HERITAGE OPEN DAYS
Thursday 6 – Sunday 16 September 2018

FREE ENTRY TO 27 HISTORICAL PROPERTIES

For more details visit www.tmbc.gov.uk
Heritage Open Days celebrates England’s fantastic architecture and culture by offering free access to properties that are usually closed to the public or normally charge for admission.

It is a once-a-year chance to discover hidden architectural treasures and enjoy a wide range of tours, events and activities which bring to life local history and culture. Organised by volunteers – usually property owners or managers – for local people, Heritage Open Days is England’s biggest and most popular voluntary cultural event, attracting some 800,000 people annually. The Heritage Open Days Partnership gives central co-ordination and additional voice to the event which is made possible by support from English Heritage.

Locally this event has been co-ordinated by Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council in partnership with The Malling Society and Tonbridge Civic Society.

Tonbridge Art Group, Tonbridge Civic Society, Tonbridge Historical Society, Tonbridge Parish Church Bell Ringers and members from the Jane Austen Society (Kent branch) will be exhibiting at Tonbridge Castle throughout the weekend.

For more details, visit www.tmbc.gov.uk or www.heritageopendays.org
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Directions</th>
<th>Contact No</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Aylesford</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aylesford Pottery</td>
<td>Thursday 13 – Sunday 16 September 10am – 5pm (all days)</td>
<td>Traditional craft pottery run by two master potters. Visitors can see items being made and view the gallery showing their work.</td>
<td>The Friars, Aylesford Priory, Aylesford, Kent, ME20 7BY</td>
<td>Easy access from Junctions 5 &amp; 6 off the M20. Exit A229, Junction 3, then follow brown signs to The Friars.</td>
<td>01622 790796</td>
<td><a href="http://www.aylesfordpottery.co.uk">www.aylesfordpottery.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aylesford Priory</td>
<td>Sunday 9 September 2pm – 4pm</td>
<td>An extensively restored 13th century Gatehouse made possible with Heritage Lottery funding.</td>
<td>The Friars, Aylesford Priory, Aylesford, Kent, ME20 7BY</td>
<td>Easy access from Junctions 5 &amp; 6 off the M20. Exit A229, Junction 3, then follow brown signs to The Friars.</td>
<td>01622 717272</td>
<td><a href="http://www.thefriars.org.uk">www.thefriars.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ditton</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ditton Heritage Centre and Victorian Classroom</td>
<td>Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 September 10:30am – 3pm (both days)</td>
<td>A local Heritage Centre with many artefacts, photos and albums from the past to the present day. A Victorian classroom with dressing up clothes for children, playground games and indoor games available. A guided walk through the village of Ditton to illuminate the history of the area.</td>
<td>New Road Ditton, ME20 6AH, adjacent to Ditton Junior School, opposite St Peter’s Church and within a conservation area in which The Ford and The Stream as well as an Old Mill House are located.</td>
<td></td>
<td>01732 844195</td>
<td><a href="http://www.victorianschool.org">www.victorianschool.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>East Malling</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St James the Great Church East Malling</td>
<td>Saturday 8 10am – 5pm</td>
<td>Parish church of East Malling. Copies of baptism, marriage and burial registers will be available. Self-guiding sheets available for the church building.</td>
<td>Church Walk, East Malling, ME19 6AG</td>
<td>From A20 follow New Road to the village centre. Parking available behind the Institute Hall, not in the King &amp; Queen car park.</td>
<td>01732 850238</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stjames.eastmalling.net">www.stjames.eastmalling.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hadlow</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Mary’s Church</td>
<td>Saturday 8 September 10am – 6pm</td>
<td>Parish church of Saxo-Norman origin, dating back to the 10th century, but partly rebuilt and extensively refurbished in the mid-19th century. The churchyard features a memorial to 30 hop-pickers drowned in the River Medway in 1853. Come along for a bell ringing demonstration on Saturday 2 – 4pm and have a go yourself.</td>
<td>Church Street, Hadlow, TN11 0DB</td>
<td>Church Street is off The Square in the centre of Hadlow. No parking in Church Street.</td>
<td>01732 834212</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stmaryshadlow.org.uk">www.stmaryshadlow.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hildenborough</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountains Country House</td>
<td>Sunday 9 September 2pm – 5pm</td>
<td>A magnificent 19th Century Grade II listed mansion set in acres of stunning parkland with magnificent Redwood trees close to the building. Built in 1866, the mansion has a crenelated roof and gargoyles.</td>
<td>Noble Tree Road, Hildenborough, Kent, TN118ND</td>
<td>From M25 leave at junction 5 and follow A21 towards Sevenoaks. Leave A21, taking B245 towards Hildenborough (London Road). Follow London Road towards Hildenborough. Just after the green on your left turn right into Noble tree Road (sign posted). The building is on the left.</td>
<td>01732 834212</td>
<td><a href="http://www.fossebankschool.co.uk">www.fossebankschool.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Ightham**

