

# Vhm

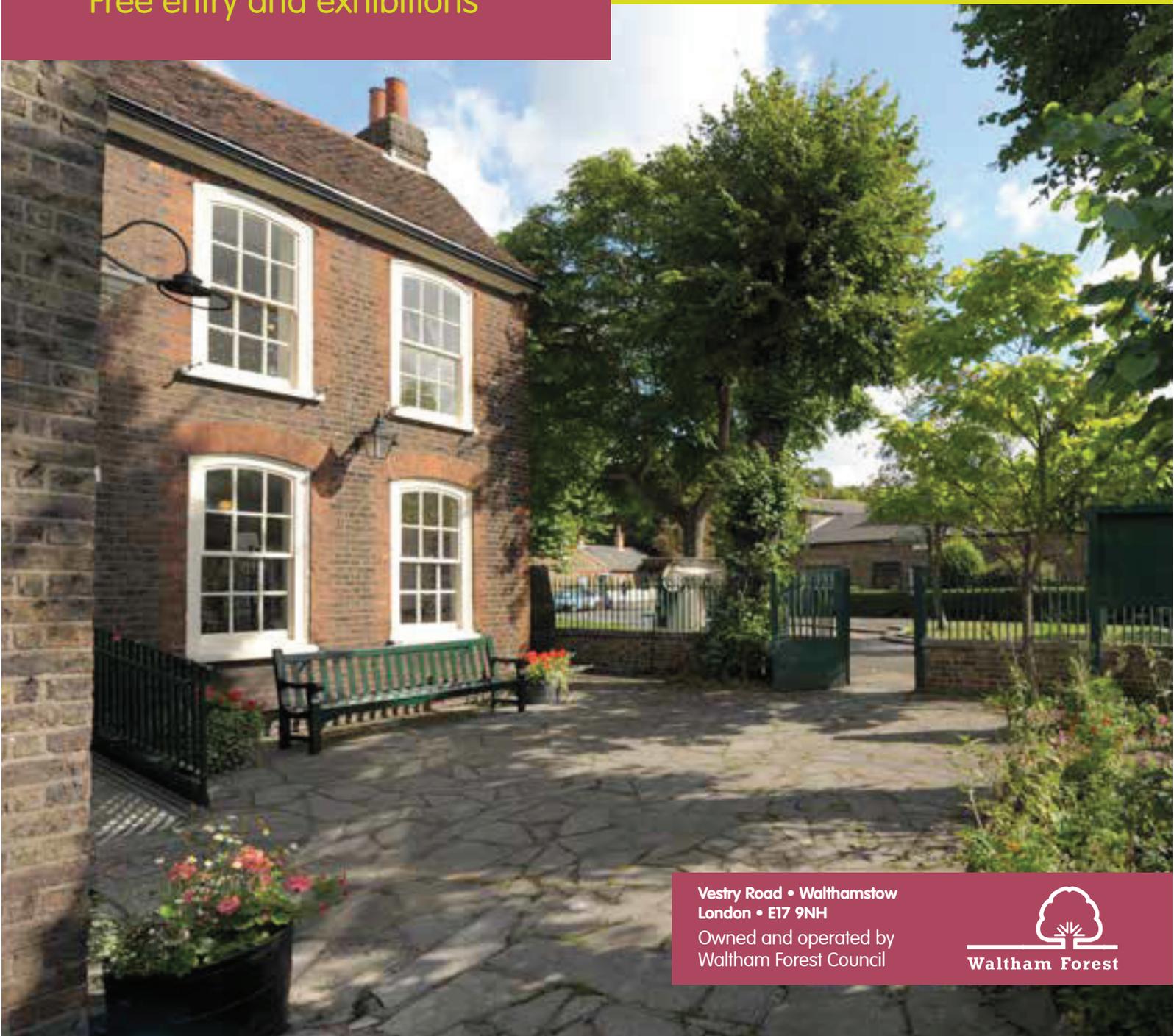
Vestry House Museum

[www.walthamforest.gov.uk/vestry-house](http://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/vestry-house)

## What's On

June 2013 – February 2014

Free entry and exhibitions



Vestry Road • Walthamstow  
London • E17 9NH  
Owned and operated by  
Waltham Forest Council



# About

## The Museum

Vestry House Museum presents the history of Waltham Forest. Attractively located in the Grade II listed Vestry House, the Museum can be found in the historic Walthamstow Village. Originally built as a workhouse in 1730, Vestry House has since been a police station and a private house before it opened as a museum in 1931.

