

# JORVIK Medieval Festival Presents:

## Church Explorers!

### 1st to 31st August 2015

Some of Yorkshire's most beautiful ecclesiastical buildings are opening their doors this summer and hosting a series of exciting and interesting events where they can showcase their unique links to the medieval period.

Discover all they have to offer you and your family during JORVIK Medieval Festival below:

**Please note:** although the majority of Church Explorer activities are free, some venues may make a charge for some special activities. Church Explorer events are provided and managed by the historic churches in which they are held: participants are encouraged to consider making a small donation to each when visiting these wonderful historic buildings.

For more details and updates on Church Explorer events, see [www.jorvik-medieval.festival.com/churchexplorers](http://www.jorvik-medieval.festival.com/churchexplorers)

#### Throughout the Festival

**Holy Trinity, Goodramgate, York, YO1 7LF**

**12pm-4pm (Sun-Mon), 10am-4pm (Tues-Sat)**

**FREE**

Holy Trinity, Goodramgate, is one of York's hidden treasure. Located in the heart of the city centre but secluded in a leafy churchyard since the 11<sup>th</sup> century, with stained glass from the 15<sup>th</sup> century, some of the country's earliest box pews and monuments to the famous (and the not-so) can be discovered within its walls.

Their team of expert volunteer guides are on hand to tell this church's fascinating stories and answer questions.

For further information please telephone the volunteers at Holy Trinity on 01904 613451.

*Holy Trinity, Goodramgate, is one of The Churches Conservation Trust's national collection of magnificent historic churches* [www.visitchurches.org.uk](http://www.visitchurches.org.uk)

**St Lawrence's Tower, off Lawrence Street, York, YO10 3BN**

Visit St. Lawrence's tower with its fine decorative twelfth-century doorway. The medieval church no longer exists, having been demolished in the 1800s to make way for the new church. But the tower stands in the churchyard and retains the original north door. Characteristic of many Norman doorways, the sculpture includes Romanesque patterns and mythical beasts.

*St Lawrence's Tower is one of The Churches Conservation Trust's national collection of magnificent historic churches* [www.visitchurches.org.uk](http://www.visitchurches.org.uk)

### **St Mary, Goathland, N Yorks YO22 5AN**

**9:30am – 5:30pm**

**FREE**

Discover 'Crosses and Mice: the Medieval Heritage of a Small Moorland Church', a self-guiding tour and small exhibitions on the history of the church and medieval mice!

Explore the church's medieval heritage, including its early altar slab carved with crosses. There is a church trail for kids too, and a mouse-hunting game to celebrate the work of famed carver Robert 'Mouseman' Thompson!

### **Saturday 1st August**

#### **St Nicholas, Hornsea, East Riding, HU18 1AB**

**10am - 4pm**

**FREE**

A special Medieval Day at a church whose interior was described by Pevsner as '*uncommonly impressive*'. There is lots to see including an amazing collection of medieval tombs, windows of Saints George, Paulinus, and Nicholas, as well as an early medieval font.

There are also introductions to medieval life available throughout the day and a chance to see the crypt, home of 'Nanny Cankerneedle'.

Artwork, refreshments, stalls, displays and activities for all ages in the church, hall and grounds. Compline at 3.30pm.

More details at [www.stnicholashornsea.weebly.com](http://www.stnicholashornsea.weebly.com)

#### **All Saints, Northallerton, N Yorks, DL7 8LU**

**10am - 4pm**

**FREE**

Throughout the Middle Ages this splendid church was closely associated with the Bishops of Durham, who maintained a palace in the town. The parish was in fact a 'peculier' of the Diocese of Durham. Find out about this

special relationship at *Northallerton MedFest*, with historical exhibitions, architectural tours, a medieval music workshop and refreshments on a medieval theme!

Plainsong Vespers at 4pm. Organised in conjunction with Northallerton and District Local History Society.