**Venue:** Ightham Mote  
**Dates:** Thursday 6 September  
Grounds, Cafe & Shop Open 10am – 5pm  
House 11am – 4.30pm  

**Description:** Ightham Mote, a 700 year old moated manor house, set in the beautiful surroundings of the Kent countryside. Step through the ages as the house progresses from Medieval 1320s to the modern 1990s. With its trickling stream, lakes, formal lawn and flower borders, you’re sure to find somewhere to unwind.

**Location:** Ightham Mote, Mote Road, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 0NT  
**Directions:** 6 miles north of Tonbridge on A227, 6 miles south of Sevenoaks on A25, 16 miles west of Maidstone on A20/A25  
**Contact No:** 01732 810378  
**Website:** [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ightham-mote](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ightham-mote)

---

**Kings Hill**

**Venue:** Control Tower  
**Dates:** Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 September 10am – 4pm (both days) Half hour tours available. Maximum group of 8. Pre-booking essential.

**Description:** Limited, timed, access to view the cultural centre artwork exhibition and tour the renovated Control Tower building.

**Location:** Liberty Square, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4RG

**Contact No:** 01732 770929 to book

**Website:** [www.kings-hill.com](http://www.kings-hill.com)

---

**Larkfield**

**Venue:** Larkfield Historical Walk  
**Dates:** Sunday 16 September 10am – 4pm

**Description:** A walk to look at Larkfield’s old buildings and other local features. Starts at Church Farm, Larkfield

**Location:** Church Farm Hall, New Hythe Lane ME20 6ST  
**Directions:** From the Larkfield traffic lights by Morrisons, turn down New Hythe Lane and property is on the right hand side.

**Contact No:** 01732 847415

**Website:** [www.emandlpc.co.uk](http://www.emandlpc.co.uk)

---

**Mereworth**

**Venue:** St Lawrence’s Church  
**Dates:** Thursday 6 – Sunday 9 September, 7am – 4pm (all days)  
Thursday 13 and Friday 14 September, 7am – 4pm (both days)  
Sunday 16 September, 1.30pm – 4pm  
(Sunday service 9.30am for worshippers)

**Description:** Church of England Parish church, built in the 18th Century, unique and one of the most remarkable neo-classical interiors in Europe. Medieval monuments from the earlier church on display. Repaired and refurbished in 2007.

**Location:** South side of The Street, Mereworth  
**Contact No:** 01622 814568  
**Website:** [www.stlawrencemereworth.org](http://www.stlawrencemereworth.org)

---

**Plaxtol**

**Venue:** Dunks Green Free Church  
**Dates:** Saturday 15 September 11am – 4pm

**Description:** Famous Women  
- Gladys Aylward: Rescued 100 children in China Film – Inn of the sixth happiness  
- Amy Carmichael: Rescued Indian children from slavery  
- Corrie Ten Boom: Rescued Jewish people in WW2  
- Harriet Beecher Stowe: Author: Uncle Tom’s Cabin anti-slavery USA  

Bookstall – Children’s section and more  
Refreshments – homemade scones

**Location:** Dunks Green near Plaxtol. A227 from Tonbridge towards Shipbourne, at sharp bend turn right into Puttenden Lane. Keep straight over crossroads onto Dunks Green Road, Rifleman Pub on right, please bear left onto Long Mill Lane. The Church is 500 yards on the left.

