

# Heritage Open Days

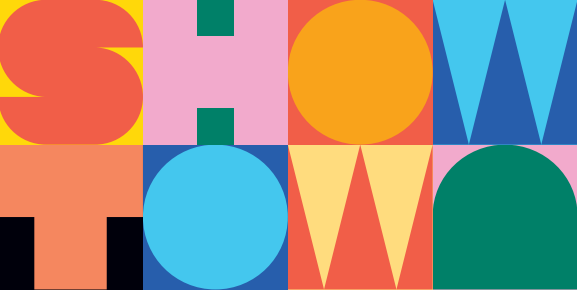
Thursday 14th – Sunday 17th September 2023



## Blackpool and the Fylde Coast

Promoters  
Talks  
Tours  
Competitions  
Sessions  
Fun





# Blackpool's side-tickling, eye-popping, toe-tapping, mind-boggling museum

Our brand new **all-singing, all-dancing** museum for the whole family, will tell the story of **Blackpool** - the greatest Showtown on earth.

**We can't wait to throw open our doors in 2024.**



## Welcome to Heritage Open Days 2023

Heritage Open Days is England's largest festival of heritage and culture. Across the country, thousands of heritage venues take part, opening their doors and providing a variety of heritage events, free of charge.

This year, Showtown will be exploring and showcasing Blackpool's extraordinary and eclectic history, uncovering unique local stories and hidden treasures as well as providing FREE activities for the whole family to enjoy.

More information can be found on:  
[www.showtownblackpool.co.uk/heritageopendays](http://www.showtownblackpool.co.uk/heritageopendays) and  
[www.heritageopendays.org.uk](http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk)

**Please note: all event information is correct at time of print and is subject to change. Any changes will be clearly displayed on our website and on social media.**



[showtownblackpool.co.uk](http://showtownblackpool.co.uk) | [info@showtownblackpool.co.uk](mailto:info@showtownblackpool.co.uk)



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/showtownblackpool



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### How to book tickets

Tickets will be available to book from **Mon 14 Aug, 2023.\***

To book online, please go to [www.showtownblackpool.co.uk/heritageopendays](http://www.showtownblackpool.co.uk/heritageopendays)

To book by phone, please call **01253 478624 (office hours only)**. Tickets are on a first come, first served basis.

**\*Please note: The Blackpool Tower and Lightworks Depot tour will only be available to book from Thur 31 Aug, 2023.**

### Symbols key



Parking



Toilets



Full wheelchair access



Partial wheelchair access



Disabled parking



Accessible toilets



Family activity

# Blackpool

Pre-book events



Events in this section are ticketed and must be booked in advance.

## GRUNDY ART GALLERY

Queen Street, Blackpool, FY1 1PU

Join us on the Grundy Art Gallery's forecourt where the team will share information on the history of the building, its founders and its current and future activity.

PLEASE NOTE: The building will be closed to the public for exhibition installation.

**Thur 14 Sep, 11.30am - 12.00pm**

**Fri 15 Sep, 11.30am - 12.00pm**

**Sat 16 Sep, 11.30am - 12.00pm**

Organised by The Grundy Art Gallery.



Grundy Art Gallery



## LAYTON CEMETERY TOUR

The Lodge, Talbot Road, FY3 7BB

Discover the stories behind the headstones of the people who helped to shape our town. A talk will also be held at 12pm on **Sat 16th** at Layton Library.

BOOKING ESSENTIAL - 01253 399982

**Thur 14 - Sun 17 Sep, 11am & 2pm (90 mins)**

Organised by Friends of Layton Cemetery.



Central Library Blackpool



## CENTRAL LIBRARY TOUR

Queen Street, Blackpool, FY1 1PX

Come and have a look around our beautiful Carnegie library. Find out why it's here, who it was gifted by and about the inventions which made it possible.

