

**NATIONAL
COAL MINING
MUSEUM**

Share your experience
#NCMME



What's On

October—December 2024

Open Wednesday—Sunday



**UNEARTH THE
UNEXPECTED**

Exhibitions

84/ 85 THE LONGEST YEAR

Until 9 Mar 2025

📍 Exhibition Space, The Hub

Discover our year-long exhibition and programme of events marking the 40th anniversary of the Miners' Strike.

This exhibition considers the strike through memories and stories of miners and their families.

The exhibition looks at three different points of view:

- Those who stayed out on strike for the whole year
- Those who returned to work early
- Those who did not strike

Linked Events

Poetry Anthology Book Launch

Sat 9 Nov 2024

Join us for the launch of a poetry anthology, a product of workshops held at the Museum and other poetry related to the 1984–1985 Miners' Strike.



Credit: JMA Photography

Collections news

Eagle's Wharf James McNeill Whistler (1834–1903)

We have recently acquired an etching entitled 'Eagle's Wharf' by James McNeill Whistler. Dated 1859, the etching shows collier ships unloading, with coal heavers moving coal from the large ships into lighter boats below. The etching has been conserved and we hope to display it soon.



Exhibitions



Artwork by James Brunt

James Brunt

Until 3 Nov 2024

📍 Project Space, The Hub

Explore artwork by our Artist in Residence, James Brunt, on display in our new Project Space. James's work explores the contrast between hard-work, sweat and machinery and the natural world that thrives alongside it.



Artwork by Lizzie Jayne

Art by Lizzie Jayne

Until 5 Jan 2025

📍 Café, The Hub

Watercolours by self-taught artist Lizzie Jayne. Lizzie grew up in the mining village of Gedling, her work focusses on her coal mining memories from childhood.

George Mallalieu

Until 5 Jan 2025

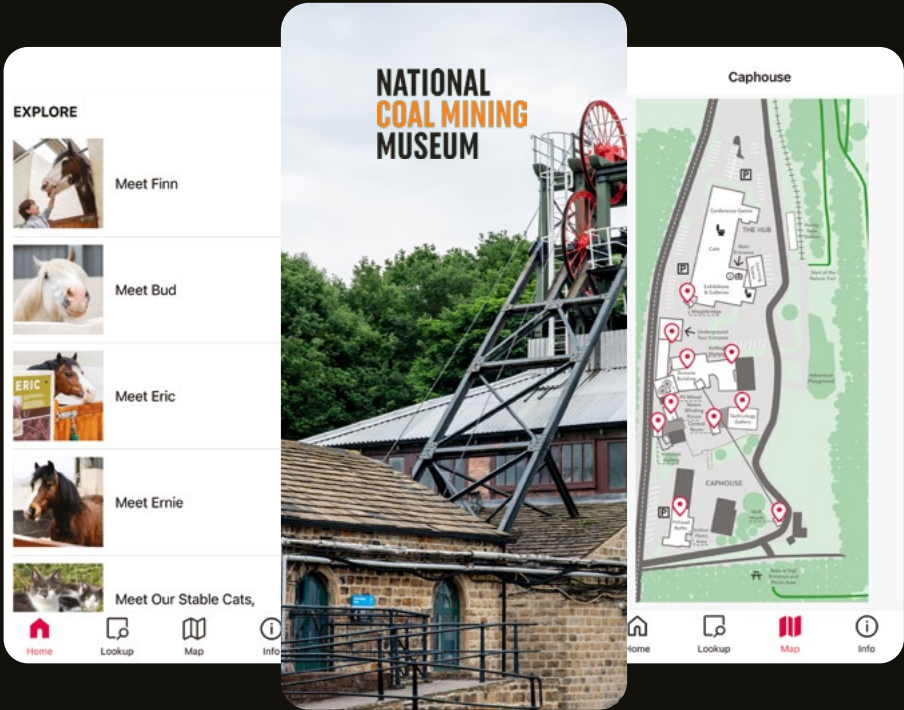
📍 Ramp, The Hub

A display of three charcoal drawings by the artist George Mallalieu, recently acquired by the Museum. On the theme of the Miners' Strike, these preparatory drawings were for a large diptych, a double painting, entitled 'The Miners' Strike, 1984-85'. The finished painting is presumed lost in a fire at the artist's studio in 2000.



