

Watford Heritage Open Days 2018

Thursday 6 to Sunday 9 September and Thursday 13 to Sunday 16 September

Events at

Watford Museum

Little Cassiobury

Watford Football Club Stadium

Holy Rood Church

The Pump House

Herts Fire Brigade Museum

St Andrew's Church

Nascot Conservation Area

Building Research
Establishment

St Michael and All Angels
Church

One Crown

Watford Town Hall

Leavesden Road Baptist
Church

Cassiobury Park

Watford Palace Theatre

Watford Colosseum



Discover Watford's
rich heritage with special free events and
openings across the town



Watford Museum
194 Lower High Street, Watford, WD17 2DT
01923 232297
watfordmuseum.org.uk



WATFORD
BOROUGH
COUNCIL



Foreword by the Elected Mayor of Watford, Peter Taylor

Watford has a wonderful and rich heritage which we should all be very proud of. The Open Day weekend gives us open access to many of the buildings and structures that make Watford the town it is today. Watford is growing and changing but this makes it all the more important that people have the opportunity to discover our many hidden gems.



Peter Taylor
Elected Mayor of Watford
watford.gov.uk/electedmayor

Correct at time of publication. See heritageopendays.org.uk for more information.

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 offices, a Grade II listed Georgian mansion house.

The museum has displays of local history and industry, including Watford Football Club memorabilia, Cassiobury heritage and fine art.

The current Space 2 exhibition, 'Little Cassiobury', is special for this year's Heritage Open Days. Discover the story of this great historic Grade II* listed building and its connection to the great Cassiobury estate.

Opening times

Thursday to Saturday:
10am - 5pm

Booking details

No booking necessary

Contact details

01923 232297
info@watfordmuseum.org.uk
watfordmuseum.org.uk

Social media

facebook.com/watfordmuseum



Watford Museum

**FREE
Admission**

LITTLE CASSIOBURY

6 - 29 SEPTEMBER 2018

An exhibition to discover the story of this historic Grade II* listed building and its connection to the great Cassiobury estate.



Call 01923 232297 for more information or email
info@watfordmuseum.org.uk



Watford Museum
194 Lower High Street, Watford, WD17 2DT
01923 232297
watfordmuseum.org.uk



LITTLE CASSIOBURY HOUSE TOUR

Little Cassiobury, 31 Hempstead Road, Watford, WD17 3EY

Little Cassiobury is one of only four Grade II* buildings in Watford. It is a rare local example of Queen Anne architecture and the most important surviving structure in the history of the Earl of Essex's Cassiobury Estate.

Tucked behind the town's registry office and not usually open to the public, this is a great opportunity to learn about the history of this fascinating building with a guided tour by Watford Museum and Watford Council's Planning Department.

Access notes

Poor lighting, narrow corridors and stairs and uneven flooring mean that not all areas of the building can be safely accessed by visitors. The tour is suitable for visitors of all ages, including children under supervision. Please wear sensible clothing and footwear.

Opening times

Thursday 6 September: tours at 2.30pm and 3.30pm

Booking details

Max 15 per tour. Booking essential via Watford Museum: 01923 232297 or info@watfordmuseum.org.uk

Social media

[facebook.com/watfordmuseum](https://www.facebook.com/watfordmuseum)

Organised by

Watford Museum and Watford Council's Planning Department



Little Cassiobury



heritage **open days**



WATFORD FOOTBALL CLUB STADIUM TOUR

Vicarage Road Stadium, Vicarage Road, Watford, WD18 0ER

This tour will give an exclusive insight to Vicarage Road Stadium which is currently something that cannot be purchased. Visitors will get to view some of our hospitality areas, media areas, changing rooms as well as the opportunity to take photos pitch-side and/or in the dug-out.

Opening times

Thursday 6 September: 10:30 - 11:30am

Access notes

There is limited parking at the stadium.

Booking details

20 max. Booking essential via Watford Museum: 01923 232297 or info@watfordmuseum.org.uk

Website

watfordfc.com

Vicarage Road Stadium



HOLY ROOD CHURCH

Holy Rood Church, Market Street, Watford, WD18 0PJ

Visit the beautiful Grade I listed Gothic church, designed by John Francis Bentley (the architect of Westminster Roman Catholic Cathedral, London).

