SECURE YOUR HERITAGE
We are an independent Museum run mainly by a volunteer team and we rely heavily on donations from the public to continue our work and develop our ideas. We thank you for your kind and generous donations. If you are a UK tax payer using a Gift Aid envelope makes your donation go even further.

STAY IN TOUCH
If you wish to be kept informed please fill in our ‘Visitor Evaluation’ with your email address to be added to our mailing list.

BECOME OUR FRIEND...
...and help us even more. We have a wonderfully active group, The Friends of Erasmus Darwin, who provide support and funding for many projects. If you are interested in becoming a ‘Friend’ please pick up a leaflet.

EVENTS
We run a full programme of events throughout the year to help us raise funds, please see notice boards or ask a member of staff for details.

EDUCATION
We have a packed programme of workshops for all ages that fit in with the national curriculum. Contact us for details.

OUR FACILITIES
• The House is fully accessible for wheelchair users
• An induction loop is fitted in certain areas
• Public toilets are available

Don’t forget... we are able to cater for all GROUP VISIT needs.
We can arrange House and/or Cathedral Close tours or you can visit our Cellars! We can also provide refreshments, tea/coffee, cream teas or more formal lunches. Please contact the office to discuss your requirements.

The House is available for corporate room hire at very competitive rates and the House can be hired for all occasions, including weddings.

Please see our website or contact the office to discuss your requirements.

Visiting with children?
Ask about our ‘Erasmouse’ trail and other kids’ activities!

Find us near the entrance to The Cathedral Close, entrance either via Beacon Street or from within The Close through the Herb Garden. Look for signs.

Erasmus Darwin was the Grandfather of Charles Darwin. He moved into this house in 1758, building the fine Palladian front on to a mediaeval house.

A genius of a man
• A successful Doctor •
• An accomplished Scientist •
• A noted Inventor •
• A celebrated Poet •
• A wonderful family man •

His pioneering work still influences our lives today

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Follow us on twitter - @erasmusdarwin and on Facebook
Registered Charity No.1063528
We invite you to look in on Erasmus in 1770!

Erasmus Darwin was the Grandfather of Charles Darwin. Born in 1731, he came to Lichfield in 1756 as a physician. He married Mary Howard, known as Polly, and moved into this house in 1758.

Ground Floor

The Parlour
It’s 1770 and his beloved wife, Polly, has just died, his sister Susannah has come to look after him and the three boys, Charles, Erasmus and Robert. Anna Seward, a friend who lived in the Close, is here to comfort him.

- Press the button on the right to hear conversations between Anna Seward and Erasmus.
- Sit in the chairs and listen to Susannah planning her day and samples of Erasmus’s poetry, including Evolution and The Big Bang.

The Inventions Room
His ideas brought from the page and into life.

- Silhouette machine - have a go at yours!
- THE COMMON PLACE BOOK - not to be missed - The original notebook in which his ideas were written.
- Steering mechanism, later developed by Ackerman, and still used today.
- Copying machine - copy his signature.
- Canal lift - press the button.
- Pelmanism game - match the Lunar Men!
- The speaking machine.

The Study
Erasmus and his great friend, Josiah Wedgwood discuss ideas, surrounded by 18th Century medical equipment, fossils and inventions.

- Press the buttons on the panels to hear Josiah and Erasmus.
- Our amazing microscope - feel free to play!
- Interactive computer game - evolve your own monster.
- Open the drawers, take a look inside.

First Floor

The Library
- Introductory video by Adam Hart-Davis.
- Audio guides - help yourself.
- Access to the Evolution Library by arrangement.

The Lunar and Seminar Room
- Where the Lunar Group met on the night of the full moon.
- Erasmus’s flying bird brought to life.

The Exhibition Room
- Try your hand at Georgian skittles.
- Dress up as a Georgian - see how you would have looked!
- Browse through our book box.