Artwork by George Mallalieu

Enhance your visit.



Bloomberg
Connects

Find expert insights, context, and more curated content by viewing our guide on Bloomberg Connects, the free arts and culture app. **Download now.**



Snap Time?

Take a 'pit stop' to refuel at the Museum Café with delicious food, hot and cold drinks and tasty snacks.

Breakfast Menu: 10am–11.30am

Lunch Menu: 12pm–3pm

Please note that menu timings are subject to change.



Drop into the Shop

Find the perfect Christmas gift for your loved one or treat yourself to a selection of quality gifts, books, and art. No visit is complete without a visit to the Museum Shop.

NEW



Events

Light Up Festival

10% off
your Christmas
Shopping over
the weekend

22 Nov – 24 Nov

📍 Site Wide

Free, just turn up

Join us for our jam-packed Christmas launch weekend as the Museum comes to life with a stunning light show including a showstopping centrepiece, 'Sentinel', inspired by coal mining's canaries. Enjoy plenty of pop-up activities over the weekend, festive shopping with delicious food and drink, live performances, culminating in Sunday's unmissable Lantern Parade.



Event highlights:

All weekend

Make your own lanterns in our free Makers' Shed, enjoy Christmas storytelling, festive performances, plus food stalls and Christmas shopping.

Friday (from 4pm)

Welcome Santa to Caphouse, Light Trail, Photo Opportunities with Santa

Saturday (activities from 10am)

Screening of The Snowman with Hade Edge Brass Band (2.30pm)

Sunday (activities from 10am)

Lantern Parade

For full details, visit:

ncm.org.uk/light-up

Please note that the Museum car park will close once we reach our parking capacity, please arrive early to avoid disappointment. For the safety of our visitors, no vehicles can leave the site while our Lantern Parade is taking place.



Light Up Festival

Events

Santa Claus is coming to Caphouse...

Santa Underground

23 Nov – 22 Dec

📍 Underground, Caphouse

Book now: ncm.org.uk/santa

This Christmas, before Santa goes down your chimney he is going down the mine!

Descend 140m underground to visit Santa in his one-of-a-kind, enchanting grotto. Will you make his naughty or nice list? Good children will receive a gift and a certificate, while those on the naughty list might just find coal in their stocking...



Toy Swap

Sun 1 Dec – Sun 15 Dec
(excluding Mon & Tue): All day

📍 Learning Space

Free, just turn up

In the spirit of communities pulling together to support each other during the 1984/1985 Miners' Strike let's help our community today. Come and bring any unwanted, good quality toys, games or books to the Museum and swap them for something different ready for Christmas.



In partnership with
Community Foundation
Wakefield District.



Events



Christmas Storytelling

Christmas Storytelling

22–24, 30 Nov

1, 7–8, 14–15, 21–22 Dec:

11.30am, 1pm, 1.30pm, 2pm & 2.30pm

📍 Parkinson's Yard, The Hub

Free, just turn up

Join Peggy and Frank as they chat about Christmases past and host parlour games in Parkinson's Yard.



Makers' Shed

Makers' Shed

22–24, 30 Nov

1, 7–8, 14–15, 21–22 Dec:

11.30am–3.30pm

📍 Learning Space, The Hub

Free, just turn up

Get crafty this Christmas and make your own festive decorations.

Dig Deep and Donate

We are a charity and every penny counts.

Your donation, however large or small, is vital to us and is used to share the history of mining for everyone to learn about and enjoy.

Donate today via ncm.org.uk/donate



If Pictures Could Talk

4 page
pull-out

Hear striking stories and be inspired by our art collection to tell your own stories with a series of fun and insightful activities over the half term.



Sat 26 October –
Sun 3 November
(closed Mon & Tue)

Things to do this Oct Half Term

Underground Tours

Daily

📍 Caphouse

£7.50, pre-book via the website or at our Visitor Welcome Desk

Descend 140m underground and discover 180 years of history with a captivating former miner.

Every tour 'darn pit' is led by an ex-miner with a 'reyt' broad accent and loads of experience under his somewhat heavy tool belt.

