

Museums in Annan and Dumfries

Exhibitions and Events
October 2017 - March 2018

Free Admission



Welcome

We hope that something in our local programme of exhibitions and events will appeal to you. To download a PDF of this programme or to join our mailing list visit www.dumgal.gov.uk/artsandmuseums

To keep up to date with our news and get additional information follow us on Facebook (@DumfriesMuseum) and Twitter (@DumfriesMuseum).

The Museums Service is a member of Dumfries and Galloway Museums and Heritage Network - a treasure trove of history across south-west Scotland. To find out more see www.dgmuseumsnetwork.org.uk



Christmas Opening Hours

Please note that contrary to normal opening hours the museums will be closed on Tuesday 26 December 2017 and Tuesday 2 January 2018.



THE ARCHAEOLOGY, ROBERT BURNS AND KIRKCUDBRIGHT ARTISTS COLLECTIONS OF DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COUNCIL ARE RECOGNISED AS NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT COLLECTIONS. AWARDED BY MUSEUMS GALLERIES SCOTLAND ON BEHALF OF THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT.

EVENTS FOR SCHOOLS AND GROUPS



Why not visit our museums in Dumfriesshire?

The museums are free to visit and Camera Obscura presentations at Dumfries Museum are free to school groups when booked in advance. If you are studying a specific topic and think that we can help

please call us. We have a range of worksheets which may help structure your visit.

Loans boxes

We have a wide range of loans boxes available for schools and community groups to borrow free of charge. These cover topics such as Robert Burns,

Domestic Life, Education and Childhood and many more.

Special workshops

We offer special workshops based on some of our temporary exhibitions - look out for further information on GLOW or through education email circulars.

For further information on school or group visits please call Dumfries Museum on 01387 253374.



January 2018

Burns on the Beat for Schools

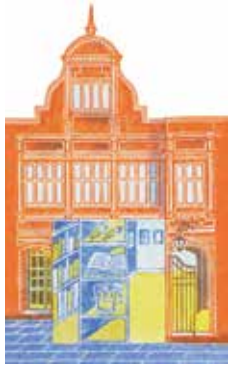
Dumfries and Annan Museums are offering school classes the opportunity to take part in music and Scots language sessions delivered by Dr Fred Freeman during January 2018.

Schools can choose from a wide selection of workshop options tailored for specific primary or secondary school age groups. A detailed information pack will be sent out to participating classes.

Teachers interested in booking these sessions should contact Dumfries Museum by:

email to dumfries.museum@dumgal.gov.uk or telephone 01387 253374.

Annan Museum



Annan Museum

Bank Street, Annan DG12 6AA

Tel: 01461 201384

Admission free

Open until 31 October 2017

Monday - Saturday

11am - 4pm

This family friendly museum houses a permanent exhibition on the history of Annan and the surrounding area. A fascinating journey through time takes visitors from the prehistoric period up to the era of nuclear fission. Displays include costume, First World War memorabilia, town regalia and a remarkable collection of paintings depicting Annan and the Solway shore. Look out for a 4000 year old Bronze Age burial urn, mummified baby crocodiles and the 110 year old piece of chocolate!

The museum also hosts a lively programme of special exhibitions and events throughout the season, together with visitor information and a shop stocking pocket money buys as well as local history books and greetings cards by local artists.

Open for special events during the winter season.

Museum re-opens for the spring season on Friday 30 March 2018. The first exhibition for 2018 will be **Space: Fact and Fiction**

EXHIBITIONS AT ANNAN MUSEUM



Until Monday 31 October 2017

Recording War

The 1914-18 war was the first conflict during which professional press photography was widely used. The ordinary soldier had access to a camera for the first time to record his own story. Aspects of life on the Home Front were also captured by amateur photographers, whilst the traditional studio portrait remained an important means of remembering loved ones. Letters offer further glimpses of what people saw, experienced and chose to tell those back home.

On display are selected professional photographs from the collection of Annan photographer Frederick Gibbs (1888 - 1940) alongside amateur photographs, images of life at Kinmount and Glen Stuart Auxiliary Hospital, poignant studio portraits and powerful writing from the Front. Taking into account the censorship regulations of the time we can reflect upon what people considered important to record, what we now understand from these images and letters, and what we think may be important in another 100 years.



Friday 30 March -
Saturday 19 May 2018

Space: Fact and Fiction

This exhibition explores a brave new world of science facts and takes a giant leap into science fiction. From a local observatory to the Galloway Dark Sky Park and galaxies far, far away there will be plenty for all ages to enjoy.



