

Heritage Days. 16th Century Painted Room and Market House

The tour guides at the 16th century Painted Room have taken part in Heritage Days for well over a decade up until 2018, after which there was a pause pending the staffing review, followed by the pandemic in 2020.

This year we intend to resume taking part in this yearly event in September, opening up the Painted Room and the Market House with a special event on some of the Heritage Open Days which this year is between the 10th and 19th September. The aim is to try to encourage visitors to historic buildings, either by offering free entry where there is normally an entrance fee, or by offering something new or different when free entry doesn't apply.

In the Market House we will be running a PowerPoint presentation about the Market House on the big screen. We will have information boards and displays and a tour guide available to answer questions.

In the Painted Room we hope to offer something new by way of an activity that visitors can engage with...possibly using the treasure hunt that we use for the School's Activity Days and displaying the replica artifacts also used for that purpose.

The CDO is also hoping to get involved by opening the chapel at the Cemetery and is trying to encourage other historic buildings in the town to get involved.

The overall theme is 'food and drink' so we are hoping to link in our activities to this if we can, possibly producing a trail that visitors can download, to find some of the buildings in the town that used to be pubs and cider houses.

We already have a lot of marketing materials at our disposal from taking part previously.

Elisabeth Hughes

Tour Guide Manager