He'll unhand you of your 'contraband', and talk you through 180 years of mining, explaining why he has every right to tell you to 'shut tha' trap' and when you are 'done and dusted' you can carry on exploring life above ground.



Pony Discovery Centre

Horsekeeper Talk

Daily: 12pm & 2.30pm

📍 Pony Discovery Centre

Free, just turn up

Hear all about our four-legged friends in the 12pm talk and see them being fed at 2.30pm.

Power House

Daily: 10am–4pm

📍 Hope Pit

Free, just turn up

See mining machinery up close and discover how technology advanced the industry.

Paddy Train

Daily: 11am–4pm

(weather permitting)

📍 The Hub – 📍 Hope Pit

£2.50 per person (all day ticket) available from Visitor Welcome Desk

Travel in a train that used to carry miners at work.

Special Events and Create + Learn

Striking Stories

Daily: 11.30am, 12.30pm, 1.30pm & 2.30pm

📍 Parkinson's Yard, The Hub

Free, just turn up

Meet Uncle Fred or Auntie Brenda as they chat about the 1926 Strike from when they were a child. Has much changed?



Family Lantern Making Workshops

Wed 30, Thu 31, Fri 1 Nov:
11am–12.30pm &
2pm–3.30pm

📍 Learning Space, The Hub
£10 per family,
pre-bookable

Join our creative hands-on workshop where you'll design and build a large light-up scenescape, ready to make a bold impact at our marching Lantern Parade on Sunday 24 November.

Makers' Shed

Daily: 11.30am – 3.30pm

📍 Learning Space, The Hub

Free, just turn up

Every picture tells a story. There are lots of images showing different elements of the Miners' Strike. Can you make a picture that tells a story?



Some activities may not run everyday, please check at Reception. All information correct at the time of printing, please visit ncm.org.uk/october for the most up-to-date details.

Needle Felted Colliery Cat

Caphouse Creators

7–12 years

Sun 3 Nov:
11am–12.30pm &
2pm–3.30pm

📍 Learning Space, The Hub
£7, pre-bookable

Discover the fascinating role of cats in the coal mines and learn needle felting techniques to craft your own charming colliery cat.



Family Lantern Making Workshop

Sat 26 Oct
– Sun 3 Nov
(closed Mon
& Tue)

Turn over for Tours and Talks ➔

Tours and Talks

Steam Winder Demonstrations

Weekends and
School Holidays:
Demos throughout the day

📍 Steam Winding House,
Caphouse

Free, just turn up

See how a few puffs of steam can work with some giant machinery to move the mighty Pit Wheel.

Pithead Baths Explore

Daily: 12pm–12.45pm

📍 Meet at Pithead Baths

Free, just turn up

Discover how these baths revolutionised the lives of miners and their families.

Heritage Walk

17 Oct, 21 Nov, 19 Dec:
10am–12pm

📍 Meet at Reception

Free, pre-bookable

Enjoy a country walk? Fascinated by local heritage? Join us for a circular walk around the Museum and discover shadows of the industry.

Pit Poetry Walk

Thu 3 Oct:
10.30am–11.30am

📍 Meet at Reception

Free, pre-bookable

Discover the history of the Museum and the mining industry through poems and stories led by our resident volunteer poet, Dave.

Why's Our Water Orange?

Sat 26 Oct:
1.30pm–2.15pm

📍 Meet at Reception

Free, just turn up

Discover how we pump and purify orange mine water, through our innovative water treatment system.

Railways of Caphouse Tour

Wednesdays: 1pm

📍 Meet at Pit Yard

Free, just turn up

Get ready to unearth the secrets to the hidden passage known as Hope Tunnel that saw it vanish far away from site.

The People Who Made Caphouse Tour

3 Oct, 7 Nov, 5 Dec:
10am–11am

📍 Meet at Reception

Free, pre-bookable

Discover the lives of the inventors and innovators that made Caphouse and Hope Colliery.

Hope Pit Explore

Every Sunday (until
27 Oct): 12.30pm–2pm

📍 Meet at The Beach,
Hope Pit

Free, pre-bookable

Join our volunteers and explore the buildings of Hope Pit. Stand amongst a unique collection of restored colliery buildings and learn about the innovations above ground that supported underground mining.

