

A large blue banner with a white stylized 'H' and a pink archway. Pink bunting is strung across the banner. Below the graphic, the text 'Harrogate' is written in large white font, followed by '8 to 17 September 2023' in smaller white font. At the bottom, the website 'www.heritageopendays.org.uk' is listed. A QR code is located in the bottom right corner of the banner, with a small pink 'H' logo in the center of the code.

This guide includes only a brief summary of each Heritage Open Days event in Harrogate town. Full details, including booking requirements, can be found on the Heritage Open Days website, accessed with the title links or QR codes for each event on the following pages. This guide will be updated regularly and stored at [harrogatecivicsociety.org/hods-2023](https://harrogatecivicsociety.org/hods-2023), from where it can be downloaded, emailed, shared on social media, or printed. Events can be subject to last-minute changes or cancellations, so always check the Heritage Open Days website before you set out.

# Heritage Open Days in Harrogate 2023

Events timetable at a glance ....



September 2023		Fri 8	Sat 9	Sun 10	Mon 11	Tue 12	Wed 13	Thu 14	Fri 15	Sat 16	Sun 17
1	Duchy Estate Heritage Walk						✓				
2	St Wilfrid Harrogate Belltower Tours									✓	
3	CWGC Stonefall Cemetery Open Day						✓				
4	CWGC Stonefall Cemetery Tours									✓	✓
5	Grove Road Cemetery Walk		✓								
6	Harlow Tower		✓	✓							
7	Harrogate Baptist Church		✓								
8	Harrogate Library						✓				
9	WM Centenary "Women In War"							✓			
10	WM Centenary "Speak My Name"						✓				
11	Heritage Plaques of Harrogate Walk										✓
12	New Park Heritage Centre									✓	
13	New Park Heritage Walk			✓							
14	Ogden of Harrogate	✓				✓		✓			
15	Old Magnesia Well Pump Room		✓	✓						✓	✓
16	Old Pannal Heritage Walk							✓			
17	Ripley Village Historic Walk	✓									
18	St John's Church Bilton Guided Walk		✓			✓					
20	St Wilfrid Harrogate Open Day									✓	
21	The Harrogate Club		✓								
22	Valley Gardens Guided Walk			✓							✓
23	Wesley Chapel Harrogate		✓	✓							
24	St Wilfrid Harrogate WWI Memorial Talk									✓	

Full event details at [heritageopendays.org.uk](https://heritageopendays.org.uk) - search 'Harrogate'  
Or click the title link or scan the QR code for each event in this guide.

"On behalf of the town, I would like to welcome all local residents, and visitors from near and far, to enjoy, admire, and learn more about the fascinating heritage that Harrogate has to offer. As always, all Heritage Open Days events are free to attend.

For many years Harrogate has played a prominent role in the national festival, and I am delighted to see in 2023 so many of our heritage buildings, organisations and sites taking part. I'm excited to note some fascinating new additions to the programme, such as Ogden of Harrogate, with a most impressive family and business tale to tell; heritage walks away from the town centre hosted by local experts in Ripley and Pannal; and an intriguing guided tour of Grove Road Cemetery that brings to life (as it were) the stories of some of those who rest there.

While we celebrate Harrogate's heritage and history, I want to offer my sincere thanks, on behalf of all the Charter Trustees, to every organiser and volunteer who gives their time, expertise and energy to make the festival such a great success in our town."



**Councillor Michael Harrison, Charter Mayor of Harrogate**



1

### [Duchy Estate Heritage Walk](#)

Wednesday 13, 14:00 to 15:30

Explore a beautiful development from the late Victorian and Edwardian years, including some lovely houses and the former Grand Hotel, Harrogate Ladies' College and St Wilfrid's Church.

**Pre-booking required**



2

### [St Wilfrid Harrogate - Belltower Tours](#)

Saturday 16, 11:00, 13:00 and 14:00

A well-established highlight of HODs in Harrogate, join the bellringing team at one of Harrogate's highest vantage points. Have a go at ringing the bells and learn about the history of this Grade I listed church.

**Pre-booking preferred**



3

### [CWGC Stonefall Cemetery Open Day](#)

Wednesday 13, 11:00 to 15:00, events at various times

Join us at one of the largest Commonwealth War Graves in the North of England, to learn about the work of the CWGC and the extraordinary stories of some of those buried at Stonefall.