Themed displays capture the unique heritage of this area of north-east London. Admire the Victorian parlour and dare to enter the police cell! You can also see the Bremer Car, the earliest British-built car with a combustion engine, built right here in Walthamstow.



## The Garden

Relax in the beautiful Museum garden run by our dedicated team of garden volunteers.

# Exhibitions

## A Tourist In Other People's Reality

A quote from S. Sontag "On Photography" 1977

**Saturday 15 June – Sunday 29 September**



Sława Harasymowicz, from the series  
*Idle, Abusive, Unruly*, 2013

Cecilia Bonilla, Sława Harasymowicz,  
Joanna Rajkowska; curated by  
Olga Ovenden

A new art exhibition at Vestry House draws on the building's history as a workhouse and the personal memories and associations tied up in its social history collections. Using the archives as a point of departure, the artists Cecilia Bonilla (Uruguay/Sweden), Sława Harasymowicz (Poland) and Joanna Rajkowska (Poland) reflect on the possibility of unearthing the invisible, the missing and the fragmented from within the given narrative of the location.

The exhibition both attempts and wilfully fails to represent the 'true' history of Vestry House through creating openings towards the fictional. The expectation and desire for the material trace of a human being is set against the physical emptiness of what is left. With this premise in mind, the exhibition stages a spectacle of frustration and coercion carefully orchestrated by the three artists.

Kindly supported by the Polish Cultural Institute



# Exhibition

## **Darwin's Parlour**

A Chocolate Cabinet of Curiosity by Boy Eats Bug

**Thursday 30 May – Sunday 30 June**

**Victorian Parlour**



© Boy Eats Bug

This exhibition is part of the Walthamstow Appetite Festival  
[www.appetitefestival.co.uk](http://www.appetitefestival.co.uk)

## **Wildlife Reworked**

An exhibition in the garden

**Saturday 10 August – Sunday 8 September**



© Michelle Reader

Boy Eats Bug is a confectionery company set up by food artists Chris Verreas & Sarah Hardy. Darwin's Parlour is an installation of collectable chocolate beasts, hand crafted and highly realistic renderings of the natural world in chocolate. Confections for boys and girls with dirty knees...

An exhibition of recycled wildlife sculptures inspired by the creatures in the garden and urban wildlife in and around E17. The sculptures have been made this summer by local families in workshops with sculptor Michelle Reader.

*In partnership with The Mill, Barbican Arts Group Trust and Lee Valley Regional Park Authority*

# Exhibition

## Toys: A Serious Business

Saturday 19 October 2013 – Sunday 23 February 2014



*Wells Brimtoy factory decorated for the jubilee*

Waltham Forest has enjoyed a long association with the manufacture of toys. Our new exhibition looks at local toy factories – Wells Brimtoy, famous for their range of tin-plate toys and Britains Ltd, who ran a factory on Blackhorse Lane, Walthamstow. Visit this hands-on, family friendly exhibition to see the Museum's fantastic toys and games collection and find out more about these important local factories and the people who worked there.

There'll be dolls, teddies, model train-sets, boats, planes and more! Replica toys and games will be available for visitors to try. Watch out for the children's art competition and the chance to win an Airfix model kit of the Red Arrows!

# Families



## Family Activities

1.30pm – 4pm

On the second Sunday of every month we run fun activities for families to make and do together.

Free, drop-in event for families of all ages

### Sunday 9 June Garden Prints

Join artist-printmaker Anna Alcock and use leaves and found objects to create bold, colourful relief prints inspired by Vestry House's exhibits and garden.

### Sunday 14 July Polish Paper Cutting

Have a go at 'wycinanki', the beautiful art of paper-cut designs traditionally used by Polish families to decorate their homes.

### Sunday 11 August Fabulous Beasts

Join sculptor Michelle Reader to create animal sculpture from scrap and recycled materials.

### Sunday 8 September Tea Party

Strange creatures have been living in the Museum garden... and they are about to leave! Join us on the last day of the Wildlife Reworked exhibition for a tea party with art, craft and delicious refreshments.



### **Sunday 13 October** **Celebrate Black History Month**

Join us for a lively afternoon of drumming, poetry and storytelling to celebrate Waltham Forest's diverse heritage.