Please note this new Hope Pit Explore tour does not include the tunnel.



WACKY WEDNESDAYS



Wednesdays (Term-Time): 10.15am–11am

📍 Learning Space, The Hub

£2.50, pre-bookable

Join us as we explore fun weekly themes through storytelling, singing and crafts.

Under
5s

- Wed 2 Oct** Maisie Goes to the Museum
- Wed 9 Oct** Introducing Motty the Mole
- Wed 16 Oct** Maurice and Norah – exploring faces
- Wed 23 Oct** Autumn Special – Welly Walk
- Wed 6 Nov** Miners are Brave
- Wed 13 Nov** Pit Cats
- Wed 20 Nov** Light and Dark
- Wed 27 Nov** Canaries
- Wed 4 Dec** Christmas Outdoors at the Museum
- Wed 11 Dec** Christmas Special

Welly Walk

Wed 23 Oct: 10.15am–11.15am

📍 Meet at Pony Discovery Centre

£5, pre-bookable

Grab your wellies, we're off on a Wacky Wednesday Welly Walk! Join us on a magical treasure hunt and take part in nature themed crafts and stories in our cosy tree den.

Christmas Special

Wed 11 Dec: 10.15am–11.15am

📍 Meet at Pony Discovery Centre

£5, pre-bookable

Join us for our Wacky Wednesday Christmas Special! Take part in Christmas crafts, songs and stories and meet Santa Claus.





CAPHOUSE CREATORS



Calling all 7-12 year olds! Get creative at our hands-on monthly club, working with authentic materials to learn practical techniques!

7-12
years

11am-12.30pm & 2pm-3.30pm

📍 Learning Space, The Hub

£7, pre-bookable

Activities

Sculpt a Clay Pit Pony

Sun 6 Oct 2024

Unleash your creativity and master traditional hand-building techniques to sculpt a pit pony from clay, bringing this iconic mining companion to life.

Needle Felted Colliery Cat

Sun 3 Nov 2024

Discover the role of cats in the coal mines and get hands-on with needle felting techniques to craft your own charming colliery cat.

Rag Rug Wreaths

Sun 1 Dec 2024

Craft a festive rag rug wreath using pre-loved fabrics to create a unique Christmas decoration that can be cherished for years to come.





STEAM CLUB



Calling all 11-16 year olds! Join us for our monthly STEAM Club and enjoy a creative twist on your STEM subjects to explore the skills behind mining.

11-16
years

11am-12.30pm & 2pm-3.30pm

📍 Learning Space, The Hub

£7, pre-bookable

Activities

Earthworm Survey

Sun 20 Oct 2024

Join us as we complete the citizen science survey Earthworm Watch, in association with the Earthworm Society of Britain. Earthworms increase soil fertility and carbon storage by mixing in dead plant material. Get involved to create new data about earthworms.

Circuits and Communication

Sun 17 Nov 2024

Discover how miners communicated underground before the use of telephones. Design and build creative electric circuits using conductive and insulating dough.





FEEL GOOD FRIDAYS



Are you a creative person?
Do you enjoy trying new things?
Join us for an uplifting afternoon.
No previous experience needed.

Adults

Fridays (Term-Time): 1.30pm–3pm

📍 Learning Space, The Hub

£7, carers free, pre-bookable

- Fri 11 Oct Art – Shrinky Plastic Pin Badges
- Fri 25 Oct Printing – Tetrapak
- Fri 08 Nov Art – Light-up Scenescapes
- Fri 29 Nov Textiles – Pom Pom Garlands
- Fri 06 Dec 3D – Christmas Crafts Carousel
- Fri 20 Dec Paper – Bookbinding Diary





ADULT ART WORKSHOPS



Be inspired by our art collection. Each month, enjoy different sessions with visiting artists using a variety of mediums.



Sundays: 10.30am–12.30pm

📍 Education Room, The Hub

£12, pre-bookable

Activities

Caricature Art (Michael Hollinworth)

Sun 13 Oct 2024

Draw inspiration from the media caricature portrayals of miners and politicians during the 1984–1985 Miners' Strike to create a striking artwork.

