

What's On



Maidstone Museums

A trio of treasures to explore

Maidstone Museum

An exceptionally fine regional museum, with collections that comprise a rich and impressive variety of historical objects, fine art and natural history.

The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regimental Museum

Packed with fascinating, colourful and thought-provoking exhibits; discover the story of this famous local regiment.

Maidstone Carriage Museum

Home to a unique collection of more than 50 vehicles, from grand carriages and ornate sleighs to antique sedan chairs and Victorian cabs, this is one of the finest carriage museums in Europe.



Exhibitions

Maidstone: United in Football

14 September - 18 January 2020

This interactive exhibition tells the remarkable history of football in the town and paints a vivid picture of how the game has brought people of diverse backgrounds together for well over a century.



FREE ENTRY

Wild

1 February - 29 February

Art Textiles: Made in Britain's successful third touring exhibition 'Wild' explores the wildness of the world through cutting edge, colourful, exuberant and varied textiles from 11 members and 2 guest artists.



£4 over 16, 16 and under free

Do You See What I See? Nepalese Community

14 March - 21 June 2020

We are lucky to have a large Nepalese community within Maidstone. Working closely with them, this exhibition explores the differences between Maidstone and Nepal through their eyes.



FREE ENTRY

www.maidstonemuseum.org

westspace - Exhibitions

All these exhibitions are free entry

Maidstone Young Artist Award: Visitors Vote Winners

6 August - 2 November 2019

The Visitors Vote winners from the Maidstone Young Artist Award exhibit a stunning selection of artworks.

Perpetuity

13 November - 7 December 2019

A simple introduction to a range of work from modern abstract to traditional landscape to provocative socio /political comment, by Fine Art students recently graduated from the University for the Creative Arts, Canterbury.

Button Pond Girl

18 December - 2 February 2020

Nicola Flower's textile installation is inspired by Button Walk and the Pond, at the old Springfield paper mill, Maidstone. Buttons and fastenings were cut off during 'rag preparation' for paper making, the buttons collected and then deposited around the pond.

Building Bridges

March 2020 - January 2021

Explore this fascinating interactive exhibition from the Rochester Bridge Trust looking at how the bridges around the Medway towns, including Maidstone's bridge, developed from the Roman period to today.



Pop-Up Exhibitions

All these exhibitions are free entry

Curiouser and Curiouser

24 February - 28 March 2020

Foundation Degree students of West Kent College have teamed up with the museum since 2008 as part of their vocational and professional Fine Art Practice studies. Working to the museum's specifications, students produce artworks influenced by a myriad of ideas generated by the collections, the history and even the fabric of the buildings themselves.



Woolly Watery World

September 2019 - February 2020

This 'undersea' art display, from an octopus to a seahorse and a chalk reef, has been knitted and crocheted by volunteers and staff from Kent Wildlife Trust as part of the 'Guardians of the Deep' project. Their aim is to spread important messages about protecting our oceans.



Paper Trail

March - September 2020

100 pieces of heritage paper, some from Maidstone mills, have been given to 100 artists. Inspired by the year the paper was produced, what have they made?

An Appletye project.



PAPER TRAIL

appletye /

www.maidstonemuseum.org

Visitor Information

Maidstone Museum Opening Times

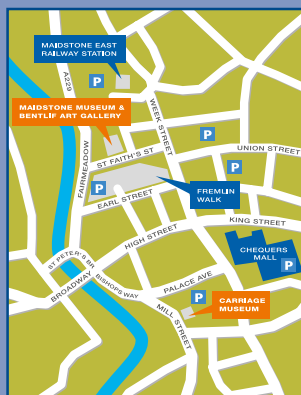
Tuesday - Saturday 10:00 - 17:00, Mondays Closed
Sunday 12:00 - 16:00 (until 31 October only)
Entry to the Museum is **FREE**

Carriage Museum opens May 2020

By car

From the M20 junction 6 or 7, head towards the town centre and Maidstone East Station. Follow the brown heritage signs.

Maidstone Town Centre



Car parking

The nearest car park is Fremelin Walk (open air shopping centre) multi-storey car park, opposite the Museum. All car parks shown are within easy walking distance.

