

Saffron Walden Annual Town Meeting 2023 Report

Saffron Walden Museum

SW Museum Exhibitions, Events and Activity Programme summary Spring-Summer 2023

Please note planning is ongoing and some dates and details may change. Full details will be published by the Museum on our website www.saffronwaldenmuseum.org and in our leaflet

APRIL

Special Exhibition 1 April – 9 July: **Feeding the Family** : A Brief History of Mealtimes
Planning to promote the work of Uttlesford Food Bank in conjunction with the exhibition
Easter holiday craft activities

4 April : Jumping bunny split pin puppet

5 April : Easter Egg suncatcher

Week after Easter: Museum tours (book on-line via Museum website, standard admission)

MAY

6 -7 May Coronation Weekend events in partnership with Saffron Walden Town Council
details to be announced.

6 May Make a Crown family craft activity.

7 May Museum extended opening from afternoon into evening

20 May Local History Day: Family Activities with Saffron Walden Library

30 May: Half-term family craft activity Make a Green Man Mask

JUNE

13 June *A Taste of History* – ticketed workshop for adults, a demonstration and tasting on the amazing and colourful history of salads, with food historian Monica Askay

JULY

Special Exhibition 22 July – 5 November: *Uttlesford Open Art Exhibition* – an open-call judged art exhibition. Artists over 18 living in Uttlesford or within a 20-mile radius of Saffron Walden are invited to submit artworks on the theme 'Sense of Place'. Works selected for display will form the exhibition. The call to artists will go out in March, for works to be submitted by 20 May.

Late July (dates tbc) Craft Workshops for young adults (17+) with The Pargeting Company. Opportunity to learn the basics of pargeting and create a small artwork in plaster. Free but limited places, booking details will be announced later.

AUGUST

1 August Geology Rocks! Get hands on with all things geological get your rocks and fossils identified. Craft session: paint your own fossils. With local geologist Gerald Lucy and Saffron Walden Library.

17 or 24 August (tbc) Crafts Demonstrations. Pargeting and other traditional crafts demonstrated in the Museum & Castle grounds. Subject to financing, working with the Heritage Development Group to produce a leaflet on Pargeting which is such an important and decorative feature of or local historic buildings.

Art Trail round Saffron Walden town centre – invitation to businesses and venues Follow the trail of decorated Lions (based on Wallace, our Museum mascot) round town centre heritage venues and businesses, finishing at the Museum's Open Art exhibition. The Museum will provide the lions (2D plywood silhouettes or 3D slot-together standing lions) for schools and community groups to decorate. The Trail leaflet will bring people to different venues and publicise participants who host a lion. Supported by the Shed (construction of lions) and The Saffron Walden Arts Society (£250 grant) we seek another £250 to cover the cost of materials and printing.

Summer Holiday Activities - A Summer of Art

25th July: Clay tile

2 August: Seashell Self-portrait

8 August: Relief printing

22 August: Flower Collage

Activities for Adults

Friday 11 August (tbc) An Evening of Art – a range of art activities with materials and refreshments

Plans for the Autumn 2023 (work in progress)

October half-term will include family craft activities and our popular *Museum at Night* torchlight experience!

Special Exhibition opening 11 November: *Evacuees* with artwork by local artist Brian Saunders

Other regular Museum features and services

Your Stories – Community Case (Great Hall *Early History* gallery, ground floor)

A changing programme of small, co-curated displays with local community groups. We welcome approaches from the local community if you have a special event, anniversary or project to display and items suitable for exhibition.

Object of the Month (Great Hall, either ground floor or first floor balcony)

Every month a different object or specimen from the stores is featured, exploring the diversity of our collections and stories which they can tell.

Curiosity Corner (Great Hall gallery entrance) Family-oriented mini-display exploring a current topic of interest.

Learning & Outreach Services

In addition to the activities and events above, the Museum offers an extensive range of learning and outreach services for formal and informal learning, for school and groups, all ages. These include taught session in the museum or visits to schools, a wide range of popular and affordable loan boxes, and we host group visits for badged groups, adult and special interest groups. Details can be found on our Learning Hub, accessed from the Museum website's home page.

Carolyn Wingfield, Curator 24 February 2023

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