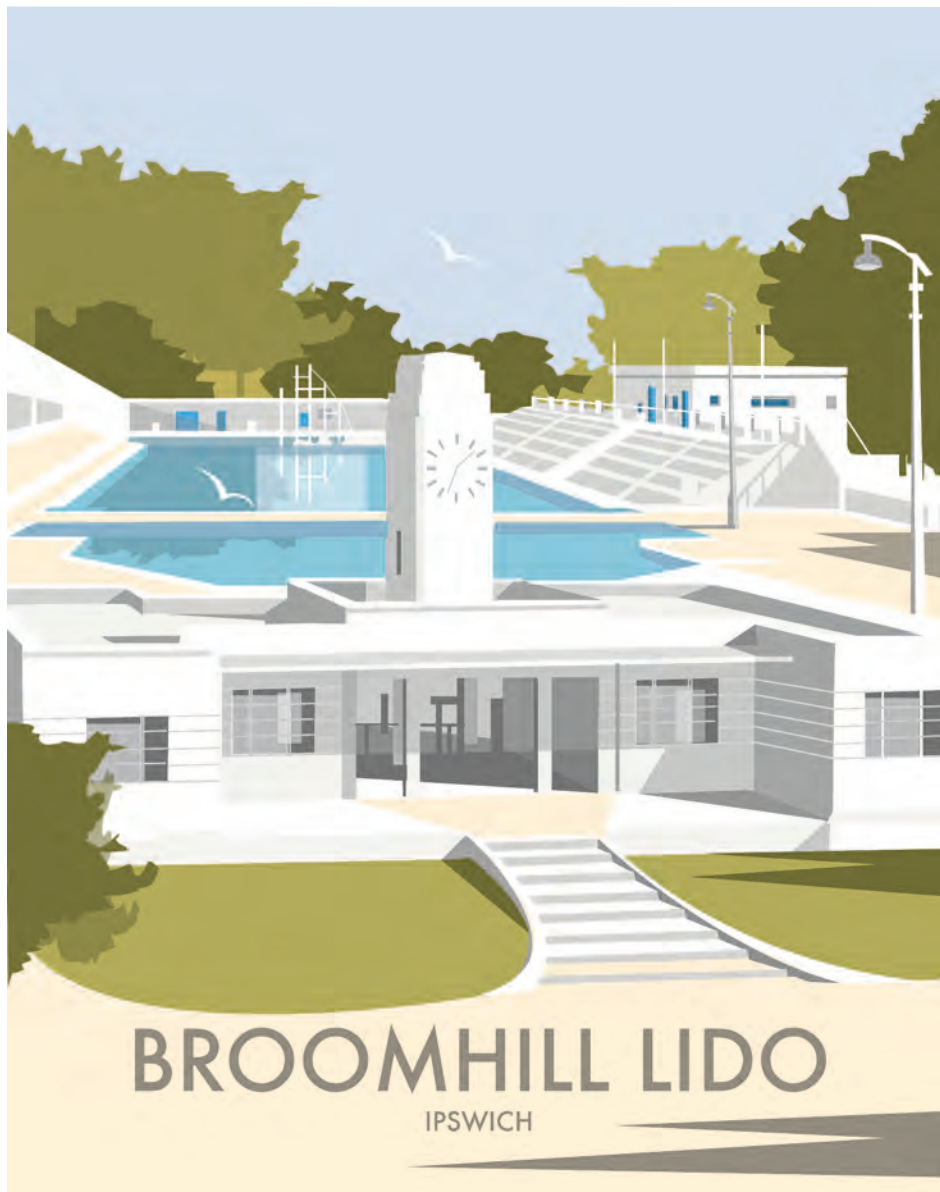


IPSWICH HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

SATURDAY 9TH & SUNDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER 2017



BROOMHILL LIDO

IPSWICH



The Ipswich Society





WELCOME TO HERITAGE OPEN DAYS 2017

The Heritage Open Days weekend is a fantastic opportunity to discover Ipswich's 'hidden' heritage

The weekend is co-ordinated by the Ipswich Society with the aim of encouraging the owners of some of the town's finest buildings to throw open their doors and show off the treasures inside.

Many of them are not open to the public throughout the year, so here's your chance! We have more than 30 buildings open in 2017, along with free guided walks around some of the town's best locations.