Train

Maidstone East Station - 2 mins
Maidstone Barracks Station - 5 mins
Maidstone West Station - 10 mins

Accessibility

The museum has wheelchair access to most of the ground floor. Two lifts allow access to seven of the nine first floor galleries. There are accessible toilets on both floors.

Maidstone Visitor Information

Located in the centre of the museum, we offer a range of information services for visitors to Maidstone and the surrounding area.

01622 602169

MaidstoneMuseum



Maidstone Museums
St. Faith's Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1LH
01622 602838
museuminfo@maidstone.gov.uk
www.maidstonemuseum.org

MMF Supports Us



By joining the Maidstone Museums' Foundation you will help to preserve a unique part of our local heritage.

Membership benefits include:

- Invitation to exhibition previews
- Concessions to certain events and children's activities
- 10% discount on museum shop purchases (excludes books)
- Concessionary rate on entry to the Carriage Museum

Categories of membership

£10 (per annum)	Adult single any individual aged 18 years or over
£15 (per annum)	Adult couple two individuals aged 18 years or over and living at the same address
£17.50 (per annum)	Family one or two individuals aged 18 years or over and up to four children living at the same address
£50 (single payment)	Adult single - 10 year membership any individual aged 18 years or over
£100 (single payment)	Adult single - 25 year membership any individual aged 18 years or over
£200 (per annum)	Corporate any company, business, partnership, formally constituted association, society, school or college

Join at the museum reception or download a form from the website

Book events via the website

MAIDSTONE MUSEUM

Children's Parties at Maidstone Museum

Step inside and enjoy a world of party adventures just for you.
Knights and Princesses, Dinosaurs, Pirates and much more...

Book an exciting birthday experience today!

To book your party or check available dates visit:
www.maidstonemuseum.org



Museum Lates

Join us on the last Thursday of every month for a special evening when we're open until 9pm. Lates are strictly over 18s only.

MUSEUMS AT NIGHT Halloween Ghost Tour for adults a Museums at Night event

31 October

Tour the building's darkest depths to uncover the urban legends and ghosts associated with the museum. Ectoplasm cocktail included in the ticket (or soft drink alternative).

7.30pm £12, MMF £10

Kent: A Cradle of World Sport

28 November

John Bunyard, curator of 'Maidstone: United in Football' gives a fascinating talk exposing Kent's uniquely important role in the development of sport. Visit the exhibition, see objects of importance in the history of sport, and enjoy a drink (included in ticket price).

6.30 - 8.30pm £8, MMF £6

History Mystery Tour 'the museum years'

30 January

Meet the eccentric and colourful characters who've lived in and looked after the museum and it's objects since it opened in 1858. Who was poisoned by his wallpaper? Which curator corresponded with Darwin? Who created a death mask of his brother? Victorian drink included in the ticket (or soft alternative).

Tours at 6.30 & 7.30pm £10, MMF £8

Film Night

27 February 2020

Doors open 6pm, film starts at 6.30pm

Candles in the Wind are strictly forbidden in our Tudor timbered buildings, but we know that each Tiny Dancer will be doing the Crocodile Rock watching this Elton John biopic. Rocket Man drink included in the ticket (or soft drink alternative).

Doors open 6pm, film starts at 6.30pm

£10, MMF £8

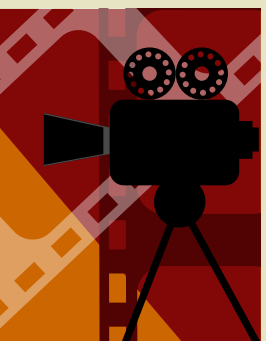
Quiz Night

26 March 2020

5 ferocious rounds of quizzing, including a round in the galleries and a mystery objects round. Bring your own nibbles and drinks.

Doors open 6pm, quiz starts at 6.30pm

£6, MMF £5



Events Listing - October to March 2020

Key

Kids

Adults

Families

Lates

OCTOBER

3

Stories & Rhymes

Storytelling and crafts for the under 5s.

10.30 - 11.30am

£2.50

8

What's in Store?

Go behind-the-scenes and discover some of the hidden objects in our amazing collections.

10.30 - 11.20am

£5, MMF £4

10

Museum Film Club

Meet other film friends at our monthly club. Email museuminfo@maidstone.gov.uk for more details or ring 01622 602862.

