

11-20 Sep 2026

Heritage Open Days

All
events are
FREE!



norfolkheritageopendays.co.uk

@NorfolkHODs

Coordinated by

the
forum



heritage open days

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Welcome to Heritage Open Days 2026

Heritage Open Days (HODs) is England's largest community-led celebration of history and culture. Run by hundreds of local organisations and volunteers, the festival invites you to discover Norfolk's rich heritage through an exciting programme of **FREE events from Friday 11 to Sunday 20 September**.

From free entry to much-loved museums to exclusive behind-the-scenes access, HODs offers everyone the chance to explore local history, traditions, community stories and cultural treasures. There's always something new to discover.

This year's theme, **Everyday Histories**, explores Norfolk's places and people and the shared stories that connect our past and present.



© Beth Moseley

Norfolk HODs is a collaboration between all the sites, organisers, community partners and volunteers who work to bring this festival to life for thousands of residents and visitors. The Forum Trust funds the coordination and promotion of Norfolk HODs as part of its charitable purpose and the programme is managed nationally by the National Trust with support from players of People's Postcode Lottery.

How to use this listings brochure

The brochure is designed to give you a taster of the programme at a glance. Many events are drop-in and you can just turn up on the day.

Due to limited capacity, some events must be booked in advance and you'll find the booking details with each listing of applicable events.

There's also a clash-finder calendar at the back of the brochure for Norwich events.

This brochure is not a comprehensive listing as registrations for events continue until 13 August 2026. For full event and access information, visit the What's On page at norfolkheritageopendays.co.uk or contact the venue directly.



Family Friendly
Activities



Pre-book
event

How to book

Bookings open 10am Wednesday 26 August for the majority of pre-book events. Most tickets can be booked online via norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com

For some events you need to book directly with the venue online, by phone or email. Please check individual event listings for details. Meeting points and venue addresses will be confirmed with your booking.

Please note: tickets are not available from The Forum office by telephone, post or email.

If you can't use your allocated ticket: we want to ensure our events are accessible to as many visitors as possible. If you have tickets you cannot use, please let us know by emailing hods@theforumnorwich.co.uk or contact the organiser if you booked directly with them.

Coordinated by

the
forum

heritage open days

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VISIT
NORTH NORFOLK
HOME TO THE DEEP HISTORY COAST

South Norfolk
COUNCIL

© Luke Witcomb

The Forum events

Portraits of Life

The Forum, Millennium Plain, NR2 1TF

Fri 11-Sun 20: 10am-4pm



© Photos: Jack Roberts Archive

EXHIBITION – Visit this exhibition with photographs by professional photographer Jack Roberts, which premiered at The Forum during HODs 2019. This community engagement, social history project celebrates some of Norwich's long-gone communities and buildings and reveals stories of everyday histories.

After the Second World War and before the subsequent redevelopment in the early 70s, the streets of Norwich looked very different. Gone were rows and rows of terraced houses and narrow shopping streets. Jack, a photographer at Coe's Photography and latterly the UEA who died in 2005, captured some of those areas.

With the help of journalist Derek James and photographer Bill Smith, Jack's photographs are being exhibited again, with an extended collection that has never been seen before. Take a look at how Norwich once was, hear some of the stories from those who lived and worked there and see archive films of the period from East Anglian Film Archive, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2026.

Presented by
the forum

Supported by
UEA
University of East Anglia

East Anglian Film Archive

The Forum events

Talks and Tours at The Forum

The Forum, Millennium Plain, NR2 1TF



© Luke Witcomb

The Residents of Dragon Hall and King Street

Tue 15: 2pm

TALK – For most of its 500-year history Dragon Hall has in fact been a residential building of crowded tenements and included two pubs and a rectory. Richard Matthew tells the story of the residents based on census data from 1841 to 1921, plus accounts from local residents.

Pablo Fanque: The Fabulous and Mysterious Victorian Showman

Mon 14: 2pm

TALK – Join social historian and music journalist, Bruce Lindsay, for this talk on Britain's first black showbiz entrepreneur. Born William Darby, a black, workhouse-born, son of Norwich, he re-invented himself as the mysterious Pablo Fanque.

Norfolk Archaeological Trust: Past, Present and Future

Wed 16: 2pm

TALK – Join Fran Young to hear about the beginnings of the Trust. How did they go from saving Norwich property in slum clearance to collecting a portfolio of 10 historic sites across Norfolk in 100 years. And what does the next 100 years look like?

Caroline Colman: The Creator of Wellbeing in the Workplace

Thu 17: 2pm

TALK – Join poet, scriptwriter, broadcaster and theatre-maker John Osborne for a fascinating talk which delves deeper into the Colman family of Norwich. Caroline fostered wellbeing in the workplace, building a workers canteen and providing weekly welfare checks for all single women employees.

Talks on Pablo Fanque and Caroline Colman celebrate VisitNorwich's year-long cultural celebration to mark twenty years of championing the city; **Twenty Stories. One City.**

Jack Roberts: The Photographer Time Forgot

Fri 18: 11am

TALK – Join journalist Derek James and photographer Bill Smith for an illustrated talk about photographer Jack Roberts, highlighting the photographs Jack took of his beloved home, the city of Norwich, which you can see in the Portraits of Life exhibition.

Stories of Working Life in Norfolk

Fri 18: 2pm

TALK – Join Ruth Tolland of WISEArchive to hear about some of the trades and jobs of working life in Norfolk, along with the camaraderie and fun shared by many in the workplace. Hear about stories from Colman's Factory, local boatbuilders and many more.

Behind-the-Scenes at The Forum

Wed 16 & Thu 17: 10am & 1pm

TOUR – See behind the scenes of this Millennium building, including the Millennium Library Stacks Room, views from the outer balcony and get an insight to the building's operations and history.

BOOK THESE EVENTS
norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com

Some tickets are available on the door (for talks only) subject to availability.

City Walking Tours



Enjoy this programme of guided walking tours delivered by the Association of City of Norwich Tourist Guides, Paul Dickson Tours and independent tour guides.

Address and meeting point for bookable events will be confirmed with your booking.



© Luke Witcomb

Fine City Histories

Fri 11, Sun 13, Wed 16: 2pm, Fri 18: 10.30am

Discover significant buildings, streets and events that tell the story of Norwich and hear about the lives of the people who have lived in our fine city over the centuries.

Ridge to River

Fri 11: 11am

From the ridge of Ber Street, descend the steep hill to the river on this tour. Hear about the people of 'Blood and Guts Street', the city walls and towers, the site of lost pleasure gardens and the impact of Colman's Mustard on this part of the city.

King Street History

**Sat 12 & Mon 14: 10.30am
Thu 17: 2pm**

Join this guided stroll along King Street exploring the street's chequered past. Hear about the street that has been trodden by merchants, monks and the mystic, Julian of Norwich; by those who came to work and those who made it their home.

Elm Hill

Sat 12: 2pm & Wed 16: 11am

Discover the history of the buildings, the people who lived there and the events that shaped what we see today on one of Norwich's oldest streets.

A Step in Time

Mon 14: 10am & Thu 17: 2pm

This tour looks at the public clocks, and some sundials, on display on Norwich buildings. Most of them pre-date the pocket watch, wristwatch and digital or smart watches.

Over the Water

Mon 14: 2pm & Sun 20: 2.30pm

This tour looks at the north bank of the River Wensum, an ancient part of the city with a varied and fascinating collection of buildings.

Marking the Boundaries

Tue 15: 10am

Join this tour that explores some of the parish boundary markers in the city. Norwich still has 31 medieval parish churches, and each would have had its own parish.

Fire and Water

Tue 15: 2pm & Sat 19: 11am

Three major fires in the city centre took place on the same date within 100 years of each other. On this tour you will discover the unlucky date and learn more about the many fires that have ravaged Norwich.

Norwich Pub Tours

Tue 15 & Thu 17: 2pm

Discover stories of historic pubs, colourful landlords, smugglers, merchants and centuries of local life hidden within the city's taverns and alehouses.

The Victorian Influence

Thu 17: 10am

Join this tour looking at the contrasts between grand Victorian buildings with older and less ornate structures, starting from the top of Prince of Wales Road down towards the Station and the river by way of King Street and Mountergate.

BOOK THESE TOURS

norfolkxhods.ticketsolve.com

Assyria to the Atlantic - A Norwich Sculpture Trail

Fri 18: 11am

Join this tour to discover the Assyrian-inspired Heraldic Lions by Alfred Hardiman at the City Hall steps, Barbara Hepworth's Atlantic (Sea Form) via George Skipper's reliefs in London Street, the Boer War memorial, Nelson, Wellington, Julian of Norwich and many more.

Concrete, Conscience and Conservation - The Story of the Scott Family in Norwich

Sun 20: 10.15am

Join Judith Merrill, a direct descendant of A.F. Scott, to walk across Norwich exploring the legacy of four generations from the family of non-conformists A.F. Scott & Sons, architects. Hear about the pioneering work in architecture, and their contributions to the religious, social and political fabric of Norwich.

The History of Norwich in Just One Walk

Sat 19: 10am

For newcomers to Norwich and newcomers to history, join this walk with Dr Victor Morgan, providing a comprehensive introduction to our fine city. Part of the 180th year celebrations of the Norfolk and Norwich Archaeological Society.

BOOK
nnas.info

Unbelievers in a City of Churches: A Humanist Heritage Walk

Sat 19: 2pm

Join this circular walk exploring the rich and radical history of freethinkers, secularists, and humanists in Norwich; from a shoemaker astronomer to the first atheist MP.

BOOK
heritage@humanists.uk



© Luke Witcomb

Paul Dickson Tours

Boardman and Skipper Walking Tour

Wed 16: 10.30am

This tour celebrates the architectural legacy of the great Victorian/Edwardian Norwich architects Edward Boardman and George Skipper.

The Pastons in Norwich

Fri 18 10.30am

Discover the story of the Pastons, explore 15th century Norwich and hear readings from their famous letters, the earliest and largest collection of documents detailing everyday lives.

St Martins Walk

Fri 18: 1.30pm

Explore Norwich's history of supporting people in need throughout the ages with St Martins, Norwich-based homelessness charity, and Paul Dickson. You'll pass some significant Norwich places that have offered sanctuary and support through the centuries. The tour finishes with tea and cake.

BOOK THESE TOURS AT
eventbrite.co.uk (search Paul Dickson Tours)

ALL
EVENTS
ARE FREE!



"I loved every minute of it and would have gone to more events if I could! Thanks so much for organising such a brilliant programme."

HODs visitor 2025

Address and meeting point for bookable events will be confirmed with your booking.

Norwich Events Calendar

See pages 46-51



© Keiron Tovell



© Norwich Theatre

Backstage Past: Talks & Tours



© Luke Witcomb

156 Years of Continuous Play

Victoria Bowling Club,
30 Trafford Road, NR1 2QW

Fri 18 & Sat 19: 10am-4pm

OPEN DOORS – Learn about the history of 'The Victoria', and how it is linked to the history of our city. Meet some members and try your hand at bowls.

A.F. Scott the Individualist and His Architecture

Swedenborgian Chapel,
64 Park Lane, NR2 3EF

Tue 15: 7pm

TALK – Hear how Architect A.F. Scott (1854-1936) designed from the traditional to reinforced concrete. His great granddaughter tells how his religious beliefs, independent travels & fantastic knowledge of structural engineering informed his work in Norwich and beyond.

BOOK
norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com

An Evening of Dickens

The Halls, St Andrew's Plain,
NR3 1AU

Wed 16: 7pm

PERFORMANCE – Step gently back in time and join us for a most enchanting evening of words, candlelight, and theatrical delight, 165 years after Dickens himself performed at The Halls.

BOOK
ticketsource.com/the-halls

AudaTours Norwich Audio Tour: At Work

St George's Street, NR3 1BL

Throughout the festival

TOUR – This self-guided tour follows 17 stops from Strangers' Hall to Dragon Hall, tracing weavers, clerks, shoemakers, bargees and merchants through the city.

