

Launch of  
tourist group  
Page 6

Edmund  
jewel display  
Page 7

Studies into  
the Abbey  
Page 8



# SocietyReview

Winter 2018

## Celebrations as town is crowned Anglia in Bloom overall winner



*Members of Bury in Bloom, volunteers and supporters gather in the Abbey Gardens with their Anglia in Bloom awards and trophy.*

Bury St Edmunds is celebrating after winning the best overall entry and the Anglia in Bloom trophy.

The town was crowned overall winner at a ceremony in Gorleston, in September and also won Gold and Best Large town. The Abbey Gardens and Nowton Park won Gold and the town also won a special award for environmental quality.

It was also later announced that Bury St Edmunds has been nominated to

go forward to the Britain in Bloom finals for 2018. Bob Ollier, chairman of Anglia in Bloom, said Bury St Edmund's victory was well deserved as the town had been building on "solid foundations" in the competition over recent years.

Melanie Lesser, Bury in Boom co-ordinator, said: "We are absolutely delighted. It's been a real team effort involving many volunteers across the town, helping to make Bury so spe-

cial for residents and visitors alike." She said she has been inundated with messages of congratulations. The Abbey Gardens was also recognised with a Gold Award in the large parks category. Nowton Park also picked up a Gold Award in the same category.

Melanie said: "I still can't quite believe it. So many people have been

**Turn to Page 2**

# Busy Green Fingers celebrate awards

Bury in Bloom co-ordinator Melanie Lesser reports of the many activities and initiatives over the past few months.



Busy Green Fingers, the Bury in Bloom competition for pre-schools, nurseries and reception classes, held its celebration garden party at Moreton Hall Community Centre. Now in its fourth year the competition is sponsored by local company Treatt, the leading beverage ingredient solutions manufacturer based in Bury St Edmunds.

## Bury in Bloom team keen not to rest on its laurels

Continued from Page 1

in contact since the award and there have been lots of lovely comments on social media from people saying how much they love Bury.”

She also paid tribute to the team of Bury in Bloom volunteers for their work in securing the town’s floral crown.

She said: “Everyone has worked so hard and I wanted to thank the worker bees behind the award – the gardeners and volunteers around the town who have put in so much effort.”

Bury in Bloom is keen not to rest on its laurels.

Melanie added: “There is more work we want to do.

“The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) has ‘grey to green’ projects, which look to transform areas in need of some colour.

“More and more people keep coming forward wanting to help and there is a real sense of pride and love for Bury St Edmunds.”

2



*Pupils from Abbots Green Nursery with their sunflower design.*

The children, teachers and parents enjoyed a delicious tea, planted petunias donated by Woolpit Nurseries, and received their gardening vouchers during the ceremony in July. The display of gardening diaries showed how gardening has been a source of education for pupils, teachers and parents Pam Fletcher, Busy Green Fingers co-ordinator, said: “It has been a very successful year, lovely to see so many nurseries, pre-schools and reception classes giving children the opportunity to learn about plants and get involved in growing flowers and vegetables.”

### Senior Green Fingers

We held the Senior Green Fingers presentation and Tea Party at St Peter’s House, in Out Risbygate Street, in August. Senior Green Fingers is Bury in Bloom’s award scheme for nursing homes, residen-

tial homes and day care centres. The three judges Chris Hodgson, Sue Thompson and Susan Dunne visited the entries in July to look at residents’ involvement in their gardens. The award scheme, now in its third year, is sponsored by Treatt. We had a wonderful tea party at St Peter’s House and the following prizes were awarded with all entries receiving gardening vouchers: St Peter’s House, Best Resident Involvement; Gatehouse Dementia Hub, Best Community Involvement; North Court Best Use of Space; Cornwallis Court, Best Wildlife Promotion; Stradbroke Court, Best Overall Improvement; and Davers Court, Best Art Projects.

Sue said: “We were delighted to see even more resident involvement in all those that entered this year. The judges could see the enjoyment the residents were getting from gardening.”



*St Peter’s House, the winner of the Senior Green Fingers’ Best Resident Involvement.*

# Thousands of bulbs planted on banks of river



*Pictured on the bank near the Abbey Gardens are, left to right, Graham Maynard, Abbey Gardens park manager; Melanie Lesser, Bury in Bloom co-ordinator; Rebecca Davies, St Edmundsbury Borough Council horticultural officer; and Ron Kors, from Lubbe.*

Bury in Bloom and St Edmundsbury Borough Council have worked together with Dutch bulb supplier Lubbe to plant thousands of spring bulbs on the bank near the footbridge over the River Lark, in the Abbey Gardens.

The crocus and tete daffodils bulbs have been planted by a special bulb planting machine that lifts the turf, scatters the bulbs and then replaces the turf with minimum disturbance, making bulb planting much less back breaking.

Daffodil bulbs have also been planted by the machine on the Cullum Road roundabout, sponsored by Greene King, and the Suffolk Retail Park roundabout, sponsored by Martin and Co.

Melanie Lesser, Bury in Bloom co-ordinator, said: "Bury in Bloom are trying to add all year-round colour to the roundabouts and other beds around the town. The Lubbe bulb planter has saved time to allow other gardening works to be completed on the roundabouts and other areas around the town. The spring bulbs we planted on several of our roundabouts last autumn looked lovely this spring and we received many compliments from Bury St Edmunds residents.

## Young Green Fingers

Students from nine schools in Bury St Edmunds who took part in the

Young Green Fingers Scheme have been rewarded for their efforts. Around 200 students, parents and teachers gathered at the annual awards ceremony at The Athenaeum in October.

The Young Green Fingers Scheme is run by Bury in Bloom to encourage children to get involved in gardening and the environment.

All nine schools' efforts were recognised, with each of them being presented with gold and silver awards. Hardwick Primary School was awarded the Outstanding Achievement Award for maintaining high standards in gardening and for their innovative approach to improving the children's skills and knowledge. The Crop to Fork Award was awarded to Emma Godfrey from St



*Hardwick Primary School which was awarded the Outstanding Achievement Award in the Young Green Fingers Scheme.*

Edmund's Catholic Primary School for making the most of produce from the school garden.

The Star Gardeners awards were given to five students: Joe Tully from Abbots Green Primary School, Keeley Pope and Imogen Ranson from Tollgate Primary, Owen Jones from County Upper School and Rae Saunders from Priory School. Adrian Bloom, from Bressingham Gardens, and Nick Evans from Treatt presented the awards.

And the Crafty Creatures winners were also announced at the Young Green Fingers presentation

The winners were: 8's and under, winner (shark) George Logan; 9 to 15, winner (dog) Jake Chapple, Connor Ranson and Will Chapman; 16 and overs, winner (rabbit) Elyse Wiggins.

This has been a very successful project and we hope to have a similar project next year.

