Nailsworth's Heritage Open Day Saturday 14th September, 9.30am - 4.30pm

Discover the Hidden Secrets of Nailsworth in September

National Heritage Open days have been running throughout the country for 25 years and Nailsworth will be taking part for the first time this year. The event will be a fantastic celebration of our history and culture and give you the chance to explore some of our most interesting and historic buildings, or parts of buildings, which are not usually open to the public and to try out new experiences – and, best of all, it is all completely free. The venues taking part include halls, churches, mills, private houses, architectural features and a hotel, and there will be escorted tours, displays, exhibitions, music, the grand opening of newly refurbished water wheels at the Egypt Mill Hotel and children's activities during the day. There will also be refreshments and light lunches for sale at some of the venues.

You will be able to find out full details of which buildings will be open to explore and what events are taking place at the Mortimer Room, Old Market, from 9.30am. Alternatively, you will be able to spot which buildings are taking part around the town, as each will have balloons, bunting and a Heritage Open Day poster outside, and details will be on the Heritage Open Day web site.

The secret places that you'll be able to explore include:

Bannup Tree Cottage, Avening Road; Christ Church, New Market Road; The Clocktower, George Street; Days Mill (entrance is via Giuseppe's restaurant); Egypt Mill Hotel; Mortimer Room, Old Market; The Nodes (only by the guided walk, leaving from the Mortimer Room at 2.00pm); St George's Church, Fountain Street; Subscription Rooms, Fountain Street; Town Hall and Archives, Old Bristol Road; and the Quaker Meeting House, Quaker Close.

The Mortimer Room will be the centre of activities during the day; there will be an hour of children's activities by the Nailsworth in Bloom team, starting at 11.00am and a display of local schoolchildren's heritage related artwork. Guided town heritage walks will also leave from the Mortimer Room – an upstream water walk will start at 10.00am, a walk to The Nodes will start at 2.00pm and a downstream water walk will start at 2.15pm.

What's On in the Mortimer Room

- 9.30-4.30pm Heritage Open Day display and information, local schoolchildren's display of heritage artwork, and refreshments served by the Nailsworth In Bloom team.
- 10am A Working Stream: A walk up the Horsley Brook exploring the mills surviving and lost. Start from the Mortimer Room, time 10am. Using the old routes up the Valley and historical maps and photos we will follow the stream up to the lake near Hartley Bridge, about 3 miles and 2 hours duration. The walk is easy and along paths and tracks. Booking essential: phone Ian Mackintosh 01453 766273 or imack @btopenworld.com.
- 10.30am Grand opening/rerunning of newly refurbished water wheels at the Egypt Mill Hotel
- 11am Children's activities in the Mortimer Room, given by the Nailsworth In Bloom team.
- 2pm Circular walk along the Shortwood Valley to The Nodes, old home of the Hillier family. Start from the Mortimer Room. No booking required, so just turn up.
- 2.15pm A Stream & its wheels: A walk downstream from Day's Mill to Dunkirk. Start from the Mortimer Room, time 2.15pm. We will visit the exteriors and parts of the interiors of Day's, Egypt and Dunkirk Mills with a demonstration of a pair of water wheels, dependent on the water level, about 1 ¼ miles long and 2 hours duration. The walk is easy, along paths and tracks. No dogs allowed as we are invited into buildings and on private property. Booking essential: phone Ian Mackintosh 01453 766273 or imack @btopenworld.com.