HERITAGE OPEN DAYS
10 - 13 SEPTEMBER 2015

The Chester Civic Trust
Cheshire West and Chester
WELCOME TO HERITAGE OPEN DAYS 2015

Heritage Open Days celebrates our architecture and culture by allowing free access to interesting properties, many of which are not normally open to the public, as well as free tours, events, and other activities. It is organised by a partnership of Chester Civic Trust & Cheshire West and Chester Council, in association with other local societies. It would not be possible without the help of many building owners and local volunteers.

2015 is the 21st anniversary of HODS, which began in 1994 as a Council of Europe initiative. Chester has participated every year and has one of the largest programmes in the region. We also celebrate these landmark anniversaries -

* The 175th anniversary of the opening of the Crewe to Chester railway line.

* The 400th anniversary of Bishop Lloyd’s Palace

* The 70th anniversary of the end of World War II

* The 40th anniversary of European Architectural Heritage Year 1975.

This has prompted the choice of cover for this directory as Chester’s High Cross was put back in its original position (by Chester Civic Trust) as part of the celebrations in 1975. European Architectural Heritage Year gave Chester international recognition for pioneering conservation work - the legacy of which we can all enjoy during HODS.

The front cover watercolour, painted by George Thompson, is in the collection of the Grosvenor Museum.

JOIN US!

If you share our interest in the heritage & future development of Chester we invite you to join Chester Civic Trust. Membership is open to everyone, whatever your interests & regardless of where you live. For details please visit our website www.chestercivictrust.org.uk or write to the Membership Secretary, Chester Civic Trust Office, Bishop Lloyd’s Palace, 51-53 Watergate Row, Chester CH1 2LE
Chester Heritage Week
Saturday 5th September - Sunday 13th September 2015
Exhibitions, events and talks
Collect a leaflet from Chester History & Heritage or the Grosvenor Museum
For more information visit: www.chestercivictrust.org.uk

The Chester Civic Trust  Cheshire West and Chester
RIBA  CHESHIRE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

itravelsmart by bike, bus, train or park & ride

Supporting greener Heritage Open Days

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www.itravelsmart.co.uk
1. Bishop Lloyd’s Palace, 51-53 Watergate Row
Two early C17th town houses reconstructed above medieval undercroft. The western gable bears the date 1615 making this year its 400th anniversary. The building contains ornate plaster ceilings and elaborate carvings on the front gable. It is now home to Chester Civic Trust. Take 27 will be demonstrating computer modelling of Roman Chester on Saturday and Sunday. Fri 11th, Sat 12th & Sun 13th - 10am to 4pm. No parking. No wheelchair access.

2. Stanley Palace, Lower Watergate Street
Timber-framed house, dating from 1591. Interior has a long oak-beamed hall with a great oak stair leading to a gallery. Sat 12th - 10am to 4pm. At other times subject to occupation by other users. Ring the doorbell for admission. No parking. Partial wheelchair access.

3. Watergate House, Lower Watergate Street
This fine Grade II* listed building was designed as a town house by Thomas Harrison for his friend Thomas Potts, Clerk of the Peace, in 1820.

Sat 12th 10am to 4pm. No parking.

4. Old Leche House, Sofa Workshop, 21 Watergate Row
This town house retains its beautiful fireplace and Tudor overmantle on Chester’s Rows Thurs 10th to Sat 12th - 9.30am to 5.30pm, Sun 13th - 11am to 5pm. Please can HODS visitors note that the shop is open for business and customers will have priority from the staff. No parking.

5. Booth Mansion 28-34 Watergate Street
This early Georgian mansion (1700) conceals two C13th medieval town houses. Evidence of the early structures can be seen within the rear of the building and along the Row where there are two massive stone arches. Alderman George Booth’s intervention is equally impressive and the building now hosts a variety of art exhibitions and music recitals in the elegant reception rooms above Row level. Thurs 10th - Sat 12th 10.30am to 7pm and Sun 13th 11am to 5pm. Wheelchair access & passenger lift.

6. St. Peter’s Church, The Cross
Located at the heart of the city. Founded in AD907, & rebuilt in
the 14th century with later alterations by Thomas Harrison and John Douglas. Interesting galleries and fragment of medieval fresco.

**Thurs 10th to Sat 12th -10am to 3.30pm. Sun 13th 1pm to 3.30pm.**

**Eucharist on Fri 11th at 1pm, Matins at 10am on Sunday.**

Wheelchair access. Toilets, refreshments. Quiet room.

**7. Castle Galleries,**
**18 St. Michael’s Row**

An in-situ section of black and white Roman mosaic flooring can be seen in the basement, which once decorated part of Deva’s large bathhouse complex.

**Thurs 10th to Sat 12th - 9am to 5.30pm, Sun 13th - 11am to 5pm.**

Public visiting to look at the Roman remains please notify a member of staff. No wheelchair access, steep steps.

**8. Spud-U-Like,**
**39 Bridge Street**

In the basement are the remains of an in-situ Roman hypocaust which heated part of the massive Legionary bathhouse complex. Also a medieval rock-cut cellar.

**Thurs 10th to Sat 12th - 9am to 6pm, Sun 13th -10am to 5pm.**

Public visiting to look at Roman remains please notify a member of staff on entering premises. No wheelchair access.Refreshments

**9. Chester History and Heritage, St. Michael’s Church, Bridge Street**

Medieval church rebuilt 1849-1851 by James Harrison.