## Photographic competition winner

We are delighted to announce that our Bury in Bloom photographer Josephine Sweetman came third in a national competition with her picture of one of the barrier baskets on the fencing near St Mary's Church.

The competition was run by Amberol, the supplier of our reservoir hanging baskets and barrier baskets.

Jo won a voucher for £250 of Amberol products, she has ordered some hanging baskets for herself and has kindly given the rest of her voucher for us to use for more barrier baskets go on display along the railings near where her picture was taken.

# £34,800 National Lottery funding for ‘Mind the Gap’ exhibition and events

Bury St Edmunds Art Gallery Trust Ltd, trading as Smiths Row, has just received a National Lottery grant of £34,800 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for a series of exhibitions and events in Bury St Edmunds called “Mind the Gap”.

Made possible by money raised by National Lottery players, the project celebrates the hidden histories of the women and families whose lives were shaped by the railway in Bury St Edmunds through a series of events and two exhibitions.

The exhibition at Moyses Hall opens on December 15 and runs until the end of February.

The exhibition at Moyses’s Hall Museum will include original posters, artwork and historic railway artefacts, many on public display for the first time.

At Bury St Edmunds Railway station illustrated panels will reveal the hidden lives and memories of passengers

and workers forged at the station in particular the women who worked in the refreshment room, the Railway Mission and the East Anglian artists whose designs epitomise the Golden Age of rail travel.

This is exemplified by the life and work of the renowned railway poster designer, Sybil Andrews (1898-1992).

As you may be aware it is the 25th anniversary of her death and there is growing interest in her life and art, particularly since the Sybil Andrews Academy opened last January, on the fringe of the town’s Moreton Hall Estate.

It is all the more timely to uncover these histories as this country celebrates the centenary of women’s suffrage in 2018.

Bury St Edmunds Station Supporters Group and Greater Anglia are giving in-kind support to the project and we are keen to involve the wider

community in Bury St Edmunds in the project so if you have stories and artefacts related to the station or Sybil Andrews we would be very interested in hearing from you. Please contact Alison Plumridge on 07505746477 or email: [Alison.plumridge@smithsrow.org](mailto:Alison.plumridge@smithsrow.org)

The exhibition has been conceived and curated by Smiths Row and has been generously funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and councillor Julia Wakelam of St Edmundsbury Borough Council.

We are also indebted to Greater Anglia, Moyses’s Hall Museum and Sybil Andrews Academy for their support.

To join in or find out more follow Moyses Hall and Smiths Row on Facebook or Twitter.

*Alison Plumridge*  
*Director*

*tor*

## More conservation areas added to Heritage at Risk

In their 50th anniversary year, more Conservation Areas have been added to the Heritage at Risk than other heritage assets. Over the past year, a total of 387 entries have been rescued and removed from the Heritage at Risk Register – at least one site per day across the country and 328 were added making the total number on the register 5,290.

Historic England has also met its target to reduce the number of sites on the 2015 Register by 15% (746 sites) in 2017, a year ahead of schedule.

The Heritage at Risk Register 2017 reveals that in England, 1,257 Grade I and II\* buildings, 2,480 scheduled monuments, 937 places of worship, 96 registered parks and gardens, four battlefields, four protected wrecks and 512 conservation areas are at risk of neglect, decay or inappropriate change. There are 5,290 assets on the Heritage at Risk Register, 97 fewer than in 2016.

Of particular concern is the high number of Conservation Areas on the Register in the 50th anniversary year.

47 Conservation Areas were added this year, making a total 512 of at risk. A recent YouGov poll commissioned by Historic England found strong public support for conservation areas, but only a small majority of those surveyed who live in a conservation area (56%) were aware that they actually live in one.

Historic England would like to see local authorities raising awareness of Conservation Areas, especially among homeowners and commercial property owners. Common problems facing Conservation Areas are unsympathetic doors, windows and new

extensions, poorly maintained streets and neglected green space. Historic England continues to work with councils and other partners to address these issues.

Laura Sandys, Civic Voice vice-president said: “I find the news about these conservation areas really incredibly sad as we celebrate the Big Conservation Conversation and 50 years of the Civic Amenities Act 1967.

“I look forward to working with Civic Voice and civic societies across England to continue to make the case for conservation areas.”

## Need for conservation officers

In further evidence that the need for conservation officers in local government is as great as ever, new research published by the Government states that nearly 60% of the adult population visited a city or town with historic character during 2016/2017. With 2.2% of the country being covered by a conservation area (the size of Lux-

embourg) it has huge swathes of the historic environment that needs to be enhanced. With visits to a city or town, historic parks and gardens or a historic building being the three most visited different types of heritage sites, it shows that heritage provides a vital boost to local economies through tourism.

# Concerns over road safety in plans for 18 flats in St Andrews Street South

Earlier this year the Society lodged a strong objection to plans for 18 flats (four underground) on a small infill site facing **St Andrews Street South** between Neptune and Denny's.

Revised plans have now been submitted removing two of the flats, but the Society responded by saying that this change did not in any way address our very real concerns about road safety or detailed design.

We said these concerns can only be addressed by a major reduction in the scale of development - and surely, a terrace of handsome town houses with an archway through to limited parking at the rear would be a much more appropriate response to the constraints of this very modest site.

Also, the Society remains of the view that below-ground flats is not the way to make a valued or sustainable contribution to our town's housing stock.

In April the Society had expressed concern about the detailed design for the new **Travelodge hotel on Etna Road/Compigne Way**.

Although these plans were approved in August a revised design was submitted addressing some of our previous concerns.

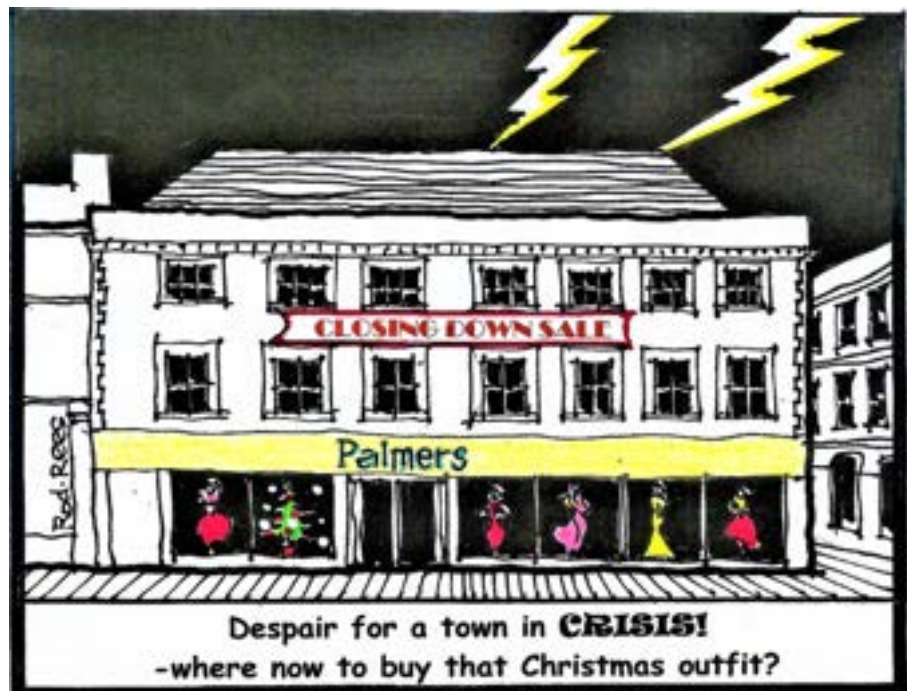
We therefore wrote to say we much appreciated the developer's response - and the new plans were approved.

