**Blackburn & Darwen Heritage Open Days 2016**

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| **Blackburn & Darwen Band March and Hymn Tune Contest**Croft Street, Darwen, Lancashire, BB3 1BGSunday, 11th September: 1200-1800A Brass Band Contest that has been organised to celebrate the 176th Anniversary of Blackburn & Darwen Band who began in Darwen in 1840 as a Temperance band. Bands from across the North West will converge on Darwen to perform a contest march of their choice and a hymn tune too. There will be bands of all standards represented and prizes for each section will be awarded as well as prizes for the overall winners. Over £2500 is up for grabs. Each band will play on the march to the contest stage beforehand. There will be a variety of eating and drinking establishments available on the day to make it a great day out for all.No booking requiredAccess: Local buses will use Green Street and parking on Edward Street is only a short distance away. Additional parking will be available at Darwen Academy School on Redearth Road. The bus station will be pedestrianised for the event.Directions: The contest will take place outside Darwen market on Croft Street, very close to the centre of Darwen. There is also a bus station there, which will be closed on the day. The Millstone public house is on the crossroads nearby.[www.blackburnanddarwenband.co.uk](http://www.blackburnanddarwenband.co.uk)  |
| **Blackburn Quaker Meeting House,** Friends Meeting House, Paradise Lane, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB2 1LYSaturday, 10th September: 1000-1600Visitors will have entrance to the Quaker Meeting House, burial ground and an exhibition relating to the history of the building and to Conscientious Objectors in Lancashire. Visitors are invited to chat with Quakers and enjoy refreshments. We are children, dog and family friendly with a children's colouring corner available.No booking requiredDirections: Blackburn Quaker Meeting House is located to the rear of the Outdoor Action Shop on King Street.[www.pendlehillquakers.org.uk](http://www.pendlehillquakers.org.uk) [www.facebook.com/pendlehillquakers](http://www.facebook.com/pendlehillquakers)  |
| **Blackburn Spiritualist Centre,** 1 Princes Street, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB2 1LSSaturday, 10th September: 1000-1600Hear about the history of Blackburn Spiritualist Centre.Take a tour and see our photographs.Hear about Spiritualism.Refreshments in our Lyceum Tearoom.Tombola.Private Readings with Mediums (can be pre-booked at Centre).No booking requiredDirections: Opposite St Annes RC Church off Fielden Street<http://www.blackburnspiritualistcentre.co.uk/>  |
| **Bold Venture Park,** Ashton Kiosk, Manor Road, Darwen, Lancashire, BB3 2SSSaturday, 10th September: 1000-1500Sunday, 11th September: 1000-1500Take Victorian style tea and cakes in the kiosk, walk the park Heritage trail, visit the labyrinth. Take the vintage bus to the venue; see the collection of early photographs and plans for restoration of the 1885 weather station.No booking requiredDirections: From Darwen post office bear left up Borough Road, keep left up the hill. At the park gates turn sharp right then left following edge of park. Ashton kiosk is on the right by the upper park entrance.[www.friendsofboldventure.co.uk](http://www.friendsofboldventure.co.uk)  |
| **Brambles East School,** Woodlands, Holly Tree Close, Darwen, Lancashire, BB3 2NG Brambles East School will be open for a tour around the Grade II listed building where many original features are still in situ. Refreshments available. Saturday 10 September: 1000-1300No booking requiredAccess: Due to stairs wheelchair users will be limited to ground floor. |
| **Bring Your Memories of Knuzden**St. Oswald's Church, Cabin End Row, Stanhill Road, Knuzden, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB1 2DP “Bring Your Memories of Knuzden” on Sunday 11th September 1-3pm at St. Oswald's church. We would like you to join us for afternoon tea and a trip down Memory Lane. Please bring along any photos of street parties, events, marriages, christenings and scenery etc. Please spread the word to anyone who has ties with Knuzden. You never know, you might bump into an old friend! Event not suitable for children under the age of 12.Sunday 11 September: 1300-1500No booking requiredAccess: There is a slope and five steps up to the main entrance of the church. The route through the Vicar's Vestry into the church is accessible by wheelchair, though not fully compliant. Unfortunately, we do not have disabled access toilets.Additional information: There will also be displays about the history and heritage of the parish of St. Oswald's, Knuzden.Directions: St. Oswald's Church is located at the junction of Stanhill Road B6234 and Haslingden Road B6236 at Knuzden Brook. There is ample space for on-street car parking outside the church on Stanhill Road.[www.stoswalds-knuzden.org.uk/](http://www.stoswalds-knuzden.org.uk/)  |