Features include 15th century carved oak chancel ceiling, and Victorian stained glass.

**Sat 12th - 11am to 4pm. Family and local history service.**

Current local history exhibitions. No parking.No wheelchair access.

**10. CC Viyella,**
**Bridge Street**

This timber framed building dates from the C17th and houses a C14th stone undercroft of six rib vaulted bays with an unusual doorway and window. Known as Cowper House, and home to Royalist Mayor Thomas Cowper with the inscription TC 1664 on the main facade.

**Thurs 10th to Sat 12th -10am to 4pm, Sun 13th 11.30am to 3.30pm.**

Ramp available for wheelchair access. Disabled parking to rear in Commonhall St.

**11. Mad Hatters Tearoom**
**St. Michael’s Rectory, Bridge Street Row**

Listed Grade II* building (C1650), originally the rectory of St. Michael’s Church, has many 17th century features including a front wall, galleried great hall, moulded ceilings. Perfect for lunch or tea.
Thurs 10th & Fri 11th - 10am to 4.30pm, Sat 12th and Sun 13th - 11am to 4.30pm.
Access to row level, disabled WC on this level. Galleried hall only viewable using stairs, no lift. Some of front wall visible from row level.

12. Sally’s Secret Garden
The Dutch Houses, Bridge St. Row West
A Grade II listed building erected C1670 with timber framing and brickwork dating from the 17th century. Ornate Carolean ceiling, open fireplaces and exposed beams. Walled courtyard to rear. Thurs 10th to Sat 12th 9.30am to 5.30pm, Sun 13th 11am to 5pm. Refreshments available. Garden seating area. Toilet on first floor. Partial wheelchair access to ground floor only. Ramp access to Rows.

13. The Falcon, Grosvenor Street
Originally built in the 13th century, the site was purchased in 1602 by Sir Richard Grosvenor as his town house, and was in family ownership until the 20th century. In 1979 it was donated to the Falcon Trust by the Grosvenor Estate. This building once had a Row, which was enclosed in 1643 to create extra space. Clues to its existence are visible inside the first floor level. The Falcon was an inn from 1778 until 1878 but after repairs by John Douglas in 1879 it became a temperance cocoa house. Restored as a public house in the 1980s. Thurs 10th to Sat 12th - 11am to 11pm, Sun 13th - 12 noon to 10.30pm. No parking. No wheelchair access.

Purpose built museum opened in 1886. Designed by Thomas M. Lockwood to hold the collections of Chester Archaeological Society, Charles Kingsley, and the Chester Society of Natural Science, Literature and Art. Thurs 10th to Sat 12th 10.30am to 5pm, Sun 13th - 1pm to 4pm. Special museum tours on Sat & Sunday 2pm to 2.30pm & 3pm to 3.30pm. Free drop in - no booking required. Limited disabled parking and wheelchair access to ground floor only. Accessible toilet facilities. Pay parking nearby on Little Roodee.

15. Cheshire Military Museum, Chester Castle
Free entry to the museum for the weekend. Discover what army life was like for Cheshire soldiers from 1689 to the present day. Sat 12th to Sun 13th - Museum open from 10am to 5pm. (Last entry 4pm) Disabled access.
16. Brewery Tap at Gamul House, 52 Lower Bridge Street
This pub was once a late medieval town house. It has a spectacular great hall, which was refronted with brick at the beginning of the 18th century. The great hall has a 17th century plaster ceiling and a massive carved sandstone fireplace. King Charles I was entertained here when he visited the besieged city in 1645. Thurs 10th to Sat 12th - 12 noon to 11pm, Sun 13th - 12 noon to 10.30pm. No wheelchair access - steep stairs. Food served until 9.30pm, and 9pm on Sunday.

17. Oddfellows, 20 Lower Bridge Street
Built in 1676, Oddfellows (then Bridge House), marked a radical departure from the half timbered tradition characterised by the Bear & Billet (built only 12 years earlier). Renovated & refurbished in 2008 and 2012, the building is now a stylish and unusual boutique hotel, bar & restaurant, with a rear extension and spectacular walled garden. Thurs 10th to Sun 13th 12 noon to 11pm. Please visit www.oddfellowschester.com for further information. Wheelchair access from rear via Grosvenor Place.

18. St. Mary’s Centre, St. Mary’s Hill
Formerly the church of St. Mary-on-the-Hill. Commissioned C1350, partly to serve the growing needs of the garrison at Chester Castle, and restored by the Victorians. Several notable monuments. Display of photos by Chester History and Heritage. Centre staffed by Heritage Volunteers of Chester DFAS who will be happy to talk about the Society’s activities in Chester. Fri 11th - 10am to 4pm, Sat 12th 10am to 2.30pm. Full wheelchair access. No parking.