### **Sunday 10 November** **Shadow Puppets**

Have a go at this popular Victorian parlour entertainment. Tell stories by cutting out silhouettes to project and move against a light box.

### **Sunday 8 December** **Toy Making Workshop**

Make and decorate simple traditional toys and games inspired by our Toys exhibition. Keep for yourself or give as inexpensive Christmas gifts!

### **11 and 12 January** **Walthamstow Wassail Weekend**

Scribble & Smudge brings this ancient festive tradition to life. Craft activities on Saturday 1.30 – 4pm; singing and village procession on Sunday afternoon.

A small donation is requested.

### **Sunday 9 February** **In the Pink for Valentine's Day**

Make cards and keepsakes for your loved ones, using card, beads and fabric collage. Led by artist Sba Shaikh.

# Special Events



## Wednesday 26 June

### Garden Herbal Tour 2.30pm – 3.15pm

In celebration of Herbal Medicine Awareness Week, medical herbalist, Gail Farrow, will lead a tour around Vestry House Garden and introduce the range of plants that have been used over time for their medicinal properties.

Free, just turn up

## Sunday 7 July

### Garden Herbal Tour 2.30pm – 3.15pm

A special weekend repeat of Gail Farrow's garden tour (please see above).

Free, just turn up



## Open House Weekend

### Saturday 21 September 11am

A free guided tour of Vestry House Museum, exploring the building's origins as the village workhouse.

Pre-booking essential;  
please call 020 8496 4391



## Apple Day

### Saturday 12 October 11am – 4pm

Apple Day is a national event organised in local communities to improve awareness of our local apples. There will be apple displays, apple juicing, apple bobbing, apple tasting and apple cakes to name just a few of the attractions available!

## Saturday 6 July Walthamstow International Film Festival

Booking recommended on Eventbrite or visit  
[www.walthamstowinternationalfilmfestival.com](http://www.walthamstowinternationalfilmfestival.com)



### Directing Actors for the Camera 12 – 2.30pm

Film Director Barry Bliss gives a master class for aspiring directors and actors of film and television. The workshop will give directors the confidence to use their unique voice to direct actors for the camera. It will also help stage actors to improve their recorded performance.

Barry Bliss is based in Walthamstow and has enjoyed a career in film spanning 30 years, working with leading talents in the UK including Paul McGann, Gary Kemp, Susan Vidler, Susannah Harker and Emily Beecham, the star of his latest film Art Is.

**Tickets £10 (payable on the door)**

### Hitchcock and Pure Film Making 3 – 5pm

Ian Long leads a workshop exploring Hitchcock's early influences and argues that his primarily visual approach to filmmaking is still relevant to modern filmmakers. Ian has worked as a story consultant for many organisations including the UK Film Council, the First Film Foundation and the Script Factory. The talk will be illustrated by many interesting clips.

**Tickets £10 (payable on the door)**

**All proceeds go to supporting the  
Walthamstow International Film Festival**



*Alfred Hitchcock was born in  
Leytonstone*

# Learning



## Schools

Vestry House is a valuable learning resource and can be visited to support many curriculum areas including history, design and technology, geography, English and citizenship.

We offer Victorian and World War II Home Front role play workshops for Key Stages 1 and 2, free self-led visits and school loan boxes featuring an exciting range of handling materials.

### Teachers' Evening: Thursday 19 September, 5.30 - 8pm

For more information please contact Sharon Trotter, Learning Officer for Vestry House Museum and the William Morris Gallery on [wmg.schoolbookings@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:wmg.schoolbookings@walthamforest.gov.uk).

## Archives and Local Studies Library

The Museum houses Waltham Forest Archives and Local Studies Library, which offer a wealth of source material relating to the history of Waltham Forest. Our extensive printed and manuscript holdings provide key sources for research into many subjects, including family history and the history of your house or street.



Teacher and Student guides are available to download for free from the website.

Open Thursday – Saturday, 10am – 1pm and 2pm – 5pm, by appointment only.

## Photographic Collection

The Museum has an outstanding collection of photographs of Waltham Forest dating back to the 1860s. The collection provides a vivid record of the changing scenery and local life. By appointment only.

## Group visits

The Museum offers self-led visits and guided tours for pre-booked groups. For more information and how to book please call 020 8496 4391 or email [vhm.enquiries@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:vhm.enquiries@walthamforest.gov.uk). We recommend a combined trip to the Museum and the William Morris Gallery for a great day out in Waltham Forest.