Wood Carving (Sean Barry)

Sun 10 Nov 2024

In this practical workshop, use traditional woodworking tools and techniques to create your own carved masterpiece.

Guided Watercolour Canary (Moirá Spencer)

Sun 8 Dec 2024

Delve into the art of watercolour in this guided experimental workshop, discovering new tips and tricks to paint a vibrant canary artwork.





HOME EDUCATORS



Home Educators are always welcome at NCMME. Every month you can get a deeper understanding of the Museum with our specially tailored workshops.

7–13
years

11am–12.30pm & 2pm–3.30pm

📍 Education Room, The Hub

£7, pre-bookable

Activities

History and Music

Wed 16, Thu 17 and Fri 18 Oct 2024

Step into a 1970s terrace house and meet Auntie Brenda or Uncle Fred to explore pit village life. Play classic street games and craft rag rugs, while singing songs of yesteryear.

Art and History

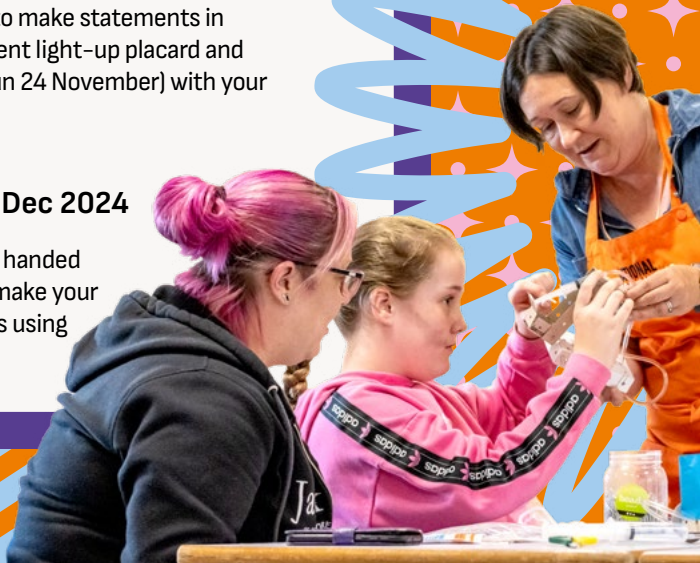
Wed 13, Thu 14 and Fri 15 Nov 2024

Discover how placards are used to make statements in protests. Make your own statement light-up placard and be part of our Lantern Parade (Sun 24 November) with your striking creation.

Art and Wellbeing

Wed 11, Thu 12 and Fri 13 Dec 2024

See community crafts that were handed down through generations, and make your own personalised Christmas gifts using authentic materials.



Schools

NCMME creates powerful, meaningful and memorable learning experiences that last. Our full days of led and self-led activities enable your pupils' imaginations to run free.

To discover more about our formal learning offer, visit ncm.org.uk/learning or scan the QR code:



Secondary Art Workshop

6,7,8 Nov: 10am–12pm & 12.30pm–2.30pm

📍 Learning Space, The Hub
£100, pre-bookable

Join a professional artist from The Art House, Wakefield for an exciting screen printing workshop connected to our temporary exhibition 84/85 – The Longest Year.

Adopt a Pony Today

For just £30 a year, you could make a real difference to them.

Our ponies and Clydesdale help to honour the memories of the pit ponies that once lived and worked in mines across England's coalfields. Help us keep their story alive by adopting a pony today.

In return for your support, you will receive a certificate, cuddly toy and pony updates.

Adopt today via ncm.org.uk/ponies

Could you help care for our Ponies and Finn?



Lives Lived, Lives Lost

Take your place in history

Our Miners' Memorial Garden celebrates and commemorates the courage and camaraderie of miners, and the close-knit families and communities that supported them. A place for quiet contemplation and reflection, the Garden allows all who visit us to share memories of what coal mining has meant to them over many generations.

To find out more, visit
ncm.org.uk/garden



Remember your loved ones

Each beautifully handcrafted check costs £75 and creates a unique and lasting memory for years to come.

Whether you wish to remember a loved one, or share a memory of the community in which you live, there are many ways to remember and personalise your glass check.



All information in this booklet was correct at time of printing. National Coal Mining Museum reserves the right to change any details, prices, terms and conditions where necessary.

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