You won't go hungry - several buildings have refreshments on offer, there are independent cafes in the Saints and Blackfriars areas or you could pack a picnic and make a day of it by strolling through one of our beautiful parks.

The Ipswich Society is grateful to all concerned for their participation. The buildings listed represent seven centuries in the history of Ipswich and will be open to the public during the weekend, with additional opening days for some venues.

Opening times were correct at the time of going to press but if you are travelling any distance and hoping to see a specific building you should check details in advance of your journey.

1

St Stephen's Church, St Stephen's Lane

Fabulous light and airy 15th and 16th century church better known as Ipswich's Tourist Information Centre. Among the treasures in the chancel is a splendid monument to Robert Leman and his wife, Mary, who died on the same day in 1637.

**Saturday 9am-5pm
Sunday 10am-2pm**

2

Unitarian Meeting House, Friars Street

Built in 1699 and one of the architectural gems of Ipswich. Original box pews, a magnificent pulpit carved in the style of Grinling Gibbons, Dutch 17th Century candelabra and a clock from an even earlier date. Fine entrance doors, one with a spyhole for use against visits from opponents of non-conformist worshippers.

**Saturday 10am-5pm
Sunday noon-4pm**

*Above: Stable Block,
Holywells Park*

*Front cover:
Broomhill Lido illustration by
Dave Thompson Art
www.davethompsonart.co.uk*

3

Willis Towers Watson, Friars Street

This iconic building is now over 40 years old. Guided tours of the building will be given including the swimming pool, one of the office floors and the roof garden. The Coffee Bar will also be open. Norman Foster gets the credit for the Willis Towers Watson building, for it was his ideas of hanging glass as curtain walls and large open plan offices that were revolutionary in the early 1970s. However architects (Sir) Michael Hopkins and Ipswich born Birkin Haward (junior) also worked on the scheme.

**Saturday and Sunday
10am-3pm**

4

New Wolsey Theatre, Civic Drive

The building was designed by the renowned architect Roderick Ham and is regarded as one of the best modern regional theatres. Every seat in the house has an uninterrupted view of the stage. Originally opened in 1979, the theatre is now operated by the New Wolsey Theatre Company, a charity with a mission to create, develop and produce a dynamic programme of theatre and performance. The theatre is a national leader, recognised for the diversity of its audiences.

**Saturday back stage tours
10am & noon**

5

Ipswich Museum, High Street

A real treasure house, with the Victorian Natural History Gallery (come and say hello to Rosie the Rhino and Wool-I-Am the mammoth) and a host of other curiosities from around the world. Follow the Ipswich Story around the walls of the gallery or travel back to ancient Egypt.

**Saturday 10am-5pm
Sunday 11am-5pm**

6

Ipswich School, 25 Henley Road

Built 1851/52 in Elizabethan style in red brick. The porch entrance and the tower provide a link with early education in the town - the former being a reproduction of the gate to College Street and the latter resembling Tom Tower at Christ Church, Oxford.

For tours - meet in Reception off Henley Road. Leave town centre via High Street or Fonnereau Road.

**Saturday tours at 9, 10
and 11am**



Left: Willis Towers Watson



Christchurch Mansion

9

Christchurch Mansion, Christchurch Park

Some would say the jewel in Ipswich's crown ... a 16th century mansion with rooms furnished from Tudor to Victorian periods. Its Wolsey Art Gallery houses the most significant collection of Constables outside London. Short tours available. Christchurch Mansion also has a charming café and a shop.

Tours 11am and 2pm
Please book a place by calling 01473 433691

**Saturday 10am-5pm
Sunday 11am-5pm**

10

Freemasons Hall, 8-10 Soane Street

The Masonic Hall was completed in 1870 and updated in 1911 by architect George Henry Betram Gould. In the 1970s it was extended to incorporate number 8. The main items of interest are the Temple, dining room and foyer. The Temple, in particular, contains many items of Masonic interest.

**Saturday and Sunday
10am-4pm**

7

Ipswich Cemeteries, Cemetery Road

Ipswich Cemetery opened in 1855 and will be offering historic tours taking in the history of some of the headstones and families buried in Ipswich, as well as around the Crematorium facilities. Staff will be on hand to answer questions and give advice on family research. Take the opportunity to visit the Temple of Remembrance.

