

## **Hereford Steampunk Weekend (28/29 April 2018)**

Following the popularity of the first event last September, this year the **Hereford Steampunk Weekend** will be held on **Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th April** at the Waterworks Museum.

With all engines working 'in-steam', the industrial setting of Hereford's Victorian Waterworks will provide an ideal setting for:

... ***Unusual retail therapy***: the Museum's visitor centre and forecourt will be full of stalls selling unique and mostly hand-made pieces of industrial art for the home and garden, Steampunk costume, Victorian period jewellery and collectables, and unusual confectionary and beverages.

... ***Live entertainment***. Daytime fun and frolics include performances by Ichabod Steam and his Animatronic Band, based in a steam-powered submarine, and there will be storytelling, juggling, escapology, unicycling and magic tricks from Greg Chapman. Busking is also inevitable, with open microphone sessions arranged by Ichabod's alter ego, locally based musician Paul Snook, who will also be performing at the Cabaret Show with his unique one-man act "The Retro Clones".

On both days the Museum will open at 11am and be in-steam between 12-4pm, with the Museum closing at 5pm on Saturday and 4pm on Sunday. The Museum is fully accessible, offers free parking and visitors can picnic in the picturesque grounds next to the River Wye. Light refreshments will also be available to purchase. All the Museum's usual features will be open for visitors to enjoy on both days, including the children's unique Heritage Water Park. Normal admission prices apply (adults £6, concessions £5, children £2)

## **Amazing Steampunk Cabaret Night 7pm, Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April**

Headlined by Feline & Strange, Berlin's "Electro Wave Cabaret from Outer Space", this will be entertainment as rarely seen in Hereford before. Ex-

opera singer Feline Lang has a most stunning voice, and this act is both unique and mesmerizing. They have toured extensively over the last 6 years, and are deservedly sought after stars of the alternative festival scene throughout Europe.

Paul Snook will be performing as the Retro Clones. Paul has laid down backing tracks featuring himself playing drums, double bass, keyboards, rhythm guitar and backing vocals, has videoed these and has his "clones" playing in TV monitors on easels behind him while he sings and plays lead guitar. An immensely talented man, and irritatingly modest - he also made the robots that are his backing band in Ichabod Steam's submarine!

The Steampunk Cabaret Night will be staged in the meadow behind the Museum's main building, so please dress sensibly as it is likely to get chilly. Tickets are available in advance at [http://www.crewe-steampunk-convivial.co.uk/?page\\_id=211](http://www.crewe-steampunk-convivial.co.uk/?page_id=211) or on the day at the Museum. Suitable for ages 15 up.

### **Some questions you might be asking**

So what is Steampunk? Steampunk is a welcoming, vibrant and growing culture in the UK, founded on the science fiction of the industrialised 19th century - the worlds created by the likes of HG Wells and Jules Verne. Light hearted and whimsical, it is about individual creativity and a re-imagination of our industrial past, with magnificent costume and intricate accessories.

Steampunk fashion is vibrant and distinctive. There is no right or wrong way to dress, and you definitely do not have to dress up to enjoy a Steampunk event.

The fashion is basically inspired by the science fiction of the Victorian era with dapper gents wearing frock coats, waistcoats and bowler or top hats, and ladies in period skirts and corsets in flamboyant colours. Many of the costumes that will be seen at the Museum will have been fashioned from

up-cycled items found in charity shops - taking something from the past to create something modern and eye-catching.

Steampunk entertainment is also distinctive, but it's not a genre in its own right - just music and entertainment that Steampunks like.

If you're still not sure about Steampunk take a look at the gallery of photographs on our website [www.waterworksmuseum.org.uk/news/steampunk-extravaganza-in-hereford/](http://www.waterworksmuseum.org.uk/news/steampunk-extravaganza-in-hereford/) and come along to the Waterworks Museum on the weekend of the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of April.

After the first event in September 2017, many visitors to the Museum told us that they had heard great things and wished they had come along. So don't be put off by the name 'Steampunk' and help the Volunteers at the Waterworks Museum make this a success and an annual event in the calendar.