



heritage open days

Rugby 2025

## Tea and Talk with the Mayor of Rugby

**Town Hall, Evreux Way, Rugby, CV21 2RR**

The Mayor of Rugby, Councillor Barbara Brown, welcomes visitors to a tour of the Council Chamber on Monday 15th September, followed by tea in the Mayor's Parlour.

Children are welcome, but must be supervised as there are fragile and valuable items displayed in the Mayor's Parlour.

**15 September, 12pm to 1pm**

**Booking essential**

## Vintage Midland Red Bus and St. Peter's Church Tour

**Meet at Rugby Visitor Centre, Little Elborow Street, Rugby, CV21 3BZ**

Enjoy a trip down memory lane on a No. 5905 Midland Red class S22 single-deck bus built in 1968. The bus will be parked outside Rugby Visitor Centre, where you can enjoy an informative chat about Rugby town or learn about the history of the bus and Midland Red. There will be two trips, stopping at Dunchurch for a brief tour of St. Peter's Church and refreshments. The tour will last approximately two hours.

**17 September, 11am and 2pm**

**Booking essential for the trips**



## Guided Walking Tour of Rugby's Public Art

**Meet at Rugby Visitor Centre, Little Elborow Street, Rugby, CV21 3BZ**

Discover the history of Rugby's public artwork, the artists involved and the idea behind each piece.

**13 September, 2pm to 3.30pm**

**Booking essential**



## Guided Walking Tour of Rugby's heritage and history

**Meet at Rugby Visitor Centre, Little Elborow Street, Rugby, CV21 3BZ**

The tour will visit the Webb Ellis Football Museum, the Webb Ellis Statue and The Queen's Gates at The Close. Other stops include Regent Street, High Street, the Rupert Brooke Statue and St Andrew's Church. The tour is fully accessible.

**12, 13, and 18 September, 11am to 12.30pm**

**Booking essential**

## Guided Walking Tour of Rugby's sporting heritage

**Meet at Rugby Visitor Centre, Little Elborow Street, Rugby, CV21 3BZ**

Join a free walking tour of Rugby Town, focussing on its sporting heritage, from birthplace of the game to the development of the rugby ball and beyond. The tour is fully accessible.

**20 September, 11am to 12.30pm**

**Booking essential**



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### Sustainable Saturday

**Rugby Art Gallery and Museum, Little Elborow Street, Rugby, CV21 3BZ**

Join us for a day of creativity and climate-conscious community. Discover hands-on crafting for all ages, with drop-in workshops and our makers' market. Enjoy live music, meet alpacas and connect with inspiring community groups.

**20 September, 11am to 3.30pm**

**No booking required**

### One hundred years of the Percival Guildhouse

**St. Matthew's Street, Rugby, CV21 3BY**

The Percival Guildhouse is celebrating 100 years of being an Independent Adult Education Centre by creating an exhibition of their Archives, alongside a textile exhibition.

**13 and 14 September, 11am to 3pm**

**Pre-booking preferred, call 01788 542467**

### Bournville in Rugby

**28 Regent Place, Rugby, CV21 2PN**

A little bit of Bournville in the centre of Rugby. In 1909, a dual purpose adult school and meeting house was built for Rugby Quakers in what was then Moat Street. Designed and built by Bedford Tyler, the architect of the Bournville Estate.

**13 and 20 September, 11am to 4pm**

**No booking required**

### St. Marie's RC Church

**Dunchurch Road, Rugby, CV22 5EL**

A landmark church with a beautiful Pugin interior. All areas of the church will be open with personnel on hand to assist with information. Children's activities will be available, as well as refreshments, an interactive tour of the church using QR codes, and other fun and informative activities.