19. Cheshire Record Office, Duke Street
For the 40th anniversary of European Architectural Heritage Year we have a special preview of the Insall Collection. Sir Donald Insall drove Chester’s conservation in the 60s & 70s, and kept meticulous photographic records. Also a behind the scenes tour to discover the history of the Record Office, with a short talk by a conservator working on building plans. Sat 12th - 10am to 3pm, please pre-book for timed tour & talk on 01244 972559. Disabled access for exhibition. Toilets. No parking.
20. Bear and Billet, 94 Lower Bridge Street
The last major timber-framed house to be constructed in Chester. Built in 1664 to replace a house destroyed during the Civil War, it was owned by the Earls of Shrewsbury (who controlled the Bridgegate) and was a merchant house at the head of the port. It is now a popular pub taking its name from the Earl’s heraldic device of a bear shackled to a stake (or billet) The pub was 350 years old in 2014.
*Thurs 10th - 12 noon to 11.30pm, Fri 11th and Sat 12th 12 noon to midnight. Sun 13th -12 noon to 11pm. Limited wheelchair access (with one step) to the ground floor.*

21. Three Kings Tea Rooms, Lower Bridge Street
This grade II listed building was originally the property of the Earls of Shrewsbury and dates from the mid 17th century. One of the stairwell timbers has recently been dated as early as the 12th century. Throughout the premises the timber frames and roof trusses are exposed with many of the panels retaining their original wattle and daub.
*Thurs 10th to Sun 13th - 10am to 5pm. Tearooms menu contains a more detailed history of the building. Partial disabled access.*

22. Greek Orthodox Church of St. Barbara the Great Martyr, Overleigh Road.
The Eastern Orthodox Christian Church serving Cheshire & North Wales. Grade II listed. Recently installed Iconostasis & Altar. Many fine icons.
*Thurs 10th to Sat 12th - 11am to 4pm, Sun 13th 2pm to 4pm. Wheelchair access, Refreshments available. Overleigh Road off the A483 entrance next to Blackwell’s stonemasons.*

23. Off the Wall, Base of Roman Curtain Wall
12 St. John Street
At the back of this bar/coffee shop is a section of the base and plinth of the Roman Fortress Wall. A plaque explains its significance. Next door (over the fence) are the remains of the Roman SE Angle Tower. Refreshments available.
*Thurs 10th to Sun 13th, from 11am to 10.30pm. Wheelchair access suitable for most users.*

24. Wesley Methodist Church, 8 St. John Street
Built in 1811 and designed by Thomas Harrison. Major alterations in the 1920s and more recently. Impressive stained glass and Binns organ. Active worship and community centre with art
exhibitions, installations and concerts throughout the year. Thurs 10th to Sat 12th - 10am to 4pm. Wheelchair access. Toilets, coffee bar with fairtrade drinks, hot and cold snacks and cakes. Child friendly. Disabled parking on street.

25. St. John the Baptist Parish Church & Chapter House, Vicar’s Lane
The Parish Church of St. John the Baptist is the oldest Norman building in the city. Founded in AD689 by Æthelred King of Mercia on an early Christian site, St. John’s was the Cathedral Collegiate Church of the city, part of the Diocese of Lichfield from 1075 until 1541 when it fell into disrepair. Granted parish church status by Elizabeth I it is, Pevsner tells us, one of the finest examples in Europe of the transition from Romanesque to Gothic Architecture. It has the largest collection of Saxon/Viking crosses in the UK and a collection of Randle Holme heraldic paintings. On the north central pillar is a unique 14th century painting of St. John the Baptist. The Chapter House, usually closed to the public, will be open and staffed by professional archaeologists. Church will be open Thurs 10th to Sun 13th, 10am to 5pm. The Chapter House is open from 10am to 12noon and in the afternoons, subject to staffing. Guided tours will be available. Wheelchair access & toilets. No parking.

26. Miss Selfridge, Roman Hypocaust
14 - 16 Northgate Street
At the rear of the store is an in-situ Roman hypocaust, which may have been part of the heating system for the Legionary Commander’s quarters. Thurs 10th, Fri 11th & Sat 12th - 9.30am to 12 noon, then from 4pm to 5pm. Public visiting the Roman remains please notify staff. No wheelchair access.

27. Chester Town Hall
Northgate Street
An imposing Victorian civic building in the Gothic style which dominates Chester’s main square. Designed by Lynn of Belfast, it was inspired by the medieval Cloth Hall at Ypres, Belgium. Friday 11th 10am to 4pm. Lift available. Wheelchair access via intercom on Princess St. side of building. Main entrance on Town Hall Square facing Cathedral.
28. Commercial Hotel, St. Peter’s Churchyard Off Northgate Street
This early 19th century inn by Thomas Harrison won a Civic Trust award for its recent refurbishment. A gold award winner in the 2010 Cheshire Food, Drink & Lifestyle Awards. Thurs 10th 11am to 12 midnight, Friday 11th & Saturday 12th - 11am to 1am, Sunday 13th - 11am to midnight. Disabled access at rear via Goss Street.

29. Chester Cathedral, Abbey Square
Chester Cathedral is a truly remarkable building, with a history spanning almost two thousand years. See the finest medieval woodcarving, the Cobweb picture, the Chester Imp, the medieval shrine of St. Werburgh, the Creation window in the Refectory and the unique Consistory Court, which is the only old ecclesiastical court in the country to have survived. Also this year see the Lego model of the Cathedral under construction in the south transept. Re-enactments on Thurs, Fri & Sat in the Consistory Court by Chester Theatre Club of the sentencing of George Marsh, Protestant Martyr, in the 500th anniversary of his birth. Free organ recital on Thursday at 1.10pm. Thurs to Sat falconry displays each day at 11.30am and 2.30pm in the Cathedral grounds. Details of events visit: www.chestercathedral.com Thurs 10th to Sat 12th - 9am to 5pm. Sun 13th - 1pm to 3pm. Light refreshments in the Refectory. Cathedral Gift Shop. For free entrance enter via the Visitors’ entrance on St.Werburgh Street, opposite the Town Hall.

