

SPOTLIGHT ON READING ABBEY QUARTER



PROJECT UPDATE

JUNE 2019

New Museum Gallery opened 28 May 2019



Reading Museum unveiled its new Story of Reading and Welcome Galleries on 28 May. This event was attended by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor David Stevens who cut the ribbon to officially open the galleries.

This space has been designed to complement the Reading Abbey displays which opened last year as part of the Reading Abbey Revealed Project. The new displays follow on telling the more recent story of Reading from the heyday of the 3B's through Reading's part in both World Wars and the town's recent vibrant growth in culture, heritage and business.

The Welcome Gallery is ideal to look closely at the collection and learn more about how museums collect, conserve and maintain objects for future generations.

New Music Resources for Schools

The learning team at Reading Museum is working with local music specialist, Rebekah Frost, to create a music resource for schools.

The resource will be focused on music throughout the history of Reading Abbey from the medieval period through to the Victorian era. Teachers will be able to take their children on a journey through time touching on different music styles, starting with the famous Sumer Is Icumen In.

These resources will be available from September 2019.

EVENTS

Waterfest

15 June 2019, 11:00am – 4.00pm

Reading Museum will be running a range of exciting activities as part of Waterfest:

Museum on Wheels in the Abbey Ruins

Free, drop in

Berkshire Guild of Spinners, Weavers and Dyers in the Abbey Ruins

Free, drop in

Stone carving Lead by Andrew Hood in the Abbey Ruins

£5, drop in

Characters from the Quarter

Our fabulous Costumed Interpreters will be found in the Forbury Gardens and Abbey Ruins. Don't miss your chance to meet Empress Matilda, Jane Austen and others!

Free, drop in

Abbey Gateway Rooftop Tour - Waterfest Early Bird Exclusive

15 June 2019: 9:30am-10.30am

£15, booking essential via website

To access an electronic version of this newsletter or to find out more about the project, please visit: <http://readingabbeyquarter.org.uk/>

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Internships at Reading Museum: Coming Soon!



Charlotte recently joined us for a four week placement within the learning team as part of the Reading Abbey Revealed Project.

As part of the team she developed resources based on the abbey building and worked with schools to test them. Charlotte used our Loan Boxes to develop trails for families around the Museum.

You can learn more about what she did in her own words, look out for her blog on Reading Museum website.

Reading Museum will be looking for new interns in the coming year to support the Reading Abbey revealed Project. Keep an eye out for new opportunities!

Story-Telling Workshop in the Abbey Quarter

As part of the Reading Abbey Revealed Project, Reading Museum worked with Brighter Futures for Children to put on a fabulous story-telling workshop based on the history of Reading Abbey.

Participating children were able to explore the Abbey Quarter with a story-teller and our brilliant costumed interpreters to learn about the past and discover how to create their own stories based on local heritage.

Cath Edwards, our story-teller, will edit the children's work. The small book will be published and sold in the Museum shop.

EVENTS

Abbey Quarter Tours

Public tours are available from 6 April 2019 – 28 September 2019.

Book a space in these informative and engaging tours on our [What's On](#) page of our website

Jane Austen Day 27 July 2019

Reading Museum will be celebrating Reading's famous former resident:

Abbey Gateway Tour:

11am-11.45am, booking essential via website

Musical Performance: Austentation

12pm-1.30pm, drop in

Afternoon talk: Introducing Jane Austen

3.00pm – 4.00pm, booking essential via website

STAY UPDATED

Find the Abbey Quarter on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/ReadingAbbeyQuarter

See regular updates on Twitter:

www.twitter.com/RdgAbbey