The Society noted that the developers of **Palmers hardware store on St Andrews Street South** have submitted revised plans seeking to substitute zinc cladding for boarding "to pick up the detailing on the adjoining Arc development" (something we had previously suggested).

Meanwhile, no news on any plans to redevelop **Palmers' fashion store on the Buttermarket**.

The Society lodged an objection to plans for a two-storey extension to **1 Honey Hill**.

We shared the conservation officer's concerns about the scale of the extension and that it did not respect the building's symmetry. We were especially concerned



about its proximity to St Mary's Church.

The application was refused.

The Society responded to plans to remodel the entrance foyer at the **Railway Station** with a small retail unit and new ticket machines.

We did not see any problems with these modest proposals but asked that the applicant be made aware of our much greater concern which is the weather-tightness and structural integrity of the roof of the station-master's house.

We also asked whether Greater Anglia might consider incorporating a memorial/acknowledgement to the late Sir Peter Hall who was born in the town (Avenue Approach) and his father who was a railway clerk at the station in the 1930's.

The Society noted that plans to construct a three-storey apartment building over the car park at the rear of Cancer Research on **Lower Baxter Street** have at last been approved.

The Bury Society welcomed the refurbishment of **35 Out Westgate** but we had strong reservations about the height and bulk of the proposed new-build house to the rear.

We considered the plans did not represent good neighbourliness in that the proposed dwelling could lead to problems of over-looking from upper floor windows and have a detrimental effect on the amenities of adjoining properties in both Corsbie Close and Eyre Close.

Finally, back in 2012, plans were approved for 15 homes on the former **Record Office car park on Swan Lane**.

Nothing then much happened until a new access cross-over was laid in March of last year.

Now the owners have applied for a formal certificate to confirm that planning permission has been implemented because a dispute has arisen as to whether the permission is "live".

One wonders why this situation was not sorted out in March 2016 as presumably, if not granted, then a new application is required for the proposed homes.

For information, the Society objected to the original 2012 plans because we regretted the loss of the Record Office car park.

A view, I suspect, which is shared by many.

*Roderick Rees*

# Bury St Edmunds and Beyond is launched at the Athenaeum

There was a big turnout for the launch of the Bury St Edmunds and Beyond tourism brand.

Held at the town's Athenaeum, in September, there was over 200 people in attendance which included the Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk, Clare Countess of Euston; and the Mayor and Mayoress of St Edmundsbury Terry Clements and his wife Margaret. Its brand and marketing manager Sue Warren said: "The aim of the brand is to increase the marketing of the town to increase visitor numbers and overnight stays.

"There is so much potential and we want people to come and return to the jewel in the crown of Suffolk. We want to help attract more people and to visit other destinations in the area."

And Melanie Lesser, the chairman of the Bury St Edmunds and Beyond, added: "We want to attract people not only to the town but beyond to the many great tourist sites. We always get plenty of weekend visitors but we are hoping to attract them to stay for the week."

The Bury St Edmunds and Beyond brand was established by the Bury St Edmunds Destination Management Organisation (DMO), a private sector-led, not-for-profit, membership organization to promote the town



*The launch of Bury St Edmunds and Beyond, above, and below people attending the event at The Athenaeum.*

and the surrounding area as a visitor destination. Its partners include St Edmundsbury Borough Council, Bury St Edmunds Town Council, OurBuryStEdmunds the business improvement district organization for the town centre, St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Greene King, the National Trust, Bury in Bloom and Gough Hotels who between them have pledged more than £300,000 of

funding between them. The local visitor economy is worth £47 million in Bury St Edmunds alone and employs over 1,000 people and there is now a big campaign to gather members to the group. It costs £95 a year and includes a raft of benefits including a listing on the new website [www.burystedmundsandbeyond.co.uk](http://www.burystedmundsandbeyond.co.uk) which helps businesses get in front of a growing audience.



# Rare Edmund Jewel with possible links to ancient king is on display

In 2014, in the small village of Drinkstone, just outside of Bury St Edmunds, a metal detector would make a discovery that would prove a significant historical boost to the collections and displays of Moyses Hall Museum, in Bury St Edmunds.

It is with great thanks to the Bury Society amongst others that the museum was able to acquire it.

The “earring” the detector thought he had found, was in fact identified by the Portable Antiquities Scheme as a 9th century Aestal (*pictured right*).

The collection of items with the designated term “Aestal” is still a fairly exclusive one in this country.

At the time of the discovery of this artefact there were only six known, inclusive of this piece and subsequently augmented by the discovery of a further two of a lesser quality.

The best known Aestal is that which we know better by the name “The Alfred Jewel” forming part of the Ashmolean’s collections. Also dating to the 9th Century.

This much larger variant also bears a cloisonné enamel portrait and the inscription “AELFRED MEC HEHT GEWYRCAN”, “Alfred Ordered Me Made”.

It is said that along with a copy of Pope Gregory the Great’s (d.604) book, *Cura Pastoralis*, Alfred sent an Aestal to every Bishop in every See in England.

Due to their rarity, the exact nature of what an Aestal is has for many years been debated. The accepted thought, however, is the most logical, and can be seen still in existence in the practice of the Jewish faith today.

The Torah is read with a rod called a Yad to prevent the profaning of the holy text with fingers.

An Aestal, with its bulb shape, forming at one end into a flue, where presumably a wooden rod once sat, may have been used in much the same way as a reading guide.

The flat underside of the jewel lends itself to the action of being smoothly run over the surface of a text.

It should be hardly surprising that the Christian faith of the 9th Century



would share greater similarities with its Judaic predecessor, than the two faiths might today.

The Drinkstone Aestal is significant for one other reason, and that is the provenance itself. Drinkstone shares parish boundaries with the Bradfields (Clare, Combust, and St George) and these areas have born an enigmatic resonance with historians for some years.

