

HERTFORD MUSEUM NEWS

September 2008, No.53

www.hertfordmuseum.org



Meet our new Learning Officer! We would like to introduce a new member of staff here at Hertford Museum. Eleanor Payne started this August as our Learning Officer. This new full time post is funded for three years by the Heritage Lottery Fund as part of our major development project. Eleanor will be responsible for developing stimulating and interactive learning opportunities for schools and community groups both at the museum and at venues across the district, using the museum collections.

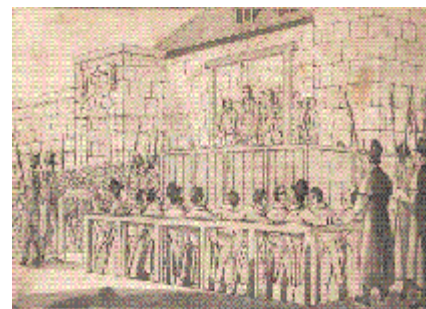
Hertford Museum already provides tailored sessions for visiting schools as well as a

successful loans service and Eleanor hopes to build upon this by developing learning opportunities to accompany the new permanent collection redisplays when the museum reopens in early 2010.

Hertford Museum is closing on Christmas Eve this year until early 2010 and it is during this time that she shall be taking the museum on the road! Her first task will be travelling to schools and create opportunities that allow access to the museum collections during the closure, supporting a wide variety of curriculum topics and key stages. She will also be finding out what teachers want to see when they visit the new museum with their classes when it reopens in 2010.

If you are a teacher and want to get in touch with Eleanor, please contact her on 01992 582686 or email: eleanorp.hertfordmuseum@btconnect.com.

‘Dark Herts’ An exhibition of fiendish crimes from across the county. 23rd Aug – 15th Nov. The county town has been witness to many fiendish crimes and criminals over the centuries and has seen three Gaols. On display will be a number of items from the museum collections that tell a tale of atrocious murders. There is lots to see and discover about the area and visitors will have the chance to try out our pillory and for our younger visitors there will be a quiz. *Right: print showing the hanging of Thurtell outside Hertford Gaol.*



REMEMBER, REMEMBER! Hertford Museum closes to the public on Christmas eve! Please visit us this autumn and winter as we have lots of exciting things happening running up to Christmas!

Hertford Museum
18 Bull Plain, Hertford
SG14 1DT
Tel: 01992 582686
Email: hertfordmuseum@btconnect.com
www.hertfordmuseum.org
Open Tues-Sat, 10am-5pm, Admission free

Supported by Hertford Town Council



HERTFORD MUSEUM

Inspiring Generations

WHAT'S ON FOR CHILDREN

'All the Fun of the Fair!', Saturdays 13th, 20th and 27th of September. Drop-in children's activities between 10am—4.30pm, 50p per child to take part. Find out all about the origins of fairs and old favourite rides, make a model helter skelter out of clay to paint and then take home with you! Lots of other fun things to do including colouring in and adding to our funfair mural!

Big draw! Hertford in 2088! Saturday 4th, 11th and 18th October. Drop-in, 50p to take part—stay as long as you like! Imagine life in Hertford in 2088! Be as creative as you want Design a home,

car, pet or food of the future using recycled materials or add to our futuristic town mural.

Diwali Week—Sat 25th October—Saturday 1st November, 10-4.30pm, (drop-in), 50p per child.

Find out all about this festival of lights, make a special Diwali lamp out of clay and have a go at making a rangoli pattern and Diwali card!

Celebrate Thanksgiving! Saturdays—8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th of November. Drop-in family fun, 50p to take part. Find out all about how and why Thanksgiving is celebrated in America! Make a hand and foot

turkey, or a Pilgrim Hat or a totem pole to take home.

Model Railway Day BIGGER AND BETTER THAN USUAL! Saturday 5th December, 10am—4pm (drop-in). This year's Christmas model railway day will take place in the large area on the first floor so come along and see different working model railway layouts and see if you can spot Santa on a train!



A Very Victorian Christmas at Hertford Museum! - Sat 22nd Nov—Weds 24th

Dec, Drop-in (on the ground floor), 50p to take part. Find out all about how the Victorians celebrated Christmas! Make Victorian Christmas decorations, a Victorian Christmas scene or play with old toys and dress up like Victorian children! Come and see our Traditional Father Christmas! Saturday 6th, 13th, 20th of December—11am—1pm and then 2pm—4pm.

Special Victorian Christmas themed weekend: Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th of November. We are taking part in a weekend of festivities along with many other businesses in the town. Look out for the fliers with details!

Please note! We will be closing the first floor of the museum from Tuesday 2nd of December to enable us to start packing away all of our collections ready to move out. The 'Victorian Christmas' activities will take place on the ground floor. The first floor will be opened specially for the Model Railway Day only on Saturday 6th of December.



The Campaign for Drawing
www.thebigdraw.org



Walking tours of Hidden Hertford (In aid of our Development Project). Find out all about our historic county town on Tuesday 2nd, Tuesday 9th, Wednesday 17th and Wednesday 24th of September. Starts at 10.30am from the museum. Buy your tickets (£3 each) in advance as places are limited! Ends an hour later back at the museum where tea and coffee will be served.

Heritage Open Days 2008, Saturday 13th September, 10am—3pm. As part of this national event, Hertford Museum will be showing our detailed plans for the redevelopment of the museum together with some copies of photographs from our extensive collection and handling items. All welcome!

