

The Geffrye Museum of the Home

Handling Sessions for Blind and Partially Sighted Visitors June 2009 – November 2009 Programme

The Geffrye explores the home over the past 400 years, from around 1600 to the present day. Our focus is on the living rooms of the urban middle classes in England, particularly in London. We aim to show how such homes have been used and furnished over this period, reflecting changes in society and patterns of behaviour as well as style, fashion and taste.

Visitors can tour the museum's period rooms with our free audio guide or you are welcome to attend one of our monthly object handling sessions or talks. These multi-sensory sessions provide participants with the opportunity to explore aspects of the museum's collections, gardens and themes in more detail. The summer/autumn/winter programme includes: a focus on our 1930s room, an exploration of a 20th Christmas, a practical art workshop and a paintings session.

The sessions are free, but please book in advance, as places are limited.

For more information or to book your place please contact our Bookings Officer, Sarah Fairbairn, bookings@geffrye-museum.org.uk or telephone 020 7739 9893.

1930s Period Room Talk

Listen to a room talk exploring our 1930-1935 middle class London flat, during the talk you will have an opportunity to handle domestic objects from the period.

Wednesday 10 June, 3.30-4.30pm

Almshouse Visit

Visit one of the Geffrye's 18th-century almshouses, which has been fully restored to its original condition, and explore the home of a retired couple from the 1780s and a Victorian Governess from the 1880s. The session includes a room talk and handling session.

Sunday 19 July, 1.00pm-2.00pm

Arts and Crafts Workshop

Come along to a multi-sensory art workshop inspired by some of the Geffrye Museum's handling collection and period rooms.

Tuesday 15 September, 2.30pm-4.00pm

Victorian Paintings Session

Join us on an exploration of one of our key art works where you will learn how to 'read' a picture, discover the origins of the Victorian Genre painting, consider the artist's use of symbolism in order to reveal values in Victorian society and handle objects from the period.

Thursday 5 November, 2.30-4.00pm

A 20th Century Christmas

Find out more about how Christmas evolved from the Victorian period into the 20th century, handle original and replica objects, and enjoy the tastes and smells of Christmas Past and round off the afternoon with a mince pie and mulled wine.

Thursday 26 November, 2.30-4.00pm

Group Visits

Handling sessions and craft workshops for groups of 6 or more people can be arranged separately through Sarah at a time convenient to your group, Tuesday –Fridays subject to availability.

Other Events that may be of interest to you, your friends and family this summer:

Summer Sundays

Summer fun for all ages, both inside and outside the museum and in the gardens, including craft activities, live music and a sale of unusual herbs and plants.

The museum and gardens will open from 12noon-5.00pm.

Refreshments and lunch are available in the restaurant or bring a picnic to eat on the grass. Admission and activities are free.

Sunday 14 June

Seaside in the City

Celebrating Open Garden Squares Day

Listen to summertime music by Caribbean Steal International, create beach-inspired masks, hear salty stories and play seaside games.

Sunday 21 June

Hackney Stories: Summer in the City Festival Day

Join some of Hackney's favourite heritage organisations for this exciting festival day at the Geffrye Museum. Visit our stalls to find out more about our work and Hackney's rich and diverse history, take part in games, craft activities, tours and talks. Or sit back and listen to live music in the gardens or simmering summer stories.

Sunday 19 July

Garden Party

Listen to music by The Toots, make mad hater's tea party hats, and play garden games.

Sunday 9 August

Bhangra, Bees and Bugs

Learn to dance with the Four by Four Bhangra Dancers, listen to stories of bugs, see the Bees with the *North London Beekeepers Association* and make a beeswax candle.

USEFUL INFORMATION - ADMISSION FREE

Geffrye Museum, Kingsland Road, London, E2 8EA

Opening hours

Open Tuesday to Saturday 10.00am-5.00pm

Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays 12 noon –5.00pm

Closed Mondays (unless Bank Holiday), Good Friday, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing day, New Year's Day.

Facilities

Restaurant: open until 4.45pm

Shop: open during museum hours

Access Information: All main displays are located on the ground floor. Entrance and gardens are ramped and accessible to wheelchairs. Facilities include: accessible toilets, lift, audio guide, and induction loop in all education rooms.

Lecture Room: and other areas available for hire

Gardens: Walled herb garden and period garden rooms open April to October during museum opening hours

Contact numbers

Telephone: 020 77399893 **Fax:** 020 77295647

Recorded Information: 020 7739 8543

Web address: <http://www.geffrye-museum.org.uk>

Email: bookings@geffrye-museum.org.uk

Travel Information

Buses: 67, 149, 242, 243, 394

Underground: Liverpool Street, then bus 149 or 242 from Bishopsgate

Old Street (exit 2) then bus 243 or 15 minutes walk

British Rail: Liverpool Street or Dalston Kingsland

Parking: Limited meter places available in neighbouring streets

Parking for disabled drivers: Limited bays on Kingsland Road red route outside the museum for up to 3 hours between 10am-4pm

Map

