



heritage open days



CREWE HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

8-17 September 2023



CREWE
TOWN COUNCIL



It's time to celebrate Crewe's unique heritage!

With 30 events planned, this year we have something for everyone. If you love exploring old buildings, finding out about people from our past or dancing the night away to the soundtrack of your youth, make sure you take a look! All events are FREE to access.



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Crewe Heritage Fair

CREWE HERITAGE CENTRE, VERNON WAY, CW1 2DB
9 SEPTEMBER, 10.00-15.30

Join us for a fun packed day for all the family to discover Crewe's heritage and the people championing it!

This year we have thirty organisations showcasing their work. Explore the Bentley Heritage Collection, browse books from Crewe Library Local Studies, find out about the group campaigning for a statue to Ada Nield Chew and discover what it is like to live in one of the Railway Cottages.

The London & North Western Society will be holding their annual steam up, with working models of Crewe built locos. It will also be your last chance to explore our *Forging History: 180 years of Crewe Works* exhibition.

Walks & Tours



Behind the Scenes Tours of the Lyceum Theatre

Crewe Lyceum, Heath Street (CWI 2DA)

Go behind-the-scenes at Cheshire's historic theatre. You'll explore the Grade II listed auditorium and go backstage to see areas normally only open to performers!

Pre-booking required: 0343 310 0050

Sunday 10 September: 11.00-12.00 / 13.00-14.00 / 15.00-16.00

Crewe Heritage Walking Tours

From the Britannia Statue on Memorial Square Earle Street (CWI 2BJ)

Join Councillor Ben Wye for a walk around Crewe Town Centre to explore our heritage and share fascinating stories and memories of our town.

Pre-booking required: 01270 756975 option 6

Wednesday 13 September: 13.00-15.00

Saturday 16 September: 10.00-12.00

Sunday 17 September: 15.00-17.00

Crewe Cemetery with Peter Ollerhead

Crewe Cemetery, Market Close (CWI 2NA)

Join Crewe's renowned author and historian, Peter Ollerhead, on a tour of Crewe Cemetery to learn about the people of Crewe's past.

Pre-booking preferred: 01270 756975 option 6

Tuesday 12 September: 14.00-15.00

Behind the Scenes at Crewe Station

Crewe Station, Nantwich Road (CW2 6HR)

The tour will include history of the station including the links to Crewe Works, the Spider Bridge, Royal Mail links and general history of the railway companies around it how it was formed and the great train robbery.

Pre-booking required: 01270 756975 option 6

Friday 15 September: 12.00-13.00 / 14.00-15.00

Queens Park Heritage Walk

Queen's Park, Victoria Avenue (CW2 7SE)

On the 135th anniversary of the opening of Queen's Park, Crewe, discover how the park was created and how it has changed over time. No booking required.

Wednesday 13 September: 11.00-12.30 / 14.00-15.30



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Open Buildings

Railway Cottage

3 Tollitt Street (CW1 2LD)

Step back in time in one of a group of cottages built by the Grand Junction Railway in 1845 to house its employees. They are the oldest surviving Railway Cottages in Crewe and this is the first time one of them has been opened to the public since 1987!

Saturday 9 September: 09.30-17.00

Church buildings in Crewe

All Saints Church, 79 Stewart St. (CW2 8LX)

St. Andrew's Church, Bedford St. (CW2 6LE)

St. Peter's Church, Earle St. (CW1 2AG)

Explore these beautiful buildings full of local history.

With displays of how the church came to Crewe, children's activities and a chance to look around these diverse buildings, there will be something of interest for everyone.

All - Saturday 16 September: 10.00-17.00

**St Peter's only - Wednesday 13 September
14.00-16.00**



Crewe Municipal Building

Earle Street (CW1 2BJ)

Ever wondered what's behind the door of the Municipal Buildings? Now's your chance to find out! Visit the Council Chamber and Committee Rooms and take a peek at the Wedding Rooms.

**Friday 8, Monday 11 & Friday 15 September:
10.00-16.00**

Family History Unit

Crewe Municipal Building, Earle St. (CW1 2BJ)

The Family History Unit contains a wealth of resources to help with your family history, house history or local history research projects. A chance for all to visit and view our collections.

**Monday 11, Tuesday 12 & Thursday 14
September: 10.00-12.00 / 13.00-15.00**

YMCA Crewe

189 Gresty Road (CW2 6EL)

Join YMCA Crewe to find out more about the importance of this locally listed building on Gresty Road, which is a later 19th century building constructed from red brick and formerly an overnight hostel for railway workers.

**Friday 8, Monday 11, Tuesday 12, Wednesday
13, Thursday 14 & Friday 15 September: 07.00-
14.00**

Saturday 9 & 16 September: 09.00-15.00

Exhibitions



Forging History: 180 years of Crewe Works

Crewe Heritage Centre, Vernon Way (CWI 2DB)

A last chance to see this interactive exhibition celebrating the creativity and impact of Crewe Railway Engineering Works and telling the story of how the Works shaped the development of Crewe.

Saturday 9 & Sunday 10 September: 10.00-15.30

Off the Rails Classic Car Meet

Crewe Heritage Centre, Vernon Way (CWI 2DB)

Take a step back in time with this popular car meet, what could be more fitting for the motoring enthusiast than the home of engine production Crewe! Featuring European and American cars, vans, trucks and motorcycles.

Sunday 10 September: 10.00-13.00

Creating in Crewe

Crewe Library, Crewe Lifestyle Centre, Moss Square (CWI 2BB)

Crewe Library holds books and photos showing the history of Crewe, including our creative past. Come and see some of the items that are usually tucked away, including pictures of the carnival.

