



MUSEUM *of the*
HISTORY *of*
SCIENCE

WHAT'S ON

October - December 2014





GEEK IS GOOD

Until 2 November
Special Exhibition Gallery

Last chance to see! From the modern Raspberry Pi computer to Chaucer and the medieval astrolabe, this exhibition provides a history of geek enterprise. Join our Geek Gallery and - if you dare - enter the Geek Confession Booth!

www.mhs.ox.ac.uk/geekisgood





Moonstruck

Opens 14 October

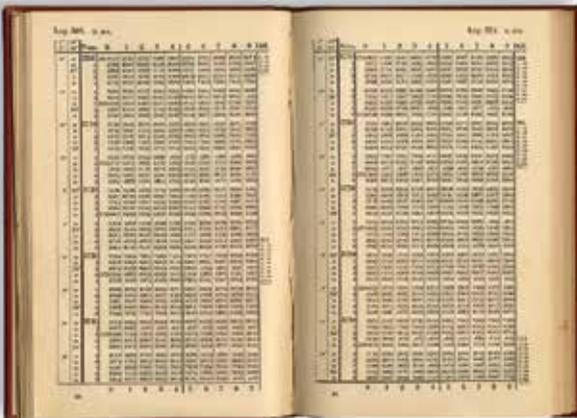
Entrance Gallery

The Moon is the Earth's nearest neighbour in space, its constant companion and an object of wonder and study throughout history. This exhibition demonstrates the inspirational power of the Moon both in and beyond science. It draws on the depth of the Museum's collection, ranging from moon maps to tide tables and from astrological astrolabes to amulets.

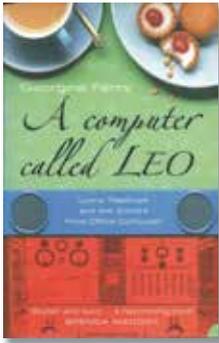
Marvellous Invention

Four Hundred Years of Logarithms

Basement Gallery



This year is the 400th anniversary of John Napier's publication of logarithms. This small display marks the essential role of logarithms in calculation over the succeeding 350 years. It draws on printed numerical tables from the Museum's library collections and also features logarithmic slide rules.



From Code-breaking to Cake-making

Public Lecture

Tuesday 21 October, 7pm

Georgina Ferry, author of *A Computer Called LEO*, reveals the early history of British computing, from the wartime cracking of codes to the remarkable story of how Lyons Teashops created the world's first office computer.



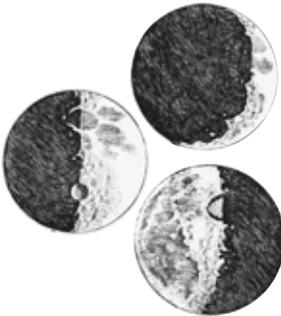
People Power

Thursday 20 November, 7pm

A 'museum late' showcasing the dynamic world of citizen science through short talks, quizzes and interactive sessions with Oxford researchers. Come and discover how members of the public participate in science today, how they have done so in the past, and how citizen science is changing the humanities.

Admission is free but tickets are required: book online www.bit.ly/mhspeoplepower

Part of *Being Human*, the UK's first national festival of the humanities, led by the School of Advanced Study, University of London, in partnership with the Arts and Humanities Research Council and the British Academy.



Supermoon

Friday 21 November, 7-10pm

Waxing, waning, gibbous and new

A night of the Moon we present to you

Opening late from seven till ten

To the dark side we'll go, then back again

Join us for a night of all things lunar to celebrate Christmas Light Festival in Oxford!



Geek Out!

Saturday 6 December, 10-5pm

The "Geek is Good" exhibition may have gone, but it's not forgotten. Join us for a day of retro-gaming with the Sinclair ZX Spectrum and the BBC Micro. The finale of the day will be Matt Westcott's fulfilment of a 32-year computing challenge - to recreate Mahler's First Symphony for an orchestra of Spectrums!

GALLERY TOURS

Geek is Good

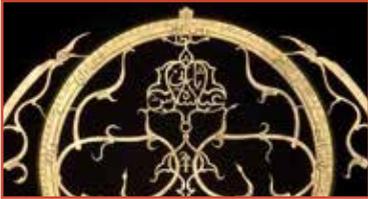
Sunday 2 November, 3pm

A curator-led tour to close the current special exhibition, from the Raspberry Pi to the astrolabe.

Director's Choice

Sunday 7 December, 3pm

Silke Ackermann picks out highlights from the Museum's displays.



Museum Highlights Guided Tours

Every Thursday 2.30pm, 3.15pm

Every Saturday 11.15am, 12noon

Join our team of exceptional volunteer guides to find out more about the stories behind the objects and the history of our very special building.



TABLE TALKS

A large table in the Basement Gallery is used for informal talks and demonstrations.

