

Following the museum's family photo trail

# "...AND AS I SLEPT I DREAMED A DREAM..."



### **WELCOME!**

This gem of a museum looks at John Bunyan's life, as tinker, Christian, soldier, dissenter, preacher, prisoner and writer of "the ultimate English Classic"\*.

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xterior of the museum from Castle Roac

**John Bunyan** was born near Bedford in 1628, a time of great social and religious upheaval. Parliament and the king were at war, and religious freedoms were changing fast.

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The famous image of Bunyan that gave courage to hostage Terry Waite during his imprisonment.

Bunyan spent 12 years in Bedford prison for illegal preaching. It was a time that inspired his vision for *The Pilgrim's Progress*.

The book's setting is thought to be rural Bedfordshire. The museum and church are housed in a cluster of historic buildings in a part of Bedford that Bunyan would have known well.

Museum displays capture life in 17th century Bedford, Bunyan's years in prison, and the crowds that flocked to see him preach. They also include three centuries of editions of *The Pilgrim's Progress* from around the world.

Quizzes and hands-on trails allow children to navigate Bunyan's amazing story at their own pace. Call or check our website for details of school holiday family fun.

<sup>\* &</sup>quot;The Guardian 2013. The newspaper also named Bunyan's The Pilgrim's Progress one of the 100 best novels".



#### **BUNYAN MEETING**

Bunvan Meeting is an Independent church and an active centre of worship. service, and community activity.

Bunyan was minister here from 1671 to 1688, and the current building was built in 1850. Scenes from The Pilgrim's Progress can be found on the bronze entrance doors and stunning stained glass windows.

Church and Coffee Shop open Tuesday to Saturday (Sunday services 11am & 6.30pm)

#### ...... THE JOHN BUNYAN LIBRARY

An important collection of books, pamphlets, biographies and more, both by and relating to John Bunyan. Plus editions of The Pilgrim's Progress in over 200 languages and dialects.

#### Visits by appointment

curator@bunvanmeeting.co.uk or 01234 270303 (two weeks' notice required)



#### ...... **SCHOOL AND GROUP VISITS**

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Group visits £3 per person. School visits £1 per child. Teachers resources available.

#### **Bookings and information**

curator@bunyanmeeting.co.uk or 01234 270303

#### **MUSEUM OPEN**

February half term to October half term inclusive\*. Tues to Sat. 11am to 4pm.

Pre-booked groups and schools welcome year-round. See inside for details.

\*Closed Good Friday

#### ADMISSION

Museum, Bunvan Meeting and Coffee Shop: FREE entry.

#### CONTACT

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www.bunvanmeeting.co.uk

#### **FIND US**

#### JOHN BUNYAN MUSEUM & BUNYAN MEETING Mill Street, Bedford MK40 3EU

The museum is in Bedford's Cultural Quarter. 5 mins from Lurke Street Car Park, the Tourist Information Centre, and The Higgins Bedford. 10 mins from the bus station and 15 to 20 mins from London Midland and Marston Vale Line train stations.





















Information is correct at the time of going to print, however variations may occur.







## **DISCOVER** THE BEDFORD MAN WHOSE WRITINGS TOUCHED

Family friendly displays

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- · A warm welcome
- Rich collections
- School holiday fun
- Group visits