## Volunteer

Join our team and get involved in a range of volunteer opportunities in the Museum and Garden, enabling you to develop your skills and meet a wide range of people. Reliability, enthusiasm and a passion for our collections are the only requirements.

Volunteer Open Days are organised in partnership with the William Morris Gallery:

**Thursday 11 and Saturday 13 July 2013 at Vestry House Museum**

**Friday 31 January and Saturday 1 February 2014 at William Morris Gallery**

## Mailing List

Don't miss out on exciting one-off events and learn more about our collections by signing up to our e-newsletter.

Just email [vhm.enquiries@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:vhm.enquiries@walthamforest.gov.uk).

## Shop

The shop offers souvenirs, toys and games, books and maps of the local area.

## Venue Hire

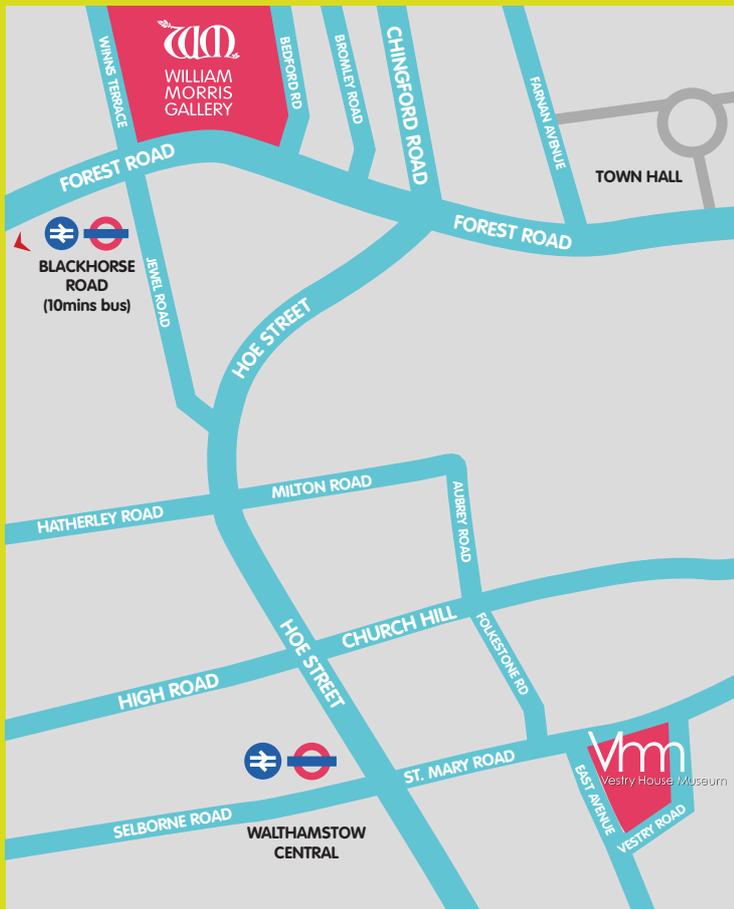
Our community room, complete with kitchen, is available for hire at reasonable rates Tuesday – Sunday (9am – 10pm) and can accommodate up to 80 people.

## Weddings

The Museum is licensed for wedding ceremonies and is also a unique venue for receptions. To arrange a visit or for more information please call 020 8496 4391 or email [vhm.enquiries@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:vhm.enquiries@walthamforest.gov.uk).

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# Visiting information



Vestry House Museum  
Vestry Road  
Walthamstow  
London E17 9NH

**Telephone:** 020 8496 4391

**Email:** [vhm.enquiries@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:vhm.enquiries@walthamforest.gov.uk)

**Web:** [www.walthamforest.gov.uk/vestry-house](http://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/vestry-house)



[www.facebook.com/VestryHouse](http://www.facebook.com/VestryHouse)

## Free entry

Entry to the Museum is free.  
Donations are welcome.

## Opening times

Wednesday – Sunday,  
10am – 5pm  
Pre-booked groups and school  
visits are also welcome on  
Tuesdays (10am – 5pm)

## Transport

Walthamstow Central  
(less than a 10 minute walk)

Visitors are encouraged to use  
public transport as parking is  
limited. There is no museum  
car park.

## Bookings

For assistance with booking an  
event please call 020 8496 4391  
(Wednesday – Sunday,  
10am – 5pm)

## Accessibility

The ground floor galleries  
and gardens are wheelchair  
accessible.