



Museum of
Natural
History

What's On

at the Museum of Natural History

January - April 2016



45/50

Kurt 2013

VISIONS
OF

NATURE

A year-long showcase of art inspired by nature

During 2016, the Museum of Natural History presents a rich programme of exhibitions, talks and workshops by artists and writers whose varied work celebrates the natural environment.

The year kicks off with an exhibition by contemporary British artist Kurt Jackson. *Bees (and the odd wasp) in my Bonnet* opens in our Upper East Gallery on 18 March.

www.visionsofnature.net

EXHIBITIONS

**Handwritten in
Stone**

**Until 31 January
Upper East Gallery**

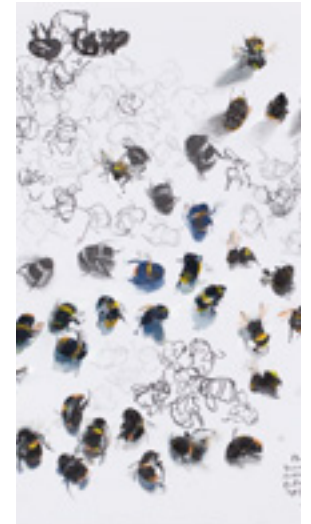
A bicentenary exhibition to celebrate William Smith and his publication of the first geological map of England and Wales. Supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund.



**Kurt Jackson: Bees
(and the odd wasp)
in my Bonnet**

**18 March - 29
September
Upper East Gallery**

Kurt Jackson's art is a celebration of the natural world. Recently he has been inspired by the bees he encounters at home in Cornwall and across the UK. This exhibition brings together paintings, sculpture and Museum collections to explore the diverse and beautiful world of bees.



Henry Walter Bates

**Until 26 February
Upper South Gallery**

A small display on the life and work of celebrated Victorian naturalist Henry Walter Bates, showcasing some of his specimens from the Museum's Life Collections.



What's on

CALENDAR

Sat 9 Jan-Sat 12 Mar **Natural History Investigators**

Ages 14-16

Spend ten Saturday mornings, 10.30am-12.30pm, researching your own Museum project. **To apply email: education@oum.ox.ac.uk**

Mon 11 Jan **Snow Leopards and Blue Sheep in China**

Lecture, 7-8pm

WildCru researcher Joeline Hughes discusses the predator/prey relationships of these iconic mammals in China. Oxfordshire Mammal Group members free / Non-members £3
www.oxonmammals.org

Tue 12 Jan **Curious Cubs**

10.30am-12.30pm, Under 5s, Drop-in
Pick up an activity bag and explore the Museum with Pebbles, Huxley and Smokey.

Thu 21 Jan **A little look at... Winter Animals**

10.30am & 11.30am, Under 5s
An active, hands-on exploration telling the tales of animals in the Museum.

Thu 28 Jan **Sensing Culture**

Tour for blind and partially sighted visitors, 11am-12pm
Hands-on tour highlighting different aspects of the collections. Part of the HLF-funded 'Sensing Culture' project with the RNIB. **To book contact 01865 282456 or outreach@museums.ox.ac.uk**

Thu 4 Feb **A little look at... Forest Friends**

10.30am & 11.30am, Under 5s
An active, hands-on exploration telling the tales of animals in the Museum.

Mon 8 Feb **Otters**

Lecture, 7-8pm
Ellen Lee of Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre discusses the otters of Oxfordshire. Oxfordshire Mammal Group members free / Non-members £3
www.oxonmammals.org

Tue 9 Feb **Curious Cubs**

10.30am-12.30pm, Under 5s, Drop-in
Pick up one of our activity bags and explore the Museum with Pebbles, Huxley and Smokey.

Sat 13 Feb **Coleopterist Day**

10.30am-5pm, Ages 14+, Drop-in
A day all about beetles - talks, a workshop, and a visit to the collections and library.

Mon 15-Wed 17 Feb **Eat or be Eaten!**

Half-term activities, 1-4pm, Drop-in
Explore the amazing skills of attack and defence. Crafts, object handling, and a family-friendly talk each day at 3pm.

■ Adults and young people

■ Families

■ Young people

■ Suitable for all

Thu 3 Mar **A little look at... Bees**

10.30am & 11.30am, Under 5s
An active, hands-on exploration telling the tales of animals in the Museum.

Sat 5-Sun 6 Mar **An Introduction to Animal Bones and Archaeozoology**

Day school, 9am-5pm
This two-day course provides participants with an introduction to the study of animal bones and their use in archaeology. **Tickets £65, book at: www.bit.ly/mnhevents**

Sat 5 Mar **The Oxford Colloquium**

Conference, 9.30am-5pm
One of the biggest Earth Sciences events in the UK, with six lectures from distinguished UK academics and research institutions. **Tickets £20. Book at: www.ogg.uk.com**

Mon 7 Mar **Beavers in England**

Lecture, 7-8pm
Mark Elliot discusses how the first wild beavers in England for 500 years are faring after their reintroduction to Devon's River Otter. Oxfordshire Mammal Group members free / Non-members £3
www.oxonmammals.org

Tue 8 Mar **Curious Cubs**

10.30am-12.30pm, Under 5s, Drop-in
Pick up one of our activity bags and explore the Museum with Pebbles, Huxley and Smokey.