| **Central United Reformed Church formerly Duckworth Street Congregational Church****Duckworth Street, Corner of George Street, Darwen, Lancashire, BB3 1AT**Saturday, 10th September: 1000-1200Open tour of church and archives - war memorials from Belgrave, Lower Chapel and Duckworth Street Congregational churches. WWI records and family history searches. Discover our very own true War Horse story - Victor Servais – a Belgian refugee, and the WWI hero George Pickup who served in the East Lancashire Accrington Pals Regiment who fought in the Battle of the Somme and was killed on 1st July 1916.Find out the history of non-conformists in Darwen and Lancashire Various registers of marriages, baptisms and deaths available. Children in history activity. Light refreshments.No booking requiredAdditional information: Max 50 people per tour/session. Directions: Central United Reformed Church is found on the corner of Duckworth Street and George Street Darwen on Eastern side of the A666 heading towards Bolton - just before the Town Centre one way system. Look out for M & M Motor accessories.<http://centralurcdarwen.org.uk/index.htm> |
| **Darwen Heritage Centre**Holker House, Railway Road, Darwen, Lancashire, BB3 2RG Darwen has been given a fully renovated building by the Livesey Foundation. Ten trustees and volunteers are in the early stages of developing the inside of the building and are trying to have most things in place for Heritage Weekend on September 9th and 10th when it will be open to the public.An exhibition room with themed displays of local history starting with 'Industrial Darwen, then and now'.A model of Darwen Tower and some relevant artefacts.There will be some displays on the walls in other rooms including a large portrait of Dr. Ballantyne, owner of the house-1888-1917.Volunteers from the Heritage Centre will be conducting a walk around the town centre Friday 9 September: 1000-1700; Walk 1400Saturday 10 September: 1000-1700; Walk 1530No booking requiredAccess: Disabled access available from Church Street.Directions: Close to the railway station and Darwen Library. Car parking available by Darwen Market and Library.<https://www.facebook.com/DarwenHeritageCentre/>  |
| **Darwen Library: Tour, Archives and Somme Photographs**Darwen Library, Knott Street, Darwen, BB3 3BUThursday, 8th September: 1300-1700Friday, 9th September: 1000-1700Saturday, 10th September: 1000-1600, Tour 1100 & 1400Short Tour of Darwen Library followed by an opportunity to view items from the archive collection usually on restricted access. Tours and archives at 11am and 2pm on Saturday September 10th, 2016. A poignant display of photographs and stories relating to Darwen and the Battle of Somme will also be on display. The display and events will be supported by The Friends of Darwen Library. No booking requiredAccess: There are free car parks across the road from the Library behind the Youth & Community Centre (Long Stay) on Knott Street as well as on Darwen Market (short stay) on School Street. It is possible to stop in front of Darwen Library in order to unload wheelchairs and prams but parking is not permitted.Additional information: Max 15 people per tour/session.[www.cottontown.org](http://www.cottontown.org)  |
| **Darwen Town Hall - Heritage Open Day**Blackburn With Darwen Borough Council, Croft Street, Darwen, Lancashire, BB3 1BQ Darwen Town Council Chambers, original Council Chambers furniture.You can look around the inside of the Town Hall, the old Magistrates court.Darwen's Victorian Market from the Town HallThursday 8 September: 1000-1100 & 1300- 1400 No booking requiredAdditional information: Max 10 people per tour/session. Darwen Town Hall was built in 1878, more information will be available on the day for visitors.Directions: Head for Darwen Market / Darwen Market Square[www.heritagephotoarchive.co.uk/p62035766](http://www.heritagephotoarchive.co.uk/p62035766) [www.darwendays.co.uk/](http://www.darwendays.co.uk/)  |
| **Darwen Vale High School,** Blackburn Road, Darwen, Lancashire, BB3 0ALSaturday, 10th September: 0900-1300Old photographs and archives will be on display, dating back from the 1939 Grammar School to more recent times. A tour of the school will be available of the refurbished original building and stair cases, and the amazing facilities the school has to offer. Refreshments will be available via our MacMillan Coffee Morning also taking place.No booking requiredAdditional information: Max 10 people per tour/session.<http://www.darwenvale.com/>  |