DOWNLOAD
audatours.com

Backstage Past: Talks & Tours

Theatre Street, NR2 1RL

Sat 12: 10am-3pm every hour

TALK & TOUR – We are pulling back the curtain at Norwich Theatre Royal, revealing the heritage of our building through talks, a display of archival posters, programmes and playbills, and a fun building tour.

BOOK
norwichtheatre.org

City of Norwich School

Eaton Road, NR4 6PP

Sat 12: 10am-2pm

OPEN DOORS – The school, now an Ormiston Academy, was established in 1910 and the original building is still in use today. See archive photos, portraits and treasured memorabilia dating back to the school's founding on display. Current students will be giving guided tours.

Carrow House

301 King Street, NR1 2TG

Building Heritage Together: A Community Tile Project



Sat 12: 10am, 12pm & 2pm

WORKSHOP – Join Mud Hub to make or paint a tile inspired by Norwich and the building's history, contributing to a collaborative artwork. Plus exhibitions and pottery wheel taster sessions.

Carrow House Creatives' Studio Tours



Sun 13 & Sat 19:
10am, 12pm & 2pm

TOUR – Enjoy studio tours, live craft demonstrations, exhibitions, and a pop-up shop, offering a rare behind-the-scenes look at this vibrant creative community.

Make a Hand Stitched Coaster



Sun 13: 10.30am

WORKSHOP – Explore traditional hand sewing with Sam Wolf, learning embroidery and darning techniques. Using reclaimed textiles, rediscover practical skills that offer a thoughtful alternative to fast fashion and waste.

Beyond the Wrapper: Collaborative Collage Workshops



Sun 13: 12.30pm & Sat 19: 12pm

WORKSHOP – Help create collaborative artworks from donated chocolate and cocoa packaging. Inspired by 'Everyday Histories', you can explore links between daily chocolate use and cocoa-growing communities.

Beginners Granny Square Workshop



Sun 13: 2.30pm

WORKSHOP – Learn how to crochet a classic granny square in this beginner-friendly workshop. Using simple stitches, create a design that can be turned into blankets, clothing, and more.

Historical Tours of Old Carrow House

Mon 14 & Wed 16:
10.30am, 11.45am & 1.30pm

TOUR – Step back in time with a tour of Old Carrow House, once home to the Colman family. Discover stories of industry, innovation, and hidden history as you explore this remarkable landmark, brought to life by The Shoebox Experiences.

Mapping Movement in Colour



Sat 19: 10.30am

WORKSHOP – Explore your personal story through colour and collage in this creative workshop with artist Shathy Bano. Using playful techniques, reflect on identity, culture, and history in a relaxed, supportive environment.



© Wheely Good Crochet

BOOK THESE EVENTS

norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com



© Mud Hub Pottery

Intaglio Printing Table Workshop

Sat 19: 12.30pm

WORKSHOP – Try experimental intaglio printmaking with a craft press. Engrave a simple design, ink your plate, and print your own image on specialist paper in this hands-on, beginner-friendly activity.

Hidden Cocoa: Everyday Consumption and the Future of Chocolate

Sat 19: 2.30pm

TALK – An exploration of cocoa in everyday life. From chocolate packaging and hidden ingredients to industrial use and new alternatives. Discover how cocoa shapes culture, consumption, and what chocolate may become in the future.

Curat House

3-4 Haymarket, NR2 1QD

Fri 11 & Fri 18: 10am & 2pm

TOUR – This 15th century merchant's house, now the shop Fat Face, is perhaps most fondly remembered as Backs Wine Merchants and Bar. A behind-the-scenes tour of this hidden gem includes the undercroft and upper rooms.

BOOK

norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com

CWGC Tours – Norwich Cemetery

Earlham Cemetery, Earlham Road, NR2 3RG

Sat 12 & Sat 19: 10am
Wed 16: 5pm

TOUR – Join the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to learn about their work and the people commemorated in this cemetery.

BOOK

cwgc.org/visit-us/events

Earlham Hall

UEA, Earlham Road, NR4 7TJ

Sun 13 & Sun 20:
10am, 11.30am & 2pm

TOUR – Step back in time at this stunning Grade II listed 16th century country house. This architectural gem is renowned for its historical significance and unique features, such as the rare donkey wheel and the intriguing 12-sided room.

BOOK

norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com



© Cathedral of St John the Baptist

Cathedral of St John the Baptist

Unthank Road, NR2 2PA

Hidden Places at St John's



Sat 12: 3pm, Mon 14 & Wed 16:
11am

TOUR – Discover the hidden trails within, beneath, and above the Catholic Cathedral of St John the Baptist while exploring areas not usually open to the public.



© Keiron Tovell

Stained Glass Masterpieces at St John's

Fri 18: 11am

TALK – Learn about the windows, designed by John Hardman Powell and his son, Dunstan, which constitute one of the finest collections of stained glass that you can find anywhere in the country.

BOOK THESE EVENTS

norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com

Victorian Gothic Revival at St John's

Tue 15 & Thu 17: 11am

TOUR – This guided ground floor tour explores the Victorian Gothic Revival movement, and the place of the cathedral within that movement.

Norwich events



© The Garage

The Garage: Medieval Arts and Crafts

East Anglian Air Ambulance Base



Helimed House, Hangar 14, Gambling Close, NR6 6EG

Sat 12 & Sun 13: 9am-4.30pm
Tours depart every 10 mins

TOUR – Have you ever wondered what happens inside an air ambulance helicopter base? Join a tour to uncover facts about this 24/7 life-saving charity and how every second counts when reaching the most seriously injured and unwell people in our region.

BOOK

eaaa.org.uk/opendays

Everyday Histories – The Pioneers of The Salvation Army, Norwich Citadel



34 St Giles Street, NR2 1LL

Fri 18 & Sat 19: 10am-3pm

OPEN DOORS – Visit this beautiful hidden jewel, opened in 1892 and designed by A.F. Scott. See original features and learn more about the everyday lives of our early pioneers from Major Michelle Wheeler at 11.30am each day.

Everyday Life in the Castle Ditches: The Hidden Street Tour

The Shoebox Experiences, 21-23 Castle Meadow, NR1 3DH

Thu 17: 10am, 11am, 12pm, 2pm & 3pm

TOUR – A special guided tour that uncovers the stories and secrets of everyday lives of those who would have lived and worked in our hidden street. Let us bring to life the sights, the sounds and the smells!

BOOK

norfolkxod.ticketssolve.com

Exhibition of Historic Bibles



The Halls, St Andrew's Plain, NR3 1AU

Tue 15: 10am-4pm

EXHIBITION – Display of Bramerton Christadelphians' collection of Bibles, commemorating the 500th anniversary of Tyndale's New Testament translation into English.



© Mike Button

Gasworks Workers and Gardeners: Kett's Heights

The Flint Room

On Ber Street and Finkelgate Junction, NR1 3HB

Tue 15: 10am-4pm

OPEN DOORS – Discover this beautiful medieval building, formerly St John De Sepulchre Church, now known as the Flint Room, one of Norwich's most unusual and historical wedding venues.

The Garage: Medieval Arts and Crafts



The Garage, 14 Chapel Field North, NR2 1NY

Sat 12: 10am-12.30pm

ACTIVITY – Calling all Kings, Queens and Knights of the Realm. Come and create some majestic medieval arts and crafts, inspired by Chapelfield Garden's past as a medieval jousting ground! Drop-in workshop 10am-12.30pm, building tours at 10.30am, 11.30am & 12.30pm.

Gasworks Workers and Gardeners: Stories of Everyday Working Lives at Kett's Heights

St Matthew's Church, Telegraph Lane West, NR1 4JA

Sun 20: 2.30pm

TALK – For over 100 years until the 1960s people were employed in the gasworks below Kett's Heights. We'll share the memories of the gas workers; the heat and stench, and gardening in the peaceful space of Kett's Heights.

BOOK

kettshights.co.uk

The Great Hospital

Bishopgate, NR1 4EL

Mon 14: 10.30am & 1.30pm

TOUR – Visit this historic site and learn about the fascinating history of The Great Hospital, first established in 1249 and still used today as accommodation for those in need. Go inside the stunning heritage buildings spanning from Norman to modern times.

BOOK

norfolkxod.ticketssolve.com

Hungate

St Peter Hungate, Princes Street, NR3 1AE

Norfolk Churches Trust Bike Ride/Stride

Sat 12: 9am-5pm

OPEN DOORS – Come and visit the church, and our beautiful churchyard garden during the Norfolk Churches Trust sponsored bike ride/stride, or why not have a go at brass rubbing?

Some Everyday Stories of Hungate People

Sat 19: 12pm & Sun 20: 3pm

TALK – Join a short talk introducing some interesting Hungate parishioners from 1450-1850, including religious women, industrialists, city fathers and more.

The Halls Heritage Tours

St Andrew's Plain, NR3 1AU

Sun 13: 11am, 1pm, 2.30pm
Mon 14 & Tue 15: 10.30am & 2pm
Wed 16: 10.30am

TOUR – A Grade I listed medieval friary and a major cultural hub at the heart of Norwich. Join our expert guides as they take you through the history of the complex and update you on some of the renovation stories.

BOOK

ticketssource.com/the-halls



© The Halls



© Beth Moseley

Jarrolds History Tour

Jarrolds

1-11 London Street, NR2 1JF

History Tour

Thu 17: 10am & 12pm

TOUR – Explore the often-unseen history of Jarrold Department Store. The tour takes you through the changes and additions to this iconic building which was opened in 1823.

The Way We Worked: An Insight into the Working Life in Norwich

Thu 17: 5pm

TALK – Drawing on his books, including his best-selling 'Jarrold. 250 Years. A History', Pete Goodrum gives us an insight into working life in Norwich.

Norwich Shawls

Sat 19: 5pm

TALK – This talk by Helen Kennett looks at the shawl industry from the 'Weaver' to the 'Wearer'. Hear how the desire to wear and own an imported Kashmiri shawl in the 1790's led to a flourishing industry.

BOOK THESE EVENTS
norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com



© Norfolk Museums Service

Museum of Norwich at the Bridewell

John Lewis & Partners Tour

All Saints Green, NR1 3LX

Sat 12: 10.30am & 3pm

Thu 17: 10.30am & 5.30pm

TALK – Discover the building's history, from Bonds drapers in 1879 to John Lewis & Partners today. Includes a behind-the-scenes Georgian Cottage tour.

BOOK
norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com

Maids Head Hotel

20 Tombland, NR3 1LB

Wed 16: 2.30pm

TALK – Join a special talk with Norwich Tour Guide, Paul Dickson, to discover the Maids Head's 800-year-old past.

BOOK
eventbrite.co.uk (search Maids Head Hotel)

Morris Dancing with Golden Star Morris

Gentleman's Walk, NR2 1NA

Sat 19: Throughout the day

PERFORMANCE – See them perform and chat to the musicians and dancers to celebrate our fine city.



© Luke Witcomb

Museum of Norwich at the Bridewell



Bridewell Alley, NR2 1AQ

Fri 18 & Sat 19: 10am-4.30pm

OPEN DOORS – Explore this vibrant community history museum and discover the everyday histories from Norwich's fascinating past. Learn about Norwich's industrial past through ten galleries, featuring engaging, object-rich displays, interactive experiences and captivating stories.

Music, Heritage and Hospitality

St George Colegate, St George's Street, NR3 1DA

Sat 12: 10.30am-4pm

OPEN DOORS – Explore this historic church and learn more about its rich architectural, musical and community heritage, with displays and short talks at 11am, 12.30pm and 2.30pm.