TALKS AND EVENTS AT ANNAN MUSEUM

Thursday 26 October 2017

6.30 - 8pm

The World War One Soldier Photographer

A talk by Alan Wakefield, Head of First World War, Imperial War Museum, London

Due to the introduction of smaller and portable cameras, this was the first conflict in which ordinary soldiers were able to take photographs and by doing so tell their own stories. These were often very different to the official press photographs of conflicts and offer us alternative views of the War. This talk will explore this genre, showing images from the different war fronts, depicting the everyday life of the soldier as well as moments from famous battles.

Image from the collection of Charles Anderson, kindly provided by Rene Anderson

FREE FAMILY EVENTS AT ANNAN MUSEUM

Suitable for aged 5 and upwards, all children must be accompanied by an adult. Please wear old clothes - workshops can be messy! Where booking is required this opens one month before each event.

Activities are free

Donations towards the cost of materials are always appreciated and help to make the museum sustainable in the longer term.

DROP IN AUTUMN ACTIVITIES

Words of war

**Monday to Saturday
Until 31 October
11am - 4pm**

- Chose words from our word bank to describe the photographs in the exhibition
- Truth and lies - look at our mystery objects and see if you can tell which is the true description
- Use our World War One props to take your own photo - what story do you want to tell?
- Gallery trail and colouring sheets

Autumn at the museum

**Thursday 19 October
Drop in 11am - 3pm**

Have fun making autumn inspired garlands and Halloween decorations.

**Thursday 26 October
Drop in 11am - 3pm**

Make spooky pictures and masks for Halloween.

Money can't buy love!

**Saturday 25 November
Drop in 11am - 3pm**

Explore ways of getting ready for Christmas for free.

Join staff and volunteers using mainly recycled materials to create cards, decorations and presents with that personal touch.



PLEASE BOOK February half term holiday

**Monday 12
February 2018
ZooLab -
Springtime**

Sessions start at 10am,
11am, 12noon, 2pm
and 3pm

Find out how the ZooLab animals deal with winter and then what happens in springtime as they prepare for the season ahead.

**This event is free but
booking is essential -
booking opens
12 January, please call
Dumfries Museum on
01387 253374.**

DROP IN EASTER ACTIVITIES

Find the Easter Ducklings

**Friday 30 and Saturday
31 March and Monday
2 April 2018**

11am - 4pm

Find all of the ducklings hidden around the museum and answer the Easter quiz questions to win a wee chocolate egg and lots of satisfaction.

Easter school holidays activities will take place on Thursday 5 and 12 April 2018 - details will be in our April - September 2018 programme available in March 2018.

DUMFRIES MUSEUM



Dumfries Museum

The Observatory, Rotchell Road, Dumfries, DG2 7SW
Tel: 01387 253374

Admission free

Open all year

1 October 2017 - 29 March 2018

Tuesday - Saturday

10am - 1pm, 2pm - 5pm

30 March - 30 September 2018

Monday - Saturday 10am - 5pm

Sunday 2pm - 5pm

A treasure house of history in Dumfries and Galloway telling the story of the land and people of the region. Look out for fossil footprints left by prehistoric animals, the wildlife of the Solway, tools and weapons of our earliest people, stone carvings by Scotland's first Christians and the everyday things of the Victorian farm, workshop and home. Museum activity trails and gallery investigations, visitor information and a shop with unusual and nostalgic toys, gifts and pocket money buys.



The windmill tower is reached via a spiral staircase - please telephone for further details.

During the winter months (October to March) Camera Obscura presentations can be arranged by booking in advance by telephoning 01387 253374.

Admission: Adults £3.20, Concession £1.60. Please note that operation of the Camera Obscura is weather dependant.

EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS AT DUMFRIES MUSEUM



**Foyer Exhibition
until 3 February 2018**

Blood, Sweat and Tears - Conserving Mackenzie's 19th Century Jacket

Lieutenant-General Colin Mackenzie (1806 - 1881) was the son in law of Admiral John Douglas of Kinmount, near Annan in Dumfries and Galloway. His blood stained jacket was kept as a reminder of his lucky escape when he was attacked and almost died in India in 1855.

The jacket is on display for the first time since being conserved by student Hannah Vickers at the Centre for Textile Conservation at the University of Glasgow.

© The National Army Museum



**2018 Foyer Exhibition
Tuesday 6 February -
January 2019**

Finding our Past

From prehistoric axe heads to a post medieval gold ring, this exhibition showcases recent archaeological finds made in our history rich region.