**West Buckrose Churches, N Yorks, YO17 9RQ: Acklam, St John the Baptist; Birdsall, St Mary; Burythorpe, All Saints; Langton, St Andrew; Leavening, the Venerable Bede; North Grimston, St Nicholas; Settrington, All Saints; Westow, St Mary**

**10am - 4pm**

**FREE**

Follow a trail that links the eight churches of the parish of West Buckrose, an area steeped in Christian heritage, from the early Middle Ages, through Methodism and Victorian revival, to the present day.

*Please note: not all churches are fully accessible, but alternatives for viewing will be provided. Toilet facilities available at Leavening only.*

## **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> - Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> August**

**St Wilfrid, Monk Fryston, W Yorks, LS25 5DY**

**12pm – 4pm**

**FREE**

Thomas of Bayeux, the first Norman Archbishop of York, gave land to the monks of Selby Abbey at Fryston: the eleventh-century tower of this fascinating church dates from around this time. The church will be open to visitors for local history displays and talks, and more besides.

With a history walk on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August at 6pm, departing from the church, followed at 8pm by a lecture from Professor Mark Ormrod (University of York), a medieval concert by musician Peter Bull on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August from 7:30pm and an archaeological dig!

More information at [www.stwilfridandstmary.org.uk/medieval\\_festival.html](http://www.stwilfridandstmary.org.uk/medieval_festival.html)

## **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> August**

**All Saints, Huntington, York, YO32 9RE**

**10am – 4pm**

**FREE**

Visit the chancel and search for fragments of medieval masonry reused by Victorian builders – how many can you find? Hear the rector's tall tales of medieval mayhem, mystery and madness, and join in fun activities for all the family including crafts and a treasure trail around the church.

Cream teas and refreshments on sale.

## **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August**

**St Helen, Welton, HU15 1NH**

**12.30pm – 4.30pm**

***FREE***

Enjoy wonderful views, craft activities and a hunt for the lost treasure of the Knights Templar on this family-friendly open day, in a church renowned for its stained glass by William Morris and Edward Burne-Jones.

Children will have the opportunity to design and make their very own stained-glass-inspired artwork. Also on hand will be a knight of the thirteenth century, who will chat to visitors about life on crusade, inspired by a Purbeck marble effigy reputed to show a Templar from the nearby preceptory at Faxfleet.

Tea, coffee and refreshments will be served throughout the afternoon.

## **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August**

**Holy Redeemer, Boroughbridge Road, York, YO26 6AB**

**12noon – 3pm**

***FREE***

Join us for 'Knights of Holy Redeemer', a fun-filled event for all the family, with medieval games, crafts, music and food.

Come and discover more about the archaeology of our church with guided tours, and see our new medieval veggie and herb plot, devised by the Let's Go playgroup! Dr David Petts, Lecturer in Archaeology at Durham University will also be on hand to answer your questions.

## **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August**

**St John the Baptist, Adel, Leeds, LS16 8DQ**

**1pm – 5pm**

***FREE***

This glorious twelfth-century church is without a doubt one of the most stunning and well preserved examples of Romanesque building in the whole of the British Isles.

Come along for a medieval afternoon with guided tours, history tales, trails, refreshments and a display of artwork by local children.

## **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August**

**St Mary and St Alkelda, Middleham, N Yorks, DL8 4PQ**

**Medieval Fair 10am – 4pm**

**FREE**

The future Richard III was a patron of this church, which now houses a wealth of medieval features, including an elaborate wooden font canopy and the grave cover of one of the last abbots of Jervaulx.

The medieval fair will be followed by a 'Medieval Middleham' lecture at 5.30pm, and a presentation on 'Iconography in the Medieval World' by Dr Barbara Morden at 6.30pm.

## **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August**

**St Martin on the Hill, Scarborough, YO11 2BT**

**10.30am – 3.30pm**

**FREE**

Explore the Victorian view of the medieval through guided walks to explore the church's magnificent collection of newly restored pre-raphaelite glass, together with other treasures by William Morris.