National Centre for Writing

Dragon Hall, 115-123 King Street, NR1 1QE

Norwich Breweries: 'Beer is Best, It Gives Life Zest, Norwich Brewers Led the Rest'

Sun 13: 10.30am

TALK – Frances and Michael Holmes from Norwich Heritage Projects tell the story of the rise, fall and renaissance of the city's brewing heritage, together with tales of those who worked there.

Norwich: The City Seen Through Its Buildings

Sun 13: 12pm

TALK – Drawing from his book 'Norwich in 50 Buildings', writer and broadcaster Pete Goodrum showcases a handpicked selection of landmarks that have defined the Norwich skyline.

History as a Living Topic

Sun 13: 1.30pm

TALK – Stuart Hobday explores the idea of presenting history as a living topic, in order to bring stories and places of the past alive.

Journeys: Global Textiles from the Karun Thakar Collection at Blickling Hall

Sun 13: 3pm

TALK – Join National Trust's Emma Slocombe and Blickling's Rebecca Feakes for a talk exploring the ideas behind the new exhibition.

BOOK THESE TALKS
nationalcentreforwriting.org.uk



© Luke Witcomb

National Centre for Writing

The Norfolk Club

17 Upper King Street, NR3 1RB

Wed 16: 10am, 11am & 2pm

TOUR – Explore this 250-year-old private members club not usually open to the public. The building is Georgian and was previously a home, a bank and a school.

BOOK
clubsecretary@thenorfolkclub.co.uk

Norwich Events Calendar
See pages 46-51

Norfolk & Norwich Millennium Library: Heritage Centre & American Library

The Forum, Millennium Plain, NR2 1AW

The Heart and Sole of the City: The Story of the Norwich Boot and Shoe Trade

Fri 11: 1pm

TALK – Join Frances and Michael Holmes as they combine anecdotes from their 2013 best-selling book, with archive material, films, photographs and contemporary newspaper reports to tell its story. From the major 20th century factories to shoe fashions and, of course, the works' outing.

BOOK
norfolkhodsticketsolve.com

Knit 1, Pearl 1 – Knit-In

Sat 12: 10am-3pm

WORKSHOP – Can you knit? Or never tried? In the past knitting was an invaluable skill to make affordable clothes. The Costume & Textile Association invite you to drop in to this workshop to celebrate and learn this great skill. Materials supplied or bring your own!

Mardlin', Marchin' and Troshin': Everyday Life in Norwich 1880s-1930s

Tue 15: 1pm-3pm

DISPLAY – Drop in to see maps, photographs and other printed items illuminating the everyday lives of people in Norwich in the late 19th and early 20th centuries during the urban and industrial expansion. Discover more about your own ancestors with the opportunity to search records online via Findmypast.

Letters Home: The Everyday Correspondence of Red Cross Medical Social Worker Margaret Fahey McGrath

Fri 11, Mon 14-Fri 18: 10am-5pm
Sat 12 & Sat 19: 9am-5pm

EXHIBITION – Delve into the letters and memories of an American Red Cross worker serving in Norfolk during the Second World War in this multi-media exhibition in the American Library, first featured in 2025's Silver Wings project.



© Frances & Michael Holmes

Norfolk Women at Work

Fri 11, Mon 14-Fri 18: 10am-7pm,
Sat 12 & Sat 19: 9am-7pm, Sun 13 & Sun 20: 10.30am-4.30pm

EXHIBITION – A display and film to highlight work done by women in Norfolk over the years from WISEArchive, an oral history group which records stories of working life in Norfolk and preserves them in an online archive.

Top right: Heart and Sole of the City; Below: Norfolk Women at Work



© Walter & Rita Nurnberg, NRO

Norfolk Record Office: The Archive Centre

County Hall, Martineau Lane, NR1 2DQ

Norfolk at War: Bombing and Blackout

Wed 16: 10.30am & 2pm

WORKSHOP – A rare chance to see the original Norwich Bomb map showing the locations of the bombs which fell during the war. Discover how it has been conserved, used in television, and see photos of the bomb sites.

BOOK
norfolkrecordoffice.eventbrite.com

Before County Hall There Was Bracondale Lodge

Thu 17 Sep: 10am

TALK – Hosted by the Hall Marks project, hear about the history of Bracondale Lodge before it was demolished to make way for County Hall in 1966. Followed by a guided tour.

BOOK
bracondalelodge.eventbrite.co.uk

The Lost Art of Letter Writing

Fri 18: 1pm

WORKSHOP – How did people send messages before phones, emails and envelopes? Journey through the history of letter writing in this workshop. Write with a quill and 'lock' a letter so that only the recipient can read it.

BOOK
norfolkrecordoffice.eventbrite.com



© Norfolk Record Office



© Norfolk Record Office

The Lost Art of Letter Writing; Top: Norfolk at War



© Keiron Tovel

Norwich Castle

Northwest Clog Dancing

All Saints Green, NR1 3LX

Sat 12: From 11am

PERFORMANCE – Local Morris group Fiddlesticks will be dancing around various Norwich city centre sites, starting outside John Lewis.

Norwich Castle Museum & Art Gallery

Castle Hill, NR1 3JU

Sat 19: 10am-5pm

MUSEUM – Step inside a 12th century Norman Castle built for a conquering King. Enjoy panoramic views from the battlements and explore the everyday lives of those living in medieval Norwich through 900 remarkable objects in The Gallery of Medieval Life: A British Museum Partnership.

BOOK
webshop.museums.norfolk.gov.uk

Norwich Cathedral

65 The Close, NR1 4DH

Women of the Cathedral

Fri 11: 10.30am

Tue 15: 2.30pm

TOUR – Explore the way in which women's stories from earlier times are also woven into the fabric and history of Norwich Cathedral, up to the present day.

A Day in the Life of a Medieval Monk

Mon 14: 10.30am

Thu 17: 2.30pm

TOUR – Step back 900 years and discover the daily rhythm of the Benedictine monks who once lived and worshipped here.

Forgotten Lives

Mon 14 & Fri 18: 2.30pm

TOUR – Among the elaborate memorials to the great and good, lie smaller mementoes revealing forgotten stories about ordinary folk from the past.

Martha the Monastery Maid

Mon 14 & Tue 15: 1.30pm

TOUR – You think your working day is tough? Imagine what it was like for the monastery maid! Discover what life was like working for the Benedictine monks in the 1300s.

How Ordinary People Made Their Mark

Tue 15 & Thu 17: 11.30am

TOUR – Discover how ordinary people made their mark on Norwich Cathedral, and left extraordinary things for us to find today. Join this treasure trove of discovery!

Everyday Stories in the Bosses

Wed 16: 2.30pm

TALK – With more stone bosses in its roof vaulting than anywhere else in the world, hear about ordinary people and stories, which are found in them in the nave and cloister.

Making Music

Fri 18: 10.30am & Sat 19: 1.30pm

TOUR – Learn about musicians from Adam the 14th century organist, to the musician who kept on playing when the organ caught fire!

BOOK THESE TALKS & TOURS
norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com



© Bill Smith

Findmypast Live at Norwich Cathedral

Sat 12: 10am-4pm

OPEN DOORS – Want to know more about your family history? And how it relates to local and social history? Drop in to find out more with talks and access to the Findmypast website.



Norwich Guildhall

© The Forum

Norwich Guildhall

Gaol Hill, NR2 1JS

Thu 17: 11am & 2pm

TOUR – Centered in the city for over 600 years, Norwich Guildhall is the largest surviving medieval civic building in the country outside London. Visit the 14th century undercroft, police cells and Victorian courtroom.

BOOK
nnfestival.org.uk

Norwich High School for Girls

95 Newmarket Road, NR2 2HU

Sat 19: 10am & 11am

TOUR & TALK – Discover this school, which has been on this site since 1933. A fine example of a suburban Regency Villa, the buildings retain many original features including a Crinkle Crankle wall and stunning architrave. Each tour and talk session lasts 2hrs.

BOOK
norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com



Norwich High School for Girls

© NHSFG

Norwich Historic Churches Trust

St Martin At Palace Centre,
15 St Martin At Palace Plain,
NR3 1RW

NHCT Bike Ride/Stride

Sat 12: 10am-4pm

TRAIL – Check-in for your bike ride or walk around our churches as part of the Norfolk Churches Trust sponsored bike ride/stride.

Sacred & Secular: The Many Uses of Church Buildings in the Middle Ages

Sat 12: 12pm

TALK – Dr Oliver Coulson will explain how the current uses of the Trust's church buildings are not necessarily new. Find out how medieval churches were actually used 600 years ago.

The Palace Players Presents: Shakespeare's Workers

Sat 12: 2.30pm-3.30pm

PERFORMANCE – Enjoy this selection of extracts from Shakespeare's plays focused on ordinary working people, including a piece only recently attributed to The Bard.



Norwich Quaker Meeting House

© Keiron Tovell

Norwich Quaker Meeting House – It's Our Bicentenary!

Upper Goat Lane, NR2 1EW

Sat 19: 10am-3pm

OPEN DOORS – Celebrate living history and 200 years of the Quaker Meeting House, a Grade II* listed building. Exhibitions and activities also available 13-20 Sep.

Norwich School

69-71a The Close, NR1 4DD

Air Raid Shelter

Tue 15: 2.30pm & 2.45pm

Wed 16: 3pm & 3.15pm

Thu 17: 2pm & 2.15pm

TOUR – Step back to the Blitz and visit the air raid shelter under the playground, offering a well-preserved insight into Norwich's wartime history.

BOOK
norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com

Chapel

Tue 15: 3pm-4pm

Wed 16: 3.30pm-4.30pm

Thu 17: 2.30pm-3.30pm

OPEN DOORS – Explore the medieval chapel packed full of heritage.



The People Who Built Eaton Park

Norwich Through Time

The City Bookshop,
10 Davey Place, NR2 1PQ

Fri 11-Sun 20: 10am-5pm
(Sun 10am-3.30pm)

EXHIBITION – Journey through centuries of change, from the construction of Norwich's iconic gates and walls to moments of crisis and resilience. Featuring the devastating Baedeker Raid of 1942, the great floods and the 1994 library fire.

Octagon Chapel

21a Colegate, NR3 1BN

Fri 11, Sat 12, Fri 18, Sat 19:
10am-2pm, **Sun 13 & Sun 20:**
12pm-4pm

OPEN DOORS – An example of English Neo-Palladian architecture, see the interior of this unique 18th century Grade II* listed chapel. Includes 'Sonic Illumination' live art performance Fri 18 at 8.30pm.

Open Studios

St Etheldreda's Church,
King Street, NR2 1DF

Sat 12 & Sun 13: 10am-5pm

OPEN DOORS – Visit this medieval church now used as studio spaces by 12 artists, with art exhibition area.

The People Who Built Eaton Park

South Park Avenue, NR4 7AU

Sun 13: 1pm

TOUR – Enjoy a short presentation and visual display of old photographs. Includes a guided walk by the Lily Pond to the boating lake to view the historic architecture, with rooftop views of the park and a train ride.

BOOK
norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com

The Plantation Garden

4 Earlham Road, NR2 3DB

Sun 13: 9am-6pm

OPEN DOORS – Visit this restored Victorian garden in the centre of Norwich with a gothic fountain, Italianate terrace, formal planting and woodland walks. Enjoy refreshments and music in the afternoon.

Pull's Ferry

Ferry Lane, NR1 4DH

Fri 11-Sun 13 & Fri 18-Sun 20:
11am-4pm

OPEN DOORS – Discover the history of Pull's Ferry and see inside the Watergate room. Find out how the stone for the cathedral was transported up the river (now the road) and how people crossed the river before the bridges were built.

Rosary Cemetery

Rosary Road, NR1 1RT

History Tour

Sun 13: 2pm

TOUR – Learn about the history and some of the notable people buried in one of Norwich's hidden treasures, the oldest section being Grade II* listed parks and gardens.

Wildlife Tour

Sun 20: 2pm

TOUR – Learn about the original design and wildlife of the first Garden Cemetery to be established in England, with its many species and award-winning biodiversity.