10.30 - 1pm

£4.50/£2.50 carer

10

Memories Day: Teaching

Were you a teacher of children or adults, in a local school or a college? Did you teach apprentices in the workplace? Come and tell us your memories and we will record them. Refreshments provided.

10.30 - 1pm

FREE

12

Black History Month

Join us for activities, curators talks and performance artists as we celebrate Black History Month. More details on our website.

10am - 3.30pm

FREE

22-25

Half term Make It! workshops

Sports related craft activities. For more details see our website.

10.30 - 11.30, 12 - 1, 1.30 - 2.30, 3 - 4

£3 per child, MMF £2.50

25

Café Culture

Drop in sessions for the over 65's. Join us on the last Friday of the month in the café, for object handling and a chat. No booking required - for more info call Roz 01622 602853.

10.30 - 11.30am

FREE

30

Halloween Ghost Tours for kids

Dare you leave your family behind and follow our storyteller to explore the museum's creepy rooms? Finish by icing your own gingerbread ghost. 7-11yrs.

Tours at 4.00 & 5.00pm

£6, MMF £5

31

MUSEUMS AT NIGHT Halloween Ghost Tour for teens a Museums at Night event

Join our guides as they take you on a tour of the buildings. However, the Grey Lady haunts the premises and other things lurk in the dark... Your group must complete a series of puzzles in order to ESCAPE from the museum. 12-16yrs.

Tour at 6.00pm

£6, MMF £5

31

MUSEUMS AT NIGHT Halloween Ghost Tour for adults a Museums at Night event

See our Lates section.

7.30pm

£12, MMF £10

NOVEMBER

6

Stories & Rhymes

Storytelling and crafts for the under 5s.

10.30 - 11.30am

£2.50

9

Putting the ALL in FOOTBALL

Family fun day - follow the football trail to claim your badge prize, create a t-shirt in your favourite strip and meet local players. Take part in the Family Mile (free) at the museum to complete a mile route as a family; register and log your miles online to get milestone rewards.

10am - 3.30pm

Free, except t-shirt £4 and trail £1

12

What's in Store?

Go behind-the-scenes and discover some of the hidden objects in our amazing collections.

10.30 - 11.20am

£5, MMF £4

14

Museum Film Club

Meet other film friends at our monthly club. Email museuminfo@maidstone.gov.uk for more details or ring 01622 602862.

10.30 - 1pm

£4.50/£2.50 carer

15

Memories Day: Sport

Were you involved in sport in the area? Perhaps in cricket, hockey, football or rowing? Did you play for, coach or manage local teams? Come and tell us your memories and we will record them. Refreshments included.

10.30 - 1pm

FREE

16

Fossil Roadshow

Bring your fossil finds for identification by the experts, follow the fossil trail to claim your badge prize, and create your own fossil shape to take home.

10am - 3.30pm

Free with charged activities. Trail £1, clay fossil making £3

28

Museum Lates: Kent, A Cradle of World Sport

See our Lates section.

6.30 - 8.30pm

£8, MMF £6

29

Café Culture

Drop in sessions for the over 65's. Join us for object handling and a chat.

10.30 - 11.30am

FREE

DECEMBER

4

Stories & Rhymes

Storytelling and crafts for the under 5s.

10.30 - 11.30am

£2.50

7, 14, 19, 20, 21

Father Christmas's Fireplace

Meet Father Christmas in his cosy library, leave your wish with him and receive a present! Father Christmas's gold token will also give you a chocolate present.

Bookable slots available from 10.30am

£8 per child

7 & 14

Christmas Markets

Find that perfect present! Browse a range of stalls selling tasty local produce and beautiful handmade gifts.

10am - 3.30pm

FREE

20

Café Culture

Drop in sessions for the over 65's. Join us for object handling and a chat.

10.30 - 11.30am

FREE

8

Stories & Rhymes

Storytelling and crafts for the under 5s.

10.30 - 11.30am

£2.50

14

What's in Store?

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10.30 - 11.20am

£5, MMF £4

16

Museum Film Club

Meet other film friends at our monthly club. Email museuminfo@maidstone.gov.uk for more details or ring 01622 602862.