Inscription inside the
gold ring reads

In thee my choice, I do rejoice



**Saturday 9 September
- Saturday 18
November**

Space: Fact and Fiction

This exhibition explores a brave new world of science facts and takes a giant leap into science fiction. From our historic observatory at the top of a windmill tower to the Galloway Dark Sky Park and galaxies far, far away there will be plenty for all ages to enjoy.



**Tuesday 3 October
2017 to Saturday
17 March 2018**

**World War One
stories -
Thomas Mills**

Brought up in Torthorwald, Thomas Mills was called up to serve in the Royal Army Medical Corps on 15 May 1915. He was later transferred and served in the Ayrshire and Lanarkshire Yeomanry and was part of the Railway Operating Division, Royal Engineers, Egyptian Expeditionary Force. He wrote postcards home to his mother describing his experiences.



**21 November - 9
December 2017
Knit 1 Bike 1**

A textile exhibition based on Janet Renouf-Miller's cycling, knitting and spinning tour around Scotland. The exhibition features a sixteen foot long, crocheted version of the Glenfinnan Viaduct, Janet's bicycle and other things she saw on the way. You can find out more about Knit 1 Bike 1 at createwithfibre.co.uk

See Gracefield
Workshop Programme
for hands on class on
2 December 2017



**Tuesday 5 December
2017 - Saturday 6
February 2018**

**Walter Newall
- An Architect's
Stamp on South
West Scotland**

This exhibition of photographs by Margaret Elliot shows the surviving work of Walter Newall, an architect of the 19th century. Starting his career as a cabinetmaker he changed course to become an architect and worked in the Dumfries and Galloway area from 1810 to 1860.



**Friday 23 February -
Sunday 22 April 2018**

**Fossil Hunters: Unearthing the
Mystery of Life on Land**

Discover how life on earth moved from water onto land 360-345 million years ago through ground-breaking discoveries made in Scotland.

In Fossil Hunters, meet the people who uncovered these remarkable finds, discover the scientific techniques used to extract and identify them, and glimpse what life was like before the dinosaurs.

Fossil Hunters is a National Museums Scotland touring exhibition.

Supported by the Natural Environment Research Council and the Heritage Lottery Fund.

www.nms.ac.uk/fossilhunters

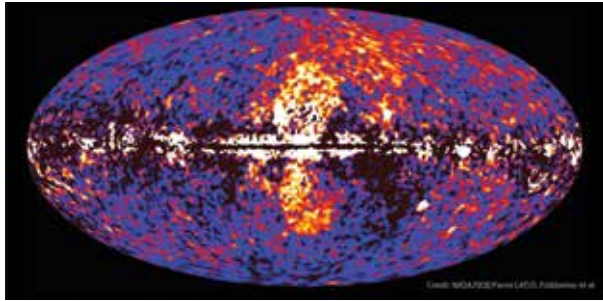


TALKS AND EVENTS AT DUMFRIES MUSEUM

Booking is required unless otherwise stated.

Please phone Dumfries Museum on 01387 253374 to reserve a place.

Events are free unless otherwise stated. Donations towards costs are always appreciated and help to make the museum sustainable in the longer term.



Tuesday 10 October 2017, 6.30pm

Gamma-ray Astronomy of the Sun and Moon

Dumfries Astronomy Society lecture at Dumfries Museum

Dr Alexander MacKinnon, Senior Lecturer,
University of Glasgow

Dr McKinnon explains: "Gamma-rays are the most penetrating form of light, like X-rays only more so. Their study tells us about extremely energetic phenomena elsewhere in the universe. It might be a surprise to find such radiation coming from solar system objects, rather than pulsars or supermassive black holes, but the Sun and even the Moon can be sources of gamma-rays. We will look at gamma-radiation, at how it is detected and at a couple of ways that it can be produced by astrophysical objects".

Free and open to all but please pre-book a place by telephoning 01387 253374. The talk will be followed by refreshments and an opportunity to look around the museum.



Wednesday

15 November 2017

6.30 - 8pm

From Banditry to Books, from Reiving to Screeving: The Borders Enlightenment

Society of Antiquaries of Scotland
lecture at Dumfries Museum

Professor Ted Cowan, Emeritus
Professor of Scottish History and
Literature, University of Glasgow

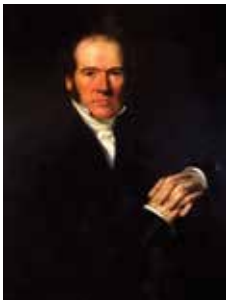
This lecture will explore and assess the
influence of the enlightenment upon
the inhabitants of the Scottish Borders.