30. King Charles Tower, City Walls
Discover this medieval tower, once used as a meeting place for the Chester Guilds. Stand where King Charles I was said to have watched the skirmishes at the Battle of Rowton Moor. Local artist John Donnelly will be working from the lower chamber of the tower. Members of Chester Archaeological Society will be in the upper chamber discussing the processing of their finds. Sat 12th & Sunday 13th 10am to 4pm. No parking, no disabled access.

31. Water Tower & Bonewaldesthorne’s Tower
John de Helpston built the Water Tower for £100, between 1322 and 1325 as a defence on the Dee at Chester. The original contract between him and the city says Bonewaldesthorne’s Tower (turrus de Benewaldestham), through which the Water Tower is
reached, was already in existence. 
The original Anglo Saxon Tower 
was made of timber, and the later 
stone tower dates to the 13th 
century. The Water Tower is 
attached to Bonewaldesthorne’s 
Tower by a spur wall over 30 
metres long. Discover how the 
landscape around this stretch of 
the walls has changed over time. 
Steep steps in building. 
Sat 12th and Sun 13th -10am to 
4pm. No parking, no disabled 
access, no toilets.

32. Telford’s Warehouse, 
Canal Wharf
Substantial brick warehouse built 
in the 1790s and attributed to the 
famous engineer Thomas Telford. 
Restored in the 1980s now used 
as a bar, restaurant and music/ 
arts venue. Superb views across 
Chester’s former canal port. 
Constructed partly over the canal 
to assist with loading and 
unloading of boats on the water. 
Thurs 10th to Sun 13th - 
12 noon to 6pm (open all day). 
Bar open midday until late. An 
entrance fee is charged later in 
the evening for musical events. 
No wheelchair access.

33. University of Chester 
Chapel
The chapel was built between 
1844 and 1847. The decorative 
stonework, carved interior 
woodwork, the organ case and 
some of the stained glass were 
produced by the students. 
An explanatory leaflet is also 
available in the chapel. There will 
also be maps of the campus. 
Thurs 10th to Sun 13th - 11am 
to 4pm. Disabled access.

34. Chester Bluecoat 
Primary School, 
Walpole Rd.
Modern timber framed primary 
school, newly designed & built. 
Fri 11th - open 1pm to 3pm. 
Small group tours by staff & 
children whilst school is in 
session. Tours start at 1pm & 
2pm, lasting about 45 minutes, 
with time for questions and 
refreshments. Visitors need to 
book in advance, sign in & be 
supervised during their visit. 
Disabled access, toilets & lift. 
Off Parkgate Rd. near the 
University. To book ring 01244 
981098.
CHESTER ON FOOT
(Entries in italics are public houses)
OPEN EVERY DAY (*Times Vary)
4. Old Leche House (9.30-5.30, Sun 11-5)
5. Booth Mansion(10.30-7pm T-Sat, 11-5 Sun)
6. St. Peter’s Church (10-3.30, Sun 1-3.30)
7. Castle Galleries (9-5.30, Sun1-3.30)
8. Spud-U-Like (9-6, Sun10-5)
10. CC-Viyella (10-4, Sun11.30-3.30)
11.Mad Hatters Tea Room (11-4.30)*
12.Sally’s Secret Garden (9.30-5.30)*
13.**The Falcon (11-11)**
14.Grosvenor Museum (10.30-5, Sun1-4)
16.Brewery Tap /Gamul House (12-11)*
20.**Bear & Billet (12-11)**
21.Three Kings Tea Room(10-5)
22.St Barabaras (11-4, Sun 2-4)
23.Off The Wall (11-10.30)
25.St John the Baptist (10-5)
28.**The Commercial (11- midnight)**
29.Chester Cathedral (9-5, Sun 1-3)*
32.**Telford’s Warehouse (12 -6)**
33.Uni of Chester Chapel (11-4)
37.St Werburgh’s Church(10-4)*
38. Christ Church (10-4, Sun 12.30-6.30)

Selected Days Only
(Check times & dates in directory)
1.Bishop Lloyd’s Palace (Fri,Sat & Sun)
2.Stanley Palace (Sat only)
3.Watergate House (Sat only)
9.Chester Hist & Heritage (Sat only)
15.Chesh.Military Mus (Sat & Sun)
17.**Oddfellows(12-11 Thurs-Sun)**
18.St Mary’s Centre (Fri & Sat only)
19.Cheshire Record Office (Sat only)
24.Wesley Church (Thurs,Fri & Sat)
26.Miss Selfridge (Thurs,Fri & Sat)
27.The Town Hall (Friday only)
30.King Charles Tower (Sat & Sun only)
31.The Water Tower (Sat & Sun only)
34. Chester Bluecoat PS (Friday only)
35.The Queen’s School (Sat only)
36. St Oswald’s Church (Sat only)
35. Queen’s School
City Walls Road
Independent day school for girls est. 1878, built on the site of the old city jail. Exterior richly detailed in the vernacular revival style, with mullioned windows, shaped chimneys and an ornate steepled belfry. Visit inside the original school building, not usually open to the public.
Sat 12th - 10.30am to 1.30pm. Wheelchair access and toilets. No parking.

36. St. Oswald’s Church,
Backford (CH2 4BE)
Grade II* listed dating from C13th with later additions & restorations. Contains a reredos by John Douglas, and an exhibition on the history of the church.
Sat 12th - 10am to 4pm. Disabled access & toilets. Drive north out of Chester on A41 turn right into Church Lane at sign for Backford Village.