10.30 - 1pm

£4.50/£2.50 carer

10

Memories Day: Homemakers

Did you work in the home, looking after family and house, perhaps when food shopping was an everyday chore and household tasks didn't have the range of appliances which supposedly make life easier today? Come and tell us your memories of making a home. Refreshments provided.

10.30 - 1pm

FREE

18

Family Science Day

Family activities exploring fun science experiments using everyday household materials.

3 sessions

10.30 - 11.30

12.30 - 13.30

14.30 - 15.30

£5 per child, MMF £4 accompanying adult

FREE

30

Museum Lates: History Mystery Tour, 'the museum years'

See our Lates section.

Tours 6.30 & 7.30pm

£10, MMF £8

31

Café Culture

Drop-in session for the over 65s. Join us for object handling and a chat.

10.30 - 11.30am

FREE

FEBRUARY

5

Stories & Rhymes

Storytelling and crafts for the under 5s.

10.30 - 11.30am

£2.50

8

Meet the Artist

An opportunity to meet the artists whose works are shown in the textile exhibition 'Wild'.

Times on website

FREE

11

What's in Store?

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10.30 - 11.20am

£5, MMF £4

13

Museum Film Club

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10.30 - 1pm

£4.50/£2.50 carer

14

Memories Day: Transport

Did you work on the buses, trains or the trams in Maidstone? Come and tell us your memories of working in transport. Refreshments provided.

10.30 - 1pm

FREE

14

Valentines Day: Escape Room

Looking to avoid Cupids Arrow? Escape from love at Maidstone Museum, completing puzzles to unlock rooms (and learning a bit of history on the way!). 18+ singles.

Escapes at 6.30 and 7.30pm

£12, includes love potion cocktail

18-21

Half term Make It! workshops

Fabric related craft activities. For more details see our website.

10.30 - 11.30, 12 - 1, 1.30 - 2.30, 3 - 4

£3 per child, MMF £2.50

27

Museum Lates: Film Night

See our Lates section.

Doors open 6pm, film starts at 6.30pm

£10, MMF £8

28

Café Culture

Drop in sessions for the over 65's. Join us for object handling and a chat.

10.30 - 11.30am

FREE

29

'Improvised Folding Sketch Book' Textile workshop led by Cas Homes

Explore creating an improvised folding sketchbook, learning mark-making, drawing, layer and collage to open up thought processes. Students will bring some materials and some are provided - more details on our website.

10am - 4pm

£45, MMF £40

MARCH

4

Stories & Rhymes

Storytelling and crafts for the under 5s.

10.30 - 11.30am

£2.50

6

International Women's Day

Celebrate the ground-breaking women who created, collected and curated our collections and enjoy a glass of wine (included in ticket price).

6 - 7pm

£8, MMF £6

7

Local History Day

Come and meet local history groups to find out about your place. Hear talks on Witchcraft (10.30), Maidstone gin (11.30) and the history of Chillington Manor (1.30), the amazing buildings which now house the museum. Children can follow the History Trail to claim their badge prize and create their own Coat of Arms.

10am - 3.30pm

Talks at 10.30, 11.45 & 1.30pm

Morning talks £5, MMF £4, afternoon talk free. Trail £1 Coat of Arms £2.50

11

What's in Store?

Go behind-the-scenes and discover some of the hidden objects in our amazing collections.

10.30 - 11.20am

£5, MMF £4

12

Museum Film Club

Meet other film friends at our monthly club. Email museuminfo@maidstone.gov.uk for more details or ring 01622 602862.

10.30 - 1pm

£4.50/£2.50 carer

13

Memories Day: Medical

Did you work at the local hospital, a local surgery or dentists? Come and tell us your memories and we will record them. Refreshments included.

10.30 - 1pm

FREE

22

Mother's Day Cream Tea & Costume

Enjoy a delicious cream tea in our historic library then go behind-the-scenes to see our gorgeous costume collection.

3pm Tea then Tour

3pm Tour then Tea

£18 MMF £16

26

Quiz Night

See our Lates section.

Doors open 6pm, quiz starts at 6.30pm

£6, MMF £5

27

Café Culture

Drop in sessions for the over 65's. Join us for object handling and a chat.

10.30 - 11.30am

FREE

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MaidstoneMuseum

www.maidstonemuseum.org