| **Darwen Western Cemetery,** Community Centre, Whitehall Road, Darwen, LancashireSunday, 11th September: 1300-1600; Tour 1400Darwen Western Cemetery was opened in 1861 by the Over Darwen Local Board of Health. Situated on a hillside above the town, it was laid out as a park as well as a burial ground, with wooded hillsides and gently curving paths. Darwen Borough Council took over responsibility and their Parks Department ensured that the grounds were tended and flower beds were maintained.Since all the burial plots have been taken up, the cemetery has fallen into decline. In 2010, the Friends of Darwen Cemetery was set up to encourage and assist the local council to make improvements, and to encourage the local community to take an interest in this important heritage.Come and see the ongoing work of the Friends of Darwen Cemetery, and inspect our proposals for commemorating the contribution and sacrifice of Darreners in World War One. At 2.00 pm there will be a guided tour of the Cemetery with our local historian.No booking requiredAccess: The Cemetery is situated on a hill side and the road surfaces are a little uneven in places. Some visitors may wish to examine individual gravestones, which might entail walking over very uneven ground, unsuitable for wheelchairs, but this will not be necessary to enjoy the walk.[www.darwencemetery.org.uk](http://www.darwencemetery.org.uk)  |
| **Eanam Wharf Experience,** D A P A Centre, The Wharf Studios, Eanam Wharf, Eanam, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB1 5BYSaturday, 10th September: 0900-1700Sunday, 11th September: 1100-1600Eanam Wharf is the heart of the Leeds Liverpool canal that was also the finishing section that joined to the great shires of the north. This year we celebrate the bicentenary of the finishing and have lots of free events planned throughout the year. During the Heritage Open Days weekend we will be launching our new QR code heritage trail, artworks, the opening of Vernons tea rooms, welcome station and exhibition suite. We will have hourly tours of the site and building led by young people dressed in period costume who have put together the heritage trail. Come along a share our space that changed Blackburn from a Market town to a Mill Town and was the centre for the Industrial Revolution in Lancashire.Booking Details: Pre-booking: Preferred. Some access is restrictive if you require support please contact us. Booking Contact: Graham 01254 699221 or Email: eanam.wharf@btinternet.com. Booking closes: 11th September 2016 15:30Access: Access to the Canal Towpath can be restrictive if, as in previous years, the numbers of people has been overwhelming. The old coal warehouse is on the first floor without wheelchair access. Additional information: Max 15 people per tour/session. Boat trips also available at a small charge.Directions: Follow brown tourist information signs for Eanam Wharf, Parking is available for £1 all day via Eanam Old Road pay and display. Lots of disabled and easy access spaces available.[www.eanamwharf.btck.co.uk](http://www.eanamwharf.btck.co.uk)  |
| **East Lancashire Blackburn Town Centre Vintage Bus Rally,** Cathedral Square, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB1 1FBSaturday, 10th September: 1000-1600Display of ex East Lancashire Municipal transport busesFree rides on Heritage routes around Blackburn with Darwen. These will take place hourly from 11.00 to 15.00.No booking requiredAccess :Due to the nature of the exhibits access to wheelchairs is not possibleAdditional information: Max 65 people per tour/session. All heritage rides are free of charge.Directions: Opposite Blackburn railway station[www.darwentransport.org.uk/](http://www.darwentransport.org.uk/) |
| **Friends of Sunnyhurst Woods - Open Weekend**Sunnyhurst Wood Visitor Centre, Sunnyhurst Wood, Darwen, Lancashire, BB3 0LA There will be an exhibition in the Visitors Centre of photos of now and from when the woods were first opened. There will be two walks through the woods pointing out the structures that have recently been given Grade II Listing with a potted history of the woods. Friday 9 September: 1300-1600Saturday 10 September: 1300-1600Sunday 11 September: 1300-1600No booking requiredAccess: There is very limited parking. Most park on Earnsdale Road and walk down the main drive.Additional information: Max 20 people per tour/session. [www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Sunnyhurst-Woods](http://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Sunnyhurst-Woods) |
| **Hidden Gems: Archive and Photographs from the Local History Collection**Blackburn Central Library, Town Hall Street, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB2 1AGThursday, 8th September: 1000-1700Friday, 9th September: 1000-1700Saturday, 10th September: 1000-1600, 1400 Talk and archives collectionSunday, 11th September: 1000-1600There will be a short talk about Blackburn Central Library's local history collection followed by an opportunity to look at archive records, photographs and maps which are normally not available for public view. Event not suitable for children under the age of 10.No booking requiredAdditional information: Max 15 people per tour/session.Directions: Blackburn Central Library is located in the Northgate area of the town centre shopping area across from King George's Hall.[www.cottontown.org](http://www.cottontown.org) [www.blackburn.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.blackburn.gov.uk/libraries)  |
