



St Albans Heritage Open Days

THURSDAY 10 TO SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2015

St Albans Civic Society, supported by the Herts Advertiser, is delighted to bring back a local guide for Heritage Open Days and help put St Albans on the map for this national event. Enjoy! Most attractions are FREE on these days.

St Albans
CIVIC SOCIETY

The Herts
ADVERTISER

WALKS

Meet St Albans' Trees

Sunday 13 Sept 1400 outside the Tourist Information Centre for 1hr 30mins walk. Meet St Albans trees and discover their historical connections. Walk to St Peter's churchyard and back taking in French Row, Wax House Gate, Vintry Gardens and the Abbey Orchard. Led by Kate Bretherton, author 'The Remarkable Trees of St Albans'. 07901 945920

St Albans Tour Guides

Free guided walks. Discover places you haven't noticed before and hear tales of events and characters from the past brought to life by our guides.

Thursday 10 Sept 1100 *Aristocrats, Paupers and Philanthropists*

Friday 11 Sept 1100 *Building Modern St Albans*

Saturday 12 Sept 1430 (starts Verulamium Museum) *A Roman City Revealed*

Sunday 13 Sept 1100 *Historic St Albans: A City Revealed*

Sunday 13 Sept 1430 *Coaching Inns*
No booking required. Max 25 people per tour. Walks start in the town centre, in front of the Old Town Hall outside Merchant Tea and Coffee. The Saturday walk starts outside Verulamium Museum. 01727 864511

History Hand in Hand with Heritage

Civic Society Walk

Thursday 10 Sept 1800

Saturday 12 Sept 1100

1 hour. A guided tour of the Cathedral Quarter. Ideal for visitors and a confirmation for residents that their city has heritage in abundance worth cherishing! Meet by Tourist Information

Centre steps, Market Place both dates. Finish at Clock Tower, which will be open. Maximum 25 people. Tickets are free in advance from the Tourist Information Centre, or just turn up and join in if numbers allow. Wheelchair friendly with a few kerbs/steps requiring assistance. 01727 830521

PLACES TO VISIT

Cathedral Tower Tours

Tickets are available on the day from the Cathedral Box Office, on a first come, first served basis. Event not suitable for children under the age of 11.

Saturday 12 Sept 1100, 1230, 1400 & 1530

Sunday 13 Sept 1515 & 1630

There are 193 steps in a steep and narrow medieval staircase. Visitors need to be fit enough to manage such a climb. The Cathedral reserves the right to refuse visitors admittance to the Tower and Roof Spaces. 01727 860780

Saturday 12 Sept 1400 and 1520 Morris Dancing with free introductory workshop afterwards.

Abbey Gateway Tours

Tour of the most complete medieval gateway in England including a museum relating to the history of St Albans School founded in 948 AD.

Sunday 13 Sept 1000, 1030, 1100, 1130, 1200, 1230, 1300, 1330, 1400, 1430, 1500 & 1530

No booking required. Disabled access to ground floor only. Max 20 people per tour. Narrow spiral staircases with steep steps. St Albans School, Abbey Gateway, St. Albans AL3 4HB 01727 855521

British Legion Mitchell Hall

Hall and original Nissen hut open

Saturday 12 Sept 1100-1500

Sunday 13 Sept 1100-1500

Refreshments available. Copies of the updated book on the street plaque war memorials of the Abbey Parish available for purchase. Information on the work of the British Legion. 85 Verulam Road, St Albans AL3 4DJ

Clock Tower

Opened by volunteers from the Civic Society and Arc & Arc.

The only medieval town belfry in England, built in 1405. 93 steps to great views.

Thursday 10 Sept 1030-1645 & 1930-2130

Friday 11 Sept to

Sunday 13 Sept 1030-1645

A short film of archive and recent photos 1030-1630 on first floor **except Sunday**.

Display on First Floor of post cards and photos of the Clock Tower over the past 200 years and details of the date testing of the timbers.

1930-2130 Thursday 10 Sept open for a chance to take photos of the sunset sky.

On Saturday 12 Sept at 1030 a Grand Balloon Race, releasing 100 balloons from the top. Also on this day, rare opportunity to look around Third Floor Room, usually closed to the public, which houses part of the clock mechanism. Stairs are narrow and steep. No booking required. Market Place, St. Albans AL3 5DR 01727 864511

Dagnall Street Baptist Church

Saturday 12 Sept 1000-1800

Sunday 13 Sept 1300-1700

Lofty Victorian Baptist Church built above a lower hall circa 1885. Refurbished in 2003. Features are the Baptistry, located in the Apse, the mosaic floor of the Choir and the Bevington organ. The building has an interesting stained glass window, unusual

Continued over

for non-conformist churches of the time. There will be a display of archive material. No booking required.

The Cross Street Centre Cafe will be open for refreshments from 1000-1400 on Saturday 12 Sept. Main church building is via external steps. Wheelchair access can be arranged via the Cross Street Centre. Entrance is opposite Christopher Place Car Park.

Upper Dagnall Street, St. Albans AL3 5EE
01727 846891

Kingsbury Barn

Saturday 12 Sept 1400-1600.

Sunday 13 Sept 1400-1600.

