

Nuneaton Museum & Art Gallery

WHAT'S ON

April to October 2025



Exhibitions

Children's Activities

Storytelling

Hands-on History

Lunchtime Talks

Nuneaton Museum & Art Gallery

Riversley Park, Coton Road, Nuneaton CV11 5TU

email: museum@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk

T 024 7637 6158

Welcome



Welcome to our new “What’s On Guide” we are so excited about the exhibitions and activities which we have planned for the next few months.

Nuneaton Museum & Art Gallery has been bringing inspiration, fun, and learning to audiences since 1917. Set in the beautiful Riversley Park, the Museum hosts a varied programme of exhibitions, events, and activities for all ages.

Coming Soon

Our mini pop-up exhibition to mark the 80th anniversary of VE Day will be in the White Gallery from May 3rd – May 31st. It will feature museum objects and memories of the day itself.



Opening Hours

Thursday to Saturday 10.30am to 4.30pm.

All details are correct at the time of going to press.

Exhibitions

Nuneaton Festival of Arts – Art

White & Yellow Galleries | 15 March - 26 April

This year's Festival of Arts is here! This annual favourite kicks off with all the wonderful paintings and drawings brought in by local amateur artists. There'll also be the children's art section on display, filling the White Gallery with colour and creativity.

As is often the case, we're also expecting that once again there'll be some incredibly reasonable prices for anyone seeking a new purchase of artwork. The Museum accepts cheque and cash payments for those looking to bag a bargain in time for spring.



A Sense of Belonging by Maria Emilov

Landing Gallery | 5 April – 31 May

Maria Emilov is a Nuneaton based artist. She studied art in both London and Birmingham and has lived in many different places. Maria's paintings explore how our surroundings connect with our sense of belonging.



Georgia O'Keeffe: Memories of Drawings

White Gallery | 3 May – 28 June

An exhibition of 21 exquisite photogravure prints of major drawings by Georgia O'Keeffe on tour from the Hayward Gallery. Whilst best known as a painter, O'Keeffe often took breaks throughout her career to focus on drawing. She would often say that these breaks were the best times in her life. The 21 drawings featured in the exhibition were made between 1915 and 1963. She worked with her agent and long-term friend to produce this collection of photogravures of the drawings.



Exhibitions

CWSA

Yellow Gallery | 3 May – 5 July

This show features the talents of artists from across Coventry and Warwickshire. The work includes sculpture as well as paintings. Many of the works are for sale.



Watercolours

Landing Gallery | 7 June – 26 July

The museum has brought together a number of artists including Kate Fessey, Hilary Morris and Joanne Eburne to feature this popular medium. The exhibition includes landscapes, animals and local scenes. Many of the exhibits will be for sale.



Us & Them

White Gallery | 5 July – 20 September

This exhibition uses the museum's collections to focus on our relationship with animals. Whether as pets, working colleagues or food, our lives are inextricably linked with the animals in our environment.



The Art of Travel by Nicky Thompson

Yellow Gallery | 12 July – 20 September

Nicky Thompson is a graphic designer, illustrator, lecturer and occasional fine artist, and since 1994 he has owned and managed boutique design studio "Lemondrop Creative" in the Northwest of England. Nicky brings his contemporary travel art together at the gallery.



Exhibitions

Strictly Morris Dancing - Anker Morris Men

Landing Gallery | 2 August – 27 September

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Anker Morris Men Group. Find out more about the group's 50th year anniversary history and their fascinating pastime.



Made in the Middle

White/Yellow Gallery | 27 September – 22 November

The exhibition draws together 37 artists whose work highlights the innovative contemporary crafts being made in the Midlands today. The artists represent the region's vibrant and diverse creative community and include both emerging talents and established names.

The wide range of objects, materials, skills, processes and techniques on display provide inspiration for anyone interested in making, seeing or buying craft.



Nuneaton School of Art

Landing Gallery | 27 September – 29 November

This exhibition celebrates Nuneaton School of Art and its role in the area.

Featuring artworks created by former teachers and students, the impact of the institution will be showcased.