**Thur 14 Sep, 10.30am & 2.30pm (up to 60 mins)**

**Sat 16 Sep, 10.30am & 2.30pm**

Organised by Blackpool Libraries.



## CINEMA HERITAGE TOUR

Meeting point: Old Imperial Picture Palace, corner of Dickson Road and Lansdowne Place

Discover the history of Blackpool cinemas on this enjoyable guided walking tour. Visit the sites of some of the iconic cinemas of the past whilst learning the history of cinema in Blackpool.

**Fri 15 Sep, 2pm (90 mins)**

Organised by Showtown Blackpool.



# Blackpool

Pre-book events



Events in this section are ticketed and must be booked in advance.



Blackpool Tower Tour

## THE BLACKPOOL TOWER

Meeting point: Bank Hey Street entrance

Opened on 14th May 1894, this iconic Blackpool landmark has enticed, impressed and entertained visitors for over 125 years! Join us for a tour and explore the fascinating history that lies within this stunning building.

**Sat 16 Sep, 10am (90 mins)**

**Sun 17 Sep, 10am (90 mins)**

Organised by The Blackpool Tower and Showtown Blackpool.



## THE OLD ELECTRIC

Springfield Road, Blackpool, FY1 1QW

"Memories from The Old Electric" will explore people's memories while discovering the new. Encouraging you through a self-guided audio tour to explore the rich history of the building as a place for cultural entertainment. There will be an opportunity for people to share their stories of the place; from cinema to music venue and the many nightclubs to present day. Poets and writers will collect these and then on **Sun 17th at 7pm**, they will share the stories and poems created from people's memories of the place. **BOOKING ESSENTIAL:** [www.theoldelectric.co.uk](http://www.theoldelectric.co.uk)

**Fri 15 Sep, 1pm - 6pm**

**Sun 17 Sep, 1pm - 6pm**

Organised by The Old Electric.



## WAR MEMORIAL WALK

Meeting point: Blackpool Cenotaph

A walk round the town centre taking in Blackpool's principle war memorials.

**Fri 15 Sep, 11am (90 mins)**

Organised by Mike Coyle.



# Blackpool

Pre-book events



Events in this section are ticketed and must be booked in advance.



Lightworks, Blackpool

## LIGHTWORKS ILLUMINATIONS DEPOT

Amy Johnson Way, FY4 2RL

Blackpool's world famous Illuminations have captivated audiences for over 100 years. Enjoy a guided walk around the workshop and explore the history of the lights on this heritage tour. Includes an exclusive look at original designs dating back to the 1920s.

**Thur 14 Sep, 1.30pm (90 mins)**

Organised by Showtown Blackpool and Blackpool Illuminations.



## THE GRAND THEATRE BLACKPOOL

33 Church Street, Blackpool, FY1 1HT

Have you always wanted a peek inside Blackpool's hidden gem? The Grand Theatre Blackpool will be throwing open its doors for Heritage Open Days 2023 and three heritage tours are on offer during opening hours. Booking is essential for the tours, however access to the venue will also be available, please see the 'drop-in' section for more details.

BOOKING ESSENTIAL - 01253 290190

Visit: [www.blackpoolgrand.co.uk](http://www.blackpoolgrand.co.uk)

**Sat 16 Sep, 10am, 11am, 12pm (30 mins)**

Organised by Blackpool Grand Theatre.



## HISTORY AND HAUNTS TOUR

Meeting point: Blackpool Town Hall steps, Talbot Square, Blackpool, FY1 1AD

Guided walking tour of town centre sites renowned for having unexplained or 'supernatural' events inextricably linked with them. A tour not for the fainthearted!

**Sat 16 Sep, 3pm (90 mins)**

Organised by Hidden History Tours.



# Blackpool

Pre-book events



Events in this section are ticketed and must be booked in advance.

