



Thursday 9th to Sunday 12th September 2010

1 ALMONDSBURY

Tower House

24 Gloucester Road (A38), Almondsbury

Built in 1891 as an institute for adult learning, with convalescence rooms. The building is in the 'great house' style of Norman Shaw. The tower has its original weight driven pendulum clock made by Potts of Leeds, with a large bell by Taylor's of Loughborough that strikes the hour. It became a cottage hospital in 1910, and closed in 1992. It is now a private house.

Sunday 12th September 10.30am – 5.00pm

There is a slope in to the property, a downstairs toilet with a wide door to a large room.



2 BITTON

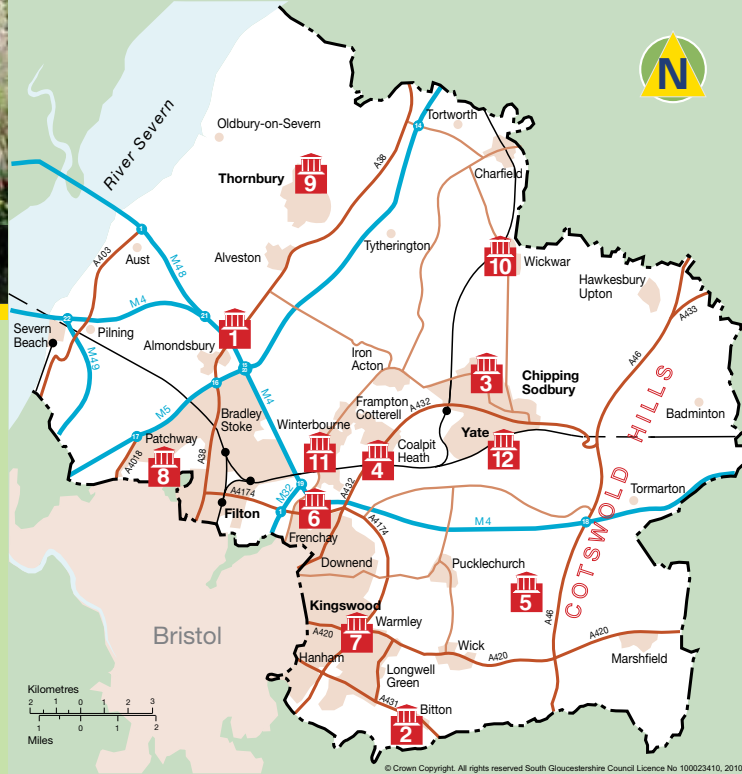
Avon Valley Railway

Bitton Station, Bath Road, Bitton BS30 6HD
www.avonvalleyrailway.org

The opportunity for a behind the scenes look at the engine sheds at Avon Valley Railway. Bitton Station dates back to 1869 and closed to passenger traffic in 1966. A new lease of life was given to the railway when train rides driven by volunteers started again in 1974.

**Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th September
11.00am – 4.00pm**

Booking is essential – Please ring 0117 932 5538 Monday to Friday between 9.30am – 4.00pm or e-mail info@avonvalleyrailway.org to book a place. This is an engineering area and appropriate clothes for a dirty environment and stout shoes are essential. For those with walking difficulties please call for details. Children from the age of 14 are welcome and should be accompanied by an adult.



The information contained in this leaflet is correct at the time of publication. South Gloucestershire Council cannot be held liable for any failure to open properties or provide activities.

Translations of this guide into languages read by local residents can be made available. Audiotope and large print versions can also be provided.

For more information about translations contact **01454 868009**
For additional copies of this leaflet or for further information contact **01454 865783**

Heritage Open Days aims to increase public awareness of England's rich architectural and cultural heritage by allowing free access to hundreds of properties that are normally closed to the public or that would usually charge admission.

For the fourteenth year South Gloucestershire Council's Museum and Heritage Service is co-ordinating a local programme, supported by participating properties and members of the South Gloucestershire Heritage Forum.