Saturday 27 September - Reunion
10.30am – 1.00pm.

We'll be hosting a coffee morning for former students and staff from the Nuneaton Art school. Come along enjoy a cup of coffee, bring along photos and chat. Please book by sending your name and details to museum@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk



Permanent Galleries

The Picture Gallery

First Floor

This room showcases a range of paintings and sculpture from the museum's collection. We like to encourage people to look closely at the art. What can a portrait tell us about the person's background and mood? How have different artists depicted the changing nature of the sea? What different stories can artworks reveal? The space includes interactives for children and their families to enjoy.



The Local History Gallery

Ground Floor

The Borough of Nuneaton and Bedworth has been a place to live and work for over 1000 years. Now with some new objects this gallery brings to life its rich history through objects and stories. Find out about the entertainer Larry Grayson, the Royal Gurkha Rifles regiment, how Nuneaton got its name, and Nuneaton's varied industries.



The George Eliot Parlour and Writing Room

Ground Floor

George Eliot (1819-80) was a famous Victorian novelist who grew up in Griff, Nuneaton. She wrote several books including Middlemarch and Adam Bede. Our galleries include a reconstruction of her parlour where she wrote and entertained, and objects associated with her life and novels. You can find out who George Eliot was, what influenced her writings and how her fame has spread across the world.



Saturday Activities

Join us for some fun Make & Take Activities on Saturdays!
Activities run from 10.30am to 3.30pm.



No need to book,
just drop in.

Activities are free
but donations are
welcomed.

All children must
be accompanied by
an adult.

At busy times you may
be asked to wait.

12 April - Fancy Footwear

Get hands on and design your own footwear

3 May - VE Day Anniversary Celebration Bunting

Help us to decorate our Museum to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of VE Day

7 June - Garden Wildlife Week

To celebrate Garden Wildlife Week, we will be making a selection of natural crafts to encourage biodiversity in your gardens

5 July - Diorama Art and Sculpture

It's Children's Art Week, so let's get creative making art and sculpture to be showcased in the Museum

9 August - Postcards in the Park

As part of the Park Reads Event, join us on a trail of postcards throughout the park and Museum, then drop by to design your own

13 September - Second Hand September

Come together for World Heritage Month as we create a mural of Riversley Park using recycled fabrics

4 October - Made in the Middle

Visit our Made in the Middle touring show and make a craft picture inspired by the exhibition

Children's Activities

Join us for some fun Make & Take Activities over the school holidays!

Activities run from 11.00am to 3.00pm.

No need to book,
just drop in.

Activities are free
but donations are
welcomed.

All children must
be accompanied by
an adult.

At busy times you may
be asked to wait.



Easter Holidays:

Thursday 17 April Make a moving Easter Bunny

Friday 18 April Make a chick egg holder

To celebrate National Pet Month:

Thursday 24 April Make your own caged bird thaumatrope

Friday 25 April Make your own pet mouse

Half Term Holiday

We are celebrating Riversley Park this half term:

Thursday 29 May Make your own duck mask

Friday 30 May Make a flapping butterfly

Summer Holidays

Festival of Archaeology:

- Thursday 24 July** Make your own Roman Mask
Friday 25 July Make your Own Roman Shield
Thursday 31 July Make your own Roman Sword
Friday 1 August Make your own Roman laurel wreath

Us and Them:

- Thursday 7 August** Make your own Horse Mask
Friday 8 August Make a Balancing Canary
Thursday 14 August Make a Fox Mask
Friday 15 August Make a Woolly Sheep



Inspired by Travel and the Seaside:

- Thursday 21 August** Make your own Punch and Judy Show
Friday 22 August Make your own sunglasses
Thursday 28 August Make a train bookmark
Friday 29 August Make your own fun camera

October Half Term

Inspired by the Made in the Middle Craft show:

- Thursday 30 October**
Make a Flapping Bird
Friday 31 October
Make a decorated shoe



Hands on History Saturdays

For all ages

Get hands on with museum objects. Join one of our Museum Access Assistants as they spotlight items from the museum's collections.

All sessions run 11.00am – 3.15pm.