Bradfield Combust is recorded in the Domesday Book as being given to the Monks of St Edmund, and the occupying tenants in later years were compelled to pledge certain proprietary rights to the Monks of that Abbey. That the Domesday book shows St Edmundsbury had land holdings right up to Newcastle, why would the Bradfield sites be of such import to the Abbey?

Archaeologist Dr Stanley West was one of the first to point out the similarities between the name “Haegelsiden” as the site of Edmund’s martyrdom/final battle in Abbo Fleury’s 10th century account of the Saint, and the 1840s tithe map reference to a field called “Hellesden Ley” in Bradfield St Clare. Still today

## £2.8 million road improvement scheme

Work on the second phase of a multi-million pound project to make travelling round Bury St Edmunds easier for drivers has begun.

Suffolk Highways has started working on the Spread Eagle junction as part of a £2.8 million scheme which is set to be completed by April

there is a Kingshall Street.

The implication being that perhaps this was a site connected in some way to the 9th Century King Edmund.

With the finding of such a significant piece of early Mediaeval treasure nearby, an opportunity to reopen the enquiry regarding the semi-mythical Edmund has surely arisen.

Whilst this single find does in no way suggest direct provenance to a king, it does show the foundations of an early literary movement, undoubtedly Christian, who may have been the first to revere a Saint Edmund.

All of this aside, the 8th and 9th centuries saw a renaissance in the Liberal Arts championed by the church, who’s existence it rested upon.

The need to understand the Latin of the late Roman religious writers; the earliest authors of the Christian Church, in a period where pure Latin had been forgotten or misappropriated, meant that observances were in danger of being followed incorrectly, and thereby imperilling the very soul. A call to the pen and the book was heralded by St Augustine of Hippo in the 4th century, and by the 9th had been so championed by Emperor Charlemagne, that the artistic strongholds of the Byzantine workshops were rivalled by many further in western Europe.

In this one small ornamental literary aid from outside Bury St Edmunds we have a reminder of this time if nothing else?

*Alex McWhirter  
Heritage Officer  
Leisure*

*Forest Heath District and  
St Edmundsbury Borough councils*

2018. The improvements will see the upgrade of the old traffic signals, the creation of bus stop bays along Out Westgate and Vinery Road, footpath widening and the installation of a zebra crossing on Vinery Road. The traffic island on Horringer Road will also be repositioned.

# A series of studies are launched to improve the Abbey of St Edmund

For the first time, all of the historical and archaeological information about the Abbey of St Edmund is to be gathered together to help not only its conservation, but also the public's understanding and enjoyment of the buildings that once played such a prominent role in everyday life in the town.

The Abbey of St Edmund Heritage Partnership has launched two consultancy studies for the Abbey of St Edmund. It is led by St Edmundsbury Cathedral in collaboration with St Edmundsbury Borough Council and 10 other local and regional public, private and voluntary organisations. The Reverend Canon Matthew Vernon, chairman of the partnership, said: "The Heritage Partnership aims to deepen public understanding of the life and times of St Edmund and the Medieval Abbey and to encourage people to experience the spiritual, historical and archaeological significance of the Abbey of St Edmund in the modern world.

"I am delighted to announce that we have just appointed Richard Hoggett Heritage to undertake the Heritage Assessment and Purcell (Norwich) to prepare the Conservation Plan for the project area and its various sub-areas. The first study is starting soon and the second study will be completed by autumn 2018."

The Heritage Assessment will bring together all the historical and archaeological information about the Abbey of St Edmund. The Conservation Plan will then draw up a series of policies for heritage conservation and



*Members of the Abbey Heritage Partnership.*

interpretation. It will also identify potential improvement projects that will then provide a basis for future applications to various funders.

The studies are being funded by a Heritage at Risk Grant of £40,000 from Historic England and £10,000 from St Edmundsbury Borough Council.

The borough council has undertaken a competitive tendering process and will act as formal contract manager and budget holder for the studies on behalf of the Heritage Partnership. Councillor Joanna Rayner, St Edmundsbury's Cabinet Member for Leisure and Culture, said: "The borough council is very pleased to be

working with the Cathedral, Historic England and other partners in the Abbey of St Edmund Heritage Partnership on this exciting project.

"The Abbey Gardens are very popular with over a million local residents and tourists visiting them each year. This work will help to protect the whole Abbey of St Edmund area for future generations and to explain its significance to local people and our many visitors."

The studies will also include the areas of the Cathedral, the Great Churchyard, the Vinefields, The Crankles and No Mans Meadow. Simon Buteux, principal adviser for Heritage at Risk, Historic England, East of England, said: "Historic England is pleased to be supporting this valuable project.

"The new studies will examine the history and archaeology of an extended area around the Abbey of St Edmund, which will enable the Heritage Partnership to draw up a detailed framework for the future conservation and interpretation of an area packed with important historic remains."

*Richard Summers*

## Support for merger of two councils

A planned merger of St Edmundsbury Borough Council and Forest Heath District Council has the support of local residents and businesses, according to a new report. The business case report, informed by a programme of engagement, suggests the new council could better drive jobs, deliver services and meet future challenges than the current arrangement. In addition, the creation

of a new single council would generate around £800,000 in savings, according to the business case. An independent poll, carried out by ComRes, found 70% of residents support the creation of a new West Suffolk Council.

The engagement process was designed to inform residents, businesses, partners and stakeholders of the proposals

# Record turnout of over 100 for Autumn get together at Unitarian Meeting House

We were fortunate to have the Autumn sunshine flood the interior of the Unitarian Meeting House, in Bury St Edmunds, for our October get-together and the weather helped us to achieve a record turnout of over 100 guests.

We opened the doors at 10.15am to an eager crowd and the morning flew by with cordial chat and a chance to see some of the fascinating items on Bury history supplied by Martyn Taylor, John Saunders and myself. With cakes and goodies lined up on the table, everyone had a chance to move around the display tables and chat and reminisce.

Martyn brought along a collection of Bury related documents, Bury Society archives, books, Magna Carta items and even a wooden paving block that originally sat in Abbeygate Street.

John had a display from his days in the police, with items such as police helmets, handcuffs and truncheons ... just in-case the morning got out of hand!

I supplied various documents and photos of Bury including the cattle market plans from the various original developers. The book of Victorian photographs proved especially popular, with members trying to visualise what stood there today.

The cakes, biscuits and refreshments were as usual popular and a huge thank you must go to Sandie Taylor, Sue Savage and Doug Beardon for their contributions to the table.

My coffee and walnut, Madeira and chocolate and apricot cakes didn't last very long at all.

Also, may I say a huge thank you to Sue Savage, Betty Saunders and



*People enjoying the Autumn get together at the Unitarian Meeting House, in Bury St Edmunds.*



Sarah Nunn for their huge support on the day ... without them the washing up would have piled up and the tea and coffee stopped flowing.

