March - September 2017

Over 50 FREE events

Playful Tameside
Welcome to Tameside’s Cultural Events

There is plenty to enjoy in this programme of events throughout the Spring, Summer and Autumn months. The wide range of activities offers something for everyone, whatever your interest, age or ability.

Learn a new skill in our ‘I Made It’ masterclasses at Portland Basin Museum, or come along to a ‘Making Friends with the Archives’ session to discover some fascinating secrets of our borough’s past. For children there’s our regular ‘Kids in the Environment’ days, some great activities in our parks and countryside, ‘Make, Do and Play’ drop-in sessions at Portland Basin Museum, the ever popular outdoor theatre shows during the summer holidays and our brand new “Reel Kids” Film Club at Astley Cheetham Art Gallery, plus much, much more.

If you would like more information about any of the events, please phone the relevant number on the back of this leaflet.

Please note:

Cost - All the events are free unless otherwise stated.

Children - An adult must accompany children under 12 years of age (museums). Under 16 for all other events.

Groups - We welcome groups, but please ring 0161 342 4144. For group visits to the museums and galleries please ring 0161 343 2878.
PORTLAND BASIN MUSEUM

With its picturesque canal-side setting, Portland Basin Museum celebrates the lives of Tameside’s people and the rich industrial history of its nine towns. Step back in time on the museum’s old street, see what’s new in our regularly changing exhibition space and enjoy a tasty treat in the Bridge View Café.

Until 9 July

Goal!
Join us in a celebration of our all things football, from programmes and medals to merchandise and games, both past and present. Through photographs and historical objects, this exhibition captures the excitement both on and off the pitch.

From 15 July

‘If You Go Down to the Woods Today’
If you go down to Portland Basin today, you’re in for a big surprise. Teddy bears have taken over the museum! If you would like your bear to hang out at the museum, get in touch with us on 0161 343 2878.

Every Thursday (Tameside Term Time only)
Little Hands
An hour of storytelling, crafts and fun for pre-schoolers.
£2 per child (£1 for siblings) 10am - 11am

Second and Fourth
Wednesdays of the month
Quilting Bee
Develop your patchwork and quilting skills.
1 - 3pm

‘I Made It!’ Adult Masterclass
We have invited local artists and crafts people to facilitate a series of ‘I Made It!’ Adult Masterclasses.
Please see listings for further details.
CENTRAL ART GALLERY

The gallery has a changing programme of exhibitions by local artists and community groups, plus a permanent display of artworks by Harry Rutherford. There is always something new to see and do, so why not pop in to visit next time you’re in the library?

Throughout
‘Set Out your Stalls’
Children from local schools and groups worked alongside professional artists to create their own mini market as an art installation on Ashton Market. Each participant also achieved an Arts Award DISCOVER. Central Art Gallery’s exhibition ‘Set out your Stalls’ brings the art installation together again for all to see.

Until 15 April

22 April – 1 July
‘Calm During the Storm’
A touring exhibition from the Embroiderers’ Guild examining the role of needlework as a calming influence in troubled times. Featuring embroideries and stitched artefacts created during wartime.

10 March – 15 April

17 May – 17 June
Tameside Whit Friday Brass Band Contest
We are celebrating the longest running brass band contest in the borough. Come along and find out more about the contest’s history and get ready for the Whit Friday Band Contest 9 June 2017 here in Tameside.

8 July – 9 September

Open Art
The borough’s amateur artists take centre stage in the gallery as the ever popular Open Art exhibition returns.

Stitch in Time
Second and fourth Fridays of the month
10am - 1pm

Knit and Natter
Second and fourth Tuesdays of the month
10am - 1pm
ASTLEY CHEETHAM ART GALLERY

The gallery houses the borough’s stunning art collection, bequeathed by local industrialist J.F. Cheetham. We change exhibitions throughout the year to showcase different paintings from the collection. You can see some of the paintings online at www.artuk.org.

18 March – 15 July
‘Nature in Art’
This exhibition uses the Astley Cheetham collection to explore how nature has inspired art.