Thursday 23 November, 6.30pm

Janet Renouf-Millar: Knit 1 Bike 1 - a Cycle Journey with a Difference

Cycling around Scotland is something worth lingering over! Janet set off on a ten week meander around our wonderful country on her Brompton folding bicycle. She took her knitting with her meeting people on the way, chewing the fat and checking out the coffee shops. As a textile artist, she knitted and crocheted what she saw and delivered workshops along the way. The project resulted in the Knit 1 Bike 1 exhibition and a book about her adventures.



Thursday 7 December 2017, 6.30pm

Margaret Elliot: The Life and times of Walter Newall

This talk will take us back to the early 1800s with Walter Newall, the architect, his work, his way of life and some of the interesting history behind his buildings.



Sunday 17 December 2.30 - 4pm

Forgotten Carols with the Feral Choir

This beautiful and atmospheric concert features songs and poetry to celebrate the winter and is one of Dumfries and Galloway's must see events. Contemporary winter songs jostle with "forgotten" carols originating from Britain's rich folk traditions, all beautifully arranged for harmony singers. The choir is delighted to have soloist Polly Bolton joining them for the concert. Forgotten Carols is produced and conducted by Alison Burns, the Feral Choir's musical director and one of the UK's leading community choir songwriters. A prolific reader and collector of contemporary poetry, she has drawn on works from local and global writing communities to devise this performance.

Tickets £10, include seasonal refreshments afterwards. Tickets available from Dumfries Museum (telephone: 01387 253374).

Space is limited and pre-purchase of tickets is strongly recommended.



Saturday 24 March 2018 8.15 - 10pm

Earth Hour

Join us for the global Earth Hour party, highlighting the need for action on climate change.

As the lights are turned off, we will be stargazing and moon watching with freelance ranger, Elizabeth Tindall, followed by hot drinks, fun star trails and making activities inside the museum. Wrap up for all weathers. If it is raining there will be alternative indoor activities. Suitable for all ages.

No booking required.



Thursday 22 February 2018 6.30 - 8pm

A Fish out of Water: the Earliest Invasion of Land by Animals with Backbones

We celebrate the opening of the National Museum of Scotland exhibition "Fossil Hunters" with a talk by Nick Fraser, Keeper of Natural Sciences at National Museums Scotland.

New fossils from the Scottish Borders are of international significance. Nick will explore how these fossils are giving us a whole new understanding of the earliest invasion of land by back-boned animals about 360 million years ago.

Light refreshments will be served.



FREE FAMILY EVENTS AT DUMFRIES MUSEUM

Suitable for aged 5 and upwards, all children must be accompanied by an adult.

Please wear old clothes - workshops can be messy!

Where booking is required this opens one month before each event. To reserve a place please phone Dumfries Museum on 01387 253374 during normal opening times.

Activities are free

Donations towards the cost of materials are always appreciated and help to make the museum sustainable in the longer term.



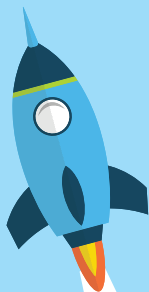
DROP IN AUTUMN ACTIVITIES

Until 18 November
10am-1pm and 2-5pm

Tuesday - Saturday

Drop in gallery activities to accompany the **Space: Fact and Fiction** exhibition

- Be an astronaut with our space suit dress up bay
- Follow the rocket trail
- Space themed quizzes and colouring sheets



Tuesday 17 October
Drop in 10am-12noon or 2-4pm
Rocket lab

with freelance ranger Elizabeth Tindall

Make a mini rocket powered with water, air or a simple chemical reaction. Depending on the weather this activity session may take place outside.

Tuesday 24 October
Drop in 10am-12noon or 2-4pm
Exploring the sun

with freelance ranger Elizabeth Tindall

Learn how to view the sun safely and make solar prints using found natural materials and the light of our nearest star. This activity session will take place outside. In the event of wet weather an alternative space themed activity will take place indoors.

