

Welcome...

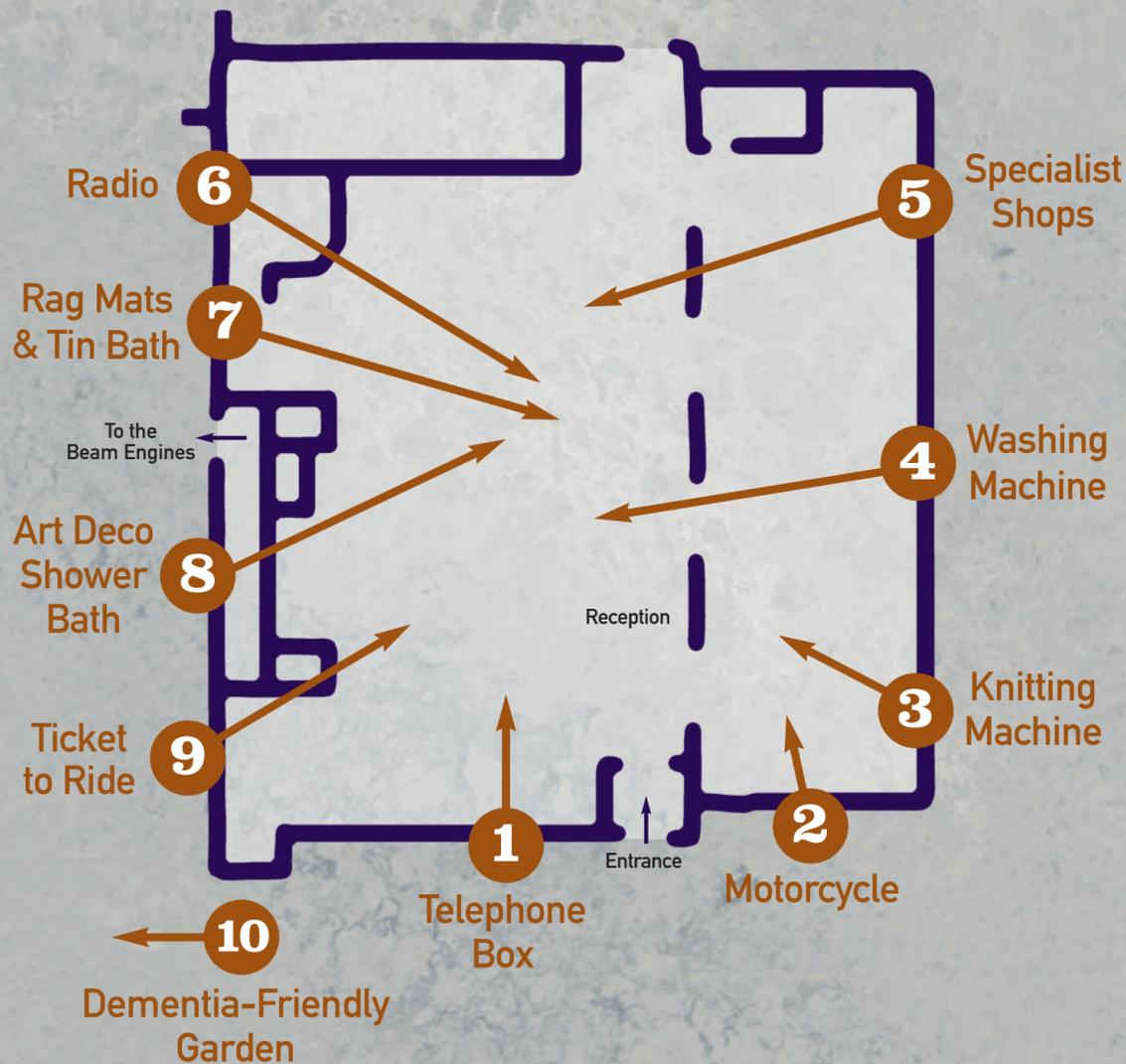
to the Abbey Pumping Station Museum Memory Trail

A resource created to stimulate the memories of the person you care for who's living with Dementia

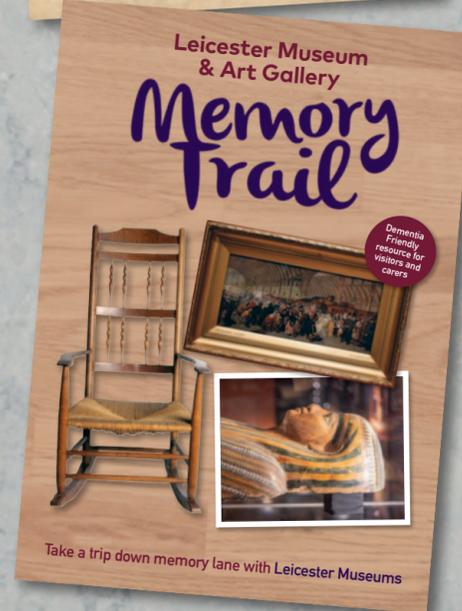
The objects on this trail have been specially chosen to trigger memories for our older visitors.

Explore the museum and discover how the objects can start conversations about how people lived and how things have changed over the years.

Follow the trail and be amazed at how much conversation takes place as you share stories of past experiences.



We all like to take a trip down memory lane. Sharing stories and memories makes us happy, helps us understand each other which improves our health and wellbeing. Museums have many objects and exhibitions that help us remember past experiences and are welcoming places to enjoy sharing memories with others.