*Please note: although there are toilet facilities at this site, they are not fully accessible.*

## **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August**

**St Mary, Leake (Nr Thirsk), N. Yorks**

**11am – 4pm**

**£7 adults, £3 children (under 11)**

Explore the story of the lost village of Leake; what is the story behind the mysterious burials in the churchyard, including the pit of 500 medieval bodies found by chance in 1852?

Come along for games, a church trail and quiz, tours, displays, crafts and more, together with medieval food and Church Ale. Medieval food & drink tickets available at the gate

## **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> August**

**St Helen and Holy Cross, Sheriff Hutton, N Yorks, YO60 6SS**

**10am - 9pm**

Morning tours at 10am and 11.30am introduce this gem of a medieval church, with its historic links to the Neville family.

At 2pm hear from David and Wendy Johnson of the Richard III Society about Richard III's connections with Sheriff Hutton, and from Vanessa Roe of the Plantagenet Alliance about her family connections with Richard III and the Thwengs of Cornborough, ancestors of Joan Thweng of Barley Hall.

With a Folk Night and BBQ from 7pm.

## **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> August; 12pm – 3pm Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August**

**St Mary, Church Fenton, N Yorks, LS23 6DR**

**10.30am – 4pm**

Guided tours of this fascinating building by villagers from the 15th century and a costumed 'service' in Latin on Saturday afternoon will highlight the deep medieval heritage of this church.

Join in as local craftspeople teach skills used at the time of the Battle of Towton. Visitors will also be able to consult a medieval 'doctor' and buy herbs from his stall and an investigation into an effigy of a mysterious fourteenth-century lady will delight budding historical detectives!

There will be cream teas available on the adjacent vicarage lawn, as well as cake and craft stalls, and a full range of children's activities.

## **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> August – Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September**

**St Mary, Thirsk, YO7 1PR**

**10am – 4pm**

Come to a church described by Pevsner as '*without question...the most spectacular Perpendicular church in the North Riding*'.

As a part of the JORVIK Medieval Festival, the church presents *Wood you believe it?* - an exhibition on all aspects of wood carving, from the medieval to the present, with modern examples by local carvers on display, plus the church's own medieval woodwork.

Please note: on Sundays 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> August times of opening will be 12noon to 4pm (after the service). On Mondays 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> August refreshments will be served in St Mary's Crypt.

## **10.30am – 4pm, Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> August; 1pm – 4pm, Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August**

**St Hilda, Ampleforth, N Yorks, YO62 4DU**

### **10:30am**

This humble church, whose oldest features date back to the twelfth century, is full of medieval interest, not least in its strange fourteenth-century effigy of a man with a woman peeping over his shoulder.

Come along and try a range of medieval crafts, including making corn dollies and trying your hand at being a medieval scribe. There will also be a quiz available to test your skills as a medieval detective.

## **10am – 5pm, Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August**

**Selby Abbey, Selby, YO8 4PU**

A fun medieval day in the splendid surroundings of Selby Abbey, home to a community of Benedictine monks from the reign of William the Conqueror until the Dissolution of the Monasteries.

Explore displays that tell the story of some of the abbots of Selby, and enjoy a range of family-friendly activities and games, together with drama and music to bring the history of the abbey to life.

## **11am – 3pm, Saturday 29 August**

**St Mary Bishophill Junior, York, YO1 6EN**

An opportunity to visit the tenth-century St Mary Bishophill Junior, York's oldest working parish church.

Discover informative display of medieval information, and take part in a curator clinic with York Museums Trust historians: a rare chance to see, examine and discuss selected specimens from their own Bishophill Hoard medieval collection!

### **Notes to Visitors**

Event organisers reserve the right to alter or withdraw events at any time.

If you have any enquiries relating to any of these events, please email [churchexplorers@yorkat.co.uk](mailto:churchexplorers@yorkat.co.uk) and your enquiry will be passed to the relevant church.

Church Explorer events are staged and managed by church groups, churches and their custodians, with support and advice from JORVIK Group. The JORVIK Group is not liable for the content and management of external events.