Opening times

Thursday 6 September: 9am - 12pm, 1 - 4pm (tour at 9.30am)

Friday 7 September: 9am - 12pm, 1 - 4pm (tour at 2pm)

Saturday 8 September: 9 - 11am, 2.30 - 5pm

Booking details

No booking necessary to see the church.

Max 20 per tour. Booking essential for tours via Watford Museum: 01923 232297 or info@watfordmuseum.org.uk

Access

Disabled toilet in our Parish Centre in Percy Road

Website

parish.rcdow.org.uk/watford



Holy Rood Church

MY WONDERFUL LIFE AS A MIDWIFE IN WATFORD

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

A talk by Elizabeth Timmons, legendary midwife of Watford, sharing her memories.

Opening times

Friday 7 September: 1 - 2pm

Booking details

Max 40. Pre-booking preferred via Watford Museum: 01923 232297 or info@watfordmuseum.org.uk

Website

watfordmuseum.org.uk

Social media

facebook.com/watfordmuseum

Organised by

Friends of Watford Museum



THE PUMP HOUSE - A TOUR OF TWO TALES

**The Pump House Theatre and Arts Centre; 5-6 Local Board Road,
Watford, WD17 2JP**

Have a full guided tour of The Pump House Theatre and Arts Centre, including visiting backstage; seeing all the fantastic props and view wonderful costumes from fabulous productions. Plus, opening up areas rarely seen by the public. Built in 1854 the building was used as a Victorian Pumping Station, the second part of the tale will include; the secret tour; historical photos and information. The Pump House is truly a hidden gem.

Opening times

Friday 7 September: 11am - 5pm (last tour at 4pm)

Booking details

Max 10 per tour. Booking essential via 01923 241362 or
sharon.gaffney@pumphouse.info

Website

pumphouse.info



Pump House Theatre

HERTFORDSHIRE FIRE BRIGADE MUSEUM AND FIRE STATION OPEN DAY

Hertfordshire Fire Brigade Museum, Lower High Street, Watford, WD17 2AD

We are the only museum in the county that depicts the history of fire-fighting from the early days. We have manual fire engines, a 1896 horse-drawn steam fire pump, a 1936 Leyland fire engine (ex-St. Albans), and a WW2 trailer pump. There are uniforms that can be tried on and equipment that can be handled. There is a large photographic display of Watford Fire Brigade/fire engines and fires. The use of a resource library is available on request.

Opening times

Saturday 8 September: 1 - 4pm

Hertfordshire Fire Museum



Booking details

No booking necessary

Email

fire@watfordmuseum.org.uk

Organised by

Hertfordshire Fire Brigade Museum



OPEN DAY AT ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

St Andrew's Church, Church Road, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD17 4PY

St Andrew's will be open all day for people to look around this parish church, which is over 160 years old. It is an early example of the work of SS Teulon and features fine windows. Interesting information will be on display, and tea and coffee will be available.

Opening times

Saturday 8 September: 9am - 5pm

Booking details

No booking necessary

Website

standrewswatford.org.uk



St Andrew's Church

NASCOT CONSERVATION AREA

Walking tour of Nascot Conservation Area by Nascot Residents' Association

The walk will focus on some of the key building and sites of Nascot. Meet at St Andrew's Church. The walk will also end at the church for refreshments with an opportunity to look around.

Opening times

Saturday 8 September: 11am - 12.30pm

Access notes

Not suitable for children under the age of five. Event is along public pavement so some access may be difficult. Watford Junction station is $\frac{1}{4}$ mile away and the number 10 bus runs nearby.

Booking details

Max 15. Booking essential via Watford Museum: 01923 232297 or info@watfordmuseum.org.uk

Organised by

Nascot Residents' Association



LITTLE CASSIOBURY ART AND CRAFT SALE

Little Cassiobury, 31 Hempstead Road, Watford, WD17 3EY

Exhibition and sale of work by local artists, table top activities for children, volunteers will explain the plans for the future use of the house and progress so far.