BOOK THESE TOURS
norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com



The Plantation Garden



Sainsbury Centre Sculpture Park

Sainsbury Centre

UEA, Norfolk Road, NR4 7JT

Architecture at the Sainsbury Centre and Sculpture Park

Fri 11: 11am & 1pm
Sun 13: 11am

TOUR – Join a unique architectural tour of the iconic Sainsbury Centre and surrounding Sculpture Park, including a behind-the-scenes exclusive look at the famous Crescent Wing corridor!

Everyday Histories at the Sainsbury Centre

Fri 11, Tue 15-Sun 20: 2.30pm

TOUR – Join an exclusive tour of the Living Area with a spotlight on artworks and artefacts that touch upon the everyday histories of cultures across the globe through the lens of food and drink.

BOOK THESE TOURS
norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com

Saturday Art Club at St Peter Parmentergate

Community East CIC, St Peter Parmentergate Church,
76 King Street, NR1 1PG

Sat 12: 12pm & 2pm

WORKSHOP – Join Norwich Making Space for some family-friendly creative fun. Explore this medieval church turned community skatepark and create some art inspired by the building. Ages 5-11.

BOOK
norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com

Sharks, Shipwreck & Survival: Harold Higgs & the Sinking of the Carnarvon Castle, 1907

St Matthew's Church,
Telegraph Lane West, NR1 4JA

Sat 12: 1pm & 3pm

TALK – Join local author and historian Helen Murray for a talk on her new non-fiction book telling the dramatic true story of Harold Higgs, a young sailor from Thorpe Hamlet.

BOOK
helenmurrayauthor@gmail.com

St Augustine's Church

St Augustine's Street,
NR3 3BY

Sat 12, Sun 13 & Sun 20:
10am-4pm

OPEN DOORS – Explore this medieval church with its wealth of memorials, WWI commemorations and displays of local history.

St John Maddermarket Church

Pottergate, NR2 1DS

Sat 12: 10am-4pm

OPEN DOORS – Visit this 500-year old city church in the heart of Norwich Lanes to learn more about its explosive history!

St Michael and All Angels Ruin

Bowthorpe Hall Rd, NR5 9AA

Sat 12: 11am-9pm

OPEN DOORS – Visit this 14th century ruin for a day of celebration with music, a ceilidh, launch of a new activity trail and tours at 11am & 2pm.

St Peter Mancroft Church

Hay Hill, NR2 1QQ

St Peter Mancroft Tour

Fri 11, Mon 14-Fri 18: 1.45pm
Sat 12 & Sat 19: 11am

TOUR – Take a relaxed tour of this wonderful medieval building visiting the Treasury, go behind the scenes to the Sacristy, tread The Processional Way, see the Lady Chapel and much more.

Julian of Norwich – Anchorite to Global Phenomenon

Fri 11: 11am

TALK – This talk by Keith Carlton looks at the life of an ordinary woman to whom extraordinary things happened, and whose legacy has not only shaped Norwich itself, but has had an impact across the globe.

Organo Pleno and The King of Instruments

Sat 12: 1pm

PERFORMANCE – A feast of music for organ from Baroque masterpieces to 20th century avant-garde, Julian Haggett talks about and plays St Peter Mancroft's Collins organ.

Your Chance to Play the Collins Organ

Sat 12: 2pm-3pm (every 15 mins)

ACTIVITY – Following a recital by organist Julian Haggett, take the rare opportunity to have a go on St Peter Mancroft's Collins organ by booking onto this activity.

Robert Toppes and the Toppes Window

Mon 14: 11am

TALK – A talk by Richard Matthew about the wealthy mercer who was the builder and owner of Dragon Hall and the donor of the magnificent stained glass window in St Peter Mancroft.

Logo Rewind – Medieval Trademarks in the Ward of Mancroft

Tue 15: 11am

TALK – Hear from Darren Leader, graphic designer, researcher and educator whose second publication 'Logo Rewind: Trademarks of Medieval Norwich' looks at personal identity, occupation and craftsmanship.

Norwich, the Normans and Mancroft

Wed 16: 11am

TALK – Hear from Sandy Heslop, who taught at UEA from 1976-2019, is currently Professor Emeritus and has published widely on English medieval art and architecture.

A Black History of Norwich

Thu 17: 11am

TALK – Paul Dickson celebrates the diverse contribution of black people to the history of Norwich, and looks at the slave trade and the abolitionists from Norfolk like Thomas Fowell Buxton, Amelia Opie and Harriet Martineau.

Mancroft Bells and the London Connection

Fri 18: 11am

TALK – Hear from Neil Thomas who learnt the art of bellringing at school, joined the St Peter Mancroft Guild of Ringers in 1983, has been steeple keeper for many years and worked at the Whitechapel Bell Foundry.

Bell Tower Tour

Fri 18: 12.45pm

TOUR – An important centre for bell-ringing, the church houses the Mancroft Ringing Discovery Centre, one of only six computer-based training set-ups in the world. See this and go further up the medieval spiral to see where it all really happens.

BOOK THESE EVENTS

norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com



© Beth Moseley

Strangers' Club

Paston House,
22-24 Elm Hill, NR3 1HG

Sun 13 & Sun 20: 11am-3pm

OPEN DOORS – Built by Augustine Steward around 1545, this site has hosted many distinguished visitors, including Queen Elizabeth I who visited in 1578 and observed a pageant from a first-floor window.

Thorns DIY Paintings

22 Exchange Street, NR2 1AT

Fri 11-Sun 20: 9am-5.30pm
(Sun 10am-4pm)

OPEN DOORS – Established in 1835, this building is enriched in history. See some unusual paintings believed to date back to the 18th century.

Top to Toe, Cloche Hats to Tango Heels



Museum of Norwich at the
Bridewell, Bridewell Alley,
NR2 1AQ

Sat 19: 10am-2pm

WORKSHOP – Create your own designer inspired bookmark and learn about flappers and titfers. A Costume & Textile Association drop-in session for all ages and abilities with a 1920s theme to celebrate the centenary of the Museum of Norwich at the Bridewell.



© C&TA

Top to Toe, Cloche Hats to Tango Heels



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Norwich events

Walking the Line

Marriott's Way at Barn Road,
NR2 4TQ

Sun 20: 2pm

WALK – Join the Friends of Norwich City Station along the former Midland and Great Northern Railway, on the footpath named after the railway's chief engineer and locomotive superintendent, William Marriott.

BOOK
friendsoftrainwoodandmw@gmail.com

Work & Play the NR3 Way!



Waterloo Park, Angel Road,
NR3 3HX

Sat 12: 10am-4pm

OPEN DOORS – Visit Captain Sandys-Winsch's beautiful Grade II listed park, redesigned in the 1930s. As well as great views from the pavilion balcony, there will be flowerbeds in bloom, live music, and an exhibition of the history of the park and its bowling club.



Check out these
venues too!

Chapel Field Road Methodist Church

Chapel Field Road, NR1 1SD
Sat 12: 10am-4pm

Norfolk Wherry Maud Virtual Tour

Online: wherrymaudtrust.org
Throughout the festival

St Giles Church

75 Upper St Giles Street,
NR2 1AB
Dates & times vary

St Mark's Church, Lakenham

Hall Road, NR1 3HL
Sat 12: 9am-5pm,
Wed 16: 10.30am-12.30pm,
Sat 19: 10am-4pm

Norwich Events Calendar

See pages 46-51

SAINSBURY CENTRE

Living Art Sharing Stories

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The Guardian

sainsburycentre.ac.uk
University of East Anglia, Norwich



Norwich
Castle

Visit Norfolk's Top Museums



Time and
Tide Museum



Gressenhall Farm
and Workhouse



Discover all ten Norfolk Museums at museums.norfolk.gov.uk

ALL
EVENTS
ARE FREE!



“It was a great opportunity to see behind the scenes of places that are not normally open to the public.”

HODs visitor 2025

Address and meeting point for bookable events will be confirmed with your booking.



© Holkham Estate

Holkham Estate

Holkham Hall, Wells-next-the-Sea, NR23 1AB

Thu 17: 9.30am, 11.30am & 1.30pm

TALK – Celebrate 75 years since the start of Holkham Studio Pottery at Holkham Estate. Hear a heritage talk from the Archivist and Security & Facilities Manager in the Lady Elizabeth Wing, with archive displays and photographs sharing its history.

BOOK
holkham.co.uk

The Black Swan Public House and Theatre

Black Swan Loke,
North Walsham, NR28 9BX

Thu 17 & Sat 19: 4pm

TOUR – Explore the history of a public house on the site since 1730, from bustling hotel to theatre. Discover the former stables of many uses before becoming today's not-for-profit community venture.

BOOK
newstages.co.uk/tours

Cromer Museum

Tucker Street, Cromer,
NR27 9HB

Sat 12-Sun 13: 12pm-4pm

OPEN DOORS – Set inside a converted row of original fishermen's cottages, the museum offers a fascinating insight into the area's rich maritime heritage and geological history. Discover Cromer's history as a Victorian seaside resort and the scandal of its mixed bathing.

Cromer Signal Box

North Norfolk Retail Park,
Holt Road, Cromer, NR27 9ST

Fri 11-Sun 13: 10am-4pm

OPEN DOORS – Visitors can operate the levers and watch the points and signals change position outside and learn about the basic principles of signal box working. Includes sections of railway and signalling history and artefacts on the grounds.

East Anglia Methodist Heritage Centre

Buddells Lane, Wighton,
Wells-next-the-Sea, NR23 1PG

Sat 12: 11am-3pm

OPEN DOORS – Drop in to learn about the history and impact of the Methodist Church over the past 200 years in East Anglia, with short talks throughout the day. Visitors are welcome to play the organ.

The Everyday Past at Binham Priory

Binham Priory, Warham Road,
Binham, NR21 0DQ

Sat 12: 11am-2pm

WALK – Join Pathmakers CIO walking charity and Norfolk Archaeological Trust for a circular 4-mile guided walk in and around Binham Priory. Hear about the everyday lives of Norfolk's finest monastic ruins from historian, Dr Richard Hoggett.

BOOK
norfolkhodsticketsolve.com

The Fakenham Gasworks Museum

Hempton Road, Fakenham,
NR21 7LA

Sat 12, Sun 13, Sat 19 & Sun 20: 10am-4pm

OPEN DOORS – One of the last intact gas works left in the world, see how 'Town Gas' was made. New for 2026 is a permanent exhibition of the printing heritage of Fakenham and the men and women who worked in the industry.



© Luke Witcomb

Cromer Pier & Pavilion Theatre

The Pier, Cromer,
NR27 9HE

Open Day

Sun 13: 10am-3pm

OPEN DOORS – Visit this stunning 151-metre-long Victorian landmark, which celebrates its 125th anniversary in 2026. Enjoy a brass band (1pm-3pm) and step inside the Pavilion Theatre to see a special short film created for HODs and narrated by Norfolk's own Olly Day.

Backstage Tours

Sun 13: 10am-3pm every 30 mins

TOUR – Guided by theatre staff, explore refurbished backstage areas and discover the theatre's rich history, with a rare behind-the-scenes look at The Cromer Pier Show 2026.

North Norfolk events



© National Trust, Andrew Butler

Felbrigg Walled Garden

Felbrigg Hall

Felbrigg, NR11 8PR

Felbrigg Garden Tour

Tue 15 & Thu 17: 11am & 1pm

TOUR – Learn about the history of the gardens, and of Felbrigg's past inhabitants. The tour will head around the West Garden and across to the Walled Garden. You'll also see one of the few octagonal working dovecotes in the country, dating back to the early 1750s.

Felbrigg Hall Attics & Cellars Tour

Thu 17 & Fri 18: 12pm & 2pm

TOUR – These exclusive tours take place in our 'closed to the public, attics and cellars'. Led by knowledgeable guides you will head down into the 15th century Tudor cellars and then up to explore the rich family history, found throughout attics full of otherwise unseen collection.

