

# Watford Heritage Open Days 2011

8-11 September

## The Free School

Organised by RISE with funding from the Elected Mayor of Watford's Community Fund  
George Street, Watford, WD18 0BX

RISE is a social enterprise that offers training, research, peer support and advisory services in mental health recovery. Take a guided tour around the Grade II\* listed building built in 1704 by Mrs Elizabeth Fuller. Learn about what school and teaching was like 300 years ago, the friendly ghost, and free training in mental health awareness to be held later in September. The event is suitable for children and families. Morning coffee and afternoon tea will be available.

Open Day: Saturday 10 September,  
10.30am – 4pm Last entry 3.30pm.

Booking required for large groups. Limited access for disabled visitors.

For more information contact RISE: 01923 239489  
or: [contact@recoveryin-sight.com](mailto:contact@recoveryin-sight.com)

## Bedford Almshouses

St Mary's Close, Watford, WD18 0ED

Join the residents of the Bedford Almshouses for refreshments and displays at this open day event. Built in 1580 and Grade II listed, this charming building still provides charitable housing for senior citizens.

Open day: Saturday 10 September, 1pm - 4pm.

Booking not required.

For more information contact Watford Museum.

## Henry Smith House

3-5 Estcourt Road, Watford, WD17 2PT

This locally listed building opened as Watford's first purpose built police station in the 19th Century. It later became the Weights and Measures office and is now a centre for the mental health charity Guideposts.

A chance to explore the building, discover it's history and current place in the community.

Open: Saturday 10 September, 1.30 – 4.30pm.

For more information call Guideposts  
on: 01923 223554.

Booking not required.

## West Watford Local History Group Guided Walk

A trail exploring the fascinating history of this area 'on the margins of the town' through key 19th Century developments in public health. The walk will last 2 hrs max, ending at the West Watford Community Centre in Harwoods Road for optional refreshments. Comfortable footwear essential!

Sunday September 11 2011, meet 11am outside the Travel Lodge on the corner of Market Street and Exchange Road.

Pre booking required via Watford Museum: 01923 232297 or: [info@watfordmuseum.org.uk](mailto:info@watfordmuseum.org.uk)

## Hertfordshire Fire Museum

Lower High Street, Watford, WD17 2AG

Based at the Watford Fire Station, the Hertfordshire Fire Museum is the only one in the county and displays the history of fire-fighting from the very early days.

Open Day: Saturday 3 September, 1pm – 4pm.

Booking not required.

For more information visit:  
[www.watfordmuseum.org.uk/firemuseum](http://www.watfordmuseum.org.uk/firemuseum)

### Contact us:

For further information about any of the activities taking place or to make a booking, please contact Watford Museum

**Telephone:** 01923 232297

**Email:**  
[info@watfordmuseum.org.uk](mailto:info@watfordmuseum.org.uk)

**Visit:**  
[www.watfordmuseum.org.uk](http://www.watfordmuseum.org.uk)

Watford Museum,  
194 Lower High Street,  
Watford, WD17 2DT

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## FREE ENTRY TO ALL EVENTS!

Heritage Open Days celebrate England's fantastic architecture and culture by offering free access to properties that are usually closed to the public or normally charge for admission.

Watford Museum coordinates activities at venues across Watford showcasing a range of cultural, historical, architectural and community gems.

For further information contact:

**Visit:** [www.watfordmuseum.org.uk](http://www.watfordmuseum.org.uk)

**Email:** [info@watfordmuseum.org.uk](mailto:info@watfordmuseum.org.uk)

**Telephone:** 01923 232297

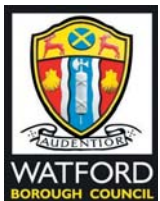
Watford Museum,  
194 Lower High Street,  
Watford, WD17 2DT

### Events at:

Watford Museum, The Free School, St Michael and All Angels Church, Watford Colosseum, West Watford Local History Group, Holy Rood Catholic Church, Peace Hospice, Watford Town Hall, St Mary's Church, Bedford Almshouses, Henry Smith House, Watford Central Library, Beechen Grove Baptist Church, Watford Football Club, Hertfordshire Fire Museum, The Barn



ENGLISH HERITAGE



# Watford Heritage Open Days 2011

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## Watford Museum

194 Lower High Street, Watford, WD17 2DT

Local history museum telling the story of Watford, with an outstanding collection of art. The museum is housed in the former Benskins Mansion, a Grade II listed Georgian mansion house.

30th Birthday of Watford Museum Exhibition  
Herts Open Studios Exhibition

Open: Thursday – Saturday, 10am – 5pm.

Booking not required.

For more information contact 01923 232297  
or [info@watfordmuseum.org.uk](mailto:info@watfordmuseum.org.uk)  
[www.watfordmuseum.org.uk](http://www.watfordmuseum.org.uk)

## Holy Rood Catholic Church

Market Street, Watford, WD18 0PJ

This Grade I Listed Roman Catholic Church will be providing special opening times and guided tours. If you have a pair of binoculars, please bring them with you for the tour to look at the detail of the windows, wall paintings and sculptures.