Opening times

Saturday 8 September:
11am - 4pm

Booking details

No booking necessary

Website

littlecassioburycic.com

Organised by

Friends of Little Cassiobury



Little Cassiobury

BRE: BOUNCING BOMBS AND MORE

Building Research Establishment, Bucknalls Lane, Watford, WD25 9NH

Discover the once-secret model of the Mohne Dam used to develop the Bouncing Bomb, and visit many of our test labs.

See 'Bucknalls', the mansion which gives the nearby roads their names. Tour the eco-friendly homes of our innovation park, and younger visitors can test their paper aeroplanes in our wind tunnel.

Talks and presentations about the role of BRE in the Dambusters raids, and the B17 Bomber 'Choo-z-suzy' that crashed on this site in 1943 (right).

There is something for all ages.

Opening times

Saturday 8 September: 10am - 5pm

Access notes

Large (50 acres) site, largely not covered except when in buildings. Dress for the weather. Picnic area. Children welcome but must be accompanied. Sorry but no dogs - except assistance dogs. On-site car parking. The number 321 bus passes close by.

Booking details

Booking essential via bregroup.com/openday

Social media

twitter.com/bre_group and instagram.com/bre_group

Organised by

BRE Group





heritage open days



ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH

St Michael and All Angels Church, Mildred Avenue, Watford, WD18 7DY

St Michael and All Angels Church, first consecrated in 1913, is a very large and beautiful but little-known Church in West Watford. It is particularly rich in First World War Memorials. There will be guided tours, a coffee morning, and refreshments will be available all day. There is now a newly restored War Memorial outside the Church.

Opening times

Saturday 8 September: 9am - 5pm

Booking details

No booking necessary but call 01923 247090 for additional information

Website

stmichaels-watford.org.uk

St Michael and All Angels Church



OPEN DAY CELEBRATION AT THE ONE CROWN

One Crown, 156 High Street, Watford, WD17 2EN

The pub will be open all day as usual, but with live performances in the evening for a knees up to celebrate the building. Panels will be up Thursday to Sunday showing some of the history of the building.

Opening times

Main event Saturday 8 September: 8:30pm - midnight

Access notes

18+ only after 7pm due to licensing. Unfortunately not fully accessible for wheelchair users. Paid parking is available behind the pub or at St. Mary's Church.

Booking details

No booking necessary

Contact details

Lewis Butler at lwjbutler@live.co.uk

Social media

[instagram.com/the_one_crown_watford](https://www.instagram.com/the_one_crown_watford)



The One Crown



heritage open days

MEET THE ELECTED MAYOR, PETER TAYLOR AND TOUR THE TOWN HALL WITH THE CHAIRMAN, CLLR RABI MARTINS

Watford Borough Council, Town Hall, Watford, WD17 3EX

An opportunity to meet the newly elected Mayor, Peter Taylor followed by a Town Hall tour with the Chairman, Cllr Rabi Martins. The tour will give details about the chamber's architecture, how council meetings are managed and information about the borough insignia.

Access notes

A lift from the mezzanine floor links directly to the council chamber. There are car parks in the town centre. Families welcome.

Opening times

Friday 14 September: 11am - 12pm

Booking details

Max 12. Booking necessary via Watford Museum: 01923 232297 or info@watfordmuseum.org.uk

Organised by

Watford Borough Council

The Town Hall



THREE CHURCHES OF NORTH WATFORD

Leavesden Road Baptist Church, Church Hall, Leavesden Road, Watford, WD24 5ER

North Watford History Group invite you to join us for a guided walk to visit three churches of North Watford. All three are “locally listed” for their architectural and historical interest.

We will start at Leavesden Road Baptist Church, then visit Christ Church, ending our walk at North Watford Methodist Church.

Opening times

Saturday 15 September 2018: 10:30am tea/coffee, walk starts at 11am (the walk will take approximately one and a half hours)

Access notes

Access to Leavesden Road Baptist Church is in Garfield Street.

Booking details

No booking necessary

Contact details

Diane Lee:
07954 698193 or
diane.lee@live.co.uk

Organised by

North Watford History Group



Leavesden Road Baptist Church

CASSIOBURY PARK

The Hub, Cassiobury Park, Watford, WD17

Join Laurie Elvin from SW Herts Archaeological & Historical Society for a guided heritage walk along the canal and upper sections of Cassiobury Park. The walk starts at 1:30pm and meet outside the Hub building on the patio.