BOOK THESE TOURS

nationaltrust.org.uk/felbrigg



© Bill Priddy

The Ghost's Stories

From Sewers to Seaside Splendour

Alfred Street/Runton Road, Cromer, NR27 9AU

Sun 13: 10.15am & 2.30pm

WALK – Cromer surveyor and architect A.F. Scott left a legacy of hotels, houses, shops, public works and churches. Hear fascinating stories and explore his architectural styles on a walk with his great granddaughter, holder of the Scott archive.

BOOK

norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com

George Skipper in Cromer

Old Town Hall, Prince of Wales Road, Cromer, NR27 9HS

Sun 20: 2.30pm

WALK – This walking tour led by Paul Dickson explores Norfolk architect George Skipper's Victorian/Edwardian legacy in Cromer including the notable Hotel de Paris, overlooking Cromer Pier, along with lost hotels, The Grand and The Metropole.

BOOK

eventbrite.co.uk
(search Paul Dickson Tours)



© Martin Hills

Norfolk Wherry Trust

The Ghost's Stories

St Benet's Abbey, St Benet's Road, Off Hall Common Road, Ludham, NR29 5NU

Sat 12 & Wed 16: 11am

TALK – Visit St Benet's Abbey to hear an insight into the stories of our ghosts! Find out who Brother Pacificus was and what his daily working life was like, and that of Brother Essric, also known as the Traitor Monk.

BOOK

norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com

How Hill Trust

How Hill House, How Hill Road, Ludham, NR29 5PG

Sun 20: 10am-3pm

OPEN DOORS – Experience a captivating open day at the How Hill Trust, a stunning Edwardian estate nestled in the Norfolk Broads. Highlights include open gardens, house tours, woodland walks and heritage displays including marshman and thatching tools.

The Museum of the Broads

Poor's Staithe, Stalham, NR12 9DA

Sun 13: 10am-4pm

OPEN DOORS – Discover the unique history of the Norfolk Broads through engaging exhibits, restored traditional boats, and interactive displays that bring the region's past to life. For 2026, see Norfolk Wherry Maud and her pop-up museum to learn about the history of a traditional Norfolk trading wherry.

Norfolk Wherry Trust

Horsefen Road, Ludham, NR29 5QG

Sat 12 & Sun 13: 10am-3pm

OPEN DOORS – Visit the Norfolk Wherry Trust boatyard, home of Albion, a 128-year-old 'black-sailed' trading wherry. Albion is a living museum and it remains only one of two trading wherries still sailing today.

North Walsham Freemasons

Community Centre, New Road, North Walsham, NR28 9DE

Sat 12: 9.30am-12.30pm

OPEN DOORS – An opportunity to informally meet members of the Lodge of Unanimity No. 102, one of the oldest Lodges in Norfolk, first formed in 1758. See the Lodge furniture set out as it would be for a meeting along with some of the Regalia.

Heritage Open Days 11-20 Sep 2026

Sheringham Masonic Centre

36 Cromer Road, Sheringham, NR26 8RR

Sat 12: 10am-4pm

OPEN DOORS – Hear about the building's former uses, from the early days of cinema to its present day use as a masonic hall and community venue.

Sheringham Park

Wood Farm, Lodge Hill, Upper Sheringham, NR26 8TL

Tumuli to Trenches

Sun 13 & Tue 15: 10am

WALK – Learn more about the archaeology of the park on a guided walk with Assistant Ranger Rupert Eris. Take in the historic wood banks and tumuli and learn more about the sawmill. Hear about the wartime defence landscape and explore one of the pillboxes.

Tumuli Walk

Mon 14: 11am & 2pm

WALK – Join Rupert Eris on a guided walk through the park's tumuli, a Neolithic oval barrow with a Bronze Age round barrow on top.

BOOK THESE WALKS

nationaltrust.org.uk/sheringhampark

St Joseph's Catholic Church, Sheringham

58 Cromer Road, Sheringham, NR26 8RT

Sat 12: 10.30am-4.30pm

OPEN DOORS – Explore this masterpiece of Sir Giles Gilbert Scott. A parish church which, aside from the town's war memorial, is Sheringham's only listed building.

RNLI Happisburgh

Lifeboat Station, Cart Gap Road, Happisburgh, NR12 0QL

Everyday Heritage Station Visit

Sun 13 & Sun 20: 10am

TOUR – Share in the stories of Saving Lives at Sea at Happisburgh since 1810. Meet some members of the current crew and get to see what we do and how rescues are made.

An Audience with the Crew

Tue 15: 7.30pm

TALK – Meet and hear from the Happisburgh Lifeboat crew as they tell their stories. Find out what it was like to operate an Inshore Lifeboat from the mid 1960s to today and see how lifesaving at sea has changed for the crew.

BOOK THESE EVENTS

norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com

All events subject to operational circumstances permitting

Walsingham Methodist Chapel

High Street, Walsingham, NR22 6BY

Fri 11-Sat 12: 10am-4pm, Sun 13: 1pm-4pm

OPEN DOORS – Drop in to see a largely unspoilt 18th century chapel in historic Walsingham, with displays and artefacts highlighting the chapel and Methodists in Norfolk over the years.

ALL
EVENTS
ARE FREE!



“Loved it, thanks
for putting this
on! Very inspiring!”

HODs visitor 2025

Address and meeting
point for bookable
events will be confirmed
with your booking.



© Diss Museum Collections

Brushes, Bobbins, and Banter

500 Years of The Swan

The Swan Hotel,
19 The Thoroughfare,
Harleston, IP20 9AS

Wed 16: 2.30pm

TALK – Built with funds earned through treachery and betrayal, hear the tale of the pub and the stories it tells of villains and heroes who have passed through it in its long and varied life.

Becket's Chapel

Historic Norfolk,
2 Church Street,
Wymondham, NR18 0PH

Thu 17: 11am-3pm

OPEN DOORS – Visit one of Wymondham's most important heritage assets. The earliest parts of the building date from the 12th century, and it has been an important part of town life for hundreds of years.



© K Welton

designermakers21

Behind-the-Scenes at the Corn Hall Diss

The Corn Hall, St Nicholas
Street, Diss, IP22 4LB

Fri 11 & Fri 18: 10.30am

TOUR – Join a guided tour of this award-winning arts and heritage venue, learn about the history of the building and see hidden parts not normally open to the public.

Booze and Brewing

Market Place, Harleston,
IP20 9AD

Sat 12: 11am & 3pm

TOUR – A whistle stop tour through a town's wayward past featuring the antics of some of the hard drinkers and landlords, both respectable and less so. Spot traces of old pubs, breweries and maltings that supported both local and London brewers.

BOOK
norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com

Brush Making

St Mary's Church, Mount
Street, Diss, IP22 4QQ

Sat 12: 12pm & Sun 13: 2pm

TALK – Join Ken Doughty to learn about the rich history of brush making, a local industry to Diss and a staple market across the country for centuries. Discover the Tramp Route of brush makers across England and the lives and craft of these workers.

BOOK
dissmuseum.co.uk

Brushes, Bobbins, and Banter

St Mary's Church, Mount
Street, Diss, IP22 4QQ

**Sat 12: 11am-4pm & Sun 13:
1pm-4pm**

OPEN DOORS – The ordinary is often extraordinary, and Diss Museum will be celebrating the remarkable lives of everyday workers from Diss and district, shining a light on the town's rich industrial heritage, focussing on brush and lace making.

Come and Have a Go

The Swan Hotel,
19 The Thoroughfare,
Harleston, IP20 9AS

**Mon 14-Wed 16 & Fri 18:
12pm-2pm**

ACTIVITY – From knitting to crochet, spinning to weaving, take this opportunity to have a go at some domestic and more industrial crafts, learning from local craftspeople.

designermakers21 and the Winfarthing Anglo-Saxon Project

designermakers 21,
21 St Nicholas Street,
Diss, IP22 4LB

Sat 19: 10am-5pm

ACTIVITY – Artists and creators at designermakers21 are being inspired by the Winfarthing Anglo-Saxon Project. See demonstrations and take part in activities to design your own Anglo-Saxon coin, jewellery or embroidered textile.

Discover the Anglo-Saxons in Winfarthing

St Mary's Church, Church
Lane, Winfarthing, IP22 2EA

Sat 19: 10am-4pm

OPEN DOORS – Try the new interactive kiosk to learn about South Norfolk in the Anglo-Saxon period and a Winfarthing Woman who was buried with her fine golden jewellery. Learn about the Crosses and Coins Project with object handling.

Domestic and Industrial Heritage

The Swan Hotel,
19 The Thoroughfare,
Harleston, IP20 9AS

**Sat 12, Sun 13, Sat 19 & Sun 20:
11am & 2pm**

WALK – Explore Harleston's nooks and crannies and discover the rich industrial and domestic heritage. Where did the Butcher, the Baker and the Clockmaker work? Why were there so many schools and public houses?

BOOK
norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com

Dickleburgh Village History Group

The Reading Room, Burston
Road, Dickleburgh, IP21 4NQ

**Thu 17: 2pm-4pm & Sat 19:
10am-3pm**

OPEN DOORS – Explore the collection of photographs, documentation, census records and artefacts that cover village life historically and present.

Exhibition of Historic Bibles



Christadelphian Hall, The
Street, Bramerton, NR14 7DW

**Fri 18: 10am-7pm & Sat 19:
10am-6pm**

EXHIBITION – The collection commemorates the 500th anniversary of Tyndale's New Testament translation into English. Includes shorts talks and children's activities. Film screening on Fri 18 at 7.30pm.

Family Time – Vintage Special



Harleston Library, Swan Lane,
Harleston, IP20 9AW

Wed 16: 3.30pm-5.30pm

ACTIVITY – Step back in time with a selection of vintage games. Share old favourites and see what pastimes were like before the internet.

Get Me Home



Market Place, Harleston,
IP20 9AD

Throughout the festival

TRAIL – Find the cartoon images of real-life shopkeepers in shop windows. Pick up a printed trail from Harleston Information Plus.

It's in The Mail

The Swan Hotel,
19 The Thoroughfare,
Harleston, IP20 9AS

Tue 15: 2.30pm

TALK – A history of Harleston's messaging and mail service over the centuries and the surprising range of Post Office locations in the town over the years.

Just a Cuppa – Reminiscence



Harleston Library, Swan Lane,
Harleston, IP20 9AW

Mon 14: 2pm-4pm

DISPLAY – Come along to a 'Just a Cuppa' with a difference. See a selection of themed 'Reminiscence Kits', specially created for those affected by Dementia; a great talking point and can be enjoyed by all.

Low Ground-High Expectations

Flint Barn Café,
Whitlingham Country Park,
Trowse, NR14 8TR

Thu 17: 10.30am

WALK – Whitlingham Country Park arose from sixteen marshes. Through a two-mile guided walk, find out how the two broads were created and what happened a century ago when Whitlingham hosted a Royal Agricultural Show.

BOOK
whitlinghamcountrypark.com

Old Crafts

The Swan Hotel,
19 The Thoroughfare,
Harleston, IP20 9AS

Sat 12: 10am-1pm

OPEN DOORS – Come and learn about old crafts still practiced here, including whittling, taking a simple piece of wood and making it into a useful and decorative object.

Open Art Show

The Swan Hotel,
19 The Thoroughfare,
Harleston, IP20 9AS

**Sat 12, Sun 13, Wed 16, Sat 19,
Sun 20: 10am-4pm**

EXHIBITION – Drop in to see an exhibition of artwork from local people with a theme of 'everyday lives'.

Oral Histories

Harleston Library, Swan Lane,
Harleston, IP20 9AW

Fri 11: 2pm

TALK – Join the WISEArchive team and discover the roles of working women in Victorian Harleston, through recorded memories of local people.