Saturday 11am-3pm

Temple of Remembrance

8

Crown Pools, Crown Street

Crown Pools opened to a popular fanfare in 1984 and combined three pools - a competition pool used by Team Ipswich Swimming Club and a water polo club for training and events, a teaching pool and a leisure pool complete with wave machine. Crown Pools was designed by Suffolk County Council's Architects Department. In 2011, the pools were refurbished at a cost of 3.5 million.

**Saturday and Sunday
7.45am-4pm**



11

St Margaret's Church, Soane Street

A fine medieval church in town dating from 1300 with the tower added c.1400 and other parts in 1450. Donations from wealthy benefactors over the years have made St Margaret's fascinating, with numerous interesting artefacts. The C15 double hammer beam roof, decorated in 1695, is the crowning glory.

Saturday 9am-5pm

13

Pykenham Gatehouse, Northgate Street

A rare opportunity to visit one of the earliest domestic buildings in Ipswich. It has seen the comings and goings of some 20 generations of Ipswich people - at first through the north gate and along the street with the brook, and more recently past the imposing library built opposite it during the last century.

**Saturday and Sunday
10am-4pm**



12

Bethesda Baptist Church, 9 St Margaret's Plain

A classical style building by the architect F G Faunch. Opened in 1913, it seats 800 and has a splendid gallery on three sides providing the best view of the interior.

Saturday 10am-3pm



14

Admiral's House, Tower Street

Probably built in the reign of Charles II (1660-1685) with a later Georgian front. The interior is a delightful mix of architectural styles. Once the home of Admiral Benjamin Page, it was visited by Wellington in 1820, so it's about time you did too! It now houses the Ipswich Institute members' restaurant, coffee lounge (refreshments available) and lecture rooms.

**Saturday and Sunday
10am-4pm**

*Left: Pykenham Gatehouse
Above right: The Town Hall*

15

Town Hall, Cornhill, Princes Street

This is the centrepiece not only of the Cornhill but of Ipswich itself - an imposing example of high Victorian civic architecture. This Town Hall opened in 1868 and has magnificent features of classical columns and statues. The grand staircase has an oak balustrade and cast iron work.

**Saturday, tours of the
Town Hall, Mayor's
Parlour and the Corn
Exchange, lead by the
Town Sergeant. 10.30am,
11.30am, 1pm and 2pm.
Meet in the foyer.**



17

Christchurch United Reformed/Baptist Church, Tacket Street

Designed in 1856 by local architect Frederick Barnes in the Gothic Revival style and built in Kentish Ragstone with Caen stone quoins. The interior has a large gallery, cast iron work and a stained glass east window.

Saturday 9am-5pm

19

Blackfriars, Foundation Street

Walk in the footsteps of Dominican Friars between their remaining low walls of septarian stone. Find the marine worm borings (geologists will be there to help) that give clues to where this 'Harwich Stone' was obtained.

Sunday 10am-4pm

16

Ipswich Institute and Library, Tavern Street

Founded in 1824 by Dr George Birbeck, The Ipswich Mechanic's Institution moved into the former chemist shop at 15 Tavern Street in 1834. This hidden oasis of cultural and architectural heritage includes a popular independent library in a light airy barrel-vaulted hall, dating from 1876.

Saturday and Sunday 10am-4pm



18

3-5 Silent Street

The former book shop is a Grade II*, late medieval (probably early 16th Century) timber framed and plastered building with jettied upper storey and exposed timber framing. It is thought that 3 Silent Street originally formed part of Curson Lodge, an inn or guest house used to accommodate the entourage of high status visitors to Sir Robert Curson's House which was opposite (now lost). The building retains exposed and carved timber beams.

**Saturday 10am-5pm
Sunday 11am-4pm**



20

Tooley's Court, Foundation Street

'Let gentle Smart sleep on in pious trust, Behold his Charity, respect his dust' Behold his Charity indeed, for it is the Foundation of these almshouses that William Smart, together with a legacy from Henry Tooley and other Tudor merchants left to the town. Tooley died in 1550 and the almshouses were begun, aided by Smart's bequest in 1598.

Saturday and Sunday 10am-4pm

*Above left: 3-5 Silent Street
Above right: Tooley's Court
Left: The Ipswich Institute*



21

Fore Street Pool, Fore Street

An elegant Victorian design with a clearstory glass roof. Officially opened in 1894 by the Mayor of Ipswich Samuel Anness. The first year saw over 42,000 people use the facility. The population of Ipswich was only 57,000 at the time. Fore Street currently ranks within the top 20 of historic operational pools in the country.