There will also be a free craft workshop at the Hub from 1:30 until 4pm. We will be making models of narrowboats that once transported goods along the Grand Union canal at the park and create some canal folk art - Roses & Castles.

Opening times

Sunday 16 September

Walk - 1:30 - 3pm

Craft workshop - 1:30 - 4pm

Booking details

Booking necessary for the guided walk via 01923 727072 or cassiobury@watford.gov.uk

Cassiobury Park Iron Bridge Lock



WATFORD PALACE THEATRE OPEN DAY

20 Carendon Road, Watford, WD17 1JZ

See behind the scenes at our historic theatre which will have a WWII theme linked to our autumn production of *Much Ado About Nothing* which is set in 1940s. Try on a WWII flying jacket from our local de Havilland museum, listen to authors Katharine McMahon and Stephen Bourne read from their latest books: period novel *The Hour Of Separation* and historical documentary *War To Windrush*, try your hand at breaking codes and take a tour backstage.

Opening times

Sunday 16 September: 10:30am - 5:30pm

War To Windrush reading from 12 - 12:45pm

The Hour Of Separation reading from 3:30 - 4:30pm

Booking details

Booking necessary for the readings via 01923 225671 or sales@watfordpalacetheatre.co.uk

Website

watfordpalacetheatre.co.uk



Watford Palace Theatre auditorium



WATFORD COLOSSEUM FAMILY FUN OPEN DAY

Rickmansworth Road, Watford, WD17 3JN

Join us at Watford Colosseum for our Family Fun Open Day!

We are throwing open our doors and inviting you to explore behind the scenes of your local entertainment venue. With backstage tours; sound, lighting and pyrotechnic displays; children's arts and crafts activities, live music and a whole host of other activities taking place throughout the afternoon. There's guaranteed to be something for everyone!

Opening times

Sunday 7 October: 12 - 4pm

Booking details

Our Family Fun Day is free, but pre-booking is advisable via 01923 571102. Pre-booking available from 1 September.

Website

watfordcolosseum.co.uk



Watford Colosseum



BECOME A FRIEND OF WATFORD MUSEUM

The Friends of Watford Museum was set up in 1998 to promote, support and assist the museum. As a member you will receive regular newsletters; receive invitations to exhibition previews; free admission to Friends talks and be involved in helping to care for the record of Watford's history and the future of the museum.

To join please contact Watford Museum.

Call: 01923 232297

Email: info@watfordmuseum.org.uk



Watford Museum

Watford Museum

There are always events, exhibitions and projects going on at Watford Museum. To join our email list for regular updates email: info@watfordmuseum.org.uk

watfordmuseum.org.uk

info@watfordmuseum.org.uk

Watford Museum, 194 Lower High Street, Watford, WD17 2DT
Tel: 01923 232297

Open every Thursday to Saturday 10am - 5pm



West Watford Local History Group

A group dedicated to the advancement of the research, collection, preservation and promotion of evidence of the history of West Watford. Visit: westwatfordhistorygroup.org

North Watford History Group

North Watford History Group is a non-commercial organisation, run by local residents. Members of the group have an interest in the history of the local area. A range of local history research activities is being pursued by the group. north-watford-history.org.uk

South West Herts Archaeological and Historical Society

The society was founded in 1954 and formerly carried out a variety of archaeological investigations in South West Herts. Some of its finds may be seen in museums in Watford and elsewhere in the area. Currently the society provides a varied programme of lectures by experts in local, national and international topics. Monthly meetings are held - to join the society or enquire about information or volunteering contact Watford Museum.

Shopmobility

Come along to Shopmobility to see a small display and sale to coincide with Watford Heritage Open Days. Shopmobility is open daily from 10am - 5pm, except on Sunday when it's open from 11am-5pm. For more information, visit: shopmobilitywatford.org



Watford Museum
194 Lower High Street, Watford, WD17 2DT
01923 232297
watfordmuseum.org.uk



[watfordmuseum](http://watfordmuseum.org.uk)



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