Thank you to all of the members for joining us on the day to make the occasion such a huge success.

*Stephen Moody*

## A floral spruce up for the Parkway corner

Bury in Bloom has worked with Woolpit Nurseries and CCG Gardeners to improve the bed near the new roundabout by Parkway Corner/St Andrew's Street South.

Bury in Bloom and St Edmundsbury Borough Council asked Suffolk County Council if we could clear the

area and make it look better while the work was going on at the roundabout/s. The county council granted us some money for the project and we used Proscap to clear the bed and sow the area with grass seed. Rebecca Davis, St Edmundsbury's horticultural officer and I decided on

the shape of the bed and then CCG Gardeners designed the planting using plants from Woolpit Nurseries. CCG Gardeners will maintain the area for us with the seasonal plants provided by Woolpit Nurseries underpass project.

*Melanie Lesser*

# Guildhall is removed from the buildings at risk register by Historic England

The Bury St Edmunds Guildhall (thought to be the oldest surviving civic building in the country) is an immersive concept that will bring the history of Bury St. Edmunds and the Guildhall to life.

The building works are progressing well.

The roof repairs are complete and we are now improving access in the form of a new lift and the installation of access ramps. The toilets are having a complete upgrade and all building materials used will improve our environmental efficiency.

The good news is that due to the recent repairs, Historic England have officially removed the Guildhall from the Heritage at Risk Register. This is a massive achievement.

Our strategy is to generate a self-sustaining heritage and events attraction that will highlight the fabric of the building and explore its 800 year history.

In the Summer of 2018 The Guildhall will be open to the widest possible cross section of society to use and enjoy.

The Guildhall presents the history of the unique principal rooms (The Court Room and Banqueting Hall),



*The Guildhall, in Guildhall Street, Bury St Edmunds.*

the RAF's Second World War Royal Observer Corps operations centre headquarters room, the Tudor kitchen, the external courtyards and open gardens, through interactive displays and collections, targeted education programmes supporting the national curriculum and a sensory experience for people with disabilities.

The Guildhall will have live re-enactors and volunteers to guide you around the building on a journey through time.

Additionally, the Guildhall offers professional catering for private and corporate events such as weddings, theatre and music productions, temporary exhibitions, lectures, business

conferences, specialist room hire and private parties. The Guildhall can facilitate a flexible and fully catered food, dining and events experience within a medieval heritage attraction. For the first time it will offer HE and FE schools, colleges and adult education programmes a space in our new education facility, which will enhance our learning offer.

We are currently recruiting for volunteers, so if you would like to join the team, please contact James Mellish, the project manager at [info@buryst-edmundsguildhall.org.uk](mailto:info@buryst-edmundsguildhall.org.uk) to find out more.

**James Mellish**  
*Project manager for the Guildhall*

## Society to keep in touch via email accounts

We would like to keep in touch with everyone quickly and cheaply at the press of a button.

I know that some of our members will never use e-mail as a method of communication (or even go near a computer) but if you fall into this category, would you be able to arrange for someone to relay messages to you received through their e-mail address?

If you have a relative, neighbour or friend who might be willing to provide their e-mail address and pass messages on to you it would be very helpful.

It would also help to keep membership fees at a low level.

The Bury Society holds e-mail addresses for only three quarters of the membership. We therefore have

no way of contacting over 100 or more people in the event of an urgent cancellation or exciting news.

We also appear to have members who have given us an e-mail address but don't use it.

For example, on October 24, we circulated a message about the prospective purchase of the old Bury Post Office.

It was sent to 322 individual members by e-mail and, at the time of writing, only 214 have actually opened the e-mail.

Is this because we don't have the correct address, or because some members do not open their e-mail very often?

Perhaps your e-mail settings direct such messages into a "spam" or "junk" folder - in which case you

need to alter your settings.

It would be helpful to know how we can improve the communication.

Please can I ask those members who do have and use e-mail but did not receive our recent "Post Office" circular, to please message me on [members@burysociety.com](mailto:members@burysociety.com) with their current e-mail address so that I can check our records.

We are required to ensure that all data is accurate but cannot achieve this without your help.

Electronic mail is clearly here to stay, so please help me to stay in touch by contacting me, preferably on the above address, or failing that, by telephone 01284 719243).

Thank you.

**Sue Savage**  
*Membership secretary*

# New venue set for the Bury Society Annual Lunch

The venue for the Bury Society's annual lunch is changing for next year.

Having listened to feedback from our members this event will be held in the Edmund Room above Pilgrim's Kitchen of St Edmundsbury Cathedral, next February. The location is central and within walking distance for many. It is a light and modern room that seats around 80 and, although it is upstairs, there is lift access.

We are very pleased to have Victoria Savoulidis, archivist from the Bury branch of the Suffolk Records Office, as our pre-lunch speaker.

Her subject will be "From the Sublime to the Ridiculous: the Many Faces of the Bury Fair".

This will be an informative and light-hearted presentation tracking the evolution of the Bury Fair through time and highlighting its significance in our town's colourful history. The fair we know so well today has its origins in the 12th century but as the centuries rolled by it presented itself to the people of Bury in many incarnations - from bustling commercial beginnings with royal patronage and mercantile trading to the gentrified sporting sideshows and dances of the 16th to 18th centuries when it was widely perceived as "an immoral nuisance" by the prim Victorians. Was it really worthy of such an exciting title?

Join us on February 10 and you can



*'The Autumn Fair at Bury' by Joseph Clarendon Smith (1819).*

judge for yourself.

By popular request the lunch is being cut back from three to two courses, so we have arranged a choice of mains and desserts with the caterers at Pilgrim's Kitchen (see booking form for menu options).

The ticket price is being offered for less than in previous years at £20 per head for members and friends on a first come first served basis. We have moved the date forward to February so that the culinary excesses of Christmas and New Year will be over.

This will be a cheery event to brighten the grey winter days, so please come along for what is always

a popular event in our calendar.

Early booking is recommended as numbers are restricted by the size of the room. Places can only be confirmed when a completed form and payment cheque have been received by Stephen Moody, Bury Society events organiser.

New members and anyone on their own are very welcome to join me on my table.

Doors will open at 11am to get everyone seated and settled before the presentation at 11.30am.

We look forward to welcoming you.

*Sue Savage*  
Membership secretary

## Workers organise themselves into Guilds

East Anglia, was medieval England's industrial heartland where the wool trade was prevalent and Bury St Edmunds was no exception and the many workers employed to work within this industry, such as shear-men, combers, fullers, dyers and weavers gradually organised themselves into guilds.

The Abbot did not look favourably on the guilds as he thought they would be in direct opposition to his authority. At the beginning of the 13th century Bury was listed as one of the highest producers of cloth in the country subsequently the coverlets manufactured here were

renowned for their quality. Between 1354-1530 there were 86 listed vocations in the town, the highest number associated with the wool trade so not unsurprising the guilds reflected this, details of which can be found in Martyn Taylor's latest book "Bury St Edmunds at Work".