Sunday 11am-4pm

22

St Clement's Church, St Clement's Church Lane

Built mainly in the 14th and early 15th Centuries, this handsome church was known as the 'sailors church'. The walls and the elegant tower reveal the attractions of dark knapped flintwork. The roof was refurbished after a fire in 1996. Now developing as an arts centre.

Saturday 9am-5pm

*Above: Fore Street Baths
Below: The Old Custom House*



23

Isaac Lord (Machine Room and the Brewery), Wherry Quay

A series of Grade I and Grade II listed buildings, a late 15th – 16th Century merchant's house with warehouses, it is now a waterside venue and coffee tavern. The Malt kiln is a rare example of an 18th century hand malting concern. The Machine Room has been restored and the brewery is an excellent example of local craftsmanship.

*Isaac's (coffee shop and pub):
Open all weekend. For tours,
meet in Briarbank car park.*

**Saturday and Sunday
Tours 10am & 11am**

24

Old Custom House, Key Street

Built 1844/5 by architect John Medland Clark using a polychromic technique of red brick with white brick quoins. The ground floor included a bonded warehouse which has been converted into the Waterfront Conference Centre. Staffed by Ipswich Maritime Trust. Ground floor open only.

**Saturday and Sunday
10am-4pm**

25

Sailing Barge Victor, Common Quay

Built in 1895 in Ipswich, this is one of the oldest working Thames Sailing Barges. Commissioned for work in the linseed trade, SB Victor worked in general cargo from the 1930s. During the War she survived a bomb blast and since then has had a varied career including as a strip club and a houseboat. Restored to her traditional 19th Century rig. Access to Victor may be subject to pre-booked sailings.

**Saturday and Sunday
10am-5pm**

26

Quay Place, St-Mary-at-the-Quay

The award winning former St Mary at the Quay, church is now a 'wellbeing centre' for Suffolk MIND. There will be a Merchant Adventurers heritage dressing up box and photo booth, a knot and rope display telling the story of rope walks and the evolving knots used in building, agriculture and maritime life. A play table to encourage storytelling about the wharfs and quays on the Waterfront.

**Saturday and Sunday
10am-4pm**

27

St Mary-at-Stoke Church, Stoke Street

Parts of this lovely medieval Ipswich church date from the 14th century, which, until the railway arrived in the parish in 1846, served the small hamlet of Stoke, with its single aisle box pews offering 100 seats. With the great increase in parish population a large extension was designed by William Butterfield, an internationally acclaimed architect of the Victorian era. He designed hundreds of notable buildings, St Mary's was the only church in Ipswich to receive his Midas touch. In April 2004, the church was re-classified as a Grade 1 Listed Building. One of just two such churches in Ipswich. This places St Mary's in this very special category alongside Christchurch Mansion, Wolsey's Gateway and The Ancient House. Guides on hand at most times. Visitor and historic guide booklets available.

**Saturday 9am-4pm
Sunday noon-4pm**



*Above: St Mary-at-Stoke
Church*

*Far left: Sailing Barge Victor
Left: Quay Place*

28

St Peter's Church, College Street

With historical displays about the Church from the 12th century to the present day and home to the Ipswich Charter Hangings, depicting Ipswich through the ages. St Peter's also houses a rare Tournai marble font, a magnificent East Window and many architectural features. Information about the building, parish and town will be on display with additional information provided by the Over Stoke History Group. Whilst visiting St Peter's you should also have a look at Wolsey's Gate in College Street. This is the sole remaining part of his dream for a college in Ipswich.

Saturday 9am-5pm
Sunday 10am-4pm

Right: Gippeswyk Hall
Below: Wolsey's Gate



29

Gippeswyk Hall, (Red Rose Chain) The Avenue Theatre

The Heritage Lottery Fund supported the Red Rose Chain in their quest for a new venue behind the Grade II* listed Tudor Gippeswyk Hall. Inspired by the sort of barn structure which might have once stood there, creating a new purpose as a leading inclusive arts and heritage venue. Tours throughout the day with afternoon tea available from the café.