37. St. Werburgh Roman Catholic Church,
Grosvenor Park Road
Completed in 1875. This city centre church is a fine example by Edmund Kirby in the style of 13th century early English architecture. The church was refurbished in 2002. Stained glass windows. Acclaimed 3 manual Binns/Sixsmith organ installed in 2004.

38. Christ Church,
Gloucester Street,
Newtown
Completed 1900, by local architect John Douglas in Arts and Crafts style with ‘Oxford Movement’ interior, Kempe windows, a Brindley and Foster organ, and fascinating furniture and artefacts.
Thurs 10th, Fri 11th and Sat 12th 10pm to 4pm. Sun 13th -12.30pm to 6.30pm. One low step on entry, otherwise level. Car parking nearby at Brook Street car park. (Free after 3pm).

39. St. Mary’s Church
Dodleston
Redesigned by architect John Douglas in 1870, St. Mary’s has a medieval bell tower & the tombs of Sir Thomas Egerton & family. Lord Keeper of the Great Seal to Elizabeth I, he chose Dodleston as his resting place over Westminster Abbey. The poet John Donne visited the church in 1599. Dodleston was a garrison for the Parliamentary troops of Sir William Brereton who in 1644 – 45 was involved in the siege of Chester. The bell tower bears scars from musket shot and
these are clearly visible. Sat 12th and Sun 13th - 2pm to 5pm. Parking available. Partial wheelchair access.

40. Farndon Parish Church
Church Lane, Farndon
Rebuilt in 1658, the church features a Civil War window that details types of weapons and clothing used by the Cheshire gentry in the service of the Royalist cause.
Thurs 11th to Sat 13th - 10am to 4.30pm. Full wheelchair access & toilets. Light refreshments on Saturday. Public parking in centre of village and at nearby Memorial Hall. From Chester, turn left in village centre then first right to Church.

41. Stretton Watermill,
Near Farndon
Historic working watermill site dating from 1351. The present building dates from 1630, with alterations in 1770 and 1819. A rare survival of a rural mill with original machinery still in use. The evolution of the engineering is explained to visitors, and the milling process is demonstrated with two waterwheels, sluices, hoist & sifter. Free guided tours during the afternoons to see the ancient machinery.
Sat 12th and Sun 13th - 1pm to 5pm. Last tour 4.30pm. Ten miles south of Chester, off A534 between Farndon and Broxton roundabout. Wheelchair access. Small shop & exhibition. Parking, toilets, refreshments, picnic area.

42. Walk Mill, Waverton
A working flour mill, Walk Mill was mentioned in the Domesday Book, but was demolished in 1965. Recently rebuilt it is now open to the public. The mill has a cafe and shop with products baked on the premises using stone ground flour made from wheat grown in fields around the mill. The mill is powered by the River Gowy.
Thurs 10th to Fri 11th -10am to 4pm, and Sat 12th & Sun 13th 10am to 5pm. Take the A41 Whitchurch Road out of Chester. After 2 miles turn left, following the brown signs for Walk Mill. The Mill is on the right down Walk Mill Lane after a further 2 miles. Accessible parking & wheelchair access to building. Toilet facilities.

43. St. Andrew’s Parish Church, Church Street, Tarvin
Grade I listed 14th century parish church, of particular interest: 14th century oak screen, 14th century roof to south aisle and 17th century roof to nave, rebuilt following the Civil War. Victorian stained glass by Kempe and Bryans. Modern stained glass in west window. History exhibition
with remains of Saxon cross.  
Sat 12th - 10am to 4pm. In centre of village. Grade II listed Parish Tearoom with local art exhibition, once the 17th century Tarvin Grammar School. Simple refreshments, church guide booklets and trail leaflets are available. Wheelchair access. On street parking.

44. St. Edith’s Church, Shocklach, Malpas
This tiny parish church is just in Cheshire. Continuing worship and welcome assured at this treasured church dedicated to St. Edith. Interesting doorway (early 12th century) and an 18th century ceiling. Also a statue of a horse and rider, probably Viking.  
Sat 12th - 10am to 4pm. Visitors welcome to use picnic area in the grounds. Toilets. Partial wheelchair access. Parking available. North of Shocklach Village on west side of road.

45. Weaver Hall Museum Northwich
Museum displays explore the site’s workhouse history also local history & archaeology. Visitors can see the Board of Guardians meeting room, which is not always open to the public. Interpreters will animate your visit using workhouse research.  
No booking required.  
Sat 12th and Sun 13th - 2pm to 5pm. Fully accessible, lift to first floor, free parking, small shop, tea and coffee available. London Road, follow brown signs from A556 or Northwich Town.

46. Industrial Salt Heritage Open Day - Activities at various locations
Explore Mid Cheshire’s salty past! Salt production was a thriving industry and local towns were shaped by its presence, and salt was exported all over the world. Heritage sites across Northwich (the hub of the Cheshire salt industry) will open for free with exclusive access to restricted areas, free tours, walks and talks to celebrate this unique heritage. 
Sat 12th - 10am to 4pm. Lion Salt Works free entry.  
Anderton Boat Lift - free ‘Top of the World’ Tours. Northwich Community Woodlands - free guided walks. In the town centre - Artisan Market and activities. Free transport between sites. Booking required for some tours and activities. Please contact info@saltscape.co.uk for details of events and access.

