

CROMWELL MUSEUM

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/cromwell

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Oliver Cromwell was born in Huntingdon in 1599. He became Lord Protector in 1653, the head of a British republic. His rise to power was extraordinary. The purpose of the Cromwell Museum is to interpret his life and legacy through portraits, documents, and objects associated with Cromwell.

The Museum opened in 1962 in the old grammar school where Cromwell had been a pupil. After leaving school Cromwell studied briefly at Cambridge before marrying and settling in Huntingdon. He later lived in St Ives and Ely.

Cromwell was driven by his religious commitment from the 1630s onwards. As MP for Cambridge he became an active soldier in the English Civil Wars of the 1640s. His success on the battlefield and his skill as a politician led him to power as Lord Protector. At his death on September 3rd 1658 he was the head of state, and for some a 'king in all but name'. He is an intensely controversial and fascinating figure of British history.

The Museum sets out neither to celebrate or denigrate his achievements but to interpret where possible the significance of 'God's Englishman'.

The Museum is open throughout the year every day except Monday and admission is free. Opening hours: from 1 Apr–31 Oct: Tues- Sun 10.30-12.30 & 1.30-4.00 and from 1 Nov-31 Mar: Tues – Sun 1.30 – 4.00 & 10.30-12.30 on Saturdays

Programme:

Please note: All ages are welcome at Cromwell Museum events, but children under 10 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Sep 14
to Oct 31 2010 **Witch Hunt: the witchcraft trials of the 1640s** During the Civil War there was a wave of witch mania that led to the deaths of many innocent victims of persecution and paranoia. The activities of the Witchfinder General Matthew Hopkins in the eastern counties of England in the 1640s have been well documented and even the subject of a feature film. The reality of what actually happened is the subject of this absorbing travelling exhibition.

Nov 9
to Feb 27 2011 **The Whorwood Cup, a gift of Oliver Cromwell?** A very fine 17th century silver cup with a long association with Cromwell. The Whorwood Cup, named after the family who at one time owned it, has an intriguing history. It is claimed that it was a wedding gift of Oliver Cromwell to his daughter. The cup is a private loan to the Museum for the exhibition.

Nov 10 2010
7.30pm **The legacy of Oliver Cromwell in Parliament:** The significance of Cromwell in the development of Parliament is the theme of the **Annual Cromwell Collection lecture**. This year's lecture will be given by Dr Stephen Roberts of the History of Parliament Trust, the leading research body on the history of both houses of Parliament. Dr Roberts has published extensively on many different aspects of the

Cromwellian period

Mar 8
to May 1 2011

Modern takes on Cromwell: Cromwell has proved to be a subject of fascination for artists in a variety of media from the 17thC to date. This small exhibition looks at some modern interpretations of Cromwell – some positive and some negative.
subject to confirmation:

May 10
to Sep 3 2011

The Battle of Naseby: The actions at Naseby on 14th June 1645 secured both Parliament's triumph over the King and Oliver Cromwell's reputation as a successful field commander. This exhibition created by Market Harborough Museum looks at the significance of the most important English battle since 1066.
subject to confirmation:

Further information about the Programme is available from the Museum.