From 5 August
‘Tameside’s Best’
We invited the public to select their favourite paintings from the Astley Cheetham Collection. See the results in this brand new exhibition – did your favourite make it in? See www.tameside.gov.uk/museumgalleries for more details

“Reel Kids” Film Club
This fantastic film club is for all “Reel Kids”, young or old and will be on the second Saturday of the month
Astley Cheetham Gallery, Trinity St, Stalybridge, SK15 2BN. These family friendly films are free for adults if accompanied by a child.
Tickets Price - £2 per child. Limited places, please book on 0161 342 4144. See listing for details.
LOCAL STUDIES
AND ARCHIVES

Tameside Local Studies Archive Centre is your first stop for finding out about the history of Tameside. We hold unique documents about our area.

Visit us if you are looking for the history of your house, doing your homework, writing an essay or thesis on any aspect of the history of the area, interested in finding out about the place where you live, planning anniversary celebrations for a local club or organisation, or researching the Manchester Regiment. We host a large variety of workshops and classes about all aspects of local and family history which are a great way to start off your lifelong learning journey, meet new people and find out about your local area.

Family History

Visit us to create your own ‘Who do You Think You Are’ moment! You can read newspapers from yester-years to find out what your ancestors got up to, and revisit family events in our records of baptisms, marriage and burials. We have free access to Find My Past and Ancestry and offer one-to-one support for people who need help using a computer.

Making Friends with the Archives

Interested in local history but not sure where to start? You can join in our Making Friends with the Archives to get to know our collections and how to use them, as well as meeting other people interested in local history. Each month we cover a different subject. Book a place on 0161 342 4242.

2pm - 3pm

Every Saturday 10am - 12 noon
Wednesday and Thursday 10am - 1pm

Free Family History Helpdesk

Book a half hour slot with one of our experts on 0161 342 4242

First and third Tuesday of each month

Family History Detectives

Search for your ancestors with volunteers from the Tameside Group of the Cheshire Family History Society. Drop-in free session, no need to book.

2pm - 4pm
Outdoor Events
We aim to make all of our outdoor events FREE and family friendly with a variety of activities to suit all ages. Whether it’s a nature day spent den-building and pond dipping or watching Theatre in the Park, we have a fun packed programme for the family this year.

Saturday 24 June 2017
Armed Forces Day
TAMESIDE salutes service personnel past and present. Once again we join in with the national Armed Forces Day celebration. There will be a huge range of free family-friendly activities, as well as a wide range of arts and crafts and amazing top class entertainment all afternoon. Join us for this spectacular event and pay tribute to our amazing Armed Forces.
1pm - 4pm at Victoria Park, Victoria Street, Denton. M34 2AA

Friday 9 June 2017
Who Will Win?
Probably the best FREE Brass Band Contest in the world.
Whit Friday Brass Band Contest
Join us for a bonanza of brass music; Nationally and internationally acclaimed brass bands will be busy competing for coveted prizes across many venues in Tameside. This is an opportunity for all to join in, hear some great music and support your local and our national brass bands.
Suitable for the whole family. 4pm onwards.
For more details and venues please visit our website www.tameside.gov.uk/brassband/whitfriday.
March

Thursday 2 March
Little Hands
An hour of storytelling, crafts and fun for pre-schoolers.
£2 per child (£1 for siblings)
10am - 11am at Portland Basin Museum

Sunday 5 March
K.I.T.E (Kids in the Environment)
We meet on the first Sunday every month for fun outdoor activities, discovering and exploring the countryside.
Ring 0161 342 4144 for more information.

Thursday 9 March
Little Hands
See 2 March for more details.

Saturday 11 March
"Reel Kids" - How to Train your Dragon
"Reel Kids" opens with this 2010 Blockbuster, loosely based on the fabulous books of Cressida Cowell. Join Hiccup as he tries to become a dragon slayer…
1pm at Astley Cheetham Gallery, Trinity St, Stalybridge, SK15 2BN. Booking essential on 0161 342 4144 Ticket price: All children £2.00

Wednesday 15 March
Tameside History Club – Gangs of Manchester: Story of the Scuttlers
Andrew Davies from Liverpool University returns to talk about Britain's First Youth Cult who fought violent turf wars in late 19th Century Manchester.
2pm to 3pm at Local Studies and Archives Centre, Old Street, Ashton under Lyne. OL6 7SG

Thursday 16 March
Little Hands
See 2 March for more details.