## ALL HALLOWS CHURCH

All Hallows Road, Bispham, FY2 0AY

New for this year, All Hallows will be offering a guided walk of the churchyard. Or, drop in for a short pre-recorded historical talk and an opportunity to look round this magnificent ecclesiastical building. (Booking is only required for the churchyard walk and not for access to the inside of the church).  
BOOKING ESSENTIAL FOR WALK - 01253 274172  
Email: [secbah@googlemail.com](mailto:secbah@googlemail.com)

**Thur 14 - Sun 17 Sep, 1-2pm**

Organised by All Hallows Church.



## WHITEGATE DRIVE TOUR

Number 3 Pub, Whitegate Drive, Blackpool

Walk down Whitegate Drive (the area once known as Whitegate Lane) on a guided tour of its heritage, houses and iconic pubs. Discover the histories and stories of its residents and some of its lesser known tales.

**Fri 15 Sep, 11am (approx. 90mins)**

Organised by Stella Siddall.



## PROMENADE HISTORY WALK

Meeting point: Wilton Parade tram shelter opposite The Imperial Hotel, FY1 2HB

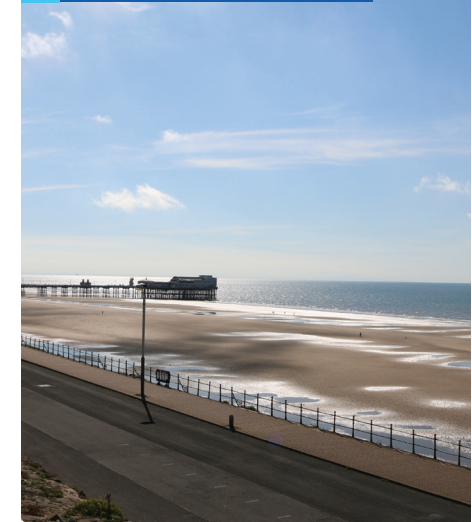
This guided walk uncovers the history of twenty-three historic landmarks of pleasure, leisure and architecture from the Victorian era to the present day. Beginning opposite The Imperial Hotel and concluding on the Comedy Carpet.

**Thur 14 Sep, 2pm (90 mins)**

Organised by Showtown Blackpool.



North Promenade, Blackpool



# Blackpool

Drop-in events



All the events listed are drop-in events. No need to book, just come along!

## THE GRAND THEATRE BLACKPOOL

33 Church Street, Blackpool, FY1 1HT

Do you have a passion for amazing architecture and fascinating theatrical history? Don't miss this fantastic opportunity to be given unrivalled access to Blackpool Grand's glorious Grade II\* listed building. Visitors will be able to roam the famous theatre tiers and admire Matcham's masterpiece at their leisure. Guided tours are also available but must be pre-booked (please see the pre-book section).



The Grand Theatre

Sat 16 Sep, 9.30am - 2pm

Organised by Blackpool Grand Theatre.



## TOWN HALL

Talbot Square, FY1 1AD

Tour of Blackpool Town Hall and history of the building.

Sat 16 Sep, 9.30am - 4pm

Organised by Blackpool Civic Trust.



## LITTLE MARTON WINDMILL

Preston New Road, FY4 4XQ

Exhibition of many of the Fylde's windmills and tours of the mill. Discover original machinery in the mill, as well as additional machinery created to explain the milling process.

Sun 17 Sep, 11am - 4pm

Organised by The Friends of Little Marton Windmill.



## MANDUS HOUSE

476 Lytham Road, FY4 1JF

Tours of our delightful Edwardian building and gardens completed in 1911.

Fri 15 Sep, 10am - 4pm

Organised by Mandus House.



# Blackpool

Drop-in events



All the events listed are drop-in events. No need to book, just come along!

## HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Dean Street, South Shore, FY4 1BP

A Grade II listed building with stunning stained-glass windows. The church has stood proud on the South Shore skyline for over 140 years. As well as beautiful architecture and stained glass, the church offers space for peace and contemplation in our bustling town of Blackpool.

