

Discover Colchester's Hidden Heritage....

Celebrating Heritage Open Days!

**In and around Colchester
Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th September**

Visitors can discover some of Colchester's most beautiful and hidden historic buildings over a whole weekend of fun – **absolutely free**. Celebrating Heritage Open Days, Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service in partnership with Colchester Borough Council, Colchester Civic Society and English Heritage will be offering more than 40 sites to visit and activities to enjoy.

Heritage Open Days offer visitors the unique opportunity to explore and enjoy hidden, curious, and always fascinating buildings that aren't usually open to the public. All activities and buildings are completely free of charge to enjoy and for those that fancy it a vintage bus, courtesy of Eastern National Vehicle Owners Club, will take visitors between some of the buildings.

Over the weekend visitors can enjoy seeing behind the scenes at Colchester Town Hall, take guided tours of the 15th century Sparling Benham and Brough, visit the Colne Light Ship, see the town's Roman Theatre and much more.

On Saturday 12th September only visitors can enjoy the rare chance to visit Colchester Castle, absolutely free. This incredibly popular day in Colchester's events calendar allows visitors to explore 2000 years of stunning history, absolutely free.

In partnership with GiFT some of the buildings will also be holding special live performances of music, with 'The Music of Place'. National and international composers have been invited to create musical interludes which respond to the buildings and the pieces will be performed by the Britten Sinfonia. To find out which buildings will have musical performances visit

www.colchesterartscentre.com.

To find out which properties are open and what activities will be taking place pick up a leaflet and map from any of Colchester's museums.

Properties/Activities

Saturday 12th September

Colchester Town Hall, Tymperleys Clock Museum, Peake's House, Roman Theatre, Town to Sea Trail Guided Tour, Colchester Castle Free Day, Colchester History Alive Performances, St Helen's Chapel, Sparling Benham and Brough, Audley Chapel, St Martin's Church, NADFAS in Hollytrees Museum, Step into History Event at Hollytrees Museum, St John's Abbey Gatehouse, Mercury Theatre, Lexden Tumulus, Quaker Meeting House (St Mary's House), St Botolph's Church, Bourne Mill, Colchester Royal Grammar School, Roman Church Remains, Garrison Church, Colchester Crematorium, Vintage Bus Service, St Leonard-at-the-Hythe Church, St Mary at the Walls Church (Colchester Arts Centre), Colne Light Ship.

Sunday 13th September

Colchester Town Hall, Tymperleys Clock Museum, Peake's House, Roman Theatre, Costumed Themed Walking Tours, St Helen's Chapel, Audley Chapel, St Martin's Church, NADFAS in Hollytrees Museum, St John's Abbey Gatehouse, Lexden Tumulus, St Botolph's Church, Bourne Mill, Roman Church Remains, Highwoods Country Park, St Mary at the Walls Church (Colchester Arts Centre).

The Sixties Seen:

Art, Music and Fashion

13th June – 1st November, Colchester Castle

Take a trip back to the swinging sixties in Colchester Castle and discover the art, music and fashion of the time. See highlights from this innovative decade and discover just how much design influenced everyday life.

To find out more about Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service's bumper programme of events visit www.colchestermuseums.org.uk

Sharon Carter

Assistant Marketing Officer
01206 282938

sharon.carter@colchester.gov.uk

Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service

Our vision is to create a museum service that is a source of pride, inspiration and fun.