Saturday 18 March
‘I Made it!’ Adult Masterclass: Paper Cut Craft
Led by local artist and crafter Sarah Heath you will be guided through the process of ‘paper cutting’ from initial idea to finished piece of art; perhaps you could create a special Mothering Sunday gift or something for yourself. Whether you are a complete beginner or an enthusiast wanting to develop your skills, this day is for you. All materials included. £30/ £25 concessions. Proof of concession eligibility may be required. Spaces on these study days are limited and fill up quickly so please book in advance on 0161 343 2878.
10am – 3.30pm at Portland Basin Museum

Sunday 19 March
‘Mad Science’
To celebrate National Science Week, ‘Mad Science’ brings children the fun, amazement and wonder of all things scientific. With three mad scientists and their labs, there is bound to be something to bewilder, baffle and surprise everyone.
11am to 3pm at Portland Basin Museum

Thursday 23 March
Little Hands
See 2 March for more details.

Tuesday 28 March
Making Friends with the Archives
A free session handling the archives on a variety of topics. This month; ‘Our house’, a look at the variety of information available to discover the history of your house. Book a free place on 0161 342 4242.
2pm to 3pm at Local Studies and Archives Centre, Old Street, Ashton under Lyne. OL6 7SG

Thursday 30 March
Little Hands
See 2 March for more details.
April

Sunday 2 April
K.I.T.E (Kids in the Environment)
See 5 March for more details.

Tuesday 4 April
Make, Do and Play
Artist led Craft activities for all ages.
£1 per child.
11am - 3pm at Portland Basin Museum

Wednesday 5 April
Meet Tommy Atkins: First World War Soldier
Have you ever wondered what a soldier wore, what he ate, how he lived, fought and died in the ‘Great War for Civilisation’?
11am - 3pm at Portland Basin Museum

Thursday 6 April
Make, Do and Play
See 4 April for more details.

Saturday 8 April
“Reel Kids” - Minions
Join Minions, Stuart, Bob and Kevin as they scour the world for an evil boss to follow.
See 11 March for more details.

Tuesday 11 April
Make, Do and Play
See 4 April for more details.

Tuesday 11 April
Small Steps into Spring
Bring the kids on this mini, family friendly ramble around Silver Springs. Suitable for buggies, 2 miles.
1pm at the side of the boating lake, Darnton Road, Stalybridge SK15 1NH

Wednesday 12 April
Meet Tommy Atkins: First World War Soldier
See 5 April for more details.

Thursday 13 April
Make, Do and Play
See 4 April for more details.

Thursday 13 April
Hoot, Screech and Tweet
Come along and ‘watch the birdy’! Our friends from Wise Owl Bird of Prey and Rescue will be in the park to let you see their owls, falcons, hawks and buzzards up close and watch their flying displays. Get crafty with the Pennine Edge Barn Owl Group and follow the bird themed trail around the park.
12 noon - 3pm at Hyde Park. SK14 4JX
Drop in.

Wednesday 5 April
Tameside History Club – Working Class revolt in Oldham and Ashton.
2pm - 3pm at Local Studies and Archives Centre, Old Street, Ashton under Lyne. OL6 7SG

Wednesday 5 April
Spring Hatchlings
Covering over 35 acres of woodland and meadow, the site of Gorse Hall is a great place to discover nature in springtime. Join us for a family friendly nature trail through the grounds and look for life in the undergrowth. Have a go at pond dipping and create a crafty ‘hatchling’ to take home.
1pm - 3pm. Meet at 1pm at the bottom gates to the site of Gorse Hall, Stalybridge, opposite the junction with Caroline Street. Limited parking is available on Quarry St.
Easter Monday 17 April
Mini ‘Make Stuff’ by MadLab
Mad Lab are back! There will be a variety of activities to get involved in. Sarah Unwin, producer at MadLab says: ‘MadLab are proud to be the driving force behind the MAKE STUFF programme. It is free, family friendly and offers a taste to just how fun and accessible tech, making and digital skills development can be. There will also be all the fun trails and self-led activities making for a fantastic free fun day out.
11am – 3.30pm at Portland Basin Museum

Thursday 20 April
Little Hands
See 2 March for more details.

