to pull out some of Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service's art collection, and use it to inspire your own design of crockery! Will you choose a plate, a bowl or maybe a mug? Your crockery will feature a townscape of Colchester in this fun and creative event to make your own souvenir of Colchester and Hollytrees Museum to take home with you as a memento of your day.

Booked sessions at 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2.30pm and 3.30pm

Book in advance by dropping into Hollytrees Museum or phoning on 01206 282940

Sorry, we are unable to accept large group bookings

(Please note: although we will have a selection of crockery, we cannot guarantee that all choices will be available at all times)

### **Count the Clocks @ Christchurch Mansion FREE**

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October – Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**

The clocks go back this half term and at Christchurch Mansion there is a lot of work to be done. Explore the Mansion and see how many old clocks you can count to enter a prize draw to win tickets to Colchester Castle Museum.

Free drop-in activity

Free admission to Christchurch Mansion, Mon-Sun 10am-5pm

### **Time-Machine Drama Fun @ Ipswich Museum**

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October**

This half term come and take part in a fun and imaginative journey through time and act out the historical characters along the way. This fun session will kick off with a drama game to get you ready to find out what people you will become. Perhaps you'll be a caveman, or maybe even a Victorian like Charles Dickens. Either way there will be props and costume to help you get into your role.

£1.50 per child

Sessions at 11am, 12pm, 1pm for ages 4/5yrs – 7/8 yrs

Sessions at 2.30pm and 3.30pm for ages 7/8yrs – 11/12yrs

Free admission to Ipswich Museum, Tues – Sat 10am-5pm

To book call 01473 433554

### **The Tardis Trail @ Ipswich Museum FREE**

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> October – Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November**

Come along to Ipswich Museum and explore different places and times in history. What time have you travelled back to? Perhaps it's World War II, or maybe even Ancient Egypt. Complete the Tardis Trail and enter a free competition to win a fabulous museum goody bag.

Free Activity

Free Admission to Ipswich Museum, Tues – Sat 10am-5pm

**Fabulous Fireworks @ Gallery 3, Ipswich Town Hall Galleries**  
**Saturday 1st November**

A free chocolate firework for every visitor! Come and visit Gallery 3 and as well as being treated to a chocolate biscuit, children will also be able to make their own rocket bookmark to take home. The Chinese invented Gunpowder back in the 7th century AD and without it there would be no reason to remember the 5th November!

Free entrance to Gallery 3, 10am-5pm

Free drop-in activities, 10-4pm

**Meet Bernard Mason @ Christchurch Mansion FREE**  
**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November**

Christchurch Mansion is expecting an important guest this October half term - Bernard Mason, local businessman and renowned clock collector from Colchester! Mr Mason restored Tymperleys Clock Museum in the 1950's and left his fabulous collection to the town to enjoy. You can meet our costumed storyteller who will tell you some fascinating stories about Bernard Mason and the types of clocks on display at the Mansion, as well as judging our own clock competition.

Stories at 11am and 12.30pm

Free activity

Suitable for all the family

Announcement of clock competition winners at 12pm

**Tea and Talks 2008 at Colchester Castle**

**Jade Suits and Clay Soldiers - Burials of the Han Imperial Family**

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October**

Dr Lukas Nickel, Lecturer in Chinese Archaeology

Department of Art and Archaeology, School of Oriental and African Studies, and  
Institute of Archaeology, University College London.

During the Western Han Period (206 BC to 9 AD), shortly after the First Emperor unified China, the country was ruled by the Liu family. Coming from a modest social background, many of its members intended to raise their prestige by building tombs of extraordinary size and filling them with treasures and every-day objects. The talk will investigate the funeral practices and ideas of the Han imperial elite and compare these with archaeological evidence from tombs of common people.

**The Cutty Sark – China Tea and the Ships it Created**

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> October**

Roger Hodge from the Cutty Sark

This presentation will begin with an introduction to the Cutty Sark before recounting how tea became a part of everyday life in Britain and the American Colonies before the fight for independence began with the Boston Tea Party, and how that event ultimately triggered a major change in the design of merchant ships used to carry tea.

**History through Essex Pub Signs**

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November**

Keith Lovell

The talk looks briefly at the history of 'trade' signs and their first appearance on hostelrys in our own country. Between eight and ten local to Colchester will then be looked at in some detail before showing another couple of dozen found around the county.