47. St. Cuthbert by the Forest, Mouldsworth (CH3 8AJ)
Designed by F.X. Velarde this rural church was built in the 1950’s. The campanile is a local landmark and a characteristic
design of the Liverpool based architect, as are the stone ‘Angel’ mullions inside and out, the interior is in the Arts & Crafts style. Recently listed Grade II. Thurs 10th to Sat 12th - 10am to 4pm. Partial wheelchair access.

48. St Peter’s Church, Plemstall, Mickle Trafford
There has been a church on this site since 700AD. Some parts of the present church date from 1200. Substantial rebuilding in the 15th century and again in the reign of Henry VII (1485-1509). Some interesting carvings made by Reverend Toogood in 1907. Sat 12th 10am to 4pm. Disabled access, parking and toilet facilities. Take A56 through Mickle Trafford. Church signposted on right. Follow lane to the end.

49. Frodsham - Various
The Bear’s Paw Hotel, Main Street, Frodsham, WA6 7AF
A grade II listed building dated 1632. It displays the coat of arms of Earl Rivers of the Savage family – the Lord of the Manor of Frodsham. A panel of wattle and daub survives internally. Formerly a coaching inn and posting house. In 1903-4 stone mullion windows were reinstated by Douglas and Minshull. Thurs 10th to Sat 12th, 11 am to late evening, Sun 13th noon to 11pm. Disabled access. Food & drink available. Further heritage details from the bar staff.

Queen’s Head Hotel, Main Street, Frodsham WA6 7AR
Built C1580 and grade II listed. Frodsham’s oldest coaching inn was given a new facade in the early 19th century. There are moulded oak beams in the bar. The attached coach-house to the right of the rear-yard has an upper storey which is said to have been the meeting-place of the manorial court before it became a Quaker Meeting House in 1813. The stable to the left of the yard is grade II listed. Thurs 10th to Sun 13th, 10.30am to late evening. Disabled access to rear. Dog friendly. Food & drink available. Further heritage details from bar staff.

Old Hall Hotel and Tide-stones, Main Street, Frodsham, WA6 7AB
A grade II listed building, probably 17th century. Two oak-framed cottages were transformed into ‘Ty Gwyn’ (White House) in the early 19th century. Became a hotel in the 20th century and greatly extended. Wattle & daub in the dining room marks the back wall of the cottages. The garden goes down to the Marshes where two listed Tide-stones mark high water points in 1802 and 1862.
Thurs 10th to Sun 13th, 9 am to late evening. Disabled access to hotel. Food & drink available. Further details from main reception.

Main Street Community Church (MSCC) WA6 7DF
MSCC is locally called the Iron Church or Tin Church. It was built in the 1870s and acted as the Parish Church 1880-82 whilst St Laurence’s was restored. In 1995 the church was moved 3m closer to Ashley House to create Chapelfields. MSCC is one of the best surviving examples of a ‘Tin Tabernacle’ in England. Thurs 10th - market day morning – open as a Café. Disabled access & toilet.

The Old Courthouse, Ship Street, Frodsham WA6 7NW
The Old Courthouse was built in 1894 and is locally listed. It ceased to be a Petty Sessions Court in December 1970 and was purchased as a meeting place for Brownies and Guides in 1972. It comprises a main hall (the courtroom), a judge’s robing room, waiting room, toilet and kitchen. Some original courtroom features remain. Extension and refurbishment are planned. Sat 12th & Sun 13th, 1pm to 4pm. Tea & coffee available.

Railway Station with Former Stationmaster’s House, Frodsham.
Grade II listed Stationmaster’s House was built in 1849. In 1893 it was moved ‘en bloc’ several feet further back from the platform edge and a canopy added. The building was restored by Network Rail in 2013. It is now let to small businesses. Thurs 10th to Sat 12th, 9am to 5pm

Castle Park, Frodsham WA6 6SE
Grade II registered park and garden has had two HLF grants. The present Castle Park House dates from 1851 and occupies the site of the former medieval ‘castle’/manor house. Restored in 2006. The conservatory, set in formal gardens was rebuilt to its original design when the park was refurbished in 2009-10. It displays the history of Castle Park. Thurs 10th to Sun 13th, 10am to 4pm. Disabled access.

Castle Park Arts Centre, Off Fountain Lane, Frodsham WA6 6SE
The Arts Centre occupies the refurbished Victorian coach house and stables of the former Castle Park estate. There is free entrance to three exhibition rooms see www.castleparkarts.co.uk for details.
**Thurs 10th to Sun 13th, 10am to 4pm. Disabled access. Café.**

**The Parish Church of St Laurence, Church Road, Overton**
Church is Grade I listed sandstone building of Norman origin, with Perpendicular and late medieval features. Victorian restoration raised the height of the nave roof and altered the interior. Restoration work, supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, was completed in early 2015. **Thurs 10th and Friday 11th open for private prayer. Open for guided tours of the church and churchyard: Saturday 12th: 10am to 4pm, Sunday 13th: 1.30pm to 4pm. Refreshments available.**

**Disabled access and toilets. For details of church services:** www.stlaurencefrodsham.org/

**Ring O’Bells Inn, opposite the Church, Frodsham**
A distinctive grade II listed building, probably 17th century. It retains some small rooms typical of a true ‘public house’, has low ceilings and an altered inglenook. Bar has some original timber framing and wattle and daub. **Thurs 10th to Sun 13th, 10 am to late evening. Disabled access. Food & drink available. Further details from bar staff. Opposite Parish Church.**