Front Cover: The Chantry, Thornbury



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ENGLISH HERITAGE

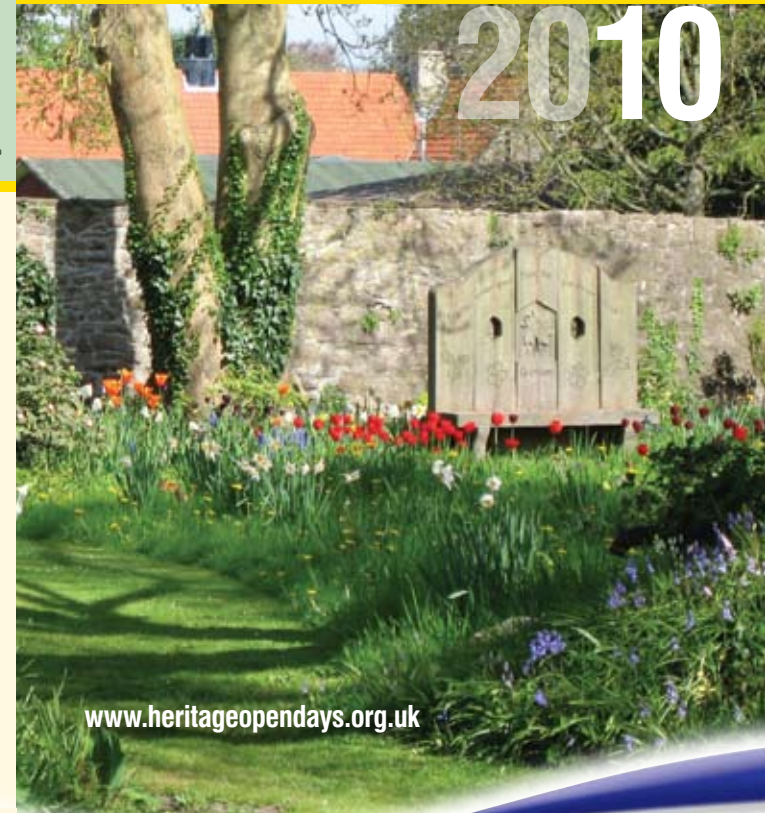


HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

Thursday 9th to Sunday 12th September 2010

BRINGING PEOPLE AND PLACES TOGETHER

A chance to explore some of South Gloucestershire's Historic & Architectural Heritage



www.heritageopendays.org.uk

South Gloucestershire Council

6 FRENCHAY

Frenchay Chapel

Beckspool Road, Frenchay Common, Frenchay, Bristol BS16 1ND

Unitarian church built 1691, bell tower added in 1720. Grade II* listed. Notable features include 19th century crinoline door, one of the last surviving twin stones, Halley's comet weather vane and a body snatcher stone in graveyard. One of the oldest Unitarian chapels in England. Information leaflet, exhibition and questionnaire for children.

Thurs 9th/Fri 10th September 10.00am – 4.00pm
Sun 12th September 12.30pm – 4.30pm
Organ recital Sunday 2.00pm – 3.00pm



Frenchay Quaker Meeting House

Beckspool Road, Frenchay Common BS16 1NT

An attractive Old Quaker Meeting House built in traditional style in 1809 with distinctive architectural features, it reflects a history of Quaker life and worship on this and nearby sites since the mid 17th century. The peaceful walled garden is still used as a burial ground.

Sunday 12th September 1.00pm – 5.00pm



Frenchay Village Museum



Begbrook Park, Frenchay, Bristol BS16 1SZ Located just inside entrance 'B' of Frenchay Hospital www.frenchay.museumarchives.co.uk

Situated a few miles north-east of Bristol, this community museum gives an insight into an unusual village that from the 17th century was a community made up of largely nonconformist Quakers and Unitarians. There is a special display about J S Fry & Sons and chocolate to mark the closure of Somerdale, and a new book available about the firm's history. There is also a visiting exhibition of Miniature Needlework

Sat 11th/Sun 12th September 2.00pm – 5.00pm



7 KINGSWOOD

Warmley House Grotto

Tower Lane, Warmley, BS30 8XT www.kingswoodmuseum.org.uk

Mysterious collection of vaulted chambers and tunnels which once housed a complex system of water tunnels and pools. Made entirely of clinker waste from zinc furnaces. Acknowledged as the largest remains in the country.

Open Sunday 12th September 11.00am – 4.00pm

Optional entry to Kingswood Museum £2.00
 Partial access – uneven surface



8 PATCHWAY

Rolls-Royce Heritage Trust



Patchway, South Gloucestershire

A rare chance to visit the collections of the Rolls-Royce Heritage Trust. Based in an original wartime testbed at Patchway. A large number of aero-engines on view including the

Jupiter, Cherub and Lucifer, progressing through Proteus to Concorde's Olympus and the Harrier's Pegasus. No more than 2 children per supervising adult.

Saturday 11th September Tours start at 9.00am.

Please ring Heritage Open Days booking line on Monday to Friday between 9.00am – 4.00pm on 01454 863592 to book a place. Closing date for bookings Tuesday 7th September at 4.00pm. Minimum age 10. Parking permitted at gate 5A



9 THORNBURY

Thornbury Castle Gardens

Castle Street, Thornbury www.thornburymuseum.org.uk

Tudor castle-palace built in 1510 and once owned by Henry VIII. Part ruined but carefully restored, retaining original exterior walls, and operated as a quality hotel and restaurant. Superb architecture and walled gardens and Grade 1 listed. Guided tour of the grounds with local historians from Thornbury and District Heritage Trust, limited to 24 people per tour. Children must be accompanied by an adult. No dogs.

Sat 11th Sept 10.30am Sun 12th Sept 2.00pm

Free admission by ticket only available from the Town Hall, High Street, Thornbury, BS35 2AR. 01454 412103.

Please enclose SAE and state preferred day. Park in town car parks or nearby.



The Chantry

52 Castle Street, Thornbury BS35 1HB www.thechantry.org.uk

The Chantry is home to the Thornbury & District Community Association and is a fine 16th Century listed building, subsequently extended, with a beautiful walled garden. The name for the house suggests it was once a home for priests who were paid by people to chant masses for their souls. A presentation and exhibition will explain the history of the building, plus guided tours of the premises.