**12 and 14 September, 10am to 4pm**

**No booking required**

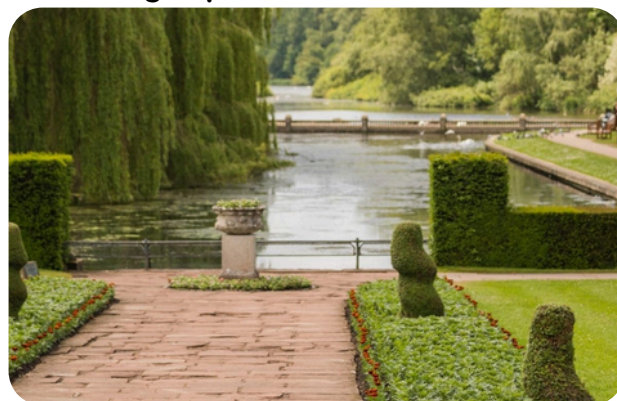
### Coombe Abbey Park

**Coombe Abbey Park, Brinklow Road, Binley, CV3 2AB**

A self-guided walk to see the hidden architecture and historic points within the award-winning park. Visit the information centre to find your map and information sheet to help explore the park.

**12-21 September, 10am to 3pm**

**No booking required**



### Marvin's Royal Blue Coaches

**Rugby Library, Little Elborow St., Rugby, CV21 3BZ**

Find out more about the history of Marvin's Royal Blue Coaches, a local company which operated from Rugby for 60 years. Featuring photographs and expert knowledge from local historians.

**18 September, 10.30am to 3.30pm**

**No booking required**





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## Princethorpe College

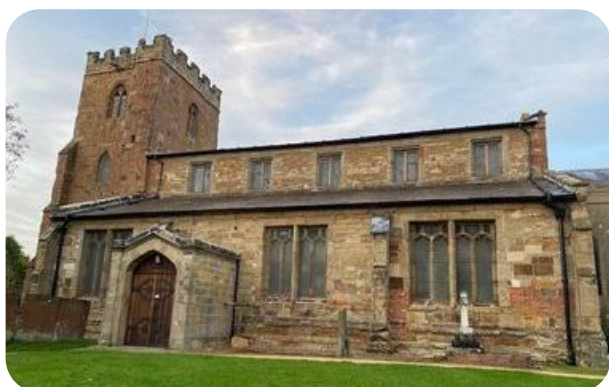
**Leamington Road, Princethorpe, CV23 9PX**

Founded in 1833, St Mary's Priory was one of the first priories to be built in England after the Reformation. Tour the magnificent building with the archive team and discover its history and architecture. Areas open include Pugin's chapel, the cloisters, nuns' cells, library (former church) and the roundhouse. Complimentary tea and coffee will be available.

**21 September, tours leave at 1.30pm, 2.15pm and 3pm**

**Booking required: [archives@princethorpe.co.uk](mailto:archives@princethorpe.co.uk)**

Parts of the building, such as the old church, are only accessible by stairs. Each tour takes approximately 60 minutes.



## St. John's the Baptist church

**The Locks, Hillmorton, Rugby, CV21 4PP**

This beautiful church in its wonderful setting will be open daily for visitors, offering a quiet space with many artefacts dating back to the 13th century, including two tabletop effigies. St John's is situated next to the Oxford Canal, as well as the mainline west coast train line and the old Rugby Radio Station, in a quiet area with a pretty, natural churchyard.

**13 and 20 September, 10am to 4pm**

**14 and 21 September, 12pm to 4pm**

**No booking required**



## Rugby Theatre

**Central Hall, Henry Street, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV21 2QA**

See all areas, including backstage, on stage (with a set in place!), our lighting booth, sound desk, scenic area, wardrobe and rehearsal space - with refreshments in our bar! Please note only limited areas are wheelchair accessible.

**14 and 21 September: bookable tours 10am to 3pm, starting on the hour (tours last one hour)**

**17 September: drop-in tours 7pm to 9pm**

**20 September: drop-in tours 10am to 4pm**

## The Home Front in Rugby

**Rugby Library, Little Elborow Street, Rugby, CV21 3BZ**

The library will be showing a small display about Rugby's home front during the Second World War, including photographs and other material from the Local Studies collection.

**12-21 September during Library opening times**

**No booking required**

## The White Lion Inn

**The White Lion Inn, Coventry road, Pailton, Rugby, CV23 0QD**

Enjoy a small group tour around the grade II listed former coaching inn. Share our vision of the restoration of the building into a village hub.

**20 and 21 September, 10am - 4pm, tours last 15mins. No booking required**



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## St. Peter's Church

**St Peter's Church, Wolfhampcote, Rugby, CV23 8AR**

Join us for an open day at St Peter's Church - a historic medieval church standing in an isolated position in the civil parish of Wolfhampcote.