**The War Memorial, Off Bellemonte Road, Frodsham**
Memorial Field was donated by the Wright sisters of Castle Park and has impressive gates. The grade II listed sandstone War Memorial was unveiled in 1921. On the brow of Overton Hill, with splendid views across Frodsham & beyond. Identification of distant landscape features is aided by a toposcope. **Thurs 10th to Sun 13th, dawn ‘til dusk. Disabled access to the right of Forest Hills Hotel.**

**50. Neston Church**
High St, Neston
Rebuilt in the gothic revival style between 1874 and 1875 on the site of a C12th Norman church. A worship site from much earlier times is indicated by the remains of grave marker crosses, dating from 930AD. Arts & Craft display. Guided tours of the church available on request. **Thurs 10th - Sun 13th 10am to 3.30pm. 12 people per tour. Refreshments available.** Disabled access.
EVENTS

BOOKING OPENS MONDAY 10 AUGUST.
BOOKING ESSENTIAL FOR ALL EVENTS.
Where entries contain specific phone numbers for booking please use them to reserve places. To book all other events ring 01244 972210 Monday to Friday - 10am to 12pm and 1pm to 4pm. Children MUST be accompanied by adults.
The Guild of Chester Tour Guides generously support Heritage Open Days by providing free tours.

THURSDAY 10th

A. Grosvenor Park Heritage Walking Tour
This guided walking tour will be led by a member of the Guild of Chester Tour Guides.
Thurs 10th - Tour starts 11am ends 12 noon. 25 spaces on tour. Book in advance. Departs from the Activity Zone opposite the City Baths.

B. Mickle Trafford Watermill & the Grange Stewardship Farm Tour (CH2 4JR)
Trafford Mill dates from 1768 and records show that a water mill has stood on this site since at least 1303. The Grange Farm (Tyre Farm until 1947) surrounds the mill and is known to have been in existence since 1790. Join us for a guided tour of Trafford Mill and its environs, taking in the history and future plans for the mill and the newly established Building Preservation Trust. Find out about traditional land management, conservation grazing, the history & geology of the River Gowy and its valley. Meet some of the rare breed Red Poll cattle living at the Grange Farm. Access to the Mill may be restricted due to ongoing repair work. Thurs 10th & Fri 11th - Tour at 2pm. Sat 12th - Tour at 10am (plus local produce fair from 9am). Sun 13th Tour at 10am. Meet at the Grange Farm 4 miles NE of Chester on the A56 between Beesley & Fildes and Meadow Fishery. Look for Red Poll Beef signs. Places limited for safety reasons. Booking essential, ring Huw Rowlands on mobile 07950 963526, or email huw.rowlands145@btinternet.com No disabled access. Toilets at the farm. Free parking at Grange Farm where tours begin. Stout shoes or wellies and waterproof clothing recommended for the fields.

C. Riverside Museum, University of Chester
The Riverside Museum houses a selection of curiosities from the world of medicine including a facsimile of a letter from Florence Nightingale. This will also be an opportunity to see the First World War: Returning Home exhibition, focusing on the effects of the war on health & social care, including medical advances, home &
rural life and the role of volunteers. Thurs 10th and Saturday 12th 1pm to 4pm. 30 places per tour. To book ring Roger Whiteley on 01244 511619 or email r.whiteley@chester.ac.uk. Disabled access can be arranged, enquire at time of booking. Public access is via the Castle Drive entrance of the Riverside building so please meet at reception and wait to be shown to the Museum. Cafe open for light refreshments. Nearest parking Little Roodee (pay car park)

D. Chester Racecourse Walking Tour
The first official records of horse racing taking place at Chester date back to the early 16th century, making this the country’s oldest racecourse. Over the centuries it has evolved, and continues to excite with its varied programme of events and activities.
Thurs 10th at 2pm. Walking tour and talk led by Chris Clayton lasting between 90 &120 minutes. He explains the history of the racecourse site since Roman times up to recent projects including the grandstand extensions and 1539 restaurant, & new Parade Ring projects. Also the Old Port site including new stables and railway arches with associated developments and the riverside path. Assemble at the Holiday Inn Express Hotel on New Crane Street, CH1 2LY, to start the tour. Parking available at the hotel, and toilets are available on the tour. Steep steps to the City Walls tour so not suitable for the disabled, or those with walking difficulties. Booking essential, 35 places.

FRIDAY 11th

E. Grosvenor Park Heritage Walking Tour
This guided walking tour will be led by a member of the Guild of Chester Tour Guides.
Friday 11th - Tour starts 11am ends 12 noon. 25 spaces on tour. Book in advance. Departs from the Activity Zone opposite the City Baths.

F. Bridgegate House, 5 Bridge Place, Lower Bridge Street
A fine Georgian house and key historic building, now the offices of award winning conservation architects, Donald Insall Associates. Contains a very fine staircase. Take a guided tour of the building with a small exhibition of Donald Insall Associates projects.
Fri 11th - Tours at 10am and 3pm. Booking essential on 01244 350063 in office hours Mon to Fri. No disabled access to the upper floors. Toilets.

