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## 2010/2011

2010 was an exciting year for the Falstaff Experience Tudor World. The Tudor World brand began to increase school visit numbers and since then a whole new innovative education programme has been developed. To increase value for money the museum introduced live shows and interactive quiz trails. The efforts of the museum were recognised when the Falstaff Experience was awarded a Godiva Gold Award.

The development of the education program continued in 2011 with several online learning schemes and resources. Entertainment continued to thrive with more new live shows and special themed events and weeks. The Falstaff Experience has recently been announced as Chiltern Railways Attraction of Year and the team are excited to host the launch of next year's award.

## Education

The Falstaff Experience Tudor World has excelled over the last twelve months in developing its fantastic value for money education packages. A full colour brochure is downloadable from [www.falstaffexperience.co.uk](http://www.falstaffexperience.co.uk) to view the full range of educational packages on offer. These include the popular half day experience of History Tour, Crime & Punishment show and Henry VIII Tudor warfare workshop. The Falstaff Experience has also developed a ground breaking Leisure and Tourism Education experience.

As part of its commitment to the 'Kids In Museums Manifesto' the Falstaff Experience also offers different characters for visitors to meet as well as the opportunity to email them with questions. This service is free of charge. The museum is also excited to be offering free after school clubs on Thursdays from September.

### The Royal Wedding

The Falstaff Experience took a leading role in organising the Sheep Street Royal Wedding Street party. The museum provided free entertainment including a performance of 'Much Ado About Nothing', a Beheading show and historical battle recreations. The museum worked closely alongside many different businesses and organisations including Weatherspoons, Café Rouge, Stratforward BID and Stratford District Council. The event was held in support of the charities CLIC Sargent and Help for Heroes and raised well over £1000.

### Shows

From October 2010 the Falstaff Experience began to offer free shows at peak times to heighten the visitor experience and increase the value for money. The shows have proved popular with adults and children mixing history with entertainment and engaging all those who have seen them. Visitors have been able to enjoy 'A History of Halloween', 'Shakespeare's Vile Villains', 'Tudor Crime and Punishment', 'The Tudor Spy' and 'The Turbulent Times of Sir John Falstaff'. The shows are interactive and encourage audience participation.

### Christmas

Santa Clause came to the Falstaff Experience in December 2010 and met the boys and girls of Stratford on the two weekends before Christmas. Every child left with a little present and memories to cherish.

### The Stratford Town Haunted Pub Walk

Stratford found a new hero in 2011; Dashing Jack. Our pirate guide leads guests on tour of haunted Stratford stopping off at 3 of Stratford's most haunted pubs for drinks and nibbles that are all included in the price. The 3 hour night time romp around town is an adult experience perfect for celebrating Valentines, Bank Holidays and ideal for works Christmas party.

### Treasure Trail

The Stratford Treasure Trail is downloadable for free from [www.falstaffexperience.co.uk](http://www.falstaffexperience.co.uk) . The trail takes in all the sights of Stratford upon Avon

and visitors are aided with helpful tips from the Tudor Detective. This is a perfect way for people of any age to begin their visit to Shakespeare's Stratford.

### Henry VIII Week

The Falstaff Experience hosted a week-long celebration for the birthday of England's most notorious monarch Henry VIII. Born on the 28th June 1491 Henry VIII would have been 520 years old this year. Visitors were able to meet Henry VIII himself and some of his wives at various times throughout the week. Every visitor also received a small present from Henry VIII to say thank you for coming to his week-long birthday party. The museum offered free entry to anyone who could demonstrate proof they were called Henry and, as a special treat, groups of 8 (must be 8 no more or no less) could enter the museum for an 8th of the price just £20.00. It was a unique way to mark the Birthday of England's most notorious monarch.

### **STILL TO COME**

#### Tudor Olympics

Olympic fever has already hit and the famous museum is ready to begin the first annual Tudor Olympics. The Tudors played many sports and Henry VIII was a big fan of sports especially archery, jousting and tennis. Imaginative interactive versions of these events and others will form part of the entertainment on selected days for visitors to the Falstaff Experience Tudor World. The most iconic moment of any Olympic Games is the carrying of the torch. Over the August Bank Holiday weekend (26th-29th) guests will be able to take part in the Tudor Olympic Torch procession free of charge.

#### The Stratford Halloween Affair: The March of the Plague Doctor

The Falstaff Experience Tudor World museum Avon is celebrating Halloween in a unique style the year. The museum housed in the historic Shrieve's House is described by 'Horrible Histories' author Terry Deary as the most haunted building in England. This year's Halloween festivities are entitled the 'The Stratford Halloween Affair- The March of the Plague Doctor'. The Falstaff Experience's very own plague Doctor will be marching the streets leading a grizzly procession every day of the October half-term. There will also be daily shows including Vile Villains and Crime

and Punishment as well as the chance to meet the other many character at the famous museum and a special Halloween Quiz Trail around the museum. During the evening the action hots up with Grim Reaper Lantern Lit Tours of the building, all night ghost hunts and a town ghost tour.

### Christmas 2011

The Falstaff Experience is looking forward to an innovative Christmas program with Santa's Secret Grotto, School Carol singing, festive quizzes and much more.