

What's On

at the Museum of Natural History

October - December 2014





Photo Jon Mortimer (jonmortimer.com) Designer: Zoe Sherwood (www.zoesherwood.co.uk)

Highlights

Breath Festival

Saturday 1 November

A one-day festival of events, talks, performances and exhibitions across Oxford's museums, designed to take your breath away! Short talks, self-guided tours, and exhibitions all related to breath and breathing. For the full programme see:

www.ouh.nhs.uk/artlink/breath



©Stephen Chambers, 2003

Birds of Paradise: Oxford Fashion Week

Saturday 8 November, 7-10.30pm

Majestic forms, intricate layering and spectacular designs at the headline runway show of Oxford Fashion Week. Inspired by the diversity of birds of paradise.

Dress code is black-tie. Tickets at: **www.oxfordfashionweek.com**



Photo: Oxford Fashion Week

The Arctic - A Natural History

Tuesday 18 November, 6.30-7.30pm

Museum director Professor Paul Smith talks about the flora and fauna of Greenland and the controls on Arctic ecosystems, relating his experience of mounting expeditions to the far north. Free, but booking required at: **www.bit.ly/thearctic**

Northern Lights

Friday 21 November, 7-10pm

A night under the Northern Lights. Immerse yourself in an atmospheric Arctic soundtrack, explore the darkness by torchlight and come face to face with some polar creatures. Get the celebrations going with a drink from our bar and live music with *Biscuithead and the Biscuit Badgers*.



What's on

CALENDAR

Mon 13 Oct **Badgers and People: A Thousand Years of Love and Hate**

Public lecture, Adults, 7-8pm

The first in a new series of monthly talks by Oxfordshire Mammal Group. Writer Patrick Barkham discusses our relationship with badgers. Booking and info at:

www.oxonmammals.org.uk

Tue 14 Oct **Café Scientifique: Dr Jason Nurse**

Talk and discussion, Adults, 7.30-9pm
Social media: the use of your online information for the good, the bad and the ugly.

Hear scientists discuss research over a glass of wine, second Tuesday each month.

Sat 18 Oct **Every Picture Tells a Story**

Workshop, GCSE Art students
10.30am-3.30pm

Students work alongside artist Pamela Schilderman using the Museum's collections to inspire original and experimental pieces of art. Free - email education@oum.ox.ac.uk to book.

Thu 23 Oct **Brilliant Bugs**

Under 5s, Drop-in, 10.30am-12.30pm and 2-4pm

Six legs, eight legs, hundreds of legs! Get up close with the real thing and make a buggy hat to wear home.

Thu 23 Oct **Geography Day**

Public lecture, Adults/Students
10am-1pm

Short lectures from Professor Paul Smith and others about the exploration of different environments. Part of an A level study day, but lectures open to the public. No booking necessary - groups larger than five email education@oum.ox.ac.uk

Mon 27 - Wed 29 Oct **Beauty and the Beasts**

Families, Drop-in, 1-4pm

Celebrate the gross and the gorgeous. Touch some repulsive museum objects and find out what makes us beautiful. Joint event with Pitt Rivers Museum.

Thu 30 Oct **ARTifice**

Seminar and debate, Adults, 6-9pm
Can deception ever be justified? How does information influence the way we see art? With prominent speakers from the worlds of art and science. Free, but booking required at www.bit.ly/ARTifice

Sat 1 Nov **Breath Festival**

Adults, From 1pm

A one-day festival of events, talks, performances and exhibitions across Oxford's museums all related to breath and breathing. Visual artists, dancers, musicians, singers and music therapists deliver a variety of performances and activities. For programme info see: www.ouh.nhs.uk/artlink/breath

Sat 8 Nov **Birds of Paradise**

Tour and talk, Adults, 11am-12pm

Their beautiful plumes were nearly their downfall... Malgosia Nowak-Kemp, Collections Manager in the Life Collections, reveals the history, behaviour and stories about birds of paradise. Free, but booking required at: www.bit.ly/mnhparadise

Sat 8 Nov **Oxford Fashion Week**

Adults, 7-10.30pm

Majestic forms, intricate layering and spectacular designs in the Museum for the headline runway show of Oxford Fashion Week. See designer collections inspired by the diversity of birds of paradise. Tickets at: www.oxfordfashionweek.com

Tue 11 Nov **Café Scientifique: Professor Mark Weller**

Talk and discussion, Adults, 7.30-9pm
The glowing, colour-changing rocks of Greenland which safeguard the banknotes in your pocket.

Hear scientists discuss research over a glass of wine, second Tuesday each month.

