

DISCOVER

talks
practical workshops
early years & family events

York Art Gallery York Castle Museum Yorkshire Museum York Museum Gardens



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Welcome to Discover, your guide to events and activities at York Castle Museum. Visit our websites to Discover what's on at [York Art Gallery](#) and the [Yorkshire Museum](#) too!

Our exciting talks, tours and workshops are the perfect way for you to discover more about the fantastic exhibitions and collections including *A Personal Collection of Vivienne Westwood Shoes* (13 July 2018 - 28 April 2019).

Don't forget, admission to all sites is FREE for 12 months with your [YMT Card](#).

talks

Spotlight Talks: Shoes

Thursday 4 October, 2pm and then fortnightly on Thursdays at 2pm, throughout *A Personal Collection of Vivienne Westwood Shoes* (13 July 2018 – 28 April 2019)

Join our curators to find out more about the museum's collection as they shine a spotlight on individual shoes on display as part of the exhibition *A Personal Collection of Vivienne Westwood Shoes*. Spotlight Talks last 15 mins approx.

Included in museum admission. No need to book.

Re-inventing Shoes

Friday 12 October, 2pm – 3pm

How did the technological and manufacturing processes of the nineteenth century affect what people wore? Step into York Castle Museum's costume collection with Rachael Bowers, and witness the explosion of shoe styles available to Britain's fashion-hungry consumers.

Participants will be able to view and handle historic shoes from our collection, whilst learning about the manufacturing innovations that revolutionised shoe production.

£5 per person. Museum admission applies. Book through our [events](#) page.

Curator's Talk: The Patter of Tiny Feet – Children's Shoes from the Collection of York Castle Museum

Friday 9 November, 2pm – 3pm

From the delicate silk baby shoes of wealthy Victorian families, to the tiny wooden clogs worn by working class toddlers, we can learn a lot about children's lives through their footwear.

Join York Castle Museum's Dr Faye Prior as she explores the museum's wonderful collection of historic children's shoes. You will have the opportunity to take a really close look at these small and fascinating objects, with an object viewing and handling session.

£5 per person. Museum admission applies. Book through our [events](#) page.



Photography by Charlotte Graham

Vote With Your Feet – Investigating the Women's 20th Century Shoe Collection

Tuesday 22 January 2019, 2pm – 3pm

Learn about the fascinating world of historic shoes with York Castle Museum's Helen Thornton. Helen will guide you through the development of 20th century Western women's shoe styles, and what shoes can tell us about the changing roles of women, especially in times of social and political upheaval. Get up close with some examples from the shoe collection, and discover more about the person who wore them.

This session will last one hour and include a talk about shoes as well as an opportunity to view and handle objects at the end.

£5 per person. Museum admission applies. Book through our [events](#) page.

LGBT History Month talk – The Mystery of the Black Slippers

Wednesday 20 February 2019, 2pm – 3pm

Last year, curators at York Castle Museum discovered an unusual pair of shoes in the collection – dating from the end of the 19th century but made in an earlier style. Further investigation and research showed that the shoes belonged to Edith Craig, a pioneer of women's theatre and campaigner for female suffrage, who lived in a ménage à trois with two other women throughout the first half of the 20th century.

Join Helen Thornton as she unpicks the mystery of the black slippers to reveal some of the fascinating hidden histories and powerful stories from the past.

£5 per person. Museum admission applies. Book through our [events](#) page.



More Than Just a Tiny Waist: A History of Corsetry

Monday 25 March 2019, 2pm–3pm

When we look back to past ages, we tend to think of women tight laced into restrictive prisons of whalebone and steel, but was that really the case? How did corsets come about? Did women always tight lace? Did everyone always wear them? And what were they really for?

Join Assistant Curator of Costume and Textiles Dr Faye Prior for an intimate examination of the corset, from its beginnings in the stiffened bodices of the Tudor period, to the waist-length stays of the eighteenth century, and the explosion of different designs and ideas in the industrial age. Learn how corsets first came about, why people wore them, and examine some real historical corsets from the collection of York Castle Museum. Part of York Fashion Week 2019.

£5 per person. Museum admission applies. Book through our [events](#) page.