Saturday 12 April - Walk in my Shoes

Did you know it is National Foot Week? The Museum has a fantastic collection of footwear from across the world. At this event we'll be taking a closer look at their design and who wore them.

Saturday 17 May - Unknown Heroes of the Borough

Join us to celebrate Local and Community History Month with a handling session which honours local people.

Saturday 14 June - Journeys at Sea

This month it is World Oceans Day and we'll be diving into a nautical adventure through the Museum's collection of seafaring objects.

Saturday 19 July - What did the Romans do for us?

To mark the Festival of British Archaeology let's explore the impact the Romans had through Roman artefacts in our collection.

Saturday 30 August - Us and Them

This handling session will explore the relationship between humans and animals through Museum objects.

Saturday 13 September - Second Hand September

Join us for World Heritage Day as we explore the history of recycling through Museum objects that have been repurposed and reused.

Saturday 18 October - A Baker's Dozen

In celebration of National Baking Week, we'll get out a dozen (or thirteen) objects from our collections to do with baking.

Friday Lunchtime Talks

12.30pm to 1.30pm

Join us for one of our popular monthly Lunchtime Talks! The talks are FREE but donations are welcomed. Places are limited so booking is essential. To book your place call the museum on **024 7637 6158** or email **museum@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk**

Friday 4 April - "Seen and Not Heard" by Paul Thompson

Meet Major Wyatt (Queen Victoria's bodyguard). He will be exploring the do's and don'ts of etiquette in Victorian society. His presentation will touch on Victorian fashion, and the new ideas surrounding death and burial.

Friday 9 May - "More than Meets The Eye: British Artists and Camouflage" by Jo Walton

This talk looks at the role of artists as camoufleurs – creating camouflage to hide, mislead and misdirect in times of war – and considers some of the influences their designs have had in times of peace.

Friday 20 June - "The First Hundred Years of the BBC" a talk by Dave Andrews

This illustrated talk tells the story of events during a century of the BBC from the early days under Lord Reith through to the present. It covers the great days of radio and TV and some of the incredible changes in broadcasting history.

Friday 4 July - "Stalin's Lady Sniper" by Paul Thompson

Lyudmilla Pavlichenko was the most successful Russian female sniper of WW2. Within a year she had over 300 confirmed kills. Find out more about the Eastern Front soldiers, the life of a sniper, their equipment and this amazing lady's visit to Coventry.

Friday 5 September - "Animal Myths" by Anthony Poulton Smith

This Animal Myths talk is an examination of some of (what seems to us today) the quite ludicrous ideas our ancestors once attributed to our animals. For example, the giraffe is the result of a cross between a leopard and a camel!

Friday 24 October - George Eliot Fellowship Reading

The George Eliot Fellowship return to the gallery to bring their annual programme of readings from our locally born and world-famous author George Eliot.

Event Days at the Museum



Saturday 10 May - Family VE Day Event

Join Guarderobe to find out more about what Britain was like on May 8th 1945 and how people would have celebrated the end of War in Europe. There will be things to handle and try on. You can also see our mini VE Day pop up exhibition in our White Gallery.

Saturday 9 August - Family Events Day

11.00am – 4.00pm.

To compliment the Park Read Event organised by the Library, there'll be lots to do at the museum today including a Make your Own Postcard activity, our second hand book stall and storytelling sessions.

Saturday 11 October - Family Events Day: Crafts Through The Ages

11.00am – 4.00pm.

To compliment the Made in the Middle Exhibition come along and find out more about historic craft techniques from Guarderobe.

Tootles Tinies

Calling all Pre-schoolers

This session is for pre-schoolers and their families. Listen to a story, enjoy a messy make, sing a song or explore the Museum. You never know what you might get to try.

Join us on the following Thursdays for our new sessions between **11.00am and 12.00am**.

Be prepared to join in, make some noise and have fun!

No need to book, just drop in.