**Contact No:** 07759 117147  
**Website:** [www.dunkschurch.org](http://www.dunkschurch.org)
Snodland

Venue: All Saints Church
Dates: Saturday 8 September 10am – 5pm
Description: An ancient building beside the River Medway with many notable features.
Location: Mill Street, Snodland ME6 5AT
Directions: From Snodland by-pass middle exit (follow signs) and travel east (north-bound over by-pass bridge and turn left).
Contact No: 01634 243001
Website: www.allsaintschurch.org.uk

Venue: Snodland Millennium Museum
Dates: Sunday 9 September 2pm – 5pm
Description: The museum covers Snodland and District: artefacts and research facilities for local and family historians.
Location: Waghorn Road, 2nd on left in High Street. Mill Street, Snodland, ME6 5AT
Contact No: 01634 243001
Website: www.snodlandhistory.org.uk

Tonbridge

Venue: The Oast Theatre
Dates: Saturday 15 September 10am – 4pm
Description: Come on a tour of your local theatre! See the backstage areas including the amazing wardrobe and props departments. Find out what happens on stage. This year an exhibition of costumes from 2017/2018 season, interesting displays of unusual bicycles and classic cars. Children’s activities. Refreshments available.
Location: London Road, Tonbridge, TN10 3AN
Directions: On B245, Tonbridge/Hildenborough border. Next to the Premier Inn.
Contact No: 07870 123170
Website: www.oasttheatre.com

Venue: St Saviour's Church in the Parish of St Peter & St Paul, Tonbridge
Dates: Saturday 8 September 10am – 6pm
Description: St Saviour’s is an attractive, welcoming church built in 1875 with some internal alterations to the west end made in 1993. It was re-ordered in 2010 and provides a flexible space for concerts and other events.
Location: Dry Hill Park Crescent, Tonbridge
Directions: At the end of Dry Hill Park Crescent on the left hand side, on the junction with Dry Hill Park Road.
Contact No: 01732 838411
Website: www.tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk

Venue: The Schools at Somerhill
Dates: Sunday 9 September 2pm – 4pm
Description: This Grade 1 listed Jacobean Mansion (1611), the second largest Jacobean house in Kent, with a later Victorian extension.
Contact No: 01732 352124
Website: www.somerhill.org
Tonbridge (continued)

Venue: Tonbridge Castle
Dates: Saturday 8 September 9am – 5pm
       Sunday 9 September 10:30am – 4:30pm
Description: Follow in the footsteps of the Red Earl as the gatehouse comes under noisy attack! Enjoy a recreation of history – whatever the weather. See, touch and hear history come to life at Tonbridge Castle with our interactive tour. Experience the sights, sounds and excitement of 13th Century castle life. The most complete motte and bailey castle in Kent.
Location: North end of Tonbridge, just off the High Street
Directions: By car from the A26, Quarry Hill Road, continue through Tonbridge High Street (A227).
           For sat nav users, please enter the postcode TN9 1BG. Pay and display car parks are situated next to the Castle site (Sunday only).
           By rail, the Castle is a 10 minute walk through the High Street from Tonbridge Station.
Contact No: 01732 770929 to book
Website: www.tonbridgecastle.org

Venue: Tonbridge Parish Church, St Peter & St Paul
Dates: Friday 7 – Sunday 9 September, daily 10am – 4pm, (from 11am Sunday)
Description: Our church dates from 1050, with fascinating architecture, memorials and stained glass, and links with Jane Austen’s family. For Heritage 2018 we’re staging a special festival of flowers, art and creativity. There’ll also be a creative activity for children, and teas.
Location: Church Lane, off Tonbridge High Street
Directions: Train station ½ mile, turn left up High Street. The church is behind Rose and Crown.
Website: www.tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk

Venue: Tonbridge Lacemakers Open Day
Dates: Saturday 8 September, 10.30am – 2pm
Description: Tonbridge Lacemakers welcome visitors to come and see us working on beautiful handmade lace. There is an opportunity to ‘have a go’.
Location: Fisher Hall, Corpus Christie Church, Lyons Crescent, Tonbridge TN9 1EY
Directions: From Tonbridge High Street, along Lyons Crescent, on right opposite the Church.
Contact No: 01732 354525
Website: www.tonbridgelacemakers.org.uk

Wateringbury

Venue: Wateringbury Parish Church of St John the Baptist
Dates: Saturday 8 September, 12noon – 4.30pm
Description: Displays relating to the Blue Plaque people and properties within Wateringbury. Ploughman’s lunches, Cream Teas and Refreshments available.
Location: Tonbridge Road, Wateringbury
Directions: On the A26
Website: sites.google.com/site/wateringburylocalhistory/

West Malling

Venue: Pilsdon at Malling Community
Dates: Saturday 8 September 10am – 4pm
Description: A stunning barn chapel, parts of which are 15th Century. Formerly used by the Ewell monastery from 1966 – 2004. Currently it is used daily by the present community. Originally it was likely to have been the rear Gatehouse of St Mary’s Abbey to store tithes and equipment. Have wheelchair access into chapel.
Location: 27 Water Lane, West Malling, Kent ME19 4LH
Directions: Water Lane is just off West Malling High Street. Limited parking in Water Lane, plenty in the car park behind Tesco.
Contact No: 01732 870279
Website: www.pilsdonatmalling.org.uk

Venue: St Mary’s Abbey
Dates: Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 September
      Tours at 2pm and 2:20pm (both days)
Description: Founded in 1090 for Benedictine nuns, now home to a community of Anglican nuns. Buildings from the medieval period, the Grade II* listed Abbey Church (1966) and the nuns’ 13th Century cloister on the 45 min tour. Pre-booking required, 25 people per tour. (Booking no: 01732 770929)
Location: 52 Swan Street, West Malling
Directions: Opposite the Baptist Chapel on Swan Street.
Contact No: 01732 843309
Website: www.mallingabbey.org
West Malling (continued)

Venue: St Mary the Virgin
Dates: Saturday 8 September 9.30am – 5.30pm  
       Sunday 9 September 11.30am – 5.30pm
Description: St Mary the Virgin is the Parish Church of West Malling. It is a Grade II listed building, part 11th Century. There is a Norman Tower (not open to the public) and an interesting King James II shield. The churchyard contains many old headstones, vaults and tombs.
Location: Top of High Street in West Malling
Directions: The church is situated at the top of the High Street. There is no parking at the church but a car park behind Tesco is a 5 minute walk away.
Contact No: 01732 842245
Website: www.stmaryswestmalling.org.uk

Venue: The Twitch Heritage Centre
Dates: Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 September, 12noon – 3:30pm (both days)
Description: RAF West Malling memorabilia. Graffiti in smoke on ceiling and cartoons on walls by David Langdon. Various Uniforms on display.
Location: Cellar at Douces Manor, St Leonard’s Street
Directions: No parking on site. Park in High Street, Country Park or on road in St Leonard’s Street.
Contact No: 01732 847678
Website: www.themallingsociety.org.uk

West Peckham

Venue: St Dunstan’s Church
Dates: Thursday 6 – Sunday 9 September, 8.30am – 5pm  
       (11am Sunday service for worshippers, no photography)
Description: A pre-Saxon church, a jewel in the countryside. A picture-perfect English church, on the village green, next to the Pub and loved by the community.
Location: Church Road, West Peckham, ME18 5JH
Contact No: 01622 814568
Website: www.kmwchurches.org

For more details visit www.tmbc.gov.uk

Disclaimer: Whilst every care has been taken to ensure all entries were correct at time of print, Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council cannot accept responsibility for any errors, omissions or subsequent alterations. We would suggest contacting Tonbridge Castle Gateway on 01732 770929 before making your visit to St Mary’s Abbey, Haysden Country Park or Kings Hill Control Tower. Feel free to contact the Leisure Services on 01732 844522 before visiting the remaining properties.