Built by the Abbey in 1374, just after the Black Death and standing on a Roman building once by the road to Colchester. Restored in 2009, it has escaped conversion and the soaring wooden interior is belied by its apparently modest exterior. Enter via Branch Road, St Albans AL3 4SE
01727 838965

Marlborough Road Methodist Church

Saturday 12 Sept 1000-1600

A fine late nineteenth century Methodist church noted for the extensive woodwork. Come and see the pews before they go - we are planning a refurbishment to preserve the traditional form but introduce modern comfort and audio.

A self-led trail explains the key features. There will be special displays outlining the history of the church from its origins in a baker's outhouse in 1793. Light refreshments available. Musical interludes. No booking required. There is step-free access via the hall door to the worship space, hall and toilets. Visitors are welcome at our Sunday morning service.

Marlborough Road, St. Albans AL1 3XQ

St Peter's Church

Sunday 13 Sept Church 1400-1700.

Tower tours 1415 & 1515.

No booking required. Church accessible to wheelchair users, but not the tower. Historic displays. Tower tours, subject to weather conditions, offering possible views of Wembley Arch and Canary Wharf. No under 9s on the roof due to steepness of last ladder. Large churchyard with orchard, wildflower meadow, and Garden of Hope with Tree of Life memorial sculpture.
St Peter's Street, St. Albans AL1 3HG

Redbourn Village Museum

Saturday 12 Sept 1400-1700

Sunday 13 Sept 1400-1700

On display are many interesting artifacts about this attractive village plus archive film and slideshows. There are also things for

children including discovery drawers and dressing up and outdoor activities if the weather is fine. On the site of a former silk mill and tea factory.

Silk Mill House, The Common, Redbourn, St Albans AL3 7NB - next to The Cricketers.
01582 793397

Redbournbury Mill

Saturday 12 Sept 0900-1300

Sunday 13 Sept 1200-1700

Eighteenth-century restored working watermill, producing organic stone-ground flours and bread. Museum, milling demonstrations and artisan bakery on site. Event not suitable for children under the age of 5.

No booking required. Ground floor wheelchair access only.

Redbournbury Lane, St. Albans AL3 6RS
Just off the A5183 - St. Albans-Redbourn Rd.
01582 792874

Ryder House

Thursday 10 Sept to Sunday 13 Sept

0930-1730 (subject to availability).

Samuel Ryder Room, his office, still has the original fireplace surround, complete with hand carved initials. The Clarion Collection Hotel occupies the Samuel Ryder building - a Grade II listed landmark built in 1911 to house the business of his successful seed company. The building retains many original features including leaded light room screens, a sweeping staircase and a magnificent mahogany and stained glass dome. Clarion Collection Hotel,
27 Holywell Hill, St Albans AL1 1HQ
01727 848849

(Next door is Samuel Ryder's Art Deco former Seed Hall Exhibition building.)

St Albans Signal Box

Saturday 12 Sept 1000-1700

Sunday 13 Sept 1000-1700

St Albans Signal Box and Railway Museum displays railway photographs and artefacts. Come and ring the bells, pull the levers and send the trains from Harpenden to Napsbury. Live steam in the car park, with rides. Great fun for all children from 2 to 92. Enjoy tea and biscuits on the lawn in the signalman's garden. Ample parking.
Ridgmont Road, St Albans AL1 3AJ
01727 836131

Verulamium Museum

Sandridge Hoard talk

Saturday 12 Sept 1400-1500

David Thorold, Curator at Verulamium Museum will talk about the design and manufacture of the gold coins. He will also talk about their use, the Emperors who issued them, and how the coins came to

Britain. Funded through the Heritage Lottery Fund. The talk must be booked on 01727 751810. Max 30 people.
Address - see next entry.

Two Roman Citizens Brace Themselves

Saturday 12 Sept

Performances - 1400, 1500 & 1600

Three special performances of a family show as part of the celebrations to mark the display of the Sandridge Hoard at Verulamium Museum. The Sandridge Coin hoard consists of 159 gold coins dating from the 4th century, the very end of Roman Rule in Britain. The hoard was discovered in 2012 and we will be opening the new display this September.

Step back in time to the late Roman period and meet a mosaicist and a wealthy landowner. Discover why the landowner is burying his money. Show lasts approximately 20 minutes. Children must be accompanied by an adult. No booking required.

Verulamium Museum, St. Michaels Street, St. Albans AL3 4SW 01727 751810

OTHER PLACES TO VISIT

Charter Market

With a Royal Charter granted in 1553, but dating back to the ninth century, the Saturday Market remains an established feature of St Albans' tree lined St Peter's Street area. It is well worth exploring from end to end. 01727 836781/864511

St Michael's Church

Normally open **Sunday-Friday** 0930-1700 - and sometimes on Saturday afternoons.

Contact the Parish Office in advance

01727 835037 if you wish to visit.

www.stmichaels-parishchurch.org.uk

St Michael's Street, St Albans AL3 4SL

St Stephen's Church

If you wish to visit we will be very happy to let you in at a mutually convenient time.

Ring 01727 862598 or email

office@ststephenandstjulian.org

Watling Street, St Albans AL1 2PT

Heartwood Forest

The Woodland Trust bought the site in 2008 to preserve the existing areas of ancient woodland, such as Langley Wood. It is now in the process of connecting them by planting hundreds of thousands of new trees interspersed with wildflower meadows making it the biggest wood in the country. Nearest postcode is AL4 9DQ.

Woodland Trust 0845 2935706

heartwoodforest.wordpress.com