Saturday and Sunday
10am-4pm



30

Broomhill Swimming Pool, Sherrington Road

One of 14 Grade II listed lidos left in England. The lido operated for 64 years before closure in 2002. The pool has the last Wicksteed diving stage in the country. Fusion Lifestyle's Heritage Lottery Fund bid was successful, securing a stage 1 development grant of £180,000. The project plan includes a fitness suite, terrace café and heritage rooms, and indicates a mid-2019 reopening.

Saturday and Sunday
10am-4pm



33

Suffolk Records Office, Gatacre Road

Situated in the historic Bramford Road School and opened by Princess Diana in 1990. Visitors will be able to view plans for the new Suffolk Record Office building, The Hold, an exciting new heritage centre, located beside the Ipswich Waterfront. The Hold should open its doors in time for the 900th anniversary of our oldest document in 2019!

Saturday 9.30am-4.30pm

31

Broomhill Library, Sherrington Road

Awarded a Grade II listing in November 2012. The unique group value of the 'Broomhill twins' further strengthens the 70 year bond between the library (built 1942) and Broomhill Pool (built 1938). Both designed by County-Borough of Ipswich engineer, E. McLauchlan. Built as a WW2 bomb-proof decontamination unit and public shelter, it was converted for a more peaceful purpose in 1948, and has served as public library ever since. Located in beautiful Broomhill Park purchased by the County-Borough in 1925.

**Saturday 10am-5pm
Sunday 11am-4pm**

32

Castle Hill Community Centre, Highfield Road

Originally an eight bedroom Gentleman's residence, built in 1893 by Henry Orford on the site of a Roman villa. The house was gifted to East Suffolk County Council in 1947 by the farmer George Jennings who had brought the property in 1911 from the Orford's estate. The house has been many things to many people over the years including a Doctor's surgery and a school. Today the Building is managed by Castle Hill Community Centre IMG a community based organisation.

**Saturday and Sunday
10am-4pm**

34

Holywells Park Stable Block

Collect a fact sheet from the Stable Block and explore the site of Cobbold's Holywells House, the stable block and conservatory. See the restoration work carried out and discover the ice house, uncovered during restoration. Refreshments are available at the Cafe.

Parking at Orwell Quay (Anchor St) or Duke St. Use the park's Myrtle Rd entrance

Saturday 1.45pm

*Above:
Holywells Park conservatory*

35

Martlesham Heath Control Tower

The Control Tower museum tells the history of one of the country's most important airfields between 1917 and 1969. Our Open Day this year is Sunday 10th September and there will be lots of extra attractions and special displays together with a Spitfire giving a flying display.

The museum is located at the rear of Parkers Place, off Eagle Way, Martlesham Heath IP5 3UX to the east of Ipswich and is on bus route 66 operated by First Buses. www.mhas.org.uk

Sunday 11am-4pm

36

Royal Hospital School, Holbrook

Created by Royal Charter in 1694, the Royal Hospital School moved from Queen's House, Greenwich (now the National Maritime Museum) in 1933 to a newly built campus in Holbrook. With views of the River Stour and set in 200 acres, it is now a successful day and boarding school.

Leave town via Wherstead Rd to Bourne Bridge. Turn left onto The Strand (B1456). Fork right onto the B1080 to Holbrook, through village to the school.

Saturday tours at 9am, 10am & 11am

Royal Hospital School



GUIDED WALKS

Enhance your enjoyment of the Heritage Open Days weekend and take advantage of the free walks provided by Ipswich Tourist Guides.

FREE GUIDED WALKS WITH IPSWICH TOURIST GUIDES

Saturday and Sunday 10.30am

A 90-minute walking tour of Ipswich's architectural and historical heritage. Add an extra dimension to the Heritage Open Days weekend by joining one of the free town walks, led by Ipswich Tourist Guides. The walks leave from the Tourist Information Centre at St Stephen's Church at 10.30am on Saturday and Sunday. The routes will pass many of the buildings listed. **Booking advisable but not essential.**

