



Beechworth  
Historic  
Precinct

EDUCATION PROGRAMS  
2023-2024



More than  
a museum



## Beechworth Historic Precinct

The Burke Museum and Historic Precinct are the heart of historic Beechworth, carefully curated to tell the stories that make this north-east Victorian town famous. The heritage-listed Historic Precinct consists of the Burke Museum, Historic Courthouse, Telegraph Station, Chinese Protectorate Office, Gold Warden Office, and Sub-Treasury Building.

Each building has a story to tell, with its contents adding layer upon layer of fascinating detail, providing an authentic learning context for stories of colonialism, governance, immigration, and cultural repatriation. The Burke Museum is one of the oldest in Australia and boasts a collection of over 30,000 items, many dating back over 150 years.

Our excursion activities are interactive sessions delivered in and around these historically significant locations, using primary sources and museum collections to provide a rich, immersive learning experience for your students.





# Contents

## Burke Museum Programs

### Foundation and Primary School

Levels F-2	How Granny Lived	page 4
Levels 3-6	Cultural Crossroads	page 5

### Secondary School

Levels 7-9	History Mystery	page 7
Levels 7-10	From Poverty to Boom	page 8
Levels 7-9	Cultural Repatriation	page 9

## Historic Precinct Programs

Levels F-12	Historic Courthouse Experience	page 11
Levels 3-9	Gold Fever ★★	page 12
Levels 5-10	The Mystery of Morse	page 13

## Walking Tours

Levels All	Gold, Fortune & Felony	page 15
------------	------------------------	---------

Booking Details	page 16
-----------------	---------



# Burke Museum

## Foundation and Primary School Programs

### **How Granny Lived**

Foundation – Level 2

### **Cultural Crossroads**

Levels 3 – 6





# How Granny Lived

**Explore objects Granny used from the collection of the Burke Museum. Examine a writing box thought to be used by Charles Dickens and come and try washing clothes with a washboard!**

This interactive program held in the Burke Museum allows students to view rarely seen objects from the collection that "Granny" used. Students engage in critical and creative thinking to make suggestions about what these items might have been used for and consider how they have evolved over time. Students are encouraged to develop an understanding of similarities and differences between their lives today and the lives of their grandparents and ancestors.

## Program Details

Year Levels: F-2

## Victorian Curriculum Links

History

Critical and Creative Thinking

---

Museum staff-led

Burke Museum

45 minutes

---

Cost: \$6 per student OR included in \$15 student pass. Teachers and support are free.

Bookings and enquiries:  
[groupbookings@indigoshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:groupbookings@indigoshire.vic.gov.au)  
03 57288 067



Beechworth  
Historic  
Precinct



# Cultural Crossroads

**Discover some of the different cultural groups living in Beechworth before and during the Gold Rush. These include First Nations, Chinese and European. Students will reflect on themes of identity, culture and respect.**

Cultural Crossroads is an interactive program held in the Burke Museum. This session looks at some of the causes and reasons why people migrated to Australia from Europe and Asia. Students are provided with the opportunity to learn more about the role that people of diverse backgrounds have played in the development of the local Beechworth community over time and the interactions between different cultural groups in early Beechworth.

## Program Details

Year Levels: 3 – 6

### Victorian Curriculum Links

History  
Civics and Citizenship  
Intercultural Capability

---

Museum staff-led  
Burke Museum  
45 minutes

---

Cost: \$6 per student OR included in \$15 student pass. Teachers and support are free.

Bookings and enquiries:  
[groupbookings@indigoshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:groupbookings@indigoshire.vic.gov.au)  
03 57288 067





# Burke Museum

## Secondary School Programs

### **History Mystery**

Level 7 – 9

### **From Poverty to BOOM!**

Level 7 – 10

### **Cultural Repatriation**

Level 7 – 9



# History Mystery

**An interactive skills-based program which engages critical and creative thinking to discover the identity of a fictional goldfields skeleton!**

Students will become Forensic Archaeologists as they work in groups and consider the evidence before solving the identity of a mystery skeleton recently uncovered. During this program, students learn about conditions on the goldfields, quality of life, and health issues. They discover diseases prevalent during this time and learn about some common treatments. Students are also introduced to the many dangers of gold mining in 1800s Beechworth.

Students engage their critical thinking skills and learn new methods to solve this historical mystery!

## Program Details

Year Levels: 7 – 9

### Victorian Curriculum Links

History

Critical and Creative Thinking

---

Museum staff-led

Burke Museum

45 minutes

---

Cost: \$6 per student OR included in \$15 student pass. Teachers and support are free.

Bookings and enquiries:  
[groupbookings@indigoshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:groupbookings@indigoshire.vic.gov.au)  
03 57288 067





## From Poverty to BOOM!

**Students will discover the push and pull factors for people moving to Australia during the Gold Rush and learn about some of the people who settled in Beechworth.**

During this session, students will analyse the movement of people to gain an understanding of why many people came to places like Beechworth during the Gold Rush era. Lower secondary students will consider what 'makes a town' and then apply this knowledge to create their own gold-era Beechworthian in this creative and skills-based program. Students in upper secondary consider the push and pull factors that led to people moving from Great Britain to Australia.

### Program Details

Year Levels: 7-10

### Victorian Curriculum Links

History

Critical and Creative Thinking

Museum staff-led

Burke Museum

45 minutes

Cost: \$6 per student OR included in \$15 student pass. Teachers and support are free.