Thur 14 Sep, 10.30am - 12pm

Fri 15 Sep, 10.30am - 12pm

Sat 16 Sep, 12pm - 2pm

Sun 17 Sep, 12pm - 2pm

Organised by Holy Trinity Church.



Blackpool Church

## ST CUTHBERT'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Lytham Road, FY1 6BS

The church will be open to visitors to explore all areas of the interior and a talk on the history of the building will be on offer at midday on each day of opening.

Thur 14 Sep, 11am - 3pm

Fri 15 Sep, 11am - 3pm

Sat 16 Sep, 11am - 3pm

Organised by St Cuthbert's Catholic Church.



## ST JOHN'S SQUARE

Church Street, FY1 1JA

Have you ever wanted to learn more about the fascinating buildings and heritage in Blackpool? The Showtown team will be in St John's Sq with entertainment and mini heritage tours. Blackpool Church will be open for visitors to enjoy family friendly tours and activities. Join us for an afternoon steeped in history and fun!

Sat 16 Sep, 11am - 3pm

Organised by Showtown Blackpool and Blackpool Church.



# Blackpool

Drop-in events



All the events listed are drop-in events. No need to book, just come along!

## STANLEY PARK

Visitors Centre, Stanley Park, FY3 9TR

Come along to the Visitors Centre on Stanley Park for some family crafting with Friends of Stanley Park. There will also be the opportunity to go on a mini tour through the Italian Gardens with an exclusive trip up the Cocker Clock Tower.

**Sun 17 Sep, 11am – 2pm**

Organised by Friends of Stanley Park and Showtown Blackpool.



Family craft activities



## ST PAUL'S WORSHIP CENTRE

Egerton Road, FY1 2NP

Exhibition of photos, memorabilia and documents dating from the building of St Paul's in the 1890s. This is a hands on event where visitors are encouraged to examine the exhibits, Children's/family quiz available.

**Fri 15 Sep, 10am – 3pm**

**Sat 16 Sep, 10am – 3pm**

**Sun 17 Sep, 11.15am (service of Thanksgiving)**

Organised by St Paul's Worship Centre.



## ST STEPHEN ON THE CLIFFS

Holmfield Road, Blackpool, FY2 9RG

The church, containing the famous Blackpool 'Actors Chapel' (one of only two in the world) is open for visitors with a variety of tours, talks, special services, refreshments and choral music. You are very welcome at our inclusive and beautiful church.

**Fri 15 Sep, 1pm – 4pm**

**Sat 16 Sep, 11am – 3pm**

**Sun 17 Sep, 10.30am – 8pm** (special service at 10.30am followed by a talk from Showtown. Choral Evensong at 6pm followed by a talk on the Actors Chapel history).

Organised by St Stephens PCC.



# Blackpool

Drop-in events



All the events listed are drop-in events. No need to book, just come along!

## SHOWTOWN RECLAIM BLACKPOOL WOMEN

Aunty Social, Topping Street, FY1 3AQ

Join us as we discuss the lives of some inspirational women of Blackpool. At the end of our discussion, we'll invite the group to spend time remembering women that have been influential to them.

**Sat 16 Sep, 11am – 1pm**

Organised by Showtown Blackpool and Reclaim Blackpool.



## THE IMPERIAL HOTEL

Promenade, Blackpool, FY1 2HB

In the early 20th Century, a suite of Russian, Turkish and seawater plunge baths were built in the basement of the hotel. Hidden for years after a refurbishment in the 1960s, the tiles are now visible for visitors to see. Come and see this beautiful time capsule, which includes tiles from the Burmantoft Pottery in Leeds.

**Sat 16 Sep, 11am – 3pm**

Organised by The Imperial Hotel.



## BLACKPOOL TOWER TALK

Salvation Army, Raikes Parade, FY1 4EL

Discover Blackpool Tower's rich history. From those behind the design and build, to the variety of acts and performers that have entertained visitors over the last century. Our fascinating collections are an added bonus that brings this talk to life.