G. Secret Chester Tour
Discover some of Chester’s hidden secrets including a visit to the rarely opened Agricola Tower and Castle area. Tour led by Guild of Chester Tour Guides. More information at www.chestertours.org.uk.
Friday 11th - Tour starts 11.30am from the Town Hall VIC. 15 places per tour - booking essential. No wheelchair access.
SATURDAY 12th

H. Albion Inn, Albion Street
Built in the late 19th century, The Albion is Chester’s last unspoilt Victorian public house dedicated to the Great War. Many items of memorabilia are housed in the bar including a 1928 Pianola Steck, which can be played on request. The Albion is a short walk from the Drill Hall, built by James Harrison in 1868. The building was converted into flats in 1983, but visitors can view the Grade II listed facade which has been retained.
Sat 12th - Tours at 3pm and 4.30pm. Tours conducted by Mike Mercer, the oldest serving licensee in Chester. 10 places on each tour. Booking essential. No parking, no disabled access.

I. The Chester Tour
Sat 12th - Tour starts 10.30am from the Town Hall VIC. 25 places per tour. Booking essential. Accessible for all.

J. Grosvenor Park Heritage Walking Tour
This guided walking tour will be led by a member of the Guild of Chester Tour Guides.
Sat 12th - Tour starts 11am ends 12 noon. 25 spaces on tour. Book in advance. Departs from the Activity Zone opposite the City Baths.

K. Chester Railway Station
Guided tour and updates on this historic station, where the foundation stone was laid on 1st August 1847. Tour will include a fascinating historic time-line stretching from its original builder Thomas Brassey up to the present day, with the massive investments that have been required to make it a key transport interchange for Chester and surrounding areas.
Sat 12th Tour 2pm. Booking essential. 30 places. Tour by John Whittingham. Full disabled access to platforms. Assemble on the concourse at front of station.

L. Tarvin Village Historical Walking Tour
Guided tour by Tarvin Local History Group of the historic centre of Tarvin township. Its history begins in Roman times and the centre contains an imposing Parish Church, half-timbered cottages and fine Georgian buildings.
Sat 12th - Tour starts at 1.30pm and finishes outside St. Andrew’s Church in the centre of the village. No booking required. No wheelchair access. Toilets in parish room adjacent.

M. Northgate House
Upper Northgate Street
Northgate House, a Grade II listed private residence was built in three separate eras. Erected in the 1730s the original building was used as stables by the Fire Dept. Other trades taking place at the time were coffin
making and ink production. The Toll House was built C1815, along with the present North Gate, after the House of Correction and the previous North Gate were demolished. The Toll House and the original building were linked by the third building in the late 19th c. This part of the building housed a school from 1916 to 1957. Sat 12th - Tours at 11am and 2pm. Five people max on each tour due to buildings’ small size. Booking is essential. No parking. No disabled access.

N. 8 White Friars
This Grade II listed private residence was built C16th century, of timber framed construction, and was thought to have been owned by Richard Harrison, a brewer, an Alderman and Sheriff of Chester (1661-2) and Mayor (1667-8). A portrait of him hangs in the Lord Mayor’s Parlour at the Town Hall. Originally the Georgian facade would have been similar to No 1 - with a projecting first floor. Many original Jacobean features remain, such as the wattle and daub infilling, oak trusses, and what is believed to be the oldest brick smoke hood in the city. An important feature of the building is the heraldic overmantel, displaying the arms of the Worshipful Company of Brewers, a London Livery company. Another notable feature is the drawing room panelling.
Sat 12th & Sun 13th - Tours 11am and 2pm booking essential. 10 people maximum per tour. No parking, no disabled access.

O. Tilstone Lock Lengthsman’s Hut, Tilstone Fearnall
This round lengthsman’s hut is one of three on the Chester Canal. They are Grade II listed and unique to this Canal. CCHT have restored this one working with the Canal and River Trust and hope to restore others. Visitors will be able to look around and learn about its use and history. Sat 12th and Sun 13th between 10am to 4pm. Booking essential for timed slots on the hour and the half hour. No disabled access. Hut on towpath on Shropshire Union Canal. Turn off the A51 travelling south towards Tilstone Fearnall. Parking in the paddock of Hawthorne Cottage, halfway down the steep hill towards the canal. Parking is limited. Nearest postcode CW6 9QH. Visitors will be met at the car park.

SUNDAY 13th
P. The Chester Tour
Sun 13th - Tour starts 10.30am from the Town Hall VIC. 25 places per tour. Booking essential. Accessible for all.
Q. Grosvenor Park
Heritage Walking Tour
This guided walking tour will be led by a member of the Guild of Chester Tour Guides. Sun 13th - Tour starts 11am ends 12 noon. 25 spaces on tour. Book in advance. Departs from the Activity Zone opposite the City Baths.

R. Upton by Chester Historical Walking Tour Village Hall, Heath Road
Tour by Upton Local History Group around some old parts of the northern half of the village - Upton Heath and Upton Cross. Calling at a few properties for specific tours by their incumbents - some of these are not normally open to the public. Mainly Victorian but pointing out features from earlier and later times. Sun 13th at 2.30pm. Tour starts and finishes at Upton Village Hall open 2 to 5pm. Parking, tea & small local history exhibition.(CH2 1HX). Booking essential - ring Barbara Smith on 01244 383742. (12 people max) Hall has disabled access, but the walk is over uneven ground and steps.

S. Tilstone Lock
Lengthsman’s Hut, Tilstone Fearnall (see M for details)
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<tr>
<th>Heritage Open Days at a Glance BUILDINGS</th>
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<td>12. Sally’s Secret Garden,Dutch Houses</td>
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<td>35. Queen’s School</td>
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<td>46. Industrial Salt Heritage Open Day - see entry</td>
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<td>47. St Cuthbert by the Forest</td>
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<td>49. Frodsham - see entries for days/times</td>
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