| **History & Heritage of the Parish of St. Oswald, Knuzden**St. Oswald's Church, Cabin End Row, Stanhill Road, Knuzden, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB1 2DP The church will be open with displays on the history and heritage of St. Oswald's Parish. Pride of place will be a working replica of the Spinning Jenny, provided by the Stanhill Village Heritage Group. This machine was invented by James Hargreaves of Stanhill in 1764. It changed the world of work and effectively started the textile industrial revolution. Event not suitable for children under the age of 12.Saturday 10 September: 1300-1500No booking requiredDirectionsSt. Oswald's Church is located at the junction of Stanhill Road B6234 and Haslingden Road B6236 at Knuzden Brook. There is ample space for on-street car parking outside the church on Stanhill Road. On the opposite side of the brook is the entrance to the Arran Trail Local Nature Reserve.[www.stoswalds-knuzden.org.uk](http://www.stoswalds-knuzden.org.uk)  |
| **Hobkirk Sewing Machines,** 120-128 Darwen Street, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB2 2AJThursday, 8th September: 1000-1400Friday, 9th September: 1000-1400Saturday, 10th September: 1000-1400Come down for a walk around the museum. Guided tours with a talk available. Event not suitable for children under the age of 9.No booking requiredAccess: The museum is on the first floor with no lift.Additional information: Max 15 people per tour/session.<https://www.hobkirk.co.uk/>  |
| **Paint the Town…**The Bureau Centre for the Arts, St John's Church, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB16DW "Paint the Town..." is a challenge to artists of all ages and abilities - beginners, amateurs and professionals - to create a painting or drawing in a day within Blackburn and the surrounding borough along the theme of Old and New.Artists will need to register in advance in order to be allocated an exhibition space and will be required to attend The Bureau Centre for the Arts on Saturday between 9am and 10 am in order to have their blank canvas authenticated with a date stamp.Artists will then be able to go out into the surrounding area to their favourite location to produce a piece of work.For anyone new to the idea there may be the possibility that we could run group sessions on the day or signpost you to courses in advance.All work will need to be returned to the building by 6pm and there will be a time slot allocated for any framing and hanging of work.On Sunday from 12noon-5pm The Bureau Centre for the Arts will be open for an exhibition for members of the public to come and view and there will be a sale of any works that artists wish to sell.The announcement of prize-winners will be at 4pm. The exhibition will run for a period after this event (dates TBC) Saturday 10 September: 0900-1800Sunday 11 September: 1200-1700No booking requiredAdditional information: On street pay and display parking available for up to 1 hr adjacent to the building; up to 2 hrs on nearby streets; or in the Mall car park (pay on exit) just across the road.[www.bureaublackburn.co.uk](http://www.bureaublackburn.co.uk) [www.facebook.com/TheBureauBlackburn/](http://www.facebook.com/TheBureauBlackburn/) |
| **Sacred Heart & St Edwards R.C. Church**Sacred Heart & St. Edwards House, 370 Blackburn Road, Darwen, Lancs, BB3 0AAThursday, 8th September: 1000-1300; Tour 1100Craft Stall.Café.Guided tour of the church.Archives open to the public.War memorial local names on the memorial being archived.Knitted Poppies for sale.Vestments and holy items on show.No booking required<http://www.darwencatholic.org.uk/contact-us.php>  |
| **Stakes Hall: A Lost Heritage**Blackburn Central Library, Town Hall Street, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB2 1AGThursday, 8th September: 1000-1700, Stakes Hall Talk 1400Friday, 9th September: 1000 - 1700Saturday, 10th September: 1000-1600, 1400 Local History DisplayLocal historian, Christine Parkinson, will deliver a talk regarding the history surrounding Stakes Hall and its environs. Christine will also include a display of maps, documents and images collected over the course of her research. Event not suitable for children under the age of 12.Booking Details: Pre-booking: PreferredBooking Contact: Mary Painter 01254 661221 Email: mary.painter@blackburn.gov.uk Access: It is possible to park for short periods on the Northgate side of the building but there are plenty of car parks in the vicinity.Additional information: Max 40 people per tour/session.<http://www.blackburn.gov.uk/pages/blackburn-central-library.aspx> |