Friday 8, Monday 11, Tuesday 12, Wednesday 13, Thursday 14 & Friday 15 September: 09.00-18.00

Saturday 9 & 16 September: 09.00-13.00

Exhibitions

Survivorarts Exhibition

Survive, 156 Nantwich Road (CW2 6BG)

The exhibition showcases art works produced by survivors of abuse of some form. All art has been created by a survivor of abuse in some form.

Saturday 16 & Sunday 17 September: 10.00-16.00

People's Pop Up Park Museum

Near the cafe, Queen's Park, Victoria Avenue (CW2 7SE)

For one day only visit the Pop-Up People's Park Museum and garden-related activities in Queen's Park, Crewe - everyone welcome, come and tell us your memories or favourite parts of your local park!

Saturday 16 September: 10.30-16.30

Display and running models of Crewe-built locos

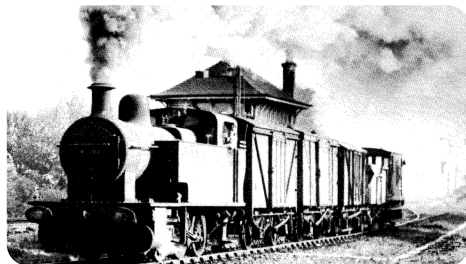
The Peacock Railway, Crewe Road, Willaston (CW5 6NE)

The Peacock Railway will run Crewe built steam locomotives to give rides to the public alongside a display of Crewe built model locomotives.

Saturday 9 September: 10.00-15.30



Talks



Women Educating Cheshire: The History of the Cheshire County Training College in Crewe 1908 - 1974

Crewe Engineering & Design University Technical College, West Street (CWI 2PZ)

Listen to the fascinating lives of the women who trained to be teachers at the Cheshire County Training College, Crewe, which was born in 1908 when lectures took place at the Mechanics Institute.

Monday 11 September: 19.00-20.30

Talk: Tom Francis Coleman, the last LMS Chief Draughtsman and Sir WA Stanier's right hand man

Jubilee House, St Paul's Street (CWI 2QA)

Join the Crewe Historical Society for a talk by Paul Blurton on Tom Francis Coleman, the last LMS Chief Draughtsman.

Tuesday 12 September: 19.00-21.00

The Railway Grouping of 1923 - the London, Midland and Scottish Railway Company

Jubilee House, St Paul's Street (CWI 2QA)

Join Crewe Historical Society for a talk on the Railway Grouping of 1923 as it celebrates its 100th anniversary. Crewe's role in the LMS will be explored on how it impacted the biggest of the Big Four.

Thursday 14 September: 19.00-21.00



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Talks

Crewe: Your Railway, Your Family

Crewe Engineering & Design University Technical College, West Street (CWI 2PZ)

At this railway and family history fair you can listen to a series of short talks from experts, learn more about Crewe's railway history and find out how to trace your railway ancestors.

Talks include:

- Crewe - A Railway Town by Di Drummond
- The London & North Western Railway and its Staff by Reg Instone
- On the Wrong Track: Railway Work and Staff Safety in and around Crewe by Mike Esbester
- On the Right Track: Tracing your Railway Ancestors by Margaret Roberts

Thursday 14 September: 13.30-20.45



Stepping out of way of one Train and foul of another.



Walking on side of Line with Train approaching from behind





Music and Festivals

Crewe Rail Ale Festival

Crewe Heritage Centre, Vernon Way (CWI 2DB)

Crewe Rail Ale Festival celebrates real ales and ciders. A family friendly event with free soft drinks for children and drivers!

Friday 15 & Saturday 16 September: 12.00-21.00 (charged)

Sunday 17 September: 12.00-15.00 (Free Entry)

The Alice Band

Tom's Tap and Brewhouse, Unit 4-5, Thomas Street (CWI 2BD)

The Alice Band provide a great mixture of popular indie tracks and an eclectic assortment of interesting tunes from the 70s to the present day.

Friday 8 September: 20.00-23.00

Green Bullet

Tom's Tap and Brewhouse, Unit 4-5, Thomas Street (CWI 2BD)

Green Bullet has earned a reputation for delivering a high energy mix of covers to suit all tastes!

Saturday 9 September: 20.00-23.00

The Train Set

Tom's Tap and Brewhouse, Unit 4-5, Thomas Street (CWI 2BD)

Emerging from Crewe in the mid 1980s, the Train Set were described at the time as 'rather wonderful' by the Record Mirror and were seen as able to capture the essence of The Smiths within a melting pot of influences from The Doors to Iggy Pop.

Friday 15 September: 20.00-23.00

We are Nomad

Tom's Tap and Brewhouse, Unit 4-5, Thomas Street (CWI 2BD)

Aiming to put a fresh spin on the music they love, We Are Nomad move between original compositions, folk-rock classics and traditional tunes with a smattering of jazz, blues, indie and prog-folk.

Saturday 16 September: 20.00-23.00



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Outdoor Activities



Wildflowers at Queens Park

By the Cafe, Queen's Park, Victoria Avenue (CW2 7SE)

Help restore wildflower meadows at Queen's Park, Crewe to mark the 135th anniversary of the opening of the park.

Saturday 16 September: 11.00-15.00

Wildness for Wellness

Queen's Park, Victoria Avenue (CW2 7SE)

Spending time in the natural environment is proven to improve health and wellbeing. These drop-in sessions are designed to introduce you to mindful activities in the park, encouraging you to slow down, meet other people and connect with nature.

Monday 11 September: 10.00-14.00



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