Contact Ipswich Tourist Information Centre

Telephone: 01473 258070 Email: tourist@ipswich.gov.uk

IPSWICH TRANSPORT MUSEUM BUS

SATURDAY ONLY

1 Ipswich Museum	10.30	11.15	12.00	12.45	13.30	14.15	15.00
2 Ipswich School (for CC Park)	10.35	11.20	12.05	12.50	13.35	14.20	15.05
3 Broomhill Pool	10.45	11.30	12.15	13.00	13.45	14.30	15.15
4 Cumberland Towers	10.50	11.35	12.20	13.05	13.50	14.35	15.20
5 St Matthews Street	10.55	11.40	12.25	13.10	13.55	14.40	15.25
6 Returns to Ipswich Museum	11.00	11.45	12.30	13.15	14.00	14.45	15.30

Take a free trip back in time by travelling between destinations on an Ipswich Transport Museum veteran bus accompanied by a tour guide. The Heritage bus will depart from the museum every 45 minutes. Timings are approximate - Saturday service only. Every effort will be made to maintain the timetable but please remember that we are using one of our historic buses.

NOTE: The service will be provided by a heritage vehicle from the Ipswich Transport Museum. It may not be possible to accommodate mobility impaired passengers. Wheelchairs, buggies etc. must be folded and stowed in the luggage compartment. Please signal the bus clearly at any recognised bus stop en route.

For further information on Ipswich Transport Museum visit
www.ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk



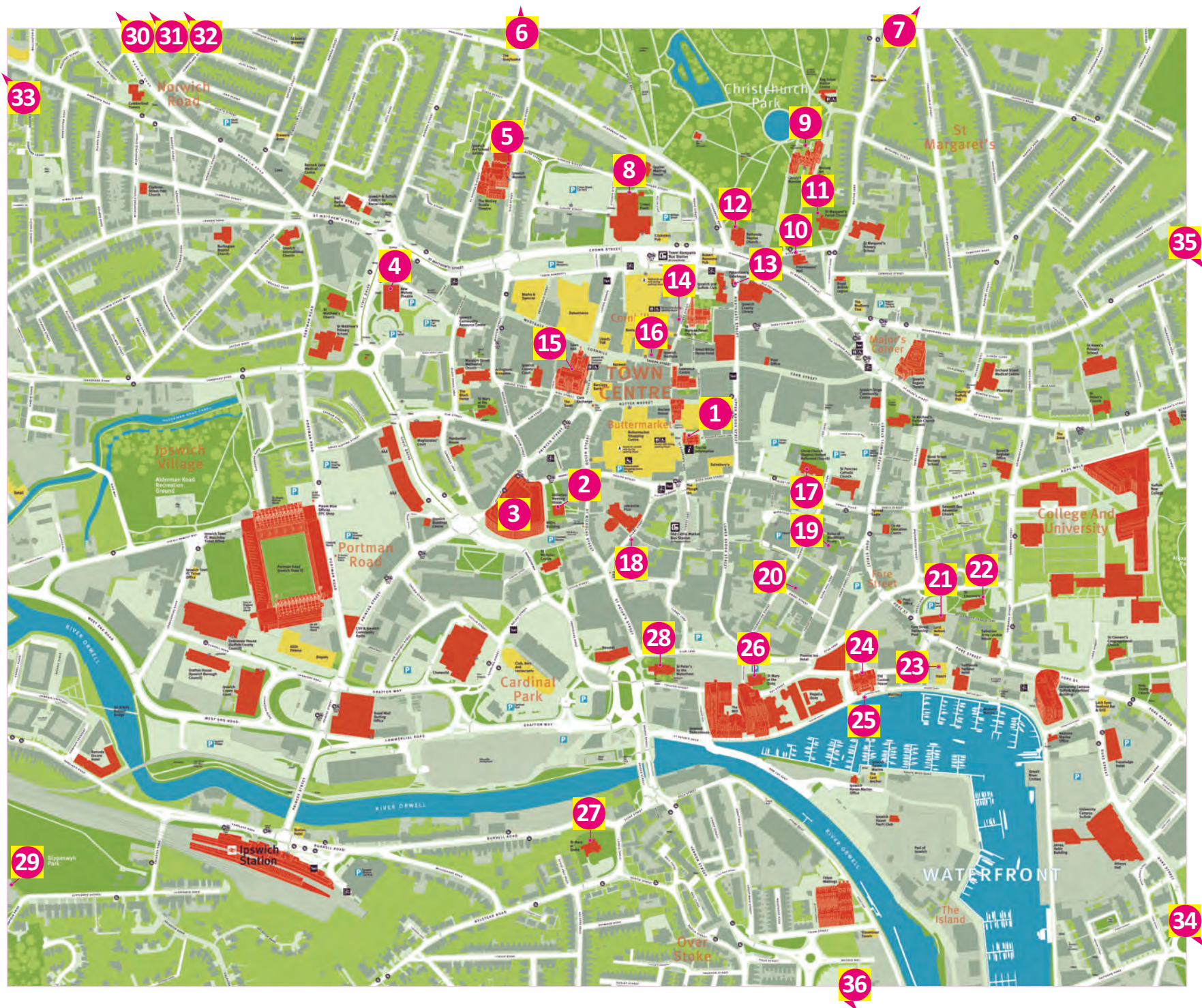
If you enjoyed Britain's oldest continuously inhabited town today, its heritage and its architecture, why not return for a guided tour, a river trip or to explore our parks, museums and historic waterfront.