**Pre-booking optional**



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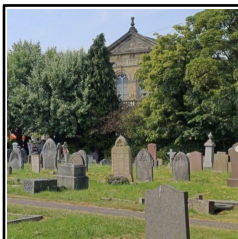
4

### [CWGC Stonefall Cemetery Tours](#)

Saturday 16 and Sunday 17, tours at various times

Hosted tours, which explain the work of the CWGC and discuss the stories of some of those buried at Stonefall, while highlighting several of the site's finest architectural features, including the shelter.

**Pre-booking required**



5

### [Grove Road Cemetery Walk](#)

Saturday 9, 14:00

This hosted walk explores a fine example of a Victorian burial ground, opened in 1864, with impressive and interesting monuments to local dignitaries and important visitors to the town, and military graves.

**Pre-booking required**

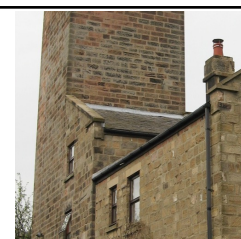


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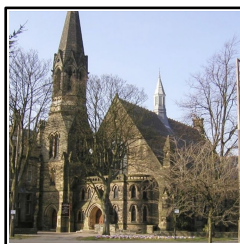
### [Harlow Tower](#)

Saturday 9 and Sunday 10, 10:00 to 17:00

Climb the 100 steps to the top of this tower, built in 1829 and once used as an astronomical observatory, look out with a pair of naval binoculars, and admire Foucault's Pendulum, installed in 1998.



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7

### [Harrogate Baptist Church](#) ↗

Saturday 9, 10:00 to 13:00

A hosted or self-guided tour of this most impressive 1882, Grade II listed church, including a special viewing of the unique baptistry, the original organ dating from 1884, and some Robert 'mouseman' Thompson furniture.



8

### [Harrogate Library](#) ↗

Wednesday 13, 10:30 to 12:00

A talk about the history and activities of the library, including special displays, a tour of the building with behind-the-scenes access, and a viewing of an art exhibition hosted by local artist, Matthew Wyatt. **Pre-booking required**



"A core mission of the Harrogate Civic Society is to celebrate the town's intriguing heritage, while also focusing on its modern-day growth. Heritage Open Days is therefore a festival that the Society has for many years been keen to support and promote, helping event organisers put on a series of free heritage events that is both informative and entertaining.

I'm so impressed by this year's programme, which reflects to the full the fine heritage that Harrogate has to offer. There's a varied and intriguing timetable of 24 events for us to enjoy, with a good mix of hosted heritage walks along with openings at many of the town's historical, cultural and religious sites. All events are free to attend. Of course none of this would be possible without the dedication and enthusiasm of so many event hosts across Harrogate - Thank You to all our Heritage Ambassadors!

If your Heritage Open Days visits encourage you to take an even deeper interest in Harrogate's history - and its present and future - do consider joining the Harrogate Civic Society, where you will find a group dedicated to celebrating the history of our town, and be able to enjoy a series of talks, visits and social events throughout the year. Find out more at [harrogatecivicsociety.org/join-us](http://harrogatecivicsociety.org/join-us)."



**Stuart Holland, Chair, Harrogate Civic Society**



9

### [Talk - "100 Years Plus - Women in War"](#) ↗

Thursday 14, 19:00 to 20:30

As part of Harrogate's War Memorial centenary commemorations, a talk by WO2 Catherine Munro MBE, the first British Army female soldier to hold the role of Commonwealth Sergeant Major.

**Pre-booking required**



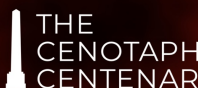
10

### [Talk - "Speak My Name and I Live Forever"](#) ↗

Wednesday 13, 15:00 to 16:30

Terry-Mike Williams, designer of Harrogate's War Memorial centenary exhibition, will discuss the heritage and meaning of the town's magnificent obelisk cenotaph, and of war memorials generally.

**Pre-booking required**



11

### [Heritage Plaques of Harrogate Walk](#) ↗

Sunday 17, 10:30 to 12:00

A hosted tour in Harrogate's Civic area of some of the Brown Heritage Plaques, which highlight a fascinating collection of people, places and businesses that have made this celebrated spa town.

**Pre-booking required**



[www.heritageopendays.org.uk](http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk)

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#HODs

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12

### [New Park Heritage Centre](#)

Saturday 16, 13:00 to 16:00

Explore through artefacts and photographs the history of the New Park neighbourhood, from the earliest times of its development as an industrial suburb in the 1840s to the present day. Hosted by the heritage centre's curator.