The Robot Telescope

Saturday 18 October, 2.30pm

Peter Ells presents the extraordinary family story of an amateur astronomer and his robotic telescope - all computer-controlled by a 1980s BBC Micro.



Moon Dial

Saturday 20 December, 2.30pm

Stephen Johnston shows how a sundial can be used to tell the time by the light of the Moon.



New Acquisition

The Museum continues to acquire new material from a variety of sources, including from dealers and auctions. One recent acquisition is a rather charming **portrait of a 21-year-old Mr John Whalley**, a 19th-century architect and surveyor from Chester. The picture shows the tools of his trade and, as well as being a good record of an identified professional, the painting is rare for its quite accurate depiction of the instrument details.

FAMILY FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES

There are lots of exciting and engaging activities for children and families to enjoy. Explore the Museum with a help-yourself trail or come along to one of the drop-in sessions from our lively programme.

Drawing with Camera Obscuras

Saturday 11 October, 2-4pm

Discover the secrets of Renaissance art and how to use a camera obscura to draw in perfect perspective.

Suitable for children aged 9 upwards.



Animate It!

Thursday 30 – Friday 31 October, 1-4pm

Join us for the Big Draw and contribute to an animated collage inspired by objects from the Museum and to a magical installation for the Christmas Light Festival.

Suitable for all.



Stars and Planets

Saturday 8 November, 2-4pm

Follow your stars, make an amazing star dial or paper plate planetarium.

Drop-in suitable for ages 7-13.



Pick a Pocket Sundial

Saturday 29 November, 2-4pm

Discover ingenious pocket sundials and make beautiful replicas based on ones from the Museum's amazing collection.

Suitable for children aged 7-13.

Creatures of the Zodiac

Saturday 13 December, 2-4pm

Discover the Zodiac and make decorative hanging stars or a magical celestial dial.

Suitable for age 5 upwards.

Trails

Explore our collection with self-guided trails. Pick up a trail sheet at the Family Friendly Trolley in the Entrance Gallery.

The suggested donation for family activities at the Museum is £1 per child. Your contribution will help the Museum in maintaining an exciting and varied programme of activities for families.

OCTOBER

11	Family Friendly Drop In	Drawing with Camera Obscuras	2-4pm
18	Table Talk	The Robot Telescope	2.30pm
21	Public Lecture	Code-breaking to Cake-making	7pm
30-31	Family Friendly Drop In	Animate It!	1-4pm

NOVEMBER

2	Gallery Tour	Geek is Good	3pm
8	Family Friendly Drop In	Stars and Planets	2-4pm
20	Special Event	People Power	7pm
21	Special Event	Supermoon	7-10pm
29	Family Friendly Drop In	Pick a Pocket Sundial	2-4pm

DECEMBER

6	Special Event	Geek Out!	10-5pm
7	Gallery Tour	Director's Choice	3pm
13	Family Friendly Drop In	Creatures of the Zodiac	2-4pm
20	Table Talk	Moon Dial	2.30pm

CHRISTMAS PERIOD OPENING HOURS

Tuesday 23 December	open	12-5pm
Christmas Eve	closed	
Christmas Day	closed	
Boxing Day	closed	
Saturday 27 December	open	10am-5pm
Sunday 28 December	open	2-5pm
Monday 29 December	closed	
Tuesday 30 December	open	12-5pm
New Year's Eve	open	12-5pm
New Years Day	closed	
Friday 2 January	open	12-5pm

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING
Looking for curious Christmas gifts?

Visit the Museum shop in the Entrance Gallery.



Opening hours

Tuesday to Friday 12.00-17.00
Saturday 10.00-17.00
Sunday 14.00-17.00
Closed on Mondays

ADMISSION FREE

Donations welcome

Entry, education and events are free, but a small donation of £3 helps in a big way. Thank you for your support.

Accessibility

Due to restrictions in our 17th-century building, disabled access can only be provided to the Basement Gallery and Special Exhibition Gallery.

Shop

Looking for curious and inspiring gifts? Visit the Museum shop in the Entrance Gallery.

Stay Connected

Join our mailing list to receive the monthly email newsletter. Email museum@mhs.ox.ac.uk or visit the website to be added to the list.



@MHSOxford



Museum of the History of Science, Oxford



MHS Oxford

Research visits

The collections are available to researchers by appointment. For enquiries and appointments email: collections@mhs.ox.ac.uk

Education

The Museum offers a range of taught sessions suitable for primary and secondary schools, as well as workshops and Study Days for sixth formers and advanced students. See www.mhs.ox.ac.uk/education

Venue hire

The galleries and seminar room are available for daytime and evening hire. Contact museum@mhs.ox.ac.uk

Image Library

Images from the collections can be licensed. Visit the website to make a request.

Tell us what you think

We welcome your feedback. Email us at museum@mhs.ox.ac.uk or complete the kiosk survey in the Entrance Gallery.



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