

MuseumsMonthly

The latest news and announcements from Southend Museums Service.

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Prittlewell Priory

Southchurch Hall

www.southendmuseums.co.uk



The International Space Station

Keep on Moving

the International Space Station (ISS) is an amazing testimony to human vision and engineering. Built and operated by a multi-national partnership of space agencies, including NASA (USA), Roscosmos (Russia) and the European Space Agency, the ISS serves as a research laboratory. The first section launched in 1998 and further modules were later attached in space.

the ISS orbits the earth at a height of approximately 260 miles and travels at a speed of 5 miles per second. It travels from west to east round the world every 90 minutes so astronauts see 16 sunrises and sunsets every 24 hours.

The station is 357 feet long, heavier than 450 cars and is powered by 8 solar panel arrays. It contains working and living quarters for 6 astronauts and has been visited by 242 people from 19 countries.

The ISS is visible from earth and details of timings can be found on NASA's SkyWatch.

Southend Faith and Belief Festival on ONE SOUTHEND from May 17th 2021



Practicing the Hindu faith at home

Southend Museums organised the first digital Southend Faith and Belief Fearuvak in collaboration with Southend's Faith and Belief Network to celebrate the cultural diversity of the Borough. Co-produced in collaboration with a diverse range of Faith and Belief communities, this festival welcomes those who want to showcase their faith or belief and encourages us to get to know each other a little better.

The last year has been particularly challenging for our local communities. The festival explores the challenges that the Covid-19 pandemic presented to our faith and belief groups and how they have overcome these obstacles.

The festival is accompanied by a digital exhibition of photographs from the museum collection and from the local communities. The exhibition is aimed at highlighting how in the past the collection did not represent the variety of our borough's faiths and beliefs. We hope to spark a discussion on how we can change that.

Should you want to share your story or photographs please go to:

<https://yoursay.southend.gov.uk/faith-and-belief-festival>

These photos will be included in the museum collection.

Should you wish to donate an object that represents a local Faith or belief to make sure it is included in the museum collection and remembered in the future, please contact:

museums@southend.gov.uk

Should you be interested in joining one of Southend Council's inter Faith and Belief community groups, please contact:

kellymarks@southend.gov.uk



Scrapbook from the first Jewish wedding in Southend, 1907

Red Sails Over The Estuary

An exhibition on the history of the iconic Thames barge is now open at the Prittlewell Priory Visitor Centre until Sunday 15th August, charting the fascinating story of these craft, alongside original objects, and an impressive scale model of a Thames barge on display.

You would be hard pressed to find a historic view of the Essex, Suffolk or the north Kent coast without a Thames sailing barge depicted somewhere in it.

Hundreds of these red sailed beauties have plied their trade up and down south-east England's coastline and estuaries and beyond to mainland Europe, for the best part of three centuries.

As well as farmer's crop, the barges carried numerous other cargoes such as coal, coke, and sand. As towns like Southend expanded, Thames barges delivered all the necessary materials to build new houses, roads, sea walls and in fact, the complete infrastructure of a modern community as efficiently and economically as possible. A Thames sailing barge could carry up to 50,000 bricks in a single cargo.

The exhibition, designed and created by the Thames Sailing Barge Trust and funded by a Heritage Lottery grant, tells the story of the Thames sailing barges and their association with Southend.

The exhibition is free to enter. Please see the website for opening times: www.southendmuseums.co.uk

Thames Sailing Barge Trust
in association with Southend Museums
present

RED SAILS OVER THE ESTUARY

An exhibition on the history of the Thames sailing barge and its association with Southend
19th May to 15th August 2021

Priory Visitor Centre:
Priory Park
Victoria Avenue
Southend SS2 6ND

Wednesday - Sunday: 11.00 - 16.00
Admission Free to Exhibition

Logos: Thames Sailing Barge Trust, Southend Museums, Southend Council, Heritage Fund, Prittlewell Priory