A war to end all wars? An exhibition marking 90 years since the end of the First World War, 18th October— 29th November. On display in this exhibition on the ground floor will be commemorative material relating to the First World War including photographs, personal objects and medals. **TEACHERS OF YEAR 2!** Come along and have a hands-on tailored session with our new Learning Officer, price £1 per child for Hertford schools or £2 per child for schools outside Hertford. To book a session, please contact Eleanor on 01992 582686 or email eleanor.p.hertfordmuseum@btconnect.com. The research and preparation for this exhibition was kindly done by our volunteer Becky Costello who will be reading History at the University of Hertfordshire from this September.

Haunted Hertford Halloween Walk with Ruth Stratton, Hertford Museum's Assistant Curator and author of 'Haunted Hertfordshire'. Monday 27th October, 7pm from the museum. Please get your tickets in advance as places are limited. Cost £3 per person.

Kathryn Parratt: Artist in Residence at Hertford Museum. Saturday 8th and Saturday 15th of November. Jewellery designer Kathryn Parratt will be 'artist in residence' at the museum on the ground floor. Come along and see displays and demonstrations of her work and have a go at the family fun gemstone quiz (free) or have a go at making a bracelet (small charge). See fliers for more information. Kathryn is making some limited edition jewellery in aid of the museum's development project—see page 4.



Coast and Country - Photographic Exhibition An exhibition of photographs by local photographer Martin Parratt from 25th September - 15th November. The exhibition includes evocative images of favourite British locations from beach huts on the Norfolk and Suffolk coast to spectacular mountain scenery of the Lake District and Scotland. Martin Parratt is a local photographer who has a keen interest in photographic art. He has been a member of Welwyn Garden City Photographic Club for the last four years and a committee member (acting as Competition Secretary) for the last three years. All of the images are available to purchase unframed if required. Different sizes and greetings cards are also available upon request. Martin's website is: www.martinparratt.co.uk.

Thank you to members of **Bengeo Women's Institute** who are kindly making some replica Victorian pinafores and bonnets for the museum, to be used by school children

A Very Victorian Christmas! Saturday 22nd November—24th December. Come along to our Very Victorian Christmas on the ground floor—lots of fun and fascinating things to do for all ages including crafty activities, displays and dressing up for children. See page 2! **Also! Special Victorian Christmas weekend**—Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th of November - see posters and website for details. **See our Traditional Father Christmas! Sats 6th, 13th, 20th of December, 11am - 1pm and then 2pm - 4pm.**

**20% off all Hertford Museum shop purchases, 2nd - 24th of December!
Buy your Christmas presents and cards here!**

Hertford Museum shop goes online! This autumn sees the launch of our online museum shop! To access it, go to www.hertfordmuseum.org. Browse our large selection of local history books and gifts. Deal for Christmas shopping!

Development Update: The Museum will now stay open until Christmas Eve this year! Due to the delay in our project starting, we now plan to start building work in February/March 2009. This means that we will be closed **from 24th December 2008 until we re-open in early 2010**. We are planning lots of events out of the museum for next year and the details of which will be displayed in our next newsletter, on our website and on posters in and around the local area. Information about the progress of the project will be available on our website.

Fundraising

We only need to raise around £60,000 thanks to a further capital grant of £55,000 from East Herts that was awarded in May 2008. This is great news for us. We are continuing to fundraise through a number of projects to try and achieve our aim.

Donate online We have set up a safe and secure 'donate online' service via the Charities Aid Foundation. All you need to do is click the 'DONATE NOW' button on our website.

Limited Edition Jewellery Collection Inspired by the museum's logo, local jewellery designer Kathryn Parratt has designed a limited edition jewellery collection in colours of purple and green in support of the Museum Development Fund. Featuring combinations of amethyst, jade and pearl, the range includes necklaces, a pendant, a bracelet and a choice of earrings. A maximum of 20 of each item will be available exclusively from the museum gift shop from the beginning of September, so with Christmas on the horizon place your orders early to avoid disappointment!

Enjoy a cuppa at the museum this Autumn and Winter and help us raise funds for the museum's development project! We will be offering teas, coffees, hot chocolates and biscuits to our visitors (all courtesy of Waitrose Hertford) on the ground floor of the museum from Tuesday to Saturday (10.30am to 3.30pm) right up until we close. £1 suggested donation per drink. All proceeds from this will go toward our Development Project so do pop in and enjoy a nice warm drink and support your local museum. **CAN YOU HELP?** We need volunteers to help with serving teas and coffees to visitors. Please contact Connie on 01992 582686 if you can help.

Thank you! to Waitrose Bircherley Green for supporting Hertford Museum though it's Community Matters scheme! Each month, Waitrose branches donate £1000 between three local good causes of their choice. We will find out the result of this very soon.

For sale! This autumn, we will be having a sale table in the museum of various non-museum collections items such as computer monitors, sand pits, equipment and unwanted books etc to raise funds for the museum before the whole building has to be cleared and closed by the time the contractors move in in January 2009. You never know, you could pick up a real bargain!

£1 challenge organised by the Friends of Hertford Museum! Working with the Museum staff, the Friends of Hertford Museum have come up with a fun and inventive way to help raise much needed funds for the development project. They are giving away £1 coins to the Friends and other supporters of the museum for them to think of an inventive way to make more money from it. Examples of money-making projects include buying ingredients for a cake and then selling the pieces of cake to make money or buying materials to make home made Christmas cards to sell. Hopefully, we may see some cakes for sale or home made Christmas greeting cards in our shop!



Our newsletters are available in large print. Please phone 01992 582686 or email hertfordmuseum@btconnect.com.

RECEIVE OUR NEWSLETTER BY POST! Our newsletter is published in January, May and September. If you would like to receive a copy as soon as it is printed, please complete this form and enclose 3x 2nd class stamps.

Name:

Address:

Please send to Hertford Museum, 18 Bull Plain, Hertford, HERTS SG14 1DT. The newsletter is also available to download from the museum website (www.hertfordmuseum.org).