Some of the earliest guilds were The Aldermans Guild, Guild Merchant, The Dusse Guild and Candlemas Guild which was to evolve into the Guildhall Feoffees (still in existence today). Guilds regulated the quality of work produced and those who were eligible to carry it out, the cloth was subject to alnage, basically a

quality and size check made by the king's official, an Alnager.

As was common throughout the land, apprentices were taught the nuances of their craft by artisans (in 1647 Puritan extremism in the town led to apprentice riots when Christmas was cancelled).

Burgesses, members of the privileged class in Bury, represented mainly their own interests by being members of a guild. Not all of the wealthy were associated with the wool trade, John Nottingham, a grocer, left money in his will of 1437 to have a porch built on the north side of St Mary's.

# Millennium celebrations to mark foundation of monastery in town

One of the most important milestones in the unique history of Bury St Edmunds is to be marked with a series of millennium celebrations.

In three years' time, it will be exactly 1,000 years since the foundation of the Benedictine Monastery in Bury St Edmunds by King Canute.

The monastery went on to become the Abbey of St Edmund and housed the body of the martyred 9th Century King of East Anglia, St Edmund. For hundreds of years pilgrims from throughout the world came to worship at the Abbey in veneration of St Edmund, the then patron Saint of England.

The Abbey grew in strength and wealth until the dissolution of the monasteries by Henry VIII in the 16th century when it was dismantled and fell into ruin.

Now the Abbey of St Edmund Heritage Partnership has announced that it is preparing to organise Millennium Celebrations in 2020.

It aims to establish a steering group to include representatives of Bury St Edmunds Town Council, West Suffolk College and local schools as well as several existing partners to start discussing ideas and planning events.

The Rev Canon Matthew Vernon from St Edmundsbury Cathedral, chairman of the Heritage Partnership, said: "One of the main reasons why

the partnership has been set up is to help the public's understanding and enjoyment of the ruins of buildings that once played such a prominent role in everyday life in the town. We want to work with schools and other local groups to organise a series of community based events which will celebrate the 1,000th anniversary of the Abbey of St Edmund."

Scenes from the town's history were acted out by local residents and school children in pageants in 1907, 1959 and 1970 to celebrate the significance of St Edmund and the Magna Carta. They culminated in the very place that Canute founded his Abbey, the Abbey Gardens.

Martyn Taylor, chairman of the Bury Society, is part of the Heritage Partnership.

He said: "The foundation of the Benedictine Monastery in 1020 AD, alongside the historical accounts and the legends of King Edmund, are linked to the gathering of the Barons in the Abbey in 1214 when they swore to force King John to sign the Magna Carta.

"These are three pinnacle points not just in the rich heritage of Bury St Edmunds but in the town's wider importance in English and indeed in international history."

Only last month, the Heritage Partnership announced the launch of two studies which will run from now until

autumn 2018.

A Heritage Assessment will bring together all the historical and archaeological information about the Abbey of St Edmund, and a Conservation Plan will then help direct future work to conserve the existing Abbey ruins, and interpret more of the Abbey story.

Councillor Joanna Rayner, St Edmundsbury Borough Council, Cabinet Member for Leisure and Culture, said: "There are many intriguing and fascinating stories behind the town that we all know and love. The idea is to tell the story of the Abbey in a way that involves and engages the local community.

"We know that local people love where they live, and that our heritage captures the imaginations of tourists who enjoy returning to West Suffolk time and again. I'm sure that these celebrations will live long in the memory."

The Abbey of St Edmund Heritage Partnership is led by St Edmundsbury Cathedral in collaboration with St Edmundsbury Borough Council and representatives of Suffolk County Council, Historic England, English Heritage, the University of East Anglia, the University of Suffolk, the Bury Society and several local community groups as well as specialist architects, historians and archaeologists.

## Waste hub gets green light

Plans for a £20 million waste hub on the outskirts of Bury St Edmunds have been given the go ahead.

The West Suffolk Operational Hub proposed for Hollow Road Farm, in Fornham St Martin, was first approved in September but St Edmundsbury Council's development control committee decided further clarification was needed on a matter of planning policy.

Offers were asked to provide a report for the committee which was heard as part of the council's regular committee meeting in early November.

12

Councillors voted 10-5 in favour of the application and it has now been referred to the Secretary of State to see if he wants to call it in for review. Plans to build the hub, which will be a combined household recycling centre, vehicle depot and transfer station have been met with long standing concerns over traffic, safety and infrastructure.

A spokesman for the applicants - West Suffolk Councils and Suffolk County Council - said it was important that the decision was made after full considerations of all matters.

## Palmers to close

Palmers Fashion Store, in Bury St Edmunds, is to close after more than 50 years' trading in the town. The closure will lead to 35 job losses when it stops trading in January, next year.

The shop, in the town's Buttermarket, was the first expansion of the Palmers brand which was originally established as a small draper shop in Great Yarmouth in 1837.

Palmer's Fashion Store, in Bury St Edmunds, opened in 1961 and was later joined by a second shop in the town Palmer's Homestore, which opened in St Andrews Street in 1998.

# Good year for Bury Water Meadows Group

The group is five years old in December and this year has seen the group continue to grow in its activities and especially in the number of volunteers.

The diary entries for this year show the variety of work the group is undertaking.

**JANUARY:** The group raised concerns via the press and with the leader of the council on the sale of part of The Butts, which might lead to development of this unique and precious meadow in the longer-term. Jo Churchill, our Member of Parliament, came to The Butts for a site visit and to express her concerns. The commercial sale went through and the group remain concerned for the future. The council stated they share the group's reservations.

**MARCH:** The biggest river clean-up to date. Around 25 volunteers divided into four teams, with one team donating waders for cleaning up in the river itself.

**JUNE:** As reported in the last Bury Society news, volunteers were out on a succession of weekends to clear the river area of Himalayan Balsam.

This energetic plant spreads rapidly suppressing native species and therefore disturbing the delicate balance of nature

**JULY:** Two more members took the 1.5 day water training award of the lifesaving society RLSS. Having members with this award is a condition of the council for allowing volunteers to work in water adjacent to council land.

**AUGUST:** Initial planting and in-channel work in the Abbey Gardens was completed. This work helped Bury in Bloom receive a gold environmental award alongside the other gold awards for 2017.

**OCTOBER:** The group for the Lark as a whole the River Lark Catchment Partnership (which BWMG was instrumental in establishing) has been successful as part of a Heritage Lottery Foundation Brecks bid for £3.2 million. Some Lark projects will benefit the river within Bury from the Fornhams to West Stow, but the major RLCP work (with the Environment Agency) will be to enable wild trout to swim up river from the sea to breed.