**Thur 14 Sep, 10.30am**

Organised by Showtown Blackpool.



## POLISH COMMUNITY BLACKPOOL, FYLDE & WYRE

Blackpool Central Library, FY1 1PX

Come and discover our fascinating local Polish history. There will be an exhibition and artefacts to explore and family craft activities linked to Poland and Polish heritage in the UK.

**Sat 16 Sep, 12pm – 3.30pm**

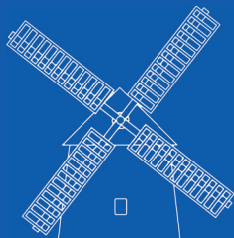
Organised by Blackpool Polish Community.



# Lytham

Drop-in events

All the events listed are drop-in events. No need to book, just come along!



## LYTHAM HALL

Ballam Road, FY8 4JX

The grounds of this beautiful Georgian hall will be open to the public with free tours of the outbuildings and a performance by Regency Rejigged dance troupe.

**Sun 17 Sep, 11am – 3pm**

Organised by Paul Lomax.



RETURNING VENUE: Lytham Hall

## LYTHAM HERITAGE CENTRE

2 Henry Street, FY6 5LE

Opportunity to view the 'Autumn Exhibition' by LSA Art Society.

**Thur 14 Sep, 10am – 4pm**

**Fri 15 Sep, 10am – 4pm**

**Sat 16 Sep, 10am – 4pm**

**Sun 17 Sep, 10am – 4pm**

Organised by Lytham Heritage Group & LSA Art Society.



Lytham Heritage Centre

## ST ANNES PARISH CHURCH

St Annes Road East, FY8 3BB

An opportunity to view our fine church with its WWI Memorial Chapel and famous St Annes Heritage Mural.

**Sat 16 Sep, 11am – 4.30pm**

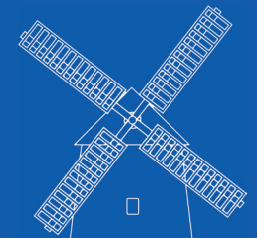
Organised by St Annes Parish Church.



# Lytham

Drop-in events

All the events listed are drop-in events. No need to book, just come along!



## LYTHAM WINDMILL & OLD LIFEBOAT HOUSE

Promenade, East Beach, FY8 5LD

The Windmill and Old Lifeboat House are home to a permanent cultural museum. Take a tour and observe the wonderful interior of the buildings, including the workings of the mill. Explore the local lifeboat service and history, including the full size wooden Victorian lifeboat on display.

**Sat 16 Sep, 10.30am – 1pm, 2pm – 4.30pm**

**Sun 17 Sep, 10.30am – 1pm, 2pm – 4.30pm**

Organised by Lytham Heritage Group.



## THE WHITE CHURCH

22a Clifton Drive, Lytham St Annes, FY8 1AX

This Grade II listed church will be open for visitors to view the interior and the Dawson Hall. The stained glass windows are of particular interest and beauty, showing historical and biblical scenes.

**Thur 14 Sep, 11am – 3.30pm**

**Fri 15 Sep, 12pm – 4pm**

**Sat 16 Sep, 11am – 4pm**

**Sun 17 Sep, 12.45pm – 3.30pm**

Organised by The White Church (Fairhaven United Reformed Church).



## ST PAUL'S CHURCH ANSDELL & FAIRHAVEN

Lake Road North, FY8 1AG

Join us for a chance to explore our beautiful church building. Organ recitals throughout the day: Short organ recital at **10.30am** and **2.30pm**. Longer organ recital at **12pm** – everyone welcome! Plus, an opportunity to get creative and a children's trail on offer. Refreshments available.

**Sat 16 Sep, 10am – 3pm**

Organised by St Paul's Church Ansdell & Fairhaven.



The White Church

# Cleveleys

## Pre-book events

Events in this section are ticketed and must be booked in advance.