DROP IN WINTER ACTIVITIES

21 November - 31 December
10am-1pm and 2-5pm

Tuesday - Saturday

Drop in winter activities inspired by our exhibitions and winter season

Try out our knitting and building themed gallery trails

- Have a go with our giant knitting activity
- Make a pop up designer house
- Make chilly snow scene pictures

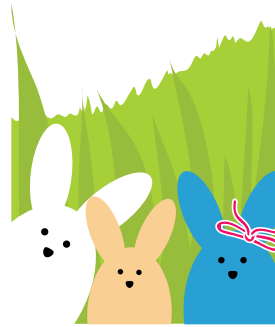
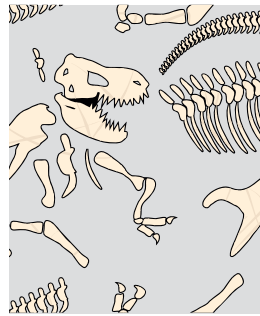


Christmas at Dumfries Museum

Saturday 25 November
10am - 12noon and 2 - 4pm
Money can't buy love!

Explore ways of getting ready for Christmas for free

Come along to Dumfries Museum and join staff and volunteers using mainly recycled materials to create cards, decorations and presents with that personal touch.



Old Bridge House Museum and Sanquhar Tolbooth Museum will open for the 2018 summer season on 30 March 2018.



FEBRUARY HALF TERM HOLIDAY 2018 DROP IN

Tuesday 13 February
Chinese New Year decorations

Drop in
10am - 12noon or 2 - 4pm
No booking required. Have fun finding out about Chinese horoscopes and make traditional Chinese New Year decorations. 2018 is the year of the dog.



PLEASE BOOK

Wednesday 14 February
Zoolab - Chinese New Year

Sessions start at 10am, 11am, 12noon, 2pm and 3pm
Meet the Zoolab animals and learn all about the Chinese spring festival. Hear the story of Nian, The Jade Emperor and the Kitchen God and find out about the animals of the Zodiac.

This event is free but booking is essential - booking opens 12 January, please call Dumfries Museum on 01387 253374.

DROP IN SPRING ACTIVITIES

23 February - 22 April
10am - 1pm and 2 - 5pm
Tuesday - Saturday

- Find the fossils trail
- Fossil jigsaw challenge
- Fossil colouring pages and quizzes

DROP IN EASTER ACTIVITIES

Easter 2018
Friday 30 March - Monday 2 April

Find the Easter eggs
Find all of the eggs hidden around the museum and answer the Easter quiz questions to win a wee chocolate egg and lots of satisfaction.

Easter school holidays activities will take place on Tuesdays 3 and 10 April 2018 - details will be in our April - September 2018 programme available in March 2018.



Old Bridge House, Dumfries

Mill Road, Dumfries DG2 7BE
Tel: 01387 256904



Sanquhar Tolbooth Museum

High Street, Sanquhar DG4 6BN
Tel: 01659 50186

Robert Burns Centre, Dumfries



Robert Burns Centre, Dumfries

Mill Road, Dumfries DG2 7BE.
Tel: 01387 264808

Admission free

Open all year

1 October 2017 - 29 March 2018

Tuesday - Saturday

10am - 1pm, 2pm - 5pm

30 March - 30 September 2018

Monday - Saturday 10am - 5pm

Sunday 2pm - 5pm

Audio Visual Theatre Presentations, The early life of Burns or Dumfries Queen of the South, Adults: £2.30, Conc: £1.15.

Situated in the town's eighteenth century watermill on the west bank of the River Nith, the Robert Burns Centre tells the story of Robert Burns' last years spent in the bustling streets and lively atmosphere of Dumfries in the late eighteenth century. The exhibition is illuminated by many original manuscripts and belongings of the poet.

There is a fascinating scale model of Dumfries in the 1790s and a haunting audio-visual presentation. Test your powers of observation with a gallery investigation, discover Dumfries and Galloway's Burns connections and browse around the shop.

Upstairs at the Robert Burns Centre a new café facility will be opening soon.

Robert Burns House, Dumfries



Robert Burns House, Dumfries

Burns Street, Dumfries DG1 2PS.
Tel: 01387 255297

Admission free

Open all year

1 October 2017 - 29 March 2018

Tuesday - Saturday

10am - 1pm, 2pm - 5pm

30 March - 30 September 2018

Monday - Saturday 10am - 5pm

Sunday 2pm - 5pm

It was in this simple sandstone house in a quiet Dumfries street that Robert Burns, Scotland's national poet, spent the last years of his life. He died here in 1796 at the age of just thirty seven. The house shows us how the poet and his family lived in the late eighteenth century, and is now a place of pilgrimage for Burns enthusiasts from around the world. The sales area has books, gifts and keepsakes, all with a Burns connection.

Robert Burns House is accessed via steps - please telephone for further details.