**NOVEMBER:** The group will be able to complete both in-channel and planting work in the Abbey Gardens next year through grants from the Environment Agency and Anglian Water to the River Lark Catchment Partnership

**DECEMBER:** The group will want to examine the details for the draft Town Centre Masterplan in relation to the "Character Area" for Ram Meadow. There is concern that redevelopment of the car park and Football Club could adversely affect the Ram Meadow Nature Reserve. However, good news that work is starting on developing sheep grazing on the reserve, following the success of the No Mans Meadow grazing project.

The BWMG appreciates the support of the Bury Society in its work on and around the river and water meadows.

If any Society member would like to become more directly involved, please email us <http://www.bury-watermeadowsgroup.com/>

*Andrew Hinchley  
Chairman*

## Plans for maintaining a safe community

Some of you will have travelled extensively and endured the frustrations of security checks at airports but on reflection have been grateful that this minor inconvenience has contributed to you being safe.

Most of us now do not bat an eyelid when we see armed police patrolling the terminals – after all, it has been commonplace in other countries for years. But for some of our local residents the announcement of special measures, including armed officers on the streets of Bury St Edmunds for our Christmas Fayre came as a shock.

What was your opinion? Was this over-reaction; anxiety; waste of public money; common-sense? Judging this with Suffolk hindsight some may conclude that it was all a load of squit – no-one would ever come to our town to launch an attack, traffic is normally so slow that a "wrong un" would not be able to do anything and anyway as things

turned out the police were there and would have sorted it out if the "wurst had come to the wurst".

However, without being alarmist, just consider how you and your families would react to a "real" situation.

It might not be an attack, it could be a major fire or an industrial incident. Have you thought this through in advance? Would you know how to calmly evacuate premises, where to go for safe refuge, what you could do to assist the situation?

Part of our everyday life is planning what we are intending to do and, as circumstances change, we adapt our plans accordingly.

What's for dinner, what shall I wear, how much shall I spend?

So it is important that we recognise that society overall is different and changing to the extent that we need to think about our plans for maintaining a safe community.

Excellent advice is available, amongst which is a short film "Run,

Hide, Tell" which can be viewed online [www.gov.uk/government/publications/stay-safe-film](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/stay-safe-film).

For those of you without the internet, I can always steer you towards someone who can provide relevant information. This will not only be of benefit to you in town but will ingrain the right thinking when you travel elsewhere.

If we all play our part in being the eyes and ears of the community, familiarise ourselves with what we can do and have plans in the back of our minds then we will be better prepared. We all know that Bury has a special quality of life and that in comparison it is a safe town – let's make sure that each of us helps to keep it that way all year round. The chaos during the town's great fire of 1608 showed how ill-prepared the townspeople were to tackle such a major event - don't let history repeat itself.

*John Saunders*  
13

# Restored Cupola House is all set for a national award



*Pictured are, back, Richard Sill, West Suffolk Building Control Service; left, Neil Honeyball; right, Duncan Haydon; front, Ben Whatling, O. Seaman and Son Builders.*

Cupola House, in Bury St Edmunds, is set to be recognised at a national awards scheme for the work carried out to restore it after being hit by a devastating fire.

The project to raise the building, in The Traverse, from the ashes is competing at the national Local Authority Building Control (LABC) Awards, which is being held at Westminster Park Plaza, in London.

The five-year project to rebuild the Grade I-listed town centre landmark, now Bourges Restaurant, after it was destroyed by fire won two LABC East Anglia Building Excellence Awards in July.

O Seaman and Son Builders were awarded the Best Local Builder Award and the project also won the award for Best Commercial Building. Following the fire in June 2012, they took on the re-build project following a comprehensive design from architects Purcell. The project entailed balancing the desire to adopt traditional construction methods and retain the historic design, whilst attempting to bring the building's performance into line with modern safety standards and to reduce the

risk of future fire.

West Suffolk building control officers attended the blaze that gutted Cupola House and have worked closely with O Seaman and Son Builders to completion in 2017.

Richard Sill, the building control officer who undertook the majority of inspections during the painstaking re-instatement work, said: "It has been a pleasure working with Seaman's Builders on such an iconic building of such importance to the local community.

"We met the challenges through an excellent working relationship and we'd like to thank and congratulate Seaman's on a meticulous job, and in particular, site manager Neil Honeyball for his tireless efforts in bringing the project to completion."

Duncan Haydon, at O Seaman and Son Builders, said: "We are delighted the efforts of the build team, who applied so much detail to this complex refurbishment, have been supported by St Edmundsbury's LABC.

"This endorsement shows what management, craft and skill sets we have within our company, and as importantly, are available locally."

# Long-awaited relief road opens

The new £15m relief road opened on the edge of Bury St Edmunds in September – bringing the hope of new development on the eastern side of the town.

Construction of the Eastern Relief Road, funded by the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership, St Edmundsbury council and Suffolk County Council, began in March 2016.

The route, which was delivered on time and is more than a mile long, began to be developed around 10 years ago, and unlocks a 67-hectare area for business development and the potential for 15,000 jobs.

The road, Rougham Tower Avenue, was built by J Breheny Contractors and also provides an alternative route for those travelling from Moreton Hall to the A14 – as well as creating an access to the new Sybil Andrews Academy.

As part of the work, Rougham junction on the A14 has been upgraded and connections to utilities have also been provided for sites that are expected to be developed soon.

New footpaths and cycleways are being created – and wildlife has not been forgotten with the creation of badger tunnels and new homes for bats to compensate for disruption to their habitat.

# Cycle King reopens on Moreton Hall Estate

A temporary home has been found for the fire hit Cycle King which was destroyed in a blaze.

While work continues at the damaged building on Angel Hill, in Bury St Edmunds, a store has opened in Chamberlyne Road, on the Moreton Hall Estate, between Homebase and Matalan, near the Peugeot dealership. It will mean it is open in good time for Christmas with 500 bikes on display along with accessories and a full repair service with promotional offers set to be launched.

Darren Hunt, the group retail managing director of Cycle King, said: "The support we have had in the town has been phenomenal. It's been brilliant, absolutely amazing, from the council, other businesses, OurBurySt Edmunds and our customers."

# Flower power helps to creates wall hangings



The picture shows children from Guildhall Hall Feoffment pointing out their artwork.

The Flower Power project was a Bury in Bloom Community Arts project to create floral textile wall hangings.

The project was devised, created and run by Bury in Bloom's artist in residence.

Workshops were held with 11 different groups within the community, with an age range of participants from two to 96 years old. The workshops were run in pre-schools and nurseries, schools, sheltered housing, a residential home and a day centre. Every participant made a square each based on the themes of plants and mini beasts.