Bookings and enquiries:  
[groupbookings@indigoshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:groupbookings@indigoshire.vic.gov.au)  
03 57288 067



# Cultural Repatriation

**This program provides an insight into the ethics and morals which guide modern museum practices around the collection and management of First Nations cultural items.**

Through examining items in the Burke Museum's collection, students will learn about ethical collection practices and the importance of preserving cultural artefacts. Students will gain an understanding of the museum's history and how the recent repatriation of a collection of cultural objects stored in the museum for over 150 years has led to building more positive relationships with their traditional owners.

Students will become Collection Managers examining primary and secondary sources to discuss and debate the fate of a group of objects.

## Program Details

Year Levels: 7 – 9

### Victorian Curriculum Links

History  
Intercultural Capability  
Ethical Capability

---

Museum staff-led  
Burke Museum  
45 minutes

---

Cost: \$6 per student OR included in \$15 student pass. Teachers and support are free.

Bookings and enquiries:  
[groupbookings@indigoshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:groupbookings@indigoshire.vic.gov.au)  
03 57288 067





# Historic Precinct

**Historic Courthouse Kelly Trials Experience**

Levels All



**Gold Fever**

Levels 5–6

**The Mystery of Morse**

Levels 5–10

---

Funded by Department of Education  
Strategic Partnerships Program



Department  
of Education



10





# Historic Courthouse Kelly Trials Experience

**Remember the saying 'if walls could talk'? Well, the walls of the Beechworth Courthouse actually do!**

Students are immersed in a 270-degree, wrap-around audio-visual experience telling the stories of crime and punishment, governance, law, and the bushranger Ned Kelly. Students are then encouraged to explore the rest of the courthouse and delve into more stories of the people who walked these halls – judges, barristers, defendants, and loyal supporters.

After the visit, learning can be extended back into the classroom with our web-based Courthouse Kelly Trials learning platforms.



## Program Details

Year Levels: All

### Victorian Curriculum Links

History

Critical and Creative Thinking

Civics and Citizenship

---

Historic Courthouse  
45 minutes

---

Cost: \$7 per student OR included in \$15 student pass. Teachers and support are free.

Bookings and enquiries:  
[groupbookings@indigoshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:groupbookings@indigoshire.vic.gov.au)  
03 57288 067





# Gold Fever

**An interactive skills-based program that engages students in the skill of gold panning and develops a deeper understanding of the causes and reasons why people migrated to Australia**

Students step into the shoes of a historical figure from Beechworth and try their luck panning for gold in our artificial creek. The program assists students in discovering the diversity of backgrounds and reasons why people migrated to Victoria during the 1850s. Students will compare the average yearly wages of several different occupations with what they have collected from their gold pans to decide whether to stay in Beechworth or follow fortune elsewhere.

## Program Details

Year Levels: 3– 9

### Victorian Curriculum Links

History

Critical and Creative Thinking

---

Museum staff-led

Historic Precinct

45 minutes

---

Cost: \$6 per student OR included in \$15 student pass. Teachers and support are free.

Bookings and enquiries:

[groupbookings@indigoshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:groupbookings@indigoshire.vic.gov.au)

03 57288 067



# The Mystery of Morse

**Students will learn about the history of Morse Code and explore the Beechworth Telegraph Station during this hands on program.**

Students will engage in a discussion about communication in the 1800s and compare and contrast how this has changed over the years. Students can test their Morse Code skills in an interactive session and examine and compare various telephones and communication devices.

## Program Details

Year Levels: 5-10

### Victorian Curriculum Links

History

Digital Technologies

---

Museum staff-led  
Telegraph Station  
45 minutes

---

Cost: \$6 per student OR included in \$15 student pass. Teachers and support are free.

Bookings and enquiries:  
[groupbookings@indigoshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:groupbookings@indigoshire.vic.gov.au)  
03 57288 067





# Walking Tours

## Gold, Fortune and Felony Walking Tour

Levels – All





# Gold, Fortune and Felony Walking Tour

**Visit the location of significant events and walk in the footsteps of historical figures in Beechworth's history.**

This outdoors guided walking tour allows students to visit some historic locations in Beechworth while listening to stories from our local tour guides. Students will hear about famous individuals, including Elizabeth Scott, Ned Kelly, Ellen Kelly, Harry Power and Robert O'Hara Burke. Teachers can choose to focus more on the Gold Rush, or Ned Kelly history; just let us know when you book.

## Program Details

Year Levels: All

### Victorian Curriculum Links

History

Geography

---

Museum staff-led  
45 minutes

---

Cost: \$4.50 per student OR included in \$15 student pass. Teachers and support are free.

Bookings and enquiries:  
[groupbookings@indigoshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:groupbookings@indigoshire.vic.gov.au)  
03 57288 067





## **Education Prices**

A Precinct student pass is \$15 per student. This pass includes a Walking Tour, a Historic Courthouse Kelly Trials Experience, and your choice of one of the Burke Museum or Telegraph Station staff-led programs.

Individual session prices are marked on the program pages. A self-guided visit to the Burke Museum is \$4.50 per student. A self-guided visit to the Telegraph Station is free.

## **How to Book**

For all education enquiries and bookings, please email [groupbookings@indigoshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:groupbookings@indigoshire.vic.gov.au) or head to our website for more information.

**T: 03 5728 8067**

**E: [groupbookings@indigoshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:groupbookings@indigoshire.vic.gov.au)**

**W: [https://www.explorebeechworth.com.au/  
education](https://www.explorebeechworth.com.au/education)**

**We look forward to sharing our history with you.**