Saturday 22 April
‘I Made it!’ Adult Masterclass:
Mixed Media Collage
Led by professional artist Sheila Meeks, this masterclass will introduce you to mixed media collage. The morning will be spent focusing on drawing techniques and working from ‘still life’. After lunch, time will be spent using both acrylic and collage to bring colour, texture and life to your masterpiece. See 18 March for more details.

Tuesday 25 April
Making Friends with the Archives
This month; ‘Call the Council’, a look at the variety of information available through Council minutes etc. See 28 March for more details.

Thursday 27 April
Little Hands
See 2 March for more details.

May

Bank Holiday Monday 1 May
We are the Champions!
Portland Basin Museum has football fever as we play host to our biggest footballing extravaganza ever: Try playing table football, see footballers showing off their footie skills. Make your own Straw ‘blow football’ and have a team match. Follow our football trail and other self-guided activities for the ‘whole team’.
11am – 3pm at Portland Basin Museum

Thursday 4 May
Little Hands
See 2 March for more details.

Sunday 7 May
K.I.T.E (Kids in the Environment)
See 5 March for more details.

Wednesday 10 May
Tameside History Club – To Market, To Market...
The Williams brothers will talk about Ashton Market and its historical past.
2pm - 3pm at Local Studies and Archives Centre, Old Street, Ashton under Lyne. OL6 7SG

Thursday 11 May
Little Hands
See 2 March for more details.

Saturday 13 May
“Reel Kids”- The Good Dinosaur
What if the cataclysmic asteroid that forever changed life on Earth actually missed the planet completely and giant dinosaurs never became extinct? See 11 March for more details.
Saturday 13 May
‘I Made It!’ Adult Masterclass: Introduction to Willow Weaving
Led by professional willow weaving artist, Juliette Hamilton, you will learn all the skills required to make your very own willow hare to be proudly displayed in your garden or home. See 18 March for more details.

Thursday 18 May
Little Hands
See 2 March for more details.

Thursday 25 May
Little Hands
See 2 March for more details.

Bank Holiday Monday 29 May
Those Marvellous Men and their Musical Machines
‘Scallywags Theatre Company’ will help you bring the industrial machines on display in the museum to life. Make your own noise and sounds and make your own musical instruments. Throughout the day visitors will be invited to join in and perform together with our musical ‘conductor’ to make a crescendo of noise, sound and music. You never know, it might just sound like one of Ashton’s old mills. There will also be fun trails and self-led activities to get involved with, making this a fantastic free fun day out.
11am – 3pm at Portland Basin Museum

June

June

Thursday 1 June
Make, Do and Play
See 4 April for more details.

Sunday 4 June
K.I.T.E (Kids in the Environment)
See 5 March for more details.

Tuesday 6 June
Make, Do and Play
See 4 April for more details.

Wednesday 7 June
Meet Tommy Atkins: First World War Soldier
See 5 April for more details.

Thursday 8 June
Make, Do and Play
See 4 April for more details.

Thursday 8 June
Damsels and Dragons
The river and ponds of Haughton Dale attract some amazing wildlife. Join us looking for dragonflies and damselflies on this family friendly nature based activity session. We will have a go at pond dipping, hunt for bugs in the undergrowth and create your own dragonfly to take home.
1pm to 3pm at Car park, bottom of Meadow Lane, Haughton Green, Denton. M34 7QA
Friday 9 June
**Whit Friday Band Contests**
“The Greatest Free Show on Earth” returns once again with 12 venues across the borough hosting the best Brass Bands in the country. 4pm – 11.30pm at Venues across Tameside.

Saturday 10 June
**“Reel Kids”– The Goonies**
In order to save their home from foreclosure, a group of misfits set out to find a pirate’s ancient valuable treasure. 
12.45pm at Astley Cheetham Art Gallery, Trinity Street, Stalybridge, SK15 2BN
Booking essential on 0161 342 4144. Ticket Price: All children £2

Thursday 15 June
**Little Hands**
See 2 March for more details.

Saturday 17 June
**I Made It! Adult Masterclass: Introduction to Book Binding**
Professional crafts maker Caroline Coates introduces you to a range of basic book binding techniques and each participant will make a couple of personalised books to take home. See 18 March for more details.