They used a variety of materials

including pastels, brusho dyes, fabrics, sequins, buttons, ribbons, and silks. These squares have then been put together to create 11 wall hangings, one for each group that took part in the project, so that each group has their own wall hanging to display.

In addition, the art work created has also been scanned so it can be used in a wide variety of combinations including Bury In Bloom banners, postcards and the Bury In Bloom website

The work was on display for a week in the Cathedral Cloisters.

*Melanie Lesser*

## Council set to buy Post Office site in £1.6m deal

The Crown Post Office, in Bury St Edmunds, is set to be bought by the borough council in a £1.6 million deal it has been revealed.

St Edmundsbury Borough Council says they are close to completing on the purchase of the town centre building and will now consider plans for the site.

The council says it will explore vari-

ous options including refurbishing and extending the former Post Office building using its existing structure.

It is believed the building will be turned into a mixed retail and residential development.

It officially closed on November 16 last year and the Post Office moved its services to W H Smith.

## YOUR CONTACTS

Society website  
[www.theburysociety.org.uk](http://www.theburysociety.org.uk)

Reg Charity No. 263230

### COMMITTEE

Chairman  
and Heritage Advisor  
Martyn Taylor  
01284 703495  
[chair@burysociety.com](mailto:chair@burysociety.com)  
[martyn\\_taylor@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:martyn_taylor@tiscali.co.uk)

Secretary  
and Vice Chairman  
Tim Page  
01284 767529  
[secretary@burysociety.com](mailto:secretary@burysociety.com)  
[timothy.r.page@icloud.com](mailto:timothy.r.page@icloud.com)

Treasurer  
Doug Beardon  
[treasurer@burysociety.com](mailto:treasurer@burysociety.com)  
[dougbeardon2@gmail.com](mailto:dougbeardon2@gmail.com)

Planning  
Roderick Rees  
[planning@burysociety.com](mailto:planning@burysociety.com)  
[roderick.rees@homecall.co.uk](mailto:roderick.rees@homecall.co.uk)

Membership  
Sue Savage  
01284 719243  
[members@burysociety.com](mailto:members@burysociety.com)  
[susan.savage60@virginmedia.com](mailto:susan.savage60@virginmedia.com)

Programme  
Stephen Moody  
[events@burysociety.com](mailto:events@burysociety.com)  
[sgm111@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sgm111@hotmail.co.uk)

Bury in Bloom  
Robin Burnett  
[gimpburnett@hotmail.com](mailto:gimpburnett@hotmail.com)

Suffolk Preservation Society  
David Rees  
[david.rees@talktalk.net](mailto:david.rees@talktalk.net)

Website  
Alan Baxter  
[alanbaxter@btinternet.com](mailto:alanbaxter@btinternet.com)

### OTHER MEMBERS

Patrick Chung  
Kerr Clement  
Colin Taylor  
Sarah Nunn

# Members' programme through to next year

## **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23**

7pm

A presentation by Martyn Taylor on "The Ghostly and Macabre of Bury St Edmunds".

Unitarian Meeting House.

Members free, non members £5.

## **TUESDAY, JANUARY 30**

7.30pm

Members only.

Tour of Moyse's Hall - The Gersholm Parkington Clock Collection, with Alex McWhirter.

Spaces limited to 40 – book your place at the Tourist Information Point, Angel Hill.

Book early to confirm your place.

## **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10**

11am for an 11.30am start.

Annual Winter Lunch at the Edmund Room above Pilgrim's Kitchen of St Edmundsbury Cathedral.

We precede the lunch with a talk by Victoria Savoulidis entitled "From the Sublime to the Ridiculous" - the many faces of the Bury Fair".

Price £20 per person.

Booking form is included in the Winter Review.

## **TUESDAY, MARCH 13**

12.30pm

Members free – non members £5pp.

Tour of the Great Churchyard with Dr Pat Murrell, followed by a warming bowl of soup at the Unitarian Meeting House.

Book your place at the Tourist Information Point, Angel Hill.

Book early to avoid disappointment. Last bookings taken on February 28.

## **SATURDAY, APRIL 7**

From 10.30 am to noon.

Spring Coffee Morning at the Unitarian Meeting House.

## **MAY**

Visit to Euston Hall, near Thetford. Enjoy a tour of the House and Garden.

Date and cost to be confirmed after New Year as the house diary is not yet set.

Price per person TBC.

Numbers limited.

Book at the Tourist Information Point, Angel Hill.

Own Transport/car share.

## **THURSDAY, MAY 24**

AGM

Unitarian Meeting House, Churchgate Street.

From 6.30pm.

Speaker Terry Hunt, former editor of the East Anglian Daily. Subject: "EADT: Past, Present and Future".

## **SATURDAY, JUNE 16**

10.30am

Members free – non members £5 pp.

Themed Guided Walks of Historic Bury St Edmunds led by our registered tour guides.

Tour themes to be confirmed after the New Year. Book at the Tourist Information Point, Angel Hill.

Book early to avoid disappointment.

Last bookings taken on May 31.

## **THURSDAY, JULY 19**

Day Visit to the Historic Dockyard at Chatham – including the Ropery.

£45pp.

Members and non members/friends welcome.

Coach travel from Bury Ram Meadow at 8am to Chatham.

Coffee on arrival at the dockyard, Day pass to all of the attractions at Chatham Dockyard including the Ropery.

Lunch is not included in the price but there are various options at the site.

Coach travel back to Bury – arriving around 6pm.

Booking form in Spring 2018 review.

## **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15**

10.30am

Heritage Open Day talk by Bury Martyn Taylor - "Under Bury" - tunnels, cellars and caves".

United Reformed Church, Whiting Street.

Book at Tourist Information Point, Angel Hill.

## **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20**

From 10.30am to noon.

Autumn Get Together at the Unitarian Meeting House.

Interactive photo quiz -coffee and cakes.

## **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6**

11am

Guided Tour of the Theatre Royal, Bury St Edmunds.

See behind the scenes at England's third oldest surviving theatre followed by coffee, mince pies and a glass of mulled wine at the Unitarian Meeting House.

Places limited to 50.

Book at the Tourist Information Point, Angel Hill.

Last booking date is October 20.

Members free, NT members free.

## Copy deadline date for the next edition

**Please note that the deadline for the Spring 2018 issue is Monday, April 9.**

**Email copy and photos to [russellcook@sky.com](mailto:russellcook@sky.com)**

**And please be aware that the opinions expressed in the Review are not necessarily those of the Bury Society.**

**Don't miss the opportunity to add your weight to the Bury Society team. Apply for membership now.**

**Either use the website: [theburysociety.org.uk](http://theburysociety.org.uk) to download a membership form from the Home Page by clicking the "Join Us" panel or telephone the membership secretary Sue Savage on 01284 719243.**