Sat 12 Mar **Super Science Saturday**

12-4pm, Ages 8+, Drop-in
Investigate, experiment and discover more about life on Earth.

Sun 13 Mar **DNA Workshop**

Day school, 10am-4pm, Ages 16+
Investigate the genetics of taste by working with your own DNA in this practical workshop with research techniques used by scientists all over the world. **Tickets £45 Book at: www.bit.ly/mnhevents**

Tues 15 Mar **Our Perception of Pain**

Lecture, 7-8pm
Can we really see someone's pain? Is it true that you get the pain you expect? And how do anaesthetics produce altered states of consciousness so we don't feel pain? Professor Irene Tracey discusses as part of International Brain Awareness Week. **Free, book at: www.bit.ly/mnhevents**

Fri 18 Mar **A Level Genes Day**

Workshop and talks, A level biology students but interested adults also welcome, 10am-4pm
A day of talks and activities about genes, gene technology, and evolution. **Free, book at: www.bit.ly/mnhevents**

Sat 19 Mar **British Entomological & Natural History Society Day**

Talks, 10am-4pm, Ages 14+
A day of talks on insects, incorporating the BENHS Annual General Meeting. Open to non-members too. **www.benhs.org.uk**

CALENDAR

Sat 19 Mar, 10am-5pm / Sun 20, 1-5pm The Genetics of Being Social

Research, Ages 18+, Drop-in
Why do some of us find it easier than others to understand and get along with people? Help researchers from Oxford University's Department of Experimental Psychology test if it's all in your genes.

Sun 20 Mar Madagascar: The Geology and Zoology of a Gondwanan Island

Day school, 12-5pm
Explore the remarkable diversity of plants and animals of Madagascar and how this unique biota is inextricably tied to the geological history of the island. **Tickets £55: www.bit.ly/mnhmadagascar**

Mon 4-Wed 6 Apr Hive Alive!

1-4pm, Drop-in
Create a buzz about bees and find out why bees are the best. Add to our giant hive and make a bee creation of your very own.

Tues 12 Apr Beehive Spotlight

Talk, 2.30-3.30pm
An informal talk about our observation bee hive. A chance to ask the questions you've been buzzing to ask about bees.

Sat 16 Apr Our Museum

Special event, 2-4pm
Enjoy the collection through the eyes of our new Youth Forum. For more information about the Forum's very first event see www.oum.ox.ac.uk.

Thu 21 Apr The Beekeeper's Year

Talk, 7-8.30pm
Join Mark Blanchette of Oxfordshire Beekeepers Association for tales from the hive. Find out how the colony changes during the year and discuss threats to local and international bee populations. **£3, book at: www.bit.ly/mnhevents**

Thu 28 Apr Sensing Culture

Tour for blind and partially sighted visitors, 11am-12pm
Hands-on tour designed to highlight different aspects of the Museum's collections. Part of our HLF-funded 'Sensing Culture' project with the RNIB. **To book contact 01865 282456 or outreach@museums.ox.ac.uk**

Thu 28 Apr Recent Changes to the Tree of Life: Rewriting The Ancestor's Tale

Lecture, 6-7pm
Meet Professor Richard Dawkins and Dr Yan Wong to hear how recent changes to the tree of life influenced their rewriting of the best selling book *The Ancestor's Tale*. Includes a chance to buy a signed copy of the new book. **Free, book at: www.bit.ly/mnhevents**

- Adults and young people
- Families
- Young people
- Suitable for all

All events are free unless stated otherwise, but donations help support our programme.

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

PRESENTING...

A themed changing display

The Other Audubon 26 January - 17 March

John James Audubon is famous for his paintings of North American birds. Less widely-known is that his son, John Woodhouse Audubon, made many illustrations for his father's *The Quadrapeds of North America*.

Bee Diversity 18 March - 16 May

Showcasing the incredible diversity of the world's bees - from the largest, to the smallest, to the most beautiful.



REGULAR EVENTS

FOR ADULTS

Spotlight Specimens

Monday-Thursday at 2.30pm

All ages

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

Café Scientifique

Second Tuesday each month, 7.30-9pm

Adults

Hear scientists discuss research over a glass of wine.

Architecture Tours

Every Friday, 2.30pm & 3.15pm, Adults

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

FAMILY FRIENDLY

Science Saturdays

Every Saturday, 2-4pm, 23 Jan - 5 Mar

Families, ages 8+

Investigate real natural history specimens with University of Oxford scientists.

Eggstraordinary Easter Eggventure

Fri 25 Mar - Sun 10 Apr

Drop-in during opening hours

Eggsplore the museums with an eggciting egg-hunters trail.

Family Friendly Sundays

Every Sunday, Drop-in, 2-4pm

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

Opening hours

Open daily from 10am-5pm.

Closed on Easter Sunday.

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.

FREE WIFI - choose 'MNH Public' network



Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND



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Natural History

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@morethanadodo

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