13

### [New Park Heritage Walk](#)

Sunday 10, 14:00 to 15:30

A guided walk around this working-class suburb, developed in the 1840s, looking at workers' housing and sites of the town's gas and electricity works, quarries, an industrial laundry, schools and more. **Pre-booking required**



14

### [Ogden of Harrogate](#)

Friday 8, Tuesday 12, Thursday 14, various times

An exhibition of artefacts relating to Ogden's business, founded in 1893, and a most fascinating family history, including a significant connection with the 1922 discovery of King Tutankhamun's tomb. **Pre-booking required**



15

### [Old Magnesia Well Pump Room](#)

Sat 9, Sun 10, Sat 16 and Sun 17, 10:30 to 14:30

Fully restored since 2011 by the Friends of Valley Gardens, this listed Pump Room was built in 1858 to serve magnesia water to spa visitors. Inside is a working recreation of the pump and an exhibition of the history of Gardens.



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16

### [Old Pannal Heritage Walk](#)

Friday 15, 14:00 to 15:30

A walk around the ancient village of Pannal, less than three miles south of Harrogate town centre. Hosted with expertise and humour by Anne Smith, long-time resident, book author, and blogger on the village.



17

### [Ripley Village Historic Walk](#)

Friday 8, 11:00 and 14:00

Explore this historic estate village, designed, built and managed for centuries by the Ingilby family. The walk will be led by David Rhodes, retired architect and town planner, and long-time resident of Ripley. **Pre-booking required**

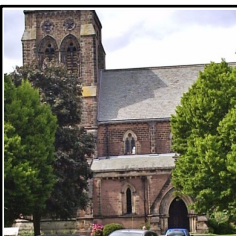
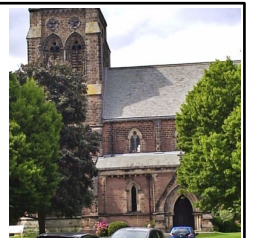


18

### [St John's Church Walk from Bilton CC](#)

Tuesday 12, 09:30 to 11:00

Starting from Bilton Community Centre, this will be a guided walk to learn about some of the interesting graves, and the memorials inside the Church dedicated to members of the Sheepshanks family. **Pre-booking required**



19

### [St John's Church Bilton Guided Walk](#)

Saturday 9, 09:45 to 11:00

Meeting at the Church, the walk will visit some of the interesting graves and hear about their background stories, including memorials inside the Church dedicated to members of the Sheepshanks family. **Pre-booking required**





20

### [St Wilfrid Harrogate Open Day](#)

Saturday 16, 10:00 to 16:00

Explore the treasures and unique history of Harrogate's only Anglo-Catholic church, consecrated in 1914. The town's only Grade I listed building, it was designed by Temple Moore and is described as his "masterwork" by Pevsner.



21

### [The Harrogate Club](#)

Saturday 9, 11:00 and 14:00

Founded in 1857, the Club and has been in its present, custom-built premises since 1886. To preserve and enhance its heritage, a refurbishment programme began in 2015 to restore the lavish interiors. **Pre-booking required**



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22

### [Valley Gardens Guided Walk](#)

Sunday 10 and Sunday 17, 14:00 to 15:30

A walk through this Grade II listed park, home to 36 medicinal wells; specialist gardens; and magnificent trees, often with fascinating histories. Hosted by Jane Blayney, an expert and author on Valley Gardens. **Pre-booking required**



23

### [Wesley Chapel, Harrogate](#)

Saturday 9, 11:00 to 16:00; Sunday 10, 12:00 to 16:00

Explore this large, neo-classical, Grade II listed Methodist chapel, dating from 1862 and built in the classical meeting house style. There will be an exhibition of the heritage of Wesley, with musical interludes on the organ or piano.



24

### [St Wilfrid Harrogate - WWI Memorial Talk](#)

Saturday 16, 11:00

The talk will reveal stories behind the WWI memorials in the church. In 2018 volunteers researched the lives and deaths of the men, most of them local to Harrogate, named on our memorials, discovering stories of heroism and loss.



# HARROGATE Civic Society

Harrogate Civic Society was established in 1971, part of the nationwide Civic Society movement, committed to celebrating the town's architectural and social history, to contributing to discussions about how the town is developed, and to ensuring that Harrogate both retains the best of its historic character and embraces the future.