## **A Journey into Family History**

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November**

**Patrick Denney**

Television programmes such as 'Who Do You Think You Are' have inspired many to begin researching their own family history. The resulting research can lead to family stories full of intrigue and drama worthy of any historical novel - but with your own ancestors playing the leading roles. 'A Journey into Family History' is one such story. Ringing in the Old

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> November**

**Robert Needham**

Robert Needham covers his development as Town Crier for Colchester and then explores some of the known local history. The talk looks at an extract from William Wire's Diary 1st December 1843, as well exploring some photographs of the Town Criers in 1916 and 1924.

One-day tickets are £3 (£2.50 for Friends of the museum)

5-talk passes are £12 (£10 for Friends of the museum)

All tickets must be booked and paid for in advance by dropping into Hollytrees Museum, or by phoning 01206 282940 (10am-4.45pm).

All talks begin at 3pm. Admission to the castle with valid Tea and Talk ticket from 2.30pm. Earlier arrivals will be required to pay castle entrance as well.

## **Christmas Fun 2008**

**China at Christmas @ Gallery 3, Ipswich Town Hall Galleries**

**Saturday 6th December**

Come and find out if and how the Chinese celebrate Christmas. Take part in some fun drop-in activities including making your own Tree of Light decorations and lanterns to take home and brighten up the dark winter nights.

Free entrance to Gallery 3, 10am-5pm

Drop-in activities, 10-4pm

## **Deck the Halls @ Hollytrees Museum**

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December**

Christmas is approaching, and it is time to get your house in the Christmas spirit. At Hollytrees Museum we will get you started with a great selection of Christmas decorations to make. For one payment of £1.50, you can make all the decorations available. Come along and get your creativity flowing!

Drop-in any time 12.30pm - 4pm

## **Christmas Open Evening @ Colchester Castle FREE**

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December**

The doors are flung open again for traditional Christmas carols, the Christmas quiz, fun and magic. Sip mulled wine, grab a mince pie, and take advantage of Santa's only visit to the castle during his busy schedule in December.

FREE ENTRY (£1 to see Santa and receive a gift).

4pm – 8.30pm.

(Please note, the castle will be closed from 3.30pm – 4pm to allow for preparations)

## **The 12 Days of Christmas @ Ipswich Museum FREE**

**Saturday 13th December**

Follow the story of this famous carol around the museum to discover some fun and interactive activities and challenges. Can you find the turtle doves and calling birds in

the fantastic Ogilvie collection? Perhaps you will have a go at drumming in our Mankind Gallery or listen to the stories of our Land Army Girl who milked the cows during WW2. Not to forget the Anglo-Saxon five gold rings! Come and be involved in all 12 days of Christmas in one day, collect stamps and retrieve your free advent chocolate. Too good to miss!

Free drop-in activities 10am-4pm

Free admission to Ipswich Museum

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

### **A Tudor Christmas @ Christchurch Mansion**

#### **Sunday 14th December**

This Christmas come and get into the festive spirit at Christchurch Mansion. Come and discover what this time of year was like for the first family to live here and how they would have celebrated. Talk to our friendly costumed characters who will show you an Elizabethan Christmas banquet. Listen to some traditional carols from through the ages and make your own decorations including clove pomanders. Don't forget to visit Father Christmas in his grotto too.

Free drop-in activities 10am-4pm

Father Christmas, £2 per child 10am-4pm

Make your own pomander, £1 per person

### **2009 Events**

#### **The Chinese Zodiac @ Gallery 3, Ipswich Town Hall Galleries**

##### **Sat 3 Jan 2009**

As we approach the end of the Year of the Rat, come and find out a bit more about what Chinese animal you are and what characteristics you have. Make your own mask that you can decorate to show the real you! What animals are the other members of your family and who gets on with whom? Come to Gallery 3 and find out a bit more about the year you were born!

Free entrance to Gallery 3, 10am-5pm

Drop-in activities, 10-4pm

#### **The Year of the Ox @ Gallery 3, Ipswich Town Hall Galleries**

##### **Sat 7 Feb 2009**

Come and mark the end of the Dragons, Silks and Stories exhibition by taking part in some fun and free activities in the gallery. Learn more about the Chinese New Year celebrations and what they symbolise.

Free entrance to Gallery 3, 10am-5pm

Drop-in activities, 10am-4pm

Sharon Carter

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