BOOK
norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com

Quantum Leap Library



Harleston Library, Swan Lane,
Harleston, IP20 9AW

Dates & times vary

OPEN DOORS – Travel back in time to the retro library, celebrating how it ran before the digital age. Includes a display of local history books and rag rug making for a community project.

Raveningham Hall & Gardens

Raveningham, NR14 6NS

**Fri 11: 10am, 12pm, 2pm & 4pm
Sat 12: 10am & 12pm**

TOUR – Join a short tour of the public rooms, given by the owner Sir Nicholas Bacon. This will include some of the Art Collection.

BOOK
sonya@raveningham.com

The Reapers' Year

The Swan Hotel,
19 The Thoroughfare,
Harleston, IP20 9AS

Fri 11: 7.30pm

PERFORMANCE – Drop in to a staged reading of this play, first performed in 1984 and written to mark the 100th anniversary of the farm labourer getting the vote. This revival features a cast of local performers and songs sung by Sound Tradition live on stage.

Riots, Ruins & Royals

Flint Barn Café,
Whitlingham Country Park,
Trowse, NR14 8TR

Tue 15: 11am

TALK – Step inside the atmospheric ruins of nearby Grade II listed Trowse Newton Hall, discovering the lives of people whose stories live on within its flint walls. Be transported through the timeline of the hall's residents and visitors, for a glimpse into the past in this unique, historic setting.

BOOK
whitlinghamcountrypark.com

Routes to Roots



Wymondham Abbey
Station, Becketswell Road,
Wymondham, NR18 9PH

Sat 19: 10am-4.30pm

OPEN DOORS – Explore our stations' histories as we tell the story of the people who, from 1846, served their communities, working on, living in or being connected with the railway line from County School to Wymondham and beyond. Tour the signal box and enjoy a fun packed day of railway living histories.

St Edmund's Church

The Street, Costessey,
NR8 5DD

Sat 12: 10am-3pm

OPEN DOORS – Visit this 14th century country church with Victorian additions. Take a tour to see interesting tombs belonging to the inhabitants of the now demolished Costessey Hall.

St Michael's Church, Langley

The Avenues, Langley,
Near Loddon, NR14 6BL

Sat 12 & Sat 19: 10am-4.30pm

OPEN DOORS – Explore this Grade I listed, 14th century medieval church with Saxon origins. Unique features include stained glass from Langley Abbey, France and Germany, medieval and Georgian wall paintings and monuments to the Beauchamp Proctor family.

Step Inside the Steam Age

Fornsett Industrial Steam
Museum, Low Road,
Fornsett St Mary, NR16 1JJ

**Sun 13, Wed 16, Sun 20:
11am-4pm (tours at 11am)**

MUSEUM – Step into the industrial past, take a guided tour, explore a remarkable collection of working machinery, and enjoy the magic of a traditional 16mm film screening. A truly immersive place.

BOOK
steamcafe.norfolk@gmail.com

Victorian Working Women

Harleston Information Plus,
8 Exchange Street, Harleston,
IP20 9AB

Fri 11-Sun 20: 10am-3pm

EXHIBITION – Discover the roles of working women in Victorian Harleston. From milliners to glovers, explore the skills, roles and resilience of local women who helped shape the town's heritage.

Wheatfen Nature Reserve

Wheatfen, The Covey,
Surlingham, NR14 7AL

**Sat 12, Mon 14 & Tue 15:
10am-3pm**

WALK – Take a self-guided tour of this wild and peaceful nature reserve, spanning 52 hectares, and consisting of large swathes of open fen, reed beds, swallow carr and two small broads called Wheatfen and Deep Waters.

BOOK
info@wheatfen.org



The Working Folk of
Venta Icenorum

The Working Folk of Venta Icenorum

St Edmund's Church, Caistor
Roman Town, Stoke Road,
Caistor St Edmund, NR14 8QN

Sat 12 & Sat 19: 11am & 2pm

TALK – Caistor Roman Town was of great importance 2,000 years ago, but it was not just a walled town. Outside the walls industry was rife; hear details of how people made their living.

BOOK
norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com

Working on the Railway

The Swan Hotel,
19 The Thoroughfare,
Harleston, IP20 9AS

Sat 12 & Sat 19: 10am-4pm

EXHIBITION – See a 00 gauge model railway display, featuring Harleston Station and Yard, and how it featured in the working lives of local people and businesses over the years.

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE!



“This is a fabulous, fascinating experience and so wonderful that it is free!”

HODs visitor 2025

Address and meeting point for bookable events will be confirmed with your booking.




© Aylsham Heritage Centre

History Mystery Walk

Aylsham Heritage Centre

Market Place, Aylsham, NR11 6EH

Meet the Neighbours

Fri 11, Mon 14-Fri 18:
10.30am-3.30pm

TRAIL – Who lived in this street? Discover the shop keepers of yesterday's Aylsham through the shop windows of today's Aylsham. Some of the shops are displaying photos of the previous residents of shops from the past. Pick up a trail guide during opening hours to find them all or visit aylshamheritage.com

Getting Into a Spin

Tue 15 & Sun 20: 12.30pm-1.30pm, Fri 18: 10am-1pm

ACTIVITY – Echoing the traditional everyday histories of many of the inhabitants of Aylsham, the Worstead Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers will be in the centre to demonstrate a spinning wheel and a loom and invite visitors to have-a-go.



Lives Through Papers – Five Generations Through Records

Wed 16: 2pm

TALK – Explore generations of the Nobbs to Bastin family through documents and records from the town and county archives, including Wills, newspaper articles and online sources. Learn how records were found and accessed, and how they add to the story itself.

BOOK

norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com

The Story of the Blickling Nissen Huts



© Aylsham Town Archive

The Story of the Blickling Nissen Huts

Thu 17: 2pm

TALK – After the Second World War, the Nissen huts at Blickling, which housed RAF staff, were left abandoned. Local families moved into these and made them their home. The history of these buildings and the families that lived there is a fascinating story and has been part of a project culminating in a new film, which will be shown as part of this talk.

BOOK

norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com

Workhouse Walk

Fri 18: 10.30am

WALK – Join this history walking tour of Aylsham, which will take in the Market Place, old railway line and the Workhouse site. The walk will be illustrated with a number of archive photographs so that the past and present can be seen in situ.

BOOK

norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com

History Mystery Walk



Sun 20: 1.30pm

WALK – Calling all budding history detectives. Eliminate all the suspects and use the information you discover on this illustrated walking tour around Aylsham to find out who committed the crime and solve this 'History Mystery'. Ages 5+

BOOK

norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com



© S Rowe

All Saints Church, Hemblington

All Saints Church, Hemblington

Church Lane, Hemblington, NR13 4EF

Coast and Country – Exhibition of Oil Paintings

Sat 12: 10am-4.30pm & Sun 13: 11am-4.30pm

EXHIBITION – Drop in to this exhibition of paintings by John S Applegate featuring his views of Norfolk ports, villages, seascapes and the beauty of the Broadland areas.

Tour of the Internal and External Features

Sun 20: 11am-4pm

TOUR – Find out more about this Grade I listed, round-towered medieval church with its unique nationally important St Christopher wall painting, along with a regionally important font and an eco-friendly managed churchyard.

BOOK

ancaviniam@hotmail.com / 01603 270360



© B Pich

Blofield – A Living History

Blofield – A Living History

Margaret Harker Hall, Yarmouth Road, Blofield, NR13 4LE

Sat 19 & Sun 20: 10am-4pm

EXHIBITION – Explore 102 years of recently discovered archives history, with the Living History of 12 Blofield Villagers, including pictures, words & artefacts. Find out who Margaret Harker was and discover Blofield Tennis Club's 100-year past.

Chapel Lane Guided Walk

Chapel Lane, Yarmouth Road, NR7 0EX

Fri 11: 10.30am

WALK – Join this guided walk along this delightful lane to discover its history, especially during the 19th and early 20th centuries, including the opening of the Congregational Mission Chapel in 1839 from which it took its name. Learn about three late 19th century families and some of the more interesting properties.

BOOK

spinney72@aol.com



RAF Coltishall Heritage Centre

© J Welton

The Great Fire of South Walsham 1827

St Lawrence's Centre for the Arts, The Street, South Walsham, NR13 6DQ

Sat 19: 10am-4pm

ACTIVITY – Discover this living history experience, telling the story of a fire which devastated South Walsham in Georgian times. Meet villagers telling the story of that fateful day, find out who started the blaze and how the 200th anniversary will be commemorated.

Oulton Chapel

Hall Road, Oulton, NR11 6NU

Fri 11, Sat 12, Fri 18 & Sat 19: 11am-3pm

OPEN DOORS – Visit this Grade II listed chapel that opened as a non-conformist place of worship in 1731. It is virtually unchanged from how it would have originally looked with its Flemish style red brick exterior and original box pews in the upper gallery.

RAF Coltishall Heritage Centre

Main Guardroom, Scottow Enterprise Park, Badersfield, NR10 5FB

Sun 13 & Thu 17: 10am, 12pm & 2pm

TOUR – A unique opportunity to visit the centre, take part in a guided convoy tour of the former station in your own car to see the many features of this iconic Battle of Britain and Cold War station and get up close to our Jaguar.

BOOK
norfolkxhods.ticketsolve.com

Stained Glass and Memorials

Blofield Church, Church Road, Blofield, NR13 4NA

Sat 19: 10am-4pm & Sun 20: 2pm-4pm

OPEN DOORS – As it approaches its 600 years anniversary drop in to this church and explore its wonderful stained glass and memorials created by master craftsmen, and learn the stories of the people in the village to whom they are dedicated.

St Peter's Church, Haveringland

Off Norwich Road, Haveringland, NR10 4FW

Sat 12 & Sun 13: 10am-4pm

OPEN DOORS – Visit this wonderful church, which also doubles as a Community Hub. See displays and activities related to local history, including RAF Swannington and Haveringland Hall. Refreshments available.

Time to Celebrate: 10 Years of the ARC, 100 Years of Thinking Day

Girlguiding Norfolk Archive Resource Centre, 14 Great Hautbois Road, Coltishall, NR12 7JN

Sat 12-Mon 14: 10am-4pm

ACTIVITY – Visit the ARC to enjoy displays celebrating its 10th birthday and 100 years of Thinking Day. Take part in a 'wide game' to follow the timeline of the history of Girlguiding Norfolk through themed activities.



Let's go!

Walk your way through local heritage

Try Aylsham All Aboard in Broadland, wandering through lovely countryside and a charming market town, with a fascinating museum and the historic railway bringing the past to life.

In South Norfolk follow the Wymondham Angels & Rebels walk, discovering ancient streets, the museum and the magnificent abbey, in a market town shaped by its dramatic history.

These are just two of many walks.
It's time to choose your favourite!

yes-lets-go.org.uk



ALL
EVENTS
ARE FREE!



“We are so lucky to have HODs. There are so many choices, plus the volunteers are always so welcoming and enthusiastic.”

HODs visitor 2025

Address and meeting point for bookable events will be confirmed with your booking.



Anna Sewell House



26 Church Plain, NR30 1NE

Fri 11, Mon 14, Wed 16 & Fri 18: 10am-2pm

OPEN DOORS – Explore the building in which author Anna Sewell was born, learn about its history and Black Beauty's influence on horse welfare, which the building guardians, Redwings Horse Sanctuary, are continuing today. Enjoy viewing vintage copies of the book and original hand-painted illustration slides produced for the first edition.

The Finest Quay

South Quay, NR30 2RG

Wed 16: 10.30am

WALK – Join this guided heritage walk and learn about Great Yarmouth's Historic South Quay described several times by Daniel Defoe as 'The Finest Quay in England, if not in Europe'.

