



## Opening Hours

20th May- 24th October  
Thursday - Sunday 11.00 - 17.00

28th October- 27th November  
Thursday- Saturday 10.00 - 16.00



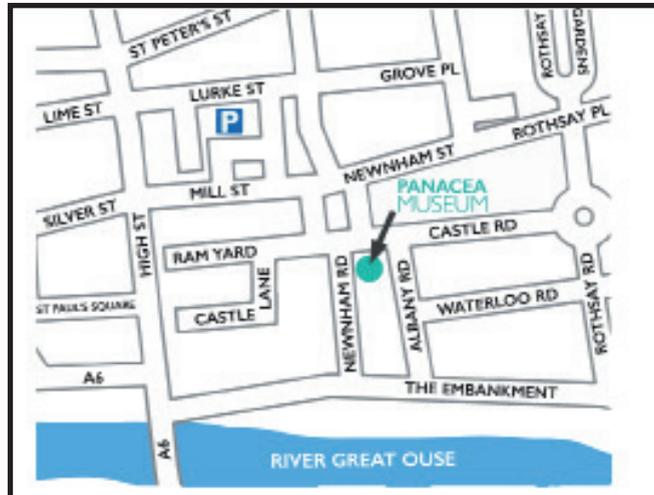
To protect visitors and staff, The following COVID-19 safety measures are in place:

- A one-way system around the Museum
- Hand sanitising stations at entrances and exits
- Visitors are asked to wear masks when inside the Museum unless they have a medical exemption

Admission to the Museum is **free**.  
For more information on our onsite facilities please see our website: [panaceamuseum.org](http://panaceamuseum.org)

9 Newnham Road, Bedford, MK40 3NX  
Tel: 01234 353178  
Email: [museum@panaceatrust.org](mailto:museum@panaceatrust.org)  
Website: [www.panaceatrust.org](http://www.panaceatrust.org)

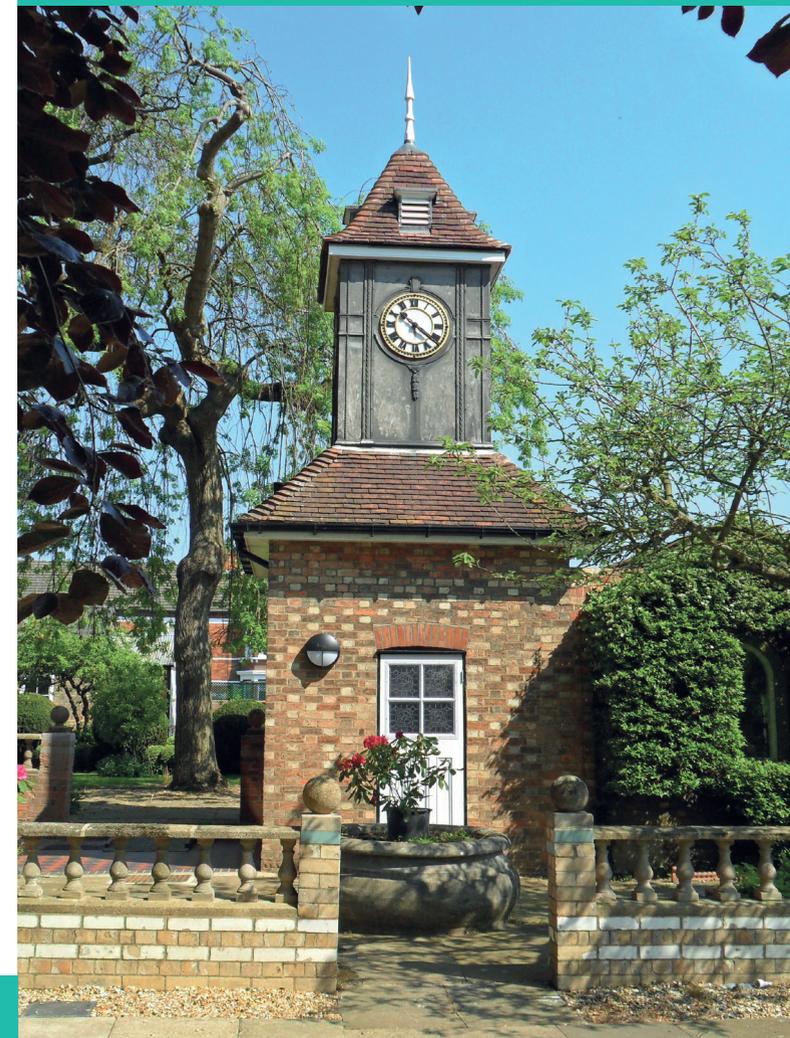
Discover the remarkable story of the Panacea Society  
A unique religious community formed in the early  
twentieth century



The museum is located in the town centre, and easily accessible from Bedford's railway and bus stations.

**By car:** Pay and display parking is available in nearby streets and a multi-storey car park located in Lurke Street, 5 minutes walk away.

**Access:** The Castleside building is fully accessible. Access is limited in the Gardens, Founder's House and Chapel. Assistance Dogs are welcome in the Museum.



## About

The Panacea Society was founded in 1919 by Mabel Barltrop (Octavia) who had moved to Bedford with her husband and children in 1904.



Mabel emerged as the prominent member of a group of women studying the prophecies and publications of Joanna Southcott.

During the 1920s and 1930s the community grew to more than 70 resident members living in and around Albany Road in Bedford. Over 130,000 people from around the world applied to receive the Society's method of healing through water- a 'panacea' to cure all ills.



The Panacea Museum is presented within the original buildings lived in and used by members of the Society.

## Joanna Southcott

Southcott's writings heavily informed the beliefs of the Panaceans, and of founder members such as Rachel Fox and Kate Firth.



Joanna died in 1814 having left a sealed box of prophecies with special conditions for opening. Octavia and the community campaigned tirelessly for it to be opened.

### Research our Archives

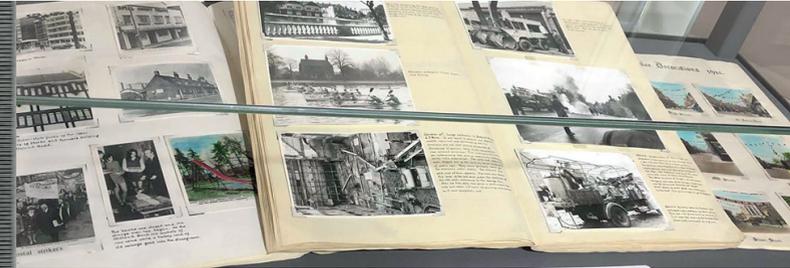
The archives of the Panacea Charitable Trust hold significant material relating to the Panacea Society, its members and its healing ministry. The repository also holds original material relating to Joanna Southcott and other millenarian groups. The archives are available for research purposes to schools, colleges and universities. For more details please email: [admin@panaceatrust.org](mailto:admin@panaceatrust.org)

### Talks for Groups

Due to COVID safety measures we have not been able to offer tours and talks. Please visit our website to check availability: [panaceamuseum.org](http://panaceamuseum.org)

## New Exhibitions

The Museum offers several temporary exhibitions each year. Visit [www.panaceamuseum.org](http://www.panaceamuseum.org) for full details.



### Our Gardens

The Museum is surrounded by beautiful gardens. We encourage picnicking and we have toilet and handwashing facilities near to the Garden areas.



### Follow us:



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