Saturday 11th September 10.00am – 4.00pm



Porch House

Christ the King Roman Catholic Church, Castle Street, Thornbury BS35 1HA

A fifteenth century hall house with two-storey porch, exposed roof timbers and original door. Now used as the Church Hall by the Roman Catholic parish of Christ the King, Thornbury. There is also a later panelled parlour and an interesting garden has recently been restored. Grade II listed.

Friday 10th September 10.30am – 4.30pm



Thornbury Town Hall

Old Police Station, High Street, Thornbury BS35 2AR www.thornburytowncouncil.gov.uk

Originally a private residence, the building was purchased as a police station and magistrate's court in 1859. The building was left derelict before Thornbury Town Council refurbished it and reopened it in 1994. Many of its old features were retained, such as the Victorian cells. Guided tours will be given of the magnificent Council Chamber, the old Court and an exhibition of civic memorabilia.

Saturday 11th September 10.00am – 4.00pm



St Mary's Parish Church

Park Road, Thornbury BS35 1HQ www.thornburyparish.org

Grade I listed building with parts dating back to 12th century. The church has historic connections with Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn who stayed at Thornbury Castle next door. The Tower will be open on Saturday afternoon and has a magnificent view from the top.

Thurs 9th/Fri 10th/Sat 11th Sept 9.00am – 5.00pm
Guides available (Sat only) 11.00am – 4.00pm.
Tower open (Sat only) 2.00pm – 4.00pm



10 WICKWAR

Wickwar Town Hall

52 High Street, Wickwar GL12 8NP

Grade II listed building, constructed during the 1600s with village lock-up and reputed to have the oldest working Town Hall Clock in England. The funeral bier was used in 1930/40 to transport coffins around Wickwar and surrounding villages. Very steep steps

Open by appointment only. Thurs 9th/Fri 10th/Sat 11th September 10.00am – 4.00pm

Contact Mrs P. A. Trull e-mail: trull@btinternet.com or 01454 299120



11 WINTERBOURNE

St Michael's Church,

Church Lane, Winterbourne BS36 1SE

Parish Church, begun in 1190s, with Alan Younger with stained glass window (1973), and three churchyards with interpretation boards. 13th century chancel arch, 14th century wall paintings and effigies, and 18th century clock mechanism. Quiz for exploring church

Saturday 11th September 10.00pm – 5.00am
Sunday 12th September 2.00pm – 5.00pm



Winterbourne Medieval Barn

Court Farm, Church Lane, Winterbourne www.winterbournebarn.co.uk

Winterbourne Medieval Barn was built in 1342 using green timber construction methods by Thomas de Bradeston. The original roof structure remains largely intact and is a fine example of raised-cruck construction. Grade II*

Saturday 11th September 10.00am – 5.00pm
Sunday 12th September 2.00pm – 5.00pm



Salem, Watleys End Methodist Church

Factory Road, Winterbourne BS36 1QL

Methodist church built in 1787 on the site where John Wesley preached. Burials in graveyard date from 1827. Church harvest anniversary weekend.

Saturday 11th September 10.00am – 5.00pm
Sun 2.00pm – 5.00pm Services at 11.00am & 6.00pm



12 YATE

Yate Heritage Centre

Church Road, Yate, BS37 5BG. www.yateheritage.co.uk

Yate Heritage Centre is a converted 1840s stable block for the adjacent White Lion Pub. There is a special event to mark the 10th anniversary of the centre with stalls and traditional entertainment. Craft workshops and face painting for children. Refreshments at St Mary's Church.

Saturday 11th September 10.30am – 4.30pm



St Mary's Church

Church Road, Yate BS37 5BG

Grade I listed building dating from Norman times, famous brasses and historic stained glass windows. Walk around churchyard and view the 26 Grade II listed tombs, Parnall memorial, Newman grave and lychgate. Trips up 92ft perpendicular tower (subject to weather conditions) available for over 8s.

Thursday 9th/Friday 10th Sept 11.00am – 3.00pm
Saturday 11th September 11.00am – 2.00pm
Sunday 12th September 2.00pm – 5.00pm;
5.00pm Heritage Songs of Praise.

Cream teas available on Sunday in aid of Children's Hospital South-West



Oldwood Pits

Tanhouse Lane, Rangeworthy, Nr Yate BS37 7PZ www.sgmrg.co.uk

Former 19th century Colliery with interesting associated workings – pit shaft, drift, mine office and tunnel. Mining artefacts and displays. Hands-on activities, gus and crook coal hauling

Guided tours by the South Gloucestershire Mines Research Group. Booking to see shaft is advisable, though not essential. Please ring Heritage Open Days booking line on Monday to Friday between 9.00am – 4.00pm on 01454 863592 to book a place.

Saturday 11th September 2.00pm – 6.00pm
Sunday 12th September 11.00am – 5.00pm

Displays and Refreshments. Look for signs on day of event. Uneven ground, sensible shoes advised. Limited disabled access due to nature of site.

