



# Maidenhead Heritage Centre

Primary School  
Workshops  
2015–2016

# Our workshops are...

## Flexible:

You tell us what you're teaching, and we'll tailor our content to match

## Practical:

Our museum is conveniently located in Maidenhead town centre, and we can often bring workshops and objects to your classroom

Local:  
Putting  
our  
national  
history in  
a local  
context

Affordable:  
Our workshops start  
at just £3.50 per  
head and have  
been described as  
"excellent value"  
by a local KS2  
teacher

Hands on!  
All of our  
workshops are  
designed around  
the fantastic  
handling objects in  
our museum  
collection

Professional:  
Our workshops are  
designed and  
delivered by our  
dedicated Education  
Officer. 90% of  
teachers last year  
*strongly* agreed that  
our workshops  
enriched their  
students' learning

Recommended:  
100% of teachers who booked  
workshops at our museum last  
year would recommend them  
to colleagues

# Pre-history

In your classroom

KS1

KS2

500,000 BC

*Stone Age  
people settle  
along the  
Thames*

**Bring the Stone Ages to life as we bring a selection of pre-historic flint tools to your classroom.**

Your students can get hands on with our collection of hand axes, hammers and microliths from the Paleolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic eras, all discovered near Maidenhead.

Find out which kinds of tools were used by hunter gatherers and investigate how technology changed as people settled and began farming.

**Activity idea:** why not sketch the tools during your session? We can even provide you with a recipe for “stone age paint”!



# The Romans

At the museum

KS1

KS2

43 AD  
The Romans  
invade  
Britain

**Explore what a day in the life at Cox Green Roman Villa would have been like in this interactive museum workshop.**

We'll be investigating why the Romans invaded Britain, what life was like in Roman Maidenhead, and how we know about it in this action packed workshop at the museum.

After setting the scene of the Roman invasion, your students will take part in a rotation of four activities themed around rooms and artefacts from Cox Green Roman Villa.

**The Kitchen:** Investigate Roman foods and handle Roman cooking utensils and oyster shells, before investigating a piece of Roman pottery to work out how big it was when it was new.

**The Bath House:** Construct and test a working model of a "Hypocaust", the underfloor heating system at Cox Green Villa.

**The Shrine:** Inspired by a tiny fragment of a Roman statue, we'll learn about Roman gods Janus and Vesta and use our sketching skills to imagine what the statue looked like when it was new.

**Meet Julius!** Come face to face with a real Roman skeleton: choose whether to label his bones or storyboard a day in his life.



# The Tudors

KS2

At the museum

**Put a local twist on your Tudor studies and find out what life was like in Maidenhead during the Medieval and Tudor times.**

With a particular focus on the life and times of Elizabeth I, this workshop supports topics including religion, politics, fashion and even the plague!

Learning is consolidated through creative activities, including writing letters from Tudor Maidenhead with quills and creating fragrant “pomanders” to ward off the plague.

Students will also have the opportunity to handle a Tudor ring found by a local metal detector, and a Tudor seal ring from the museum collection.

We can also provide an overview of Henry VIII and his wives.



**Activity idea:** analyse and compare this image of Elizabeth I in Maidenhead’s royal charter with her famous coronation portrait.

1582

Elizabeth I grants  
Maidenhead a  
royal charter





# The Victorians and Brunel

KS1

KS2

1838

Brunel brings  
the railway to  
Maidenhead

At the museum

In your classroom

**In 1838 Isambard Kingdom Brunel built a record breaking bridge across the Thames at Maidenhead and brought the Great Western Railway to our town, changing it forever.**

In this workshop students will discover what travelling in Maidenhead was like before 1838, and examine the impact Brunel and the railway had on Maidenhead in the Victorian times.

As well as being a great introduction to a local history topic, the workshop also encourages students to make cross-curricular links, investigating the maths (shapes) and science (properties of materials) knowledge that Brunel needed as an engineer.

Students will also have the chance to handle Victorian artefacts and take home a souvenir railway ticket.