All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Join us on the following dates:

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Thursday 10 April | April Showers |
| Thursday 8 May | Spring Flowers |
| Thursday 12 June | Butterflies |
| Thursday 10 July | Animal Safari |
| Thursday 14 August | Seaside |
| Thursday 11 September | Tick Tock Museum Clock |
| Thursday 9 October | Autumn Leaves |

5 Things For Under Fives

Drop into the museum and discover our **FREE 5 things for Under 5s activities!**

- Make musical sounds and sing some nursery rhymes using the paintings in The Picture Gallery
- Tell your own stories with our Noah's Ark
- Colour in pictures
- Create your own puppet show
- Go on an imaginary journey in our wooden motor car



To see the bigger picture and find out more, join the Friends of Nuneaton Museum & Art Gallery.

Nuneaton Museum & Art Gallery has been a part of the local community for over 100 years.

Will you become a friend for the future?

At present we provide:

- Permanent and temporary exhibitions of local, national, and international importance.
- Events and activities for all ages.
- Inspiration.



**- FRIENDS OF NUNEATON -
MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY**

We need your help

- To ensure more people know about what we offer.
- Help us to look after the unique collections we hold.
- Help us to offer more fun events and activities to local people.
- Fundraise to improve our well-loved, (and well used) building.

The Friends Group is just starting up; benefits will include private views of exhibitions and advance notice of events.



Making a donation to the Museum

Entry to the museum is free but we appreciate donations. Our budgets have been reduced over the last couple of years and our costs have risen. If you wish, you can donate online via our Paypal account to support our work.

www.nuneatonmuseum.wordpress.com/donate/

Hiring our Spaces

Did you know you could hire spaces within the museum?
Our Museum Meeting Room is available for smaller meetings and workshops.

Alternatively, why not hire our Yellow Gallery suitable for larger meetings, talks and presentations. Or hire both to provide refreshments, break out space etc.

Room Hire charges are £23.50 per hour during museum opening hours. Outside of the museum's opening hours the charges are £46.00 per hour.

For more details and a booking form please telephone 024 7647 6158 during the museum's opening hours, or email museum@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk



Support us by Ordering Prints of the Museum's collections.

We are excited to have partnered with Art UK, the online home for every public art collection in the UK, to sell quality prints of our stunning art collection! Prices start at just £15.00, with different sizes and framing available. These



wonderful pictures would make a unique and original gift for a birthday, anniversary, or other special occasion. The Museum currently has over 65 prints to choose from in the Art UK shop. They include local Nuneaton scenes, restful mountains, coastal and river landscapes, military scenes and paintings of animals. Each purchase of a print goes towards supporting Nuneaton Museum & Art Gallery. To see what's on offer, please visit the Art UK on-line shop at: artuk.org/shop/NuneatonMuseum

Access & Information



- Wheelchair access
- Assistance dogs welcome
- Lift to all floors
- Baby-changing facilities
- Accessible toilets
- Tearooms
- Staff Assistance
- Induction Loop



Groups

The museum welcomes small school groups and other organised parties. All groups must book in advance by emailing: museum@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk or calling us on 024 7637 6158.

Get in Touch



nuneatonmuseum.wordpress.com



(024) 7637 6158



museum@nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk



@nuneatonmuseum



nuneatonandbedworth.gov.uk/museum



@nuneatonmuseum

Please note our phone, email and social media are only monitored during museum opening hours.

How to find us

The museum is in Riversley Park near Ropewalk Shopping Centre and just off Coton Road and Vicarage Street. Approximately ten minutes' walk from Nuneaton train station and three minutes' walk from the town centre. Long and short stay car parks are nearby which include disabled parking. There is free parking for up to 3 hours next to the museum building, or a pay and display area off Coton Road (turn left at Cocks Lloyd Solicitors, postcode CV11 5TX) Bus routes: the closest bus stop is on Coton Road.



Nuneaton Museum
& Art Gallery

Museum Gift Shop

Our small shop supplies a variety of toys, local history books, local postcards, and greetings cards. All at very reasonable prices!

Museum Tearoom

The Museum Tearoom serves drinks, snacks, and light meals. The menu includes a range of sandwiches, paninis, jacket potatoes, cakes, and a selection of hot and cold drinks.