The Tourist Information Centre in St Stephen's Church has plenty of ideas for a grand day out in and around Ipswich.

Contact them on 01473 258 070 or tourist@ipswich.gov.uk

Buildings list

- 1 St Stephen's Church
- 2 Unitarian Meeting House
- 3 Willis Towers Watson
- 4 The New Wolsey
- 5 Ipswich Museum
- 6 Ipswich School
- 7 Ipswich Cemeteries
- 8 Crown Pools
- 9 Christchurch Mansion
- 10 Freemasons Hall
- 11 St Margaret's Church
- 12 Bethesda Baptist Church
- 13 Pykenham Gatehouse
- 14 Admiral's House
- 15 Town Hall
- 16 Ipswich Institute and Library
- 17 Christchurch United Reformed/Baptist Church
- 18 3-5 Silent Street
- 19 Blackfriars
- 20 Tooley's Court
- 21 Fore Street Pool
- 22 St Clements Church
- 23 Isaac Lord
- 24 Old Custom House
- 25 Sailing Barge Victor
- 26 Quay Place
- 27 St Mary-at-Stoke Church
- 28 St Peter's Church
- 29 Gippeswyk Hall
- 30 Broomhill Swimming Pool
- 31 Broomhill Library
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- 33 Suffolk Record Office
- 34 Holywells Park
- 35 Martlesham Control Tower
- 36 Royal Hospital School



THE IPSWICH SOCIETY

The Ipswich Society was founded in 1960 and campaigns to preserve the best of the town's old buildings and to ensure new building is of similar quality.

Society members enjoy a series of winter lectures on subjects about, or affecting Ipswich and its environs and a programme of Summer outings. Members also receive a quarterly newsletter.

The Society monitors planning applications and comments on those which will have a noticeable impact on the town. Members attend Ipswich Borough Council's Conservation and Design Panel. Comments are made on regional, county and local planning documents, including the Development Plan. It also contributes to debates on local transport strategy and the balance between public transport and the alternatives.

The Society is for individuals, families and corporate organisations who care about the appearance, character and well being of Ipswich. If you would like to join please use the form below.

www.ipswichsociety.org.uk

[facebook/ipswichsociety](https://facebook.com/ipswichsociety)



The Ipswich Society

I/We* wish to join The Ipswich Society as an individual/family* member and enclose a cheque for £10/£15* as first annual subscription.

If you join during Heritage Open Days Weekend membership will continue until the end of 2018.

Name

Address

Postcode

Email

Signature

Date

*PLEASE DELETE AS APPROPRIATE Cheques are payable to The Ipswich Society and should be sent, together with the form, to
The Membership Secretary, The Ipswich Society, 32 Cowper Street, Ipswich IP4 5JB



The Ipswich Society

The Ipswich Maritime Trail

Exploring the historic Ipswich Wet Dock and
surrounding area in short walks



The Borough coat of arms rendered in three dimensions, Custom House

A fully revised edition of the original 1982 Maritime Ipswich publication
by The Ipswich Society

Ipswich is the oldest, continuously-settled town in England with a rich maritime and manufacturing past. The Ipswich Maritime Trail booklet takes visitors to some of the most interesting heritage buildings and locations in Ipswich, on and around the historic Wet Dock. Along the way, you can spot the ten Maritime Ipswich plaques mounted by The Ipswich Society in 1982.

Illustrated in colour and with a useful map, the Ipswich Maritime Trail is available for £2 from the Tourist Information Office in St Stephen's Church