Two further memory trails are available to enjoy at Newarke Houses and Leicester Museum & Art Gallery.

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Discover something amazing

Leicester Museum & Art Gallery New Walk's world of discovery	New Walk Leicester 0116 225 4900
Church Road Belgrave 0116 229 8181	Belgrave Hall Heritage Venue & Gardens
Abbey Pumping Station Leicester's Industrial Museum	Corporation Rd Leicester 0116 299 5111
The Newarke Leicester 0116 225 4980	Newarke Houses Social History & Regimental Museum
Leicester Guildhall Medieval Venue & Museum	Guildhall Lane Leicester 0116 253 2569



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Abbey Pumping Station Memory Trail

Dementia-friendly resource for visitors and carers



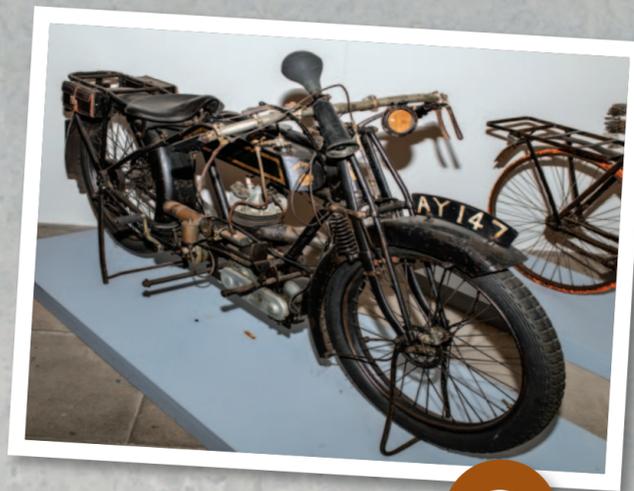
Take a trip down memory lane with Leicester Museums

Telephone Box

Once a familiar sight, nearly all of these have now been replaced by mobile phones. This phone box now has a new use, it contains a selection of toys from the past.

- Did you have a phone in your house when you were a child?
- How did you share news with friends and family?
- What was it like using a phone box? Do you remember any times when you made a special call? To a boyfriend or girlfriend? When you were on holiday?

1



Motorcycle

Before everyone could afford a car, you were lucky if you had a bicycle with an engine attached or a motorcycle with like this Colonial 500cc Motorcycle from 1914.

- Did your family own a car? Do you remember the policemen directing traffic in the road?
- Indicators popped out sideways on cars in the 50s and early 60s – do you remember drivers in old cars sticking their hand out of the window to signal turning?
- What type of transport did you use when going on a day trip or holiday?



3

Knitting Machine

Hosiery in Leicester was a huge business. This doubled headed circular knitting machine is one of thousands that produced knitwear for companies like J. Pick and Sons.

- Did you or anyone you know work in the hosiery business?
- Do you remember the rush at the factory gates to get in and out at the start of the shift and the end of the day?
- Did you have to 'clock in'? Were you ever late for work? What happened?



4

Servis Washing Machine

Washing machines became more sophisticated and in the 1960s this one could be purchased at Abbey Electrical Stores who specialised in new and used machines. 'You can't buy better' they said.

- Did you have a washing machine? What kind? A twin tub or boiler? What about a mangle?
- Before dryers everyone pegged their washing on a line. Did your Mum hang washing in the entry?
- Was there a special washday at your house? Did washing get put out on a Sunday?

Specialist Shops

Nowadays, you can buy everything at big superstores. But back in the old days, each retailer had its own special outlet, from butchers to bicycle shops.

- Where did you shop for things when you were younger?
- How often did you shop for fresh food, daily, weekly?
- Do you remember queuing for the butchers?
- What about shoes – do you remember Rowbothams on Belvoir Street with the big rocking horse?

5



Radio

Long before the internet, computers and TV, the family would listen to the wireless set.

- Did you have a favourite radio programme that you tuned into?
- What was the funniest programme on the radio?
- What else did you do for entertainment at home. Board games, cards, hobbies?

6



7

Rag Mats & Tin Bath

A bath time scene, from the 1930s. The tin bath is ready to be filled with hot water, and a warm rag mat awaits the wet bather when it's time to dry off. For many years a separate bathroom was a luxury for some.

- Did you have a bathroom growing up? Or a bath in the kitchen and an outside toilet?
- What was it like to have to go outside to the toilet in winter?

Art Deco Shower Bath

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This Art Deco shower bath was for the very well off. You could take a relaxing bath or a quick shower, rather posh!

- Which day was bath day in your house?
- Did you have to share the bathwater with your brothers and sisters?
- Did you ever use the public baths at the swimming baths?



Ticket to Ride

9

Before buses, trams were the way to get around town. Leicester had a large-scale tramway that lasted until 1949. The model is of an open top tram car.

- Have you ever ridden on a tram? Was it very different to taking a bus?
- Do you remember a bus conductor with his ticket machine? The little coloured card tickets had numbers – as a child did you look for 'lucky numbers' on your ticket?
- Where did you sit on the bus? On the back seat? Upstairs by the big window at the front?
- Do you remember how smoky it was upstairs on the bus?



10

Dementia-Friendly Garden

And finally... When the weather is good check out the 'Forget-me-Knot' garden and discover what is flowering when you visit. Being outside in nature is a powerful reminder of lots of past things we liked to do.

- Did you have a garden or a back yard?
- Did your Dad have an allotment?
- Did you like gardening?
- Did you like growing flowers, or did you grow vegetables too?