## 1906 CLEVELEYS COTTAGE EXHIBITION

Meeting point: Corner Cleveleys Avenue and West Drive, Cleveleys, FY5 2BJ

Guided walking tour of the site of the properties of, The 1906 Cleveleys Cottage Exhibition, that could be regarded as 'The World's First Ideal Home Exhibition.'

**Thur 14 Sep, 12pm (90 mins)**

**Fri 15 Sep, 12pm (90 mins)**

Organised by Hidden History Tours.



Cleveleys Cottage



# Cleveleys

## Drop-in events

All the events listed are drop-in events. No need to book, just come along!



## ST ANDREWS CHURCH

Rossall Road, Cleveleys, FY5 1DX

Uncover the story of the Abana bell and its journey from Canada to Cleveleys. Almost 130 years after the Abana, a sailing barque, was shipwrecked off the Fylde coast. There will be a short talk, repeated on the hour with plenty of time to explore.

**Fri 15 Sep, 10am - 12pm**

**Sat 16 Sep, 1pm - 3pm**

Organised by St Andrews Church, Cleveleys.



## MARSH MILL WINDMILL

Fleetwood Road North, Thornton-Cleveleys, FY5 4JZ

Visit the Grade II\* Windmill built in 1794, see the sails turn (weather dependent) and have a free tour around this 70ft Tower Windmill. (Please note: stairs in the Windmill are unsuitable for children under 5).

**Sat 16 Sep, 11am - 3pm**

**Sun 17 Sep, 11am - 3pm**

Organised by Heritage & Audience Development Officer, Wyre Council.



## Family activities

Family activities will be available at the following venues throughout Heritage Open Days. Please refer to venue details in the brochure to see dates and times.

## BLACKPOOL

### Drop-in Central Library

Visit the beautiful Junior Library and colour in a bookmark.

### Drop-in Holy Trinity Church

Enjoy an indoor treasure hunt using the features of the church and activity sheets.

### Drop-in Little Marton Windmill

Windmill puzzles on the ground floor.

### Drop-in Polish Community (Blackpool Central Library)

Family craft activities.

### Drop-in St Paul's Worship Centre

Children's quiz.

### Drop-in St John's Square

Family activities in Blackpool Church.

### Drop-in Stanley Park Visitors Centre

Craft activity table available.

### Pre-book Grundy Art Gallery

Collect a free family friendly activity pack.

## LYTHAM

### Drop-in Lytham Hall

Free children's trail exploring the history of the hall and nature in the gardens.

### Drop-in St Annes Parish Church

Exploration activities.

### Drop-in St Paul's Church Ansdell & Fairhaven

Children's trail and creative activities.



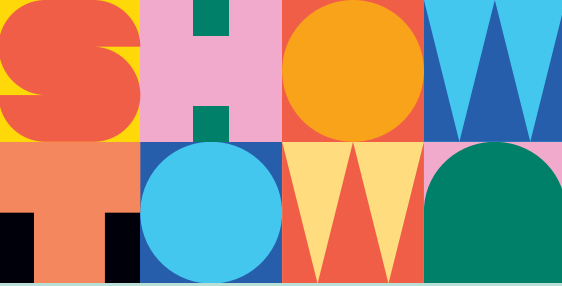
## CLEVELEYS

### Drop-in Marsh Mill

Children's craft table.

### Drop-in St Andrew's Church

Make a clay bell and enjoy a colouring sheet or word search. If there are 2 children or more in a group, there will be a fun rescue activity and chance to ring the Abana bell!



# Events: What's on



Showtown's events are here to make you **laugh, discover, learn** and more importantly have lots of **fun!**

Join us this **Autumn**, as our events programme discovers more about the wonders of **Blackpool** through **family activities, talks** and more. There is something for everyone to **explore!**

To see a full list of events, visit: [showtownblackpool.co.uk](http://showtownblackpool.co.uk)

Blackpool Council