The Queen of Extreme

Friday 29 March 2019, 2pm–3pm

Join us to explore the work and influences of Vivienne Westwood, one of Britain's most eccentric, controversial and consistently original designers. By exploring key themes in her design – the use of bold graphics, the inter-relationship with music, a devotion to history – this talk will chart Westwood's progress from iconoclastic outsider to an internationally revered figure. Drawing on iconic Westwood designs seen in the exhibition *A Personal Collection of Vivienne Westwood Shoes*, find out more about how the designer's work, from the 'Seditionaries' boots worn by The Sex Pistols to the 'Super Elevated Gillie' that caused Naomi Campbell to tumble on a Paris catwalk, have established her reputation for leading where others can only follow. Part of York Fashion Week 2019.

£5 per person. Museum admission applies. Book through our [events](#) page.

practical workshops

YMT Book Club Special

Saturday 13 October, 3pm – 4.30pm

Join the book club with a difference. A friendly bunch of people who are passionate about history, museums and books. Come along to any of the sessions for a lively discussion, regardless of whether you liked or even finished the book! This session, *Italian Shoes* by Henning Mankell will be the focus at York Castle Museum and will involve handling museum objects or a short gallery tour.

Included in museum admission. No need to book.



Photography by Charlotte Graham

early years & family events



York Museums Trust provides a range of activities and events for children under 5 to help them engage with the collections and exhibitions.

We currently offer two types of **Museum Monkeys** sessions across our sites: **Museum Baby for under 2s** and **Early Years Explorers for ages 2 – 5**.

Kids Go FREE plus there's **FREE entry for adults with a YMT Card** – 12 months of unlimited access to all York Museums Trust sites.

Museum Baby (Under 2s), Old fashioned Wash Day

Friday 9 November, 10am – 11am

Wash the clothes in soapy water and listen to the Victorian wash day story.

Sessions are now **FREE!** Museum admission applies. Book through our [events](#) page.



Museum Baby (Under 2s), Traditional Nursery Rhymes

Friday 16 November, 10am – 11am

Knock Humpty Dumpty off the wall, and wash the spider down the spout.

Sessions are now **FREE!** Museum admission applies. Book through our [events](#) page.



Museum Baby (Under 2s), Shoes

Friday 23 November, 10am – 11am

Listen to the story of The Old Woman who lived in a Shoe and play with the shoe toys.

Sessions are now **FREE!** Museum admission applies. Book through our [events](#) page.



Museum Baby (Under 2s), Victorian

Friday 30 November, 10am – 11am

Try on Victorian style hats and play with traditional style toys.

Sessions are now **FREE!** Museum admission applies. Book through our [events](#) page.



Early Years Explorers (2–5), Christmas Special

Thursday 6 December, 10am – 11am

Be an elf and help Santa to pack the toys, go down the chimney like Santa, and find the stars in the Reindeer food.

Sessions are now **FREE!** Museum admission applies. Book through our [events](#) page.



Museum Baby (Under 2s), Christmas Special

Friday 7 December, 10am – 11am

Be an elf and help Santa to pack the toys, go down the chimney like Santa, and find the stars in the Reindeer food.

Sessions are now **FREE!** Museum admission applies. Book through our [events](#) page.





Early Year Explorers (2–5), Food and The Kitchen

Thursday 14 March, 10am – 11am

Wash the pots have a tea party, and investigate the play food.

Sessions are now FREE! Museum admission applies. Book through our [events](#) page.



Early Year Explorers (2–5), The Great War

Thursday 21 March, 10am – 11am

Try on the soldiers’ hat and play with horses and tanks.

Sessions are now FREE! Museum admission applies. Book through our [events](#) page.



Early Year Explorers (2–5), Shops

Thursday 28 March, 10am – 11am

Play in the shop role play area, be the shop keeper or do the shopping and find the shops on Kirkgate.

Sessions are now FREE! Museum admission applies. Book through our [events](#) page.



Early Year Explorers (2–5), Chocolate and Sweet Treats

Thursday 4 April, 10am – 11am

Play in the chocolate shop role play area and listen to the chocolate story.

Sessions are now FREE! Museum admission applies. Book through our [events](#) page.



Early Year Explorers (2–5), Traditional Birthday Celebrations

Thursday 11 April, 10am – 11am

Play pin the tail on the donkey, listen to birthday stories and make mini bunting.

Sessions are now FREE! Museum admission applies. Book through our [events](#) page.