July

**Sunday 5 July**
**K.I.T.E (Kids in the Environment)**
See 5 March for more details.

**Thursday 6 July**
**Little Hands**
See 2 March for more details.

**Saturday 8 July**
**“Reel Kids”– Labyrinth**
A 16-year old girl is given 13 hours to solve a labyrinth and rescue her baby brother when her wish for him to be taken away is granted by the Goblin King. See 11 March for more details.

**Thursday 13 July**
**Little Hands**
See 2 March for more details.

**Thursday 20 July**
**Little Hands**
See 2 March for more details.

**Thursday 27 July**
**Little Hands**
See 2 March for more details.

Sunday 24 June
**Armed Forces Day**
‘Honouring Britain’s Armed Forces, Past, Present and Future’. Children’s activities and entertainment throughout the afternoon. 1pm - 4pm at Victoria Park, Victoria Street, Denton. M34 2AA
August

**Tuesday 1 August**
**Make, Do and Play**
See 4 April for more details.

**Wednesday 2 August**
**Meet Tommy Atkins: First World War Soldier**
See 5 April for more details.

**Thursday 3 August**
**Make, Do and Play**
See 4 April for more details.

**Thursday 3 August**
**‘Sounds Natural’**
Are you a shaker and rattler? A hooter and tooter? Or a biffer and basher? Join us for some musical fun outdoors and use the natural resources to make your musical instrument. At 2.15pm take your places and join the woodland orchestra in a rip roaring finale performance led by our very own crazy countryside conductor.

1pm – 2.30pm at Lymefield Broad Mills, off Lower Market Street, Broadbottom. SK14 6AG. Drop in.

**Friday 4 August**
**James and the Giant Peach**
With a trade mark of high quality, engaging theatre Gambolling Arena’s adaptation of James and the Giant Peach, initially written for the Dahl 100, is sure to wow the audience.

Showtimes 11.30am & 2.30pm Ryecroft Hall Park, Manchester Road, Audenshaw. M34 5ZJ

**Sunday 6 August**
**K.I.T.E (Kids in the Environment)**
See 5 March for more details.

**Tuesday 8 August**
**Make, Do and Play**
See 4 April for more details.

**Wednesday 9 August**
**Meet Tommy Atkins: First World War Soldier**
See 5 April for more details.

**Wednesday 9 August**
**Dotty The Dragon**
Blunderbus is a professional children’s theatre company specialising in theatre for 3 - 7 year olds, with puppetry, song and high energy storytelling, this fantastic family show is the perfect treat for little explorers and their grown-ups. There are lots of laughs and plenty of surprises, and there’s even a fire-breathing dragon!

Showtimes 11.30am & 2.30pm Stamford Park, Stamford Street, Stalybridge, SK15 1NJ. 2 hours

**Thursday 10 August**
**Make, Do and Play**
See 4 April for more details.

**Thursday 10 August**
**‘Wild art’**
Join us creating art in the park! Make your own drawing charcoal sticks on the campfire and then try some sketching. Craft yourself a twiggy paintbrush and make your mark on the woodland canvas and have a go at environmental art.

12 noon - 3pm at Cheetham Park, Acres Lane, Stalybridge. SK15 2JR Drop in.

**Saturday 12 August**
**“Reel Kids” - The Gruffalo**
Come along and join in with a craft activity based on the Gruffalo, then enjoy a showing of the animated film based on the much-loved children’s picture book written by Julia Donaldson.

See 11 March for more details.

**Tuesday 15 August**
**Make, Do and Play**
See 4 April for more details.
Wednesday 16 August
Meet Tommy Atkins: First World War Soldier
See 5 April for more details.

Wednesday 16 August
‘Creating a buzzz’
We are going to create a buzz in the park today. Discover minibeasts in the meadow, create a bee friendly bug house to take home and have a go at some busy bee crafts. Meet our friendly beekeeper who will show you the secret of how honey is made and you can even sample some yummy honey treats.
1pm - 3pm at Waterloo Park, Store Street, Ashton under Lyne. OL7 9QA. Drop in

Thursday 17 August
Make, Do and Play
See 4 April for more details.