Tue 18 Nov **The Arctic - A Natural History**

Public lecture, Adults, 6.30-7.30pm

Professor Paul Smith talks about the flora and fauna of Greenland and the controls on Arctic ecosystems, and relates his experience of mounting expeditions to the far north. Free, but booking required: www.bit.ly/thearctic

Fri 21 Nov **Northern Lights**

All ages, Drop-in, 7-10pm

Our Christmas Light Festival special event. Explore the darkness by torchlight and come face to face with some polar creatures. Bar and live music with *Biscuithead and the Biscuit Badgers*. Joint event with Pitt Rivers Museum.

Fri 28 Nov **First on the Continents**

Public lecture, Adults, 7-10pm

A lecture evening hosted by Doug Scott CBE celebrating first ascents across the continents. Organised by and fundraising for Community Action Nepal. Tickets £15. **To book call Phil Powell: 01865 778 536**

Wed 3 Dec **Winter Warmth**

Under 5s, Drop-in, 10.30am-12.30pm and 2-4pm

Discover how animals survive the cold and make a cosy coat for a cuddly creature.

Thu 4 Dec **Inside Cells**

Public lectures, Adults, 10am-1pm

Short lectures all about cells. Part of a study day for A level groups but lectures open to the public. No booking, but groups larger than five email education@oum.ox.ac.uk

Tue 9 Dec **Café Scientifique: Dr Malcolm Kendrick**

Talk and discussion, Adults, 7.30-9pm
The Great Cholesterol Con
Hear scientists discuss research over a glass of wine; second Tuesday each month.

EXHIBITIONS

The Harold Thomas Collection

2 October - 2 November

A unique collection of rare parasitic plants collected in the Congo in 1875.

Crystals, Naturally!

Throughout 2014

A display around the Main Court of minerals from the Museum's collections to celebrate the International Year of Crystallography in 2014.



FAMILY EXTRAS

12 Days of Christmas Trail

20 December - 2 January

On the first day of Christmas the Museums gave to me... a very exciting festive trail! Pick up your trail from the Family Friendly trolley opposite the Welcome Desk.

Every Sunday, Drop-in, 2-4pm

Family Friendly trails, crafts, backpacks and more, all provided by Museum volunteers.



**Spotlight
Specimens**

**Architecture
Tours**



All events are free unless stated otherwise, but donations are welcome.

For the full Family Friendly programme at the Oxford University Museums see www.museums.ox.ac.uk

ONLINE

Blog: www.morethanadodo.com

Twitter: @morethanadodo

Instagram: @morethanadodo

Flickr: www.bit.ly/mnhflickr

REGULAR EVENTS

Science Saturdays

Every Saturday, 2-4pm

18 October - 6 December

Investigate real natural history specimens with University of Oxford scientists. Families, ages 8+.

Spotlight Specimens

Monday-Thursday at 2.30pm

An informal specimen show-and-tell under the *T. rex*. Ask questions and chat with Museum experts.

Architecture Tours

Every Friday, 2.30pm and 3.15pm, Adults

Take a free volunteer-led tour to learn about the Museum's Grade 1-listed Neo-Gothic building.

Oxfordshire Mammal Group

Every second Monday 7pm, Adults

A range of speakers will talk about the mammal wildlife of Oxfordshire and beyond. Details at:

www.oxonmammals.org.uk



Opening hours

Open daily from 10am-5pm.

Closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Eve, and New Year's Day. Admission is free.

Group and school visits

Schools and large groups please pre-book on 01865 282 451 or email education@oum.ox.ac.uk

Museum Café

Enjoy snacks and drinks throughout the day, courtesy of Oxford's Mortons.

Shop

The Museum Shop offers a wide range of products including fossils, minerals, publications, toys, jewellery, postcards and Museum products: shop@oum.ox.ac.uk

Library and Archives

Our Library and Archives are open to anyone. For appointments email library@oum.ox.ac.uk
www.oum.ox.ac.uk/collect

Learning at the Museum

The Museum offers a range of taught sessions for primary and secondary Key Stages, regular **Family Friendly** activities, and a programme of events for adults.
www.oum.ox.ac.uk/educate

Volunteering

To find out about volunteering at the Museum see:
www.museums.ox.ac.uk/volunteers

Community Outreach

For information on free workshops for adult community groups see
www.museums.ox.ac.uk/community-outreach

Access

The Museum provides wheelchair access to all floors and free disabled parking. There is no other public parking available on site.

Hire the Museum

The Museum and its 300-seat Lecture Theatre are available for private hire functions, including weddings, dinners and conferences: venue@oum.ox.ac.uk

Location

The Museum is about 10 minutes' walk north of Oxford city centre and about 15 minutes' walk from Oxford rail station.

To receive updates about the Museum email communications@oum.ox.ac.uk



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Oxford University Museum of Natural History
Parks Road
Oxford
OX1 3PW
01865 272950
info@oum.ox.ac.uk
www.oum.ox.ac.uk

Twitter: @morethanadodo
Blog: morethanadodo.com