BOOK
heritage-walks.co.uk

Elizabethan House



4 South Quay, NR30 2QH

Thu 17-Sun 20: 10am-4pm

OPEN DOORS – Built around 1596 by merchant Benjamin Cowper, this charming quayside house has been home to wealthy families and prominent Great Yarmouth figures through the centuries. With its immersive, hands-on experiences, the museum is a must-visit for all ages.

Explore Blackfriars

Blackfriars' Road, NR30 3BX

Fri 11, Sat 12, Mon 14-Sun 20: 11am

TOUR – Join a wondrous tour to explore the area surrounding Blackfriars Road, the Old Potteries and the Town Wall. Find out about the Jewish Cemetery, Blackfriars Tower and the stories behind the statues.

BOOK
norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com

The Fishermen's Hospital

Church Plain, NR30 1ND

Fri 11-Sun 13 & Fri 18-Sun 20: 10am-4pm

OPEN DOORS – Drop in to visit these splendid Grade I listed almshouses built in 1702 for 'decayed' fishermen, with a courtyard almost exactly as it looked over 300 years ago.

TALK – Book a place to hear about the history of the site at 11am and 2pm each day.

BOOK
fishermenshospital.org.uk

Great Yarmouth Minster Bell Tower



Church Plain, NR30 1NE

Sat 19 & Sun 20: 10am-3pm

OPEN DOORS – Visit the ringing chamber and see the set of twelve bells, considered to be one of the finest in East Anglia. This is a great opportunity to learn about and try the art of bell ringing.



© Luke Witcomb

Elizabethan House

Great Yarmouth Town Hall

Town Hall, Hall Plain, NR30 2QF

Tue 15 & Thu 17: 10am, 12pm & 2pm

TOUR – The Town Hall is steeped in history with stunning architecture throughout the building. Join a tour to discover the beautiful rooms, officially opened in May 1882 by the then Prince of Wales, who later became Edward VII.

BOOK
events@great-yarmouth.gov.uk

Great Yarmouth Witch Trial



Town Hall, Hall Plain, NR30 2QF

Fri 18: 7pm

PERFORMANCE – In 1645, the town council sent for Matthew Hopkins, the infamous Witchfinder General. Come along and find out how a witch trial may have unfolded. Learn about those accused and what happened to them.

BOOK
events@great-yarmouth.gov.uk



© Luke Witcomb

Great Yarmouth Minster Bell Tower

Growing Up in Southtown

Great Yarmouth Minster, Church Plain, NR30 1NE

Sat 19: 2pm

TALK – Reminisce with us as we talk about what it was like to grow up in Southtown in the 50s and 60s. Hear about the history and development of the area, what the houses were like, the school, the floods and everyday life.

BOOK
heritage-walks.co.uk

Herring Smokehouse Museum



18 Trinity Place, NR30 3HA

Fri 11, Sat 12, Mon 14-Sun 20: 11am-4pm

OPEN DOORS – Step into the history of the Herring industry at the oldest surviving herring smokehouse in the town. Visit an exhibition curated by local artists commemorating its seafaring heritage and children can take part in a building trail.

History Fair

Great Yarmouth Minster, Church Plain, NR30 1NE

Sat 19: 10am-3pm

EXHIBITION – The fair brings together regional groups and societies to celebrate the history of the area. Organised by the Great Yarmouth Local History and Archaeological Society, see local history publishers and books sellers and museums and young archaeologists will be presenting projects.

The Last Train to Belton

Belton Village Sign, nr Bell Lane Car Park, NR31 9LD

Sun 20: 2pm

WALK – Did you know there used to be a train station in Belton? It may look like a quintessential sleepy Norfolk village now, but back in 1858 the mainline London train pulled in at the penultimate stop before Great Yarmouth. Join this guided heritage walk and find out what impact the railway had on the village.

BOOK
heritage-walks.co.uk

Great Yarmouth events



Time & Tide Museum

Lydia Eva YH89 Steam Drifter

20-21 South Quay, NR30 2RG

Fri 11-Sun 20: 10am-3.30pm

OPEN DOORS – Built in 1930, Lydia Eva acts as a floating museum of the town's herring fishing industry and is still capable of going to sea. Come aboard and discover how the fishermen lived and worked.

Meet the Masons Experience

The Royal Assembly Rooms, Marine Parade, NR30 3JH

Fri 11, Sun 13, Fri 18, Sun 20: 10am, 11.30am, 1pm, 2.30pm

OPEN DOORS – Learn about past and present members as you are invited into the temple. You'll be given a persona, someone who played an active role for the Masons throughout their time in Great Yarmouth and together, you'll get a glimpse of the everyday histories of the Masons.

The Middlegate History Project

The Salvation Army, Tolhouse Street, NR30 2SQ

Sat 12: 10am-1pm

EXHIBITION – In partnership between Great Yarmouth Shoebox and the Great Yarmouth Salvation Army, the exhibition features photos, voices, documents and objects collected from members of the community, celebrating Middlegate's hidden histories.

Quaker Meeting House

Howard Street South, NR30 1LN

Sat 12: 10am-4pm

OPEN DOORS – Explore a walled garden, and under the building see the remains of a 14th century cell occupied by Augustinian Friars, connected to Gorleston Priory, until c.1536.

Royal Naval Hospital

Queens Road, NR30 3JU

Sat 12 & Sun 13: 10.30am-3.30pm

OPEN DOORS – Visit this 1811 Grade II* listed ex-military hospital and barracks, now private dwellings.

St Andrew's Church, Gorleston

Church Road, Gorleston, NR31 6LR

Dates & times vary

OPEN DOORS – Drop into this Grade II* listed church, see a slide show of its history, plus features including the famous Bacon Brass, and a Seven Sacrament Font.

St George's Theatre

King Street, NR30 2PG

Sat 12: 10am-2pm

OPEN DOORS – Discover the stories, secrets, and surprising history of one of Great Yarmouth's most iconic Grade I listed buildings. Explore the theatre with a peek backstage, learn about its past, and meet the team who bring it to life today.

Time & Tide Museum

16 Blackfriars Road, NR30 3BX

Sat 12 & Sun 13: 10am-4.30pm

OPEN DOORS – Housed in a beautifully converted Victorian herring curing works, the museum offers an immersive experience where history lingers in the air, along with the unmistakable aroma of the smokehouse.

Yare Beat

St George's Theatre, King Street, NR30 2PG

Wed 16: 7.30pm

TALK – Join this lively talk celebrating Great Yarmouth's pop and rock legacy. Discover the bands, venues and stories that shaped the town's music scene, with rare photos, memorabilia and local memories.

BOOK
stgeorgestheatre.com

King's Lynn & West Norfolk events

ALL
EVENTS
ARE FREE!



"We feel very lucky to have such wonderful history on our doorstep and it's a great way to discover it."

HODs visitor 2025



King's Lynn

Sun 13: 10am-4pm

Experience a jam-packed programme in King's Lynn featuring exciting events, lively re-enactors, family-friendly activities, music, dancing, miniature trains, boats, classic cars and exhibitions! For more info visit kingslynnccivicsociety.co.uk

Former Hunstanton Lighthouse

Lighthouse Close, Hunstanton, PE36 6EL

Fri 11 & Fri 18: Tours every 30 mins from 10.30am-2pm

TOUR – Explore the dungeon and climb up the tower of the former Lighthouse to see the north end of the town and The Wash from the top of the tower.

BOOK
norfolkhodsticketsolve.com

Hunstanton Hall

St Mary's Rectory, Church Road, Old Hunstanton, PE36 6JS

Thu 17: 10am & 12pm

TOUR – Discover the grounds of Hunstanton Hall, the moat and Grade II listed St Mary's Church dating from the 13th century.

BOOK
norfolkhodsticketsolve.com

Lynn Museum

Old Market Street, King's Lynn, PE30 1NL

Sun 13: 10am-4pm

MUSEUM – Explore the galleries, including the temporary exhibition 'Secrets from the Store'. There's a fun museum trail for children.

BOOK
lynn.museum@norfolk.gov.uk

St Andrew's Church, Little Massingham

Church Lane, Little Massingham, PE32 2JT

Sat 12: 10am-4pm

OPEN DOORS – Visit this Grade I listed church and see a display to explore its past and historical farming community through the ages.

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE!



“Such a variety. Really appreciate the organisers and the volunteers.”

HODs visitor 2025

Address and meeting point for bookable events will be confirmed with your booking.



© Norfolk Museum Service

Votes for Women

Ancient House

21 White Hart Street, Thetford, IP24 1AD

Votes for Women

Sat 12: 10am-5pm

ACTIVITY – Discover the amazing story of the Campaigning Duleep Singh Princesses. Learn about the suffragists and suffragettes, see a real suffrage medal and more. Explore new displays and make a suffrage badge to take home.

The Duleep Singh Family

Sun 20: 10am-5pm

EXHIBITION – Explore new displays on the Anglo-Sikh Wars and the Duleep Singh family, learn about Prince Frederick's life during the First World War and more.

BOOK THESE EVENTS

museums.norfolk.gov.uk/events

Bishop Bonner's Cottage Museum

St Withburga Lane, Dereham, NR19 1ED

Fri 11 & Fri 18: 10am-1pm
Sat 12 & Sat 19: 10am-4pm

OPEN DOORS – Visit this little gem of a museum housed in Dereham's oldest domestic building, a row of three thatched cottages that survived town fires in 1581 and 1679, and a Zeppelin raid in 1915.

Brisley Church – Rural Life Through Generations in One Village

St Bartholomew's Church, Church Street, Brisley, NR20 5AA

Fri 11: 6pm-8.30pm
Sat 12 & Sun 13: 10am-5pm

OPEN DOORS – See displays of life in Brisley through time. Biographies of local families, including background stories about the men who served in the First World War, school records, local farming stories and photographs of the changes in houses through recent times.

Broken Journeys

Mid Norfolk Railway, County School, North Elmham, NR20 5LE

Sun 20: 10am-4pm

OPEN DOORS – Visit the only station on Mid Norfolk Railway, built in the distinctive Great Eastern Railway architectural style. Discover the history of the Watts Naval School and see a miniature railway in action.

Dereham Assembly Rooms

Ruthen Place, Dereham, NR19 2TX

Sat 12 & Sat 19: 10am-4pm

OPEN DOORS – Not normally open to the public, visit the rooms, which were built in 1756 and reflected the town's growing affluence in Georgian times. They once hosted lectures, concerts and local societies. In later years, the building hosted County and Magistrates' Courts and is now home to Dereham Town Council.

Dereham Windmill

Greenfields Road, Dereham, NR20 3TE

Fri 11, Sat 12, Fri 18 & Sat 19: 10am-3pm

OPEN DOORS – Visit this Grade II listed, brick tower mill built in 1835 and set in extensive grounds. See illustrated explanations on what happened on each of the five floors, when the mill was full of noise and floor dust.

Everyday Histories – Everyday People

The Crown, 30 Church Street, Great Ellingham, NR17 1LE

Sat 12 & Sun 13: 11am-4pm

EXHIBITION – Explore this new and imaginative local history exhibition providing a glimpse of life in Great Ellingham during the 1930s and 1940s. Great Ellingham's Detecting Guy, Matt Hall, will also be in attendance with some of the amazing archaeological finds from the local area, including Second World War objects.



© Luke Witcomb

Gressenhall Farm and Workhouse

Festival at the Marketplace

Guildhall, Cage Lane, Thetford, IP24 2DS

Sun 20: 10.30am-3pm

ACTIVITY – Discover Thetford's History! Explore vibrant stalls, enjoy talks inside the Guildhall Courtroom, and get exclusive access to a variety of the town's heritage sites including Dad's Army Museum and Charles Burrell Museum.

Gressenhall Farm and Workhouse

Beetley, NR20 4DR

Sun 13: 10am-5pm

OPEN DOORS – Discover Norfolk's rural history over 50 acres of glorious countryside, from the traditional working farm to the lives of the residents of the Victorian workhouse. Collections and interactive displays bring to life the real stories of workhouse staff and inmates; how they ate, slept, worked, and played through the ages.