Thursday 17 August
Circus Sensible
Circus Sensible are the UK’s leading provider of Circus Skills Workshop Days and Big Top Days for schools and events. Bringing their unique blend of mayhem and madness, Circus Sensible are bound to excite and enthral.
Showtimes 11.30am & 2.30pm Haughton Green Playing Fields, Tatton Road, Haughton Green, Denton. M34 7PL

Tuesday 22 August
Make, Do and Play
See 4 April for more details.

Tuesday 22 August
The Walrus and the Carpenter
iDOLRICH Theatre Rotto are an award winning international touring puppetry and theatre company. Take a stroll with the Walrus and the Carpenter on the hunt for a spot to hold their gourmet seafood picnic…
Showtimes 11.30am & 2.30pm Dukinfield Park, King Street. SK16 4TH

Bank Holiday Monday 28 August
Let’s Play!
Come and play with us as we turn the museum upside down. We will be building small worlds, singing and dancing in our disco and making all things arty and crafty. Don’t forget to bring your teddy along as we launch our teddy bear exhibition too. There will be new trails (you may even need to hop), self-led activities and lots more, making this the most playful day in the Museum yet.
11am – 3pm at Portland Basin Museum.

Tuesday 29 August
Make, Do and Play
See 4 April for more details.

Wednesday 30 August
Meet Tommy Atkins: First World War Soldier
See 5 April for more details.
Wednesday 30 August
‘Go Wild Outdoors’
Join us in the great outdoors, follow the nature trail on a scavenger hunt and borrow our nets to take a look at life in the stream. Have a go at den building and take part in the twig tower challenge.
1pm - 3pm at Castle Clough car park, Buckton Vale Road, Carrbrook, Stalybridge. SK15 3PJ. Drop in.

Thursday 31 August
Make, Do and Play
See 4 April for more details.

Reynard the Fox
The Fabularium is a self-contained touring outdoor theatre company with a medieval twist, specialising in a series of skills including storytelling, live music, mask work, puppetry, physical theatre and acrobatics. The tale of Reynard the Fox follows the woodlands most infamous scoundrel who prides himself on being the trickster of the forest.
Showtimes 11.30am & 2.30pm Hyde Park. SK14 4JX.

September

Sunday 3 September
K.I.T.E (Kids in the Environment)
See 5 March for more details.

Thursday 7 September
Little Hands
See 2 March for more details.

Saturday 9 September
“Reel Kids”- The Incredibles
A family of undercover superheroes, while trying to live the quiet suburban life, are forced into action to save the world. See 10 June for more details.

Thursday 14 September
Little Hands
See 2 March for more details.

Thursday 21 September
Little Hands
See 2 March for more details.

Tuesday 26 September
Making Friends with the Archives
This month; ‘The Great Provider’, a look at the variety of information available about the Provident Societies. See 28 March for more details.

Thursday 28 September
Little Hands
See 2 March for more details.
Astley Cheetham Art Gallery,
Trinity Street, Stalybridge, SK15 2BN
0161 343 2878
Opening Times: first and third Saturdays of every month (except Easter Saturday) plus every Saturday in August, 10am - 3pm.

Central Art Gallery, Central Library,
Old Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.
OL6 7SG 0161 342 2650
Opening Times: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 10am - 12.30pm, 1pm - 4pm
Saturday 10am - 1pm.

Local Studies and Archives Centre,
Old Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.
OL6 7SG 0161 342 4242
Opening Times: Tuesday/ Wednesday/Thursday 10am - 5pm
Saturday 10am - 1pm.

Portland Basin Museum,
Portland Place, Ashton-under-Lyne.
OL7 0QA 0161 343 2878
Opening Times Tuesday - Sunday and Bank Holidays, 10am - 4pm.

The Museum of the Manchester Regiment is currently closed but we can still help with enquiries and offers of objects to the collection. Please phone 0161 343 2878. You can see a small number of Regimental objects on display at Portland Basin Museum.

Arts and Engagement Team
Local Studies and Archives Centre
Old Street, Ashton-U- Lyne OL6 7SG
0161 342 4144

Email: events@tameside.gov.uk
Web: http://www.tameside.gov.uk/culture
Twitter: @tmhic_culture