**21 September, 12pm to 4pm**

**No booking required**

## Rugby Baptist Church

**Regent Place, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV21 2PJ**

Rugby Baptist church, Regent Place, will be open to the public, including displays from the church archives, guided tours and a display of stained glass making.

**20 September, 11am to 5pm**

**No booking required**

## Author Talk: Aidan McRae Thomson, 'Churches of Warwickshire'

**Rugby Art Gallery and Museum, Little Elborow Street, Rugby, CV21 3BZ**

Join author and stained-glass artist Aidan McRae Thomson as he introduces his new book, exploring a selection of the most interesting churches across the whole of the County. Books will be available to purchase, with a book signing session at the end.

**19 September, 3pm to 4.30pm**

**Booking essential**



## St Edith's Church

**Miller's Lane, Monks Kirby, Rugby, CV23 0QX**

St Edith's Church is a Grade I listed building, located in Monks Kirby near Rugby. It dates from 1077 and is the largest parish church in Warwickshire.

**Open daily for visitors, no booking required**

**Free guided tours on 13 September 2pm to**

**3.30pm and 14, 20, 21 September, 2pm to 4pm**

**Have a go at bell ringing and climb the tower on 21 September**



## Marton Museum of Country Bygones

**Louisa Ward Close, Marton, Rugby, CV23 9SA**

An eclectic mix of artefacts showing how people lived and worked in the country. This small museum is run by a group of volunteers and is open on Sunday afternoons in June, July, August and September. All of the exhibits were acquired locally and cover a wide variety of aspects of country life.

Hands on exhibits and demonstrations by a blacksmith, corn dolly making, spinning and other local crafts will be on show. Homemade cakes and refreshments will be on sale in the pavilion.

**13 and 14 September, 10.30am to 4.30pm**

**No booking required**





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## Rugby Family History Group

**Rugby Art Gallery and Museum, Rugby Library,  
Little Elborow Street, Rugby, CV21 3BZ**

Members will be based in the foyer of Rugby Art Gallery, Museum, and Library building to tell people about the group and help with family history research.

**13 September in the foyer, 10am to 4pm**

**20 September in the Library, 10am to 4pm**

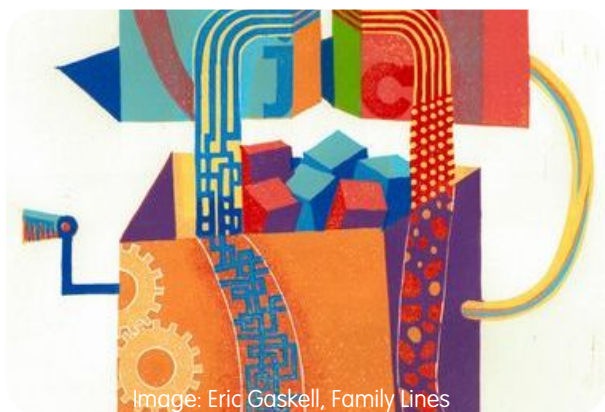


Image: Eric Gaskell, Family Lines

## Art at the Alex

**72-73 James Street, Rugby, CV21 2SL**

Art exhibits, and exhibit/talk by artist Eric Gaskell about his work depicting family histories. Pirate shanties/poetry for our Talk Like a Pirate evening. Crafts/art exhibitions as part of Northants & Rutland Open Studios. Café and Garden on site.

**19 September: 11am to 4pm (exhibitions and open studios), 6pm to 9pm (sea shanties & pirate poetry)**

**20 September: 1.30pm to 3.30pm (Eric Gaskell Family Lines Talk)**

**21 September: 11am to 4pm (Open studios and heritage crafts)**

**No booking required**

## Rugby Distillery Tour

**Home Farm, Pailton Road, Harborough Magna, Rugby, CV23 0HG**

Set on a beautiful farm, this tour will include a talk on how Rugby Distillery came about. Discover how Rugby Distillery was created and how craft Rugby gin is crafted, from the start of the process to the very end.

**16 September, 1pm to 2.30pm**

**17 September, 6pm to 7.30pm**

**Booking essential**



**For bookings and further information, please visit:**

**[www.therugbytown.co.uk/what-s-on](http://www.therugbytown.co.uk/what-s-on)**

**Tel: 01788 533217**