The full workshop can be run either at the museum or in your classroom.

**Activity idea:** KS2 students give presentations in character as Brunel's team of engineers



# World War One

KS1

KS2

At the museum

In your classroom

1914

The First  
World War  
breaks out

**Explore life in Maidenhead 100 years ago and investigate the people, places and events that changed our town in the First World War.**

Take a closer look at topics including nurses and hospitals; soldiers and recruitment; remembrance; trench art; rationing; women's war work; postcards/letters and more.

Handle real artefacts from 100 years ago, including ration books, postcards, photographs and battlefield relics.

Discover the stories of people like Beatrice Kay, a nurse at Cliveden, and Annie Boddington, who was nine years old when her Dad Albert, a local postman, went away to fight.

The museum is a two minute walk from Maidenhead War Memorial, which we can take your students to see as part of their workshop (on request).

We can also bring a **handling box** to your classroom on request.



***Activity idea:** explore Beatrice Kay's photo album and re-enact her war story using drama*



# World War Two

KS2

At the museum

1945

The Second  
World War  
breaks out

Bring history to life with an action packed wartime workshop at Maidenhead Heritage Centre.

With an extensive wartime object handling collection, students can investigate what life was like on the “homefront” in Maidenhead, covering key topics including rationing, blackouts, evacuees, make do and mend and ARP wardens.

Students will also have the chance to interview one of our museum volunteers who was a child during the war, and try her mother’s recipe for wartime eggless cake! (subject to availability)

In our special wartime aviation gallery, “Grandma Flew Spitfires”, students can discover our local links to the Battle of Britain through the Air Transport Auxiliary, based at White Waltham Airfield. For a truly memorable trip, your students can even try their hands as wartime pilots in our **spitfire simulator**!\*

We can also bring a **handling box** of wartime and/or aviation artefacts to your classroom on request.

\* Suitable for Year 4 and above.

**Activity idea:**  
students  
interview Beryl,  
who was a  
child during  
WW2





# Extended Projects

KS1

KS2

At the museum

In your classroom

We are always happy to consider working on extended projects with your school or class.

## *Example project: WW1 Stop-Motion Animation*

In this 2014 project Year 3 at Cookham Dean visited the museum to learn all about nurses and soldiers in WW1.

Over six weeks our Education Officer visited the Year 3s during their art lessons in school and helped them create storyboards, plasticine models and 3D collage backdrops, before guiding students through the animation process and adding voice recordings.



1. Investigate



2. Create



3. Animate!



# Plan Your Visit

Teachers are welcome to come on a free pre-visit during normal opening hours.

## The Practical Bits:

- We can accommodate max 35 pupils per visit
- The museum is wheelchair accessible
- Please contact us to discuss wheelchair access to the spitfire simulator
- We have on-site toilets
- We do not have an on-site café or dedicated eating area (but KS1 classes are welcome to bring snacks)

## Availability:

- Sessions are available on Mondays when we are closed to the public, letting your students take over the museum!
- Other days are available on request during busy periods
- Sessions usually last 1-2 hours over a morning or afternoon

## Location:

- The museum is located on Park Street, just off Maidenhead High Street behind the Town Hall

## Parking:

- Coaches and mini buses can drop off in Park Street, directly outside the museum entrance. We do not have a dedicated museum car park but Grove Road Public Car Park is immediately to the rear of the museum

# Prices

*The prices below apply to standard workshops as described in this leaflet:*

- Most of our workshops cost just **£3.50** per head
- Workshops including spitfire simulator flights cost just **£4.50** per head
- All accompanying adults free
- Minimum charges of £90 per museum workshop and £75 per classroom workshop apply

# Contact Us

You can get in touch with our Education Officer at  
[education@maidenheadheritage.org.uk](mailto:education@maidenheadheritage.org.uk)

or by calling the museum office on

**01628 780 555**

(Tues-Sat 10am-4pm)

Please note our Education Officer works part time  
(usually Mondays-Wednesdays)



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