| **St Josephs R.C. Church**St. Josephs Presbytery, Bolton Road, Darwen, Lancashire, BB3 2PGFriday, 9th September: 1000-1300; Tour 1100Tour.Refreshments.Archives register open to view.Craft stall.Knitted poppies for Sale.No booking required<http://www.catholicdirectory.org/Catholic_Information.asp?ID=63250>  |
| **St Pauls Churchyard**, Johnson New Road , Hoddlesden, Darwen, Lancs, BB3 3NHSaturday, 10th September: 1000-1500Sunday, 11th September: 1000-1500Display of old photographs, war grave tour and information. Some records of burials, baptisms and weddings for people tracing their family tree. Information and history about St Pauls church, old school photographs, and old photos of Hoddlesden village and its people as well as the mills in the village.No booking requiredDirections: St Pauls churchyard located on Johnson New Road, Hoddlesden, Lancs |
| **St Peter’s Church Open Day**St Peter's Church, Church Street, Darwen, Lancashire, BB3 3HESaturday, 10th September: 1000-1400St Peter's Church will be open for tours around the building. The belfry will be open for trips up the tower and opportunity to ring the bells. Refreshments will be served.No booking required[www.stpeterschurchdarwen.org](http://www.stpeterschurchdarwen.org)  |
| **St. Cuthbert’s Church Open Day**St. Cuthbert's Church, Earnsdale Road, Darwen, Lancashire, BB3 1QJFriday 9th September: 1000-1600Saturday 10th September: 1000-1600Sunday 11th September: 1000-1600We welcome all to visit St. Cuthbert's Church, Darwen. To commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Battle of the Somme, there will be special displays and memorabilia provided by parishioners and the British Legion. Knitted and crocheted poppies will adorn the church in addition to various displays created by the Flower Team. Visitors are encouraged to tour the beautiful Grade II listed building, noting the recently restored East Window. Guided tours of both the church and the clock tower will be available on Saturday 10th September. There will be homemade cakes and refreshments, and children's craft activities will be available.No booking requiredAccess: Clock Tower Tour- maximum 10 people at any one time (with guide). Unfortunately, only children aged 8 years and over are allowed up the Clock tower. There are a number of steps going up the tower, with a handrail provided. This event is not suitable for those struggling with mobility.Additional information: Max 10 people per tour/session. Sunday 11th September - all are invited to join us for our Sung Eucharist Service, 10:30-11:45am.Directions: You will find us on the main road, A666, running through Darwen. Look out for the blue Co-op next to the traffic lights at the bottom of Earnsdale Road. Turn up Earnsdale Road to park on the Church car-park (disabled parking is available).[www.stcuthbertwithststephen.org](http://www.stcuthbertwithststephen.org)  |
| **The Bureau Open Day**The Bureau Centre for the Arts, St.John's Church, Victoria Street, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB18DF The building will be open from 10am-4pm.The Bureau Centre for the Arts will be open for people to look around. There will be a free self-led heritage trail / treasure hunt around the building and graveyard.There is also the chance to look round the oldest church and newest Arts Centre in Blackburn and the surrounding graveyard where many of Blackburn's notable historical families are buried, including Thwaites and Hornby family members. There are some beautiful and distinctive stained glass windows and a number of memorial plaques to various local people. Saturday 10 September: 1000-1600No booking requiredAdditional information: On street pay and display parking available for up to 1 hr adjacent to the building; up to 2 hrs on nearby streets; or in the Mall car park (pay on exit) just across the road.[www.bureaublackburn.co.uk](http://www.bureaublackburn.co.uk) [www.facebook.com/TheBureauBlackburn](http://www.facebook.com/TheBureauBlackburn)  |
| **ThreeDay Market Annex**Darwen, Lancashire, BB3 1BQ A local history display in words and pictures. Plus an afternoon town centre history walk on Saturday afternoon. Friday 9 September: 1000-1600Saturday 10 September: 1000-1600; Walk 1300-1500No booking requiredDirections: Darwen Bus Stance Croft Street |
| **Tockholes United Reform Church**, Long Lane, Tockholes, Blackburn, Lancashire Tockholes is a moorland village in the West Pennine area of the North West. The chapel this year celebrates its 354th year. We will be open on Saturday the 10th September from 2pm until 4.30 pm for people to see our registers and visit our chapel and graveyard.Sunday the 11th September will be our Harvest Festival Service and our chapel will be dressed with flowers, fruit and vegetables. Event not suitable for children under the age of 6.Saturday 10 September: 1400-1630Sunday 11 September: Harvest Festival Service 1400No booking required<http://tockholes.org.uk/urc1.html>  |
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