Open Cemetery Chapel

Cemetery Lodge, 3 Cemetery Road, Dereham, NR19 2ET

Sat 12 & Sat 19: 11am-3pm

OPEN DOORS – Visit the chapel in Dereham cemetery and look through local family history publications to help locate where ancestors or loved ones were buried.

Oxburgh Estate

Oxborough, PE33 9PS

Fri 18 & Sat 19: 9.30am-5pm

OPEN DOORS – Explore Victorian Gothic interiors, peaceful woodland walks and colourful gardens. Especially for HODs, discover the Everyday Histories of staff who worked on the estate in the early 20th century. Guided tours bookable on arrival.

Breckland events

Narborough Bone Mill

Belgrave House, Main Road, Narborough, PE32 1TE

Sat 19 & Sun 20: 11am-4pm
OPEN DOORS – Visit this 16-foot waterwheel turning and remains of Victorian mill buildings. Take a guided tour of the site, and see a model of the mill in the visitor centre.

RBL Dereham Remembrance Garden

Mid Norfolk Railway, Station Road, Dereham, NR19 1DF

Sat 12: 10am-3pm
OPEN DOORS – Visit the Royal British Legion's remembrance garden and pill box next to Mid Norfolk Railway's signal box.

Routes to Roots

Mid Norfolk Railway, Dereham Station, Station Road, Dereham, NR19 1DF

Sat 19: 10am-4pm
OPEN DOORS – See how the railway folk lived and travelled the line. Share stories and meet the station masters, porters, and signalmen, and see an exhibition of stories.

St Mary's Catholic Church, Thetford

73 Newtown, Thetford, IP24 3AU

Sat 19 & Sun 20: 11am-5pm
OPEN DOORS – Visit the oldest Catholic church in East Anglia, built illegally 200 years ago! 10am service on Sunday, all welcome.

St Nicholas Church, Dereham

Church Street, Dereham, NR19 1DN

Fri 11, Sat 12, Mon 14-Sat 19: 10am-4pm, Sun 13 & Sun 20: 1pm-4pm
OPEN DOORS – Travel back in time to the 18th century and see an exhibition about the church as known by Sir John Fenn (1739-1794), it was here he published the Paston Letters. St Withburga's Well, bell tower and Muniments Room open on Saturdays.

St Peter and St Paul Church, Scarning

Dereham Road, Scarning, NR19 2PF

Sat 12: 10am-4pm
OPEN DOORS – Explore this 13th century Grade I listed church and visit the display commemorating three local heroes who rescued an RAF Mosquito crew who crashed in Scarning during a Second World War mission.

Victorian Reading Evening



Thetford Open Studios

Thetford Methodist Hall, Tanner Street, Thetford, IP24 2BQ

Wed 16-Sun 20: 11am-5pm
OPEN DOORS – Meet the local makers and artists, who will be exhibiting their work. See demonstrations and chat to the artists about their creations. Discover the Maker's Tool Board, where artists share their favourite tools and the stories behind them, revealing connections between traditional skills and contemporary making.

Victorian Reading Evening

Riversdale Centre, Tanner Street, Thetford, IP24 2BQ

Fri 18: 7pm
PERFORMANCE – Step back in time and join a beautiful Victorian Reading Evening at Riversdale. Spend the evening surrounded by the atmosphere of this stunning Victorian house and gardens whilst listening to a host of Victorian readings.
BOOK
ticketsource.com/riversdale

© Victorian Readings

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Norwich Events Calendar		Page	Fri 11	Sat 12	Sun 13	Mon 14	Tue 15	Wed 16	Thu 17	Fri 18	Sat 19	Sun 20
Portraits of Life	4		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Pablo Fanque: The Fabulous and Mysterious Victorian Showman	5	BOOK				●						
People From Our Quirky Past	5	BOOK					●					
The Residents of Dragon Hall and King Street	5	BOOK					●					
Norfolk Archaeological Trust: Past, Present and Future	5	BOOK						●				
Caroline Colman: The Creator of Wellbeing in the Workplace	5	BOOK							●			
Jack Roberts: The Photographer Time Forgot	5	BOOK								●		
Stories of Working Life in Norfolk	5	BOOK								●		
Behind the Scenes at The Forum	5	BOOK						●	●			
Fine City Histories	6	BOOK	●		●			●		●		
Ridge to River	6	BOOK	●									
King Street History	6	BOOK		●		●			●			
Elm Hill	6	BOOK		●				●				
A Step in Time	6	BOOK				●			●			
Over the Water	6	BOOK				●						●
Marking the Boundaries	6	BOOK					●					
Fire and Water	7	BOOK					●				●	
Norwich Pub Tours	7	BOOK					●		●			
The Victorian Influence	7	BOOK							●			
The History of Norwich in Just One Walk	7	BOOK									●	
Assyria to the Atlantic - A Norwich Sculpture Trail	7	BOOK								●		
Concrete, Conscience and Conservation - The Story of the Scott Family in Norwich	7	BOOK										●
Unbelievers in a City of Churches: A Humanist Heritage Walk	7	BOOK									●	
Boardman and Skipper Walking Tour	7	BOOK						●				
The Pastons in Norwich	7	BOOK								●		
St Martins Walk	7	BOOK								●		
156 Years of Continuous Play	9									●	●	
A.F. Scott the Individualist and His Architecture	9	BOOK					●					
An Evening of Dickens	9	BOOK						●				
AudaTours Norwich Audio Tour: At Work	9		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Backstage Past: Talks & Tours	9	BOOK		●								
City of Norwich School	9			●								
Building Heritage Together: A Community Tile Project	10	BOOK		●								
Carrow House Creatives' Studio Tours	10	BOOK			●						●	
Make a Hand Stitched Coaster	10	BOOK			●							
Beyond the Wrapper: Collaborative Collage Workshops	10	BOOK			●						●	
Beginners Granny Square Workshop	10	BOOK			●							
Historical Tours of Old Carrow House	10	BOOK				●		●				
Mapping Movement in Colour	10	BOOK									●	
Intaglio Printing Table Workshop	10	BOOK									●	
Hidden Cocoa: Everyday Consumption and the Future of Chocolate	10	BOOK									●	
Curat House	11	BOOK	●							●		
CWGC Tours - Norwich Cemetery	11	BOOK		●				●			●	
Earlham Hall	11	BOOK			●							●
Hidden Places at St John's	11	BOOK		●		●		●				

Norwich Events Calendar		Page	Fri 11	Sat 12	Sun 13	Mon 14	Tue 15	Wed 16	Thu 17	Fri 18	Sat 19	Sun 20
Stained Glass Masterpieces at St John's	11	BOOK										
Victorian Gothic Revival at St John's	11	BOOK										
East Anglian Air Ambulance Base	12	BOOK										
Everyday Histories - The Pioneers of The Salvation Army, Norwich Citadel	12											
Everyday Life in the Castle Ditches: The Hidden Street Tour	12	BOOK										
Exhibition of Historic Bibles	12											
The Flint Room	12											
The Garage: Medieval Arts and Crafts	12											
Gasworks Workers and Gardeners: Stories of Everyday Working Lives at Kett's Heights	13	BOOK										
The Halls Heritage Tours	13	BOOK										
The Great Hospital	13	BOOK										
Norfolk Churches Trust Bike Ride/Stride at Hungate	13											
Some Everyday Stories of Hungate People	13											
Jarrolds History Tour	14	BOOK										
The Way We Worked: An Insight into the Working Life in Norwich	14	BOOK										
Norwich Shawls	14	BOOK										
John Lewis & Partners Tour	14	BOOK										
Maids Head Hotel	14	BOOK										
Morris Dancing with Golden Star Morris	14											
Museum of Norwich at the Bridewell	14											
Music, Heritage and Hospitality	14											
Norwich Breweries: 'Beer is Best, It Gives Life Zest, Norwich Brewers Led the Rest'	15	BOOK										
Norwich: The City Seen Through Its Buildings	15	BOOK										
History as a Living Topic	15	BOOK										
Journeys: Global Textiles from the Karun Thakar Collection at Blickling Hall	15	BOOK										
The Norfolk Club	15	BOOK										
The Heart and Sole of the City: The Story of the Norwich Boot and Shoe Trade	16	BOOK										
Knit 1, Pearl 1 - Knit-In	16											
Mardlin', Marchin' and Troshin': Everyday Life in Norwich 1880s-1930s	16											
Letters Home: The Everyday Correspondence of Red Cross Medical Social Worker Margaret Fahey McGrath	16											
Norfolk Women at Work	16											
Norfolk at War: Bombing and Blackout	17	BOOK										
Before County Hall There Was Bracondale Lodge	17	BOOK										
The Lost Art of Letter Writing	17	BOOK										
Northwest Clog Dancing	17											
Norwich Castle Museum & Art Gallery	17	BOOK										
Women of the Cathedral	18	BOOK										
A Day in the Life of a Medieval Monk	18	BOOK										
Forgotten Lives	18	BOOK										
Martha the Monastery Maid	18	BOOK										
How Ordinary People Made Their Mark	18	BOOK										
Everyday Stories in the Bosses	18	BOOK										
Making Music	18	BOOK										

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Norwich Events Calendar	Page	Fri 11	Sat 12	Sun 13	Mon 14	Tue 15	Wed 16	Thu 17	Fri 18	Sat 19	Sun 20
Findmypast Live at Norwich Cathedral	18		●								
Norwich Guildhall	19 BOOK							●			
Norwich High School for Girls	19 BOOK									●	
NHCT Bike Ride/Stride	19		●								
Sacred & Secular: The Many Uses of Church Buildings in The Middle Ages	19		●								
The Palace Players Presents: Shakespeare's Workers	19		●								
Norwich Quaker Meeting House — It's Our Bicentenary!	19									●	
Norwich School Air Raid Shelter	19 BOOK					●	●	●			
Norwich School Chapel	19					●	●	●			
Norwich Through Time	20	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Octagon Chapel	20	●	●	●					●	●	●
Open Studios	20		●	●							
The People Who Built Eaton Park	20 BOOK			●							
The Plantation Garden	20			●							
Pull's Ferry	20	●	●	●					●	●	●
Rosary Cemetery History Tour	20 BOOK			●							
Rosary Cemetery Wildlife Tour	20 BOOK										●
Architecture at the Sainsbury Centre and Sculpture Park	21 BOOK	●		●							
Everyday Histories at the Sainsbury Centre	21 BOOK	●				●	●	●	●	●	●
Saturday Art Club at St Peter Parmentergate	21 BOOK		●								
Sharks, Shipwreck & Survival: Harold Higgs & the Sinking of the Carnarvon Castle, 1907	21 BOOK		●								
St Augustine's Church	21		●	●							●
St John Maddermarket Church	21		●								
St Michael and All Angels Ruin	21		●								
St Peter Mancroft Tour	22 BOOK	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	
Julian of Norwich - Anchorite to Global Phenomenon	22 BOOK	●									
Organo Pleno and The King of Instruments	22 BOOK		●								
Your Chance to Play the Collins Organ	22 BOOK		●								
Robert Toppes and the Toppes Window	22 BOOK				●						
Logo Rewind - Medieval Trademarks in the Ward of Mancroft	22 BOOK					●					
Norwich, the Normans and Mancroft	22 BOOK						●				
A Black History of Norwich	22 BOOK							●			
Mancroft Bells and the London Connection	22 BOOK								●		
Bell Tower Tour at St Peter Mancroft	22 BOOK								●		
Strangers' Club	23			●							●
Thorns DIY Paintings	23	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Top to Toe, Cloche Hats to Tango Heels	23									●	
Walking the Line	24 BOOK										●
Work & Play the NR3 Way!	24		●								
Chapel Field Road Methodist Church	24		●								
Norfolk Wherry Maud Virtual Tour	24	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
St Giles Church	24	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
St Mark's Church, Lakenham	24		●				●			●	

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