Open: Thursday 8am -12noon and 1-6pm,  
Friday 8am – 12noon and 1-6pm.

Guided Tours: Thursday 8 September, 2.30pm  
& Friday 9 September, 10am .

Pre booking required for guided tours (places limited). Book through Watford Museum.

## The Barn

The Barn, 1 Watford House Lane,  
Watford, WD17 1BJ

Originally the site of Watford House, this former scenery store for the Palace Theatre is now a locally listed building and thriving community hub. Refreshments available.

Open: Thursday 8 September, 3-5pm

For more information contact The Barn:  
01923 236725 or [www.thebarnwatford.com](http://www.thebarnwatford.com)

## St Mary's Church

Church Street, Watford, WD18 0EG

Watford's oldest building, this Grade I listed town centre church and tower will be open to the public to enjoy. All are welcome to join them for their Sunday Service at 10.30am.

Thursday 8 September, 9am - 4pm (church open)

Friday 9 September, 9am - 4pm (church open)

Saturday 10 September, 9am – 4pm (church & tower open)

Sunday 11 September, 9am - 4pm (church & tower open)

Booking not required.

For more information contact St Mary's: 01923 225189.

## Watford Central Library

Hempstead Road, Watford, WD17 3EU

'Historic Buildings of Watford' - an exhibition of photographs and history of local buildings opening during Heritage Open Days weekend.

Thursday 8 September, 9am-7pm

Friday 9 September, 2-7pm

Saturday 10 September, 9am-4pm

Sunday 11 September, 1-5pm

Booking not required.

For more information please call: 0300 123 4049.

## Watford Colosseum

Rickmansworth Road, Watford, WD17 3JN

All areas of the Grade II building will be open to the public to view the 1400-seat Colosseum, following its £5.5m refurbishment. Staff will be on hand in each area to assist the public and answer questions. Ticket office open for purchase of tickets for all forthcoming performances.

Thursday 8 September, 2pm – 8pm.

For more information contact the Colosseum:  
0845 075 3993.

## Beechen Grove Baptist Church

Clarendon Road, Watford, WD17 1JJ

An opportunity to explore this Grade II Romanesque church dating to 1877. Plus a small exhibition about the church's history.

Opening and exhibition: Friday 9 and Saturday 10 September, 10am – 2.30pm.

Talks on the history of the church at 11.30am and 1.30pm.

Booking not required.

For more information contact: 01923 234975 or:  
[office@bgbaptist.org.uk](mailto:office@bgbaptist.org.uk)

## Watford Football Club

Vicarage Road Stadium, Watford, WD18 9LB

A chance to explore the Vicarage Road Football Stadium, home of the Hornets since 1922.

Tour: Friday 9 September, 10.30am

Pre-booking required: contact Watford Museum  
on 01923 232297 or [info@watfordmuseum.org.uk](mailto:info@watfordmuseum.org.uk)

## Watford Town Hall Chambers

Town Hall, Watford, WD17 3EX

Join us for a tour of the Council Chamber and an opportunity to see inside the Grade II-listed Town Hall. Find out about the history of the building and council, and try on the civic robes!

Tour of the Chamber by the Elected Mayor of Watford: Friday 9 September, 2pm.

Tour of the Chamber by the Chairman of the Council: Friday 9 September, 6pm.

Pre-booking required for tours (places limited).  
To book contact Watford Museum on: 01923 232297 or: [info@watfordmuseum.org.uk](mailto:info@watfordmuseum.org.uk)

## Watford Museum After Hours

194 Lower High Street, Watford, WD17 2DT

Following on from the success of our Museums at Night event, a free evening of live music and arts with licensed bar.

Friday 9 September 6-9pm.

Booking not required.

For more information contact: 01923 232297  
or: [info@watfordmuseum.org.uk](mailto:info@watfordmuseum.org.uk)  
[www.watfordmuseum.org.uk](http://www.watfordmuseum.org.uk)

## St Michael and All Angels Church

5 Mildred Avenue, Watford, WD18 7DY

One of the hidden gems of Watford, this Grade II church is appreciated for the beauty of its interior, inspired execution of Gothic style, large size and welcoming atmosphere. A special "Angel Hunt" will be available for children and families.

Saturday 10 September, 9am – 5pm.

Booking not required.

For more information contact: 01923 232460 or:  
[stmichaels@talktalk.net](mailto:stmichaels@talktalk.net)

## The Peace Hospice

Peace Drive, Watford, WD17 3PH

The Hospice is sited in the former Peace Memorial Hospital, funded by the people of Watford and officially opened in 1925 by Princess Mary. Join the Peace Hospice for their coffee morning, a chance to explore this iconic building, a display on the history of The Peace and tours of new facilities.

Saturday 10 September, 10am – 1pm.

Booking not required.

For more information contact Gill Crowson on:  
01923 335370