

# HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

THIS YEAR WE'RE ONLINE 

11-20 September 2020

## WINCHESTER

40+ ONLINE EVENTS & 10+ LIVE EVENTS



## WELCOME TO WINCHESTER'S HERITAGE OPEN DAYS



Winchester Heritage Open Days is now in its fifth year - remarkable given the challenges of the past few months. However, we know it is the community spirit behind the festival that keeps it going and an opportunity when we can all pull together to produce something really rather magical.

What has delighted us is the overwhelming enthusiasm by so many to produce yet another amazing programme of events for you to enjoy. Most of these will be taking place online as there is still so much uncertainty surrounding Covid-19. However, you will still find a handful of outdoor and on-site events being run in line with government advice. Please be sure to check our website for updates nearer the time.

We are grateful to our lead sponsor, Winchester College, for supporting us again this year and we feel sure you will enjoy all the very special events that they are generously hosting for us. A special thanks too to our volunteers, to Winchester BID for their sponsorship, and to the City of Winchester Trust and University of Winchester for their invaluable help.

Like so many other festivals at this time, Winchester Heritage Open Days faces an uncertain future. Run entirely by a small, enthusiastic, team of volunteers who give up their time for free, the festival relies solely on grants and the generosity of local businesses, organisations and individuals for financial support to keep it afloat.

We remain committed to delivering a festival offering free events that can be enjoyed by the whole community, to enable us to continue to do so, we need your help. If you are able to offer sponsorship, pledge a donation or help in any other way towards next year's Heritage Open Days, then do please get in touch – we would love to hear from you.

This year's festival will be different in many ways, but we hope you will find much to interest you and very much look forward to welcoming you this September.

**Nicky & Becky**  
[www.winchesterheritageopendays.org](http://www.winchesterheritageopendays.org)

*Images courtesy of the event organisers or Winchester Heritage Open Days.  
Front cover image by Mike Hall Photography. Design WAXsii.*

[www.winchesterheritageopendays.org](http://www.winchesterheritageopendays.org)

*'The story of Winchester runs like a golden thread through the history of England.'*

We continue our quest to unravel Hampshire's wonderful past and, thanks to the magic of the internet, this year you can also discover new places and learn new things from the comfort of your own home. Sit back, relax and enjoy!

## Hidden Nature

Don't miss **Proudfoot & Co's** online historical recipe demonstration. Journey into the amazing ecosystem of the **Scene behind the**

**Watercress** and see stunning x-ray portraits by artist Hugh Turvey. There's a talk on **Gilbert White, An Outdoor Naturalist**, and an **Interview with Alex Langlands**

exploring traditional crafts and sustainability.

Meet members of **Winchester's Historic Allotment Society** giving

a virtual tour of one of Britain's unusual allotments. Discover Winchester's chalk geology in two

**Hidden Nature films**, exploring English sparkling wine and Rainbow Trout. And Mike Hall, our resident photographer, reveals a fabulous online photography exhibition of **Hidden Winchester** and the surrounding area.



## Look, Listen and Learn!

Follow a virtual tour of the **West Hill Cemetery** with the University of Winchester. Take a closer look at some of Winchester's commercial heritage in **Behind the Business** and learn about the history of the **Theatre Royal**. Explore **Man Up! A virtual tour** of the daring exhibition at Chawton House. John Pilkington's **Whitchurch to China the Hard Way** talk takes you along the Silk Road and Claire Gradidge discusses her search for a bestseller winner with **P&G Wells**. Strange words, accents and dialects are all part of the **The English Language in Hampshire and Yorkshire** and there's more local history in **Alfred the Great, the kingdom of Wessex... and a few Vikings**.

## Family Fun

Examine **The Hidden Nature of a Hampshire Chalk Stream. Travel Through Time** to meet some of the characters that once occupied the Theatre Royal with an amusing performance by Historical Huzzahs. And then there's **Matilda – Empress of strife**, hear her rallying cries and decide who will be England's rightful heir. The online art exhibition **Whimsical Winchester** is such a fun way to discover the city's beautiful shops and architecture.



## Go Behind the Scenes...

A new video tour takes you to towers and rooftops in **Hidden Winchester: Discovering the History, Art and Architecture of Winchester College** and marvel at rare books and medieval manuscripts **Inside the Fellows' Library**. Get **An insight into Abbey House and the Mayor of Winchester** and listen to **Melanie Backe-Hansen** talking about the social history of houses. Discover the **Secrets of Cider Making**, peer through the lens of the **City of Winchester Trust** to explore sixty years of change and glimpse extraordinary objects behind the scenes at **Hampshire Cultural Trust**.



## Out and About

*\*Please do check the availability of live outdoor and on-site events on our website nearer the time. Here are a few...*

Vehicle enthusiasts will love the **King Alfred Buses display** and **Classic Cars**.

More family events include a **Hyde900 medieval tile workshop**, a quiz trail at **St Bartholomew's Churchyard**, discovering the lost abbey at **Hyde Abbey Garden** and the **Support Indie Winch Trail** of Hidden Nature window displays in Winchester. Further afield there are open days at **Bursledon Brickworks Museum** and **Romsey Signal Box**.

# HAMPSHIRE HISTBITES

A Brand New  
History and Heritage Podcast

Join us on a journey to discover some of Hampshire's best, and little known, history. We'll be speaking to experts and enthusiasts asking them to reveal some of our hidden heritage and untold tales.



### Hidden Pages, Hidden Nature: A Book of Hours Revealed

Available from Friday 11 September

A very special podcast at Winchester College where Sarah Griffin, The Rev'd Canon Dr Roland Riem and Sophie Hacker discuss a Book of Hours, an extraordinary medieval illuminated prayer book.

### Bring Back our Buses! The Story of King Alfred Buses

Available from Monday 14 September

Cathy Booth talks to James Freeman about the fascinating story behind the King Alfred Bus Company.



### Our Greatest Treasure: The English Language

Available from Wednesday 16 September

Right here in Hampshire the story of the English Language began. Our greatest treasure of our heritage. It is our gift to ourselves and to the world!

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Listen to our podcasts:  
[www.histbites.buzzsprout.com](http://www.histbites.buzzsprout.com)

or visit our website:  
[www.winchesterheritageopendays.org](http://www.winchesterheritageopendays.org)

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WINCHESTER  
COLLEGE

is the proud sponsor of

WINCHESTER HERITAGE OPEN DAYS



The College, founded in 1382 by a local boy who rose from unexceptional origins to become the most influential citizen in the land has unique buildings, an extensive archive, and, in its Treasury, a restored space for exhibiting its collections. Yet even longstanding Winchester residents may not have seen some of the treasures which the College is privileged to possess.

Heritage Open Days enables our city to celebrate its heritage and to make the wider world aware of it. While this year's festival will look slightly different, we look forward to a continued spirit of openness and access – not just in these few days but also in the years to come.

*Dr Tim Hands*  
Headmaster, Winchester College

[www.winchestercollege.org](http://www.winchestercollege.org)