

IPSWICH HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

SEPTEMBER 2018





WELCOME TO HERITAGE OPEN DAYS 2018

The Heritage Open Days are a fantastic opportunity to discover Ipswich's hidden Heritage

This year, the National Trust, national coordinators of the event, are celebrating England's cultural heritage across two weekends in September. The Ipswich Society is proud to once again coordinate our local event in Ipswich on behalf of the town.

Please check carefully the listing for each venue or event as opening times vary and not all venues will be open for both weekends.

The buildings listed represent seven centuries of our history and many of those participating are not open to the public throughout the year, so here's your chance! We have more than 30 buildings open in 2018, 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 in one of our beautiful parks.

The Ipswich Society is grateful to all concerned for their participation. If you're visiting, please note that opening times were correct at the time of going to press. If you are travelling any distance and hoping to see a specific building you should check details in advance of your journey.

Why not share your favourite place or better still, record your journey about the town on social media?

#HODIpswich2018

Above: Christchurch Mansion, Christchurch Park

Front cover: Mutual House, Princes Street, Illustration courtesy of Ipswich Building Society and Steamboat Creative. www.steamboatcreative.co.uk

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 8th 9am-5pm

Saturday 15th 9am-5pm
Walking tour 10.30am

Sunday 16th 10am-2pm
Walking tour 10.30am

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 15th 9am-5pm
Sunday 16th 12-4pm

3

Willis Towers Watson, Friars Street

This iconic building is now over 40 years old. The architect Norman Foster has been given credit for the building, his ideas to hang a glass curtain wall outside and create large open plan office spaces were revolutionary in the early 1970s. Architects Sir Michael Hopkins and Ipswich born Birkin Haward (junior) also worked on the project. This Ipswich landmark is worth a visit. Guided tours will lead you to the hidden swimming pool, one of the office floors as well as the roof garden, where refreshments are available from the restaurant.

Saturday 15th 10am-3pm
Sunday 16th 11am-4pm

4

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 15th 10am-5pm
Sunday 16th 11am-4pm





7

Ipswich Building Society, Mutual House, Princes St

Built in 1901 and designed by prominent local architect Thomas Cotman. This building was originally constructed as the Ipswich branch of Parrs Bank and is now occupied by Ipswich Building Society. Visitors will be able to see the exposed ceiling restored to its former glory and take a peak into the basement at the bank vault, coal cellar and night safe.

Saturday 15th 9am-5pm
Sunday 16th 10am-3pm

Above left: Ipswich School
Below: Ipswich Museum



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 8th 10am-5pm
Sunday 9th 11am-5pm

Saturday 15th 10am-5pm
Tour 12pm
Sunday 16th 11am-5pm
Tour 2pm

6

Ipswich School, 25 Henley Road

Built 1851 in the Elizabethan style, in red brick. The porch entrance is a reproduction of Wolsey's Gate in college Street and the tower resembles Tom Tower at Christ Church, Oxford. The Chapel has Victorian stained-glass windows and a Library stained glass windows by John Piper.

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

Saturday 15th 9am-12pm
Tours at 9, 10 and 11am

8

Oddfellows Hall, 37 High Street

Established in Ipswich in 1843 coinciding with an intense period of development in Ipswich. As new businesses and workers came to the town, membership of The Oddfellows expanded. Many new Lodges were established in Ipswich and the surrounding towns and villages. By 1890 there were at least 13 Lodges within the district. In 1896 the first Women's Lodge in Ipswich was opened. The Oddfellows are just as relevant today. Refreshments and activities for children (of all ages).

Saturday 15th 10am-4pm
Sunday 16th 10am-2pm

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.

Saturday 8th 10am-5pm
Sunday 9th 11am-5pm

Saturday 15th 10am-5pm
Tour 11am
Sunday 16th 11am-5pm
Tour 2pm

Please book a tour place
by calling 01473 433961

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 8th and
Sunday 9th
9.30am-4.30pm

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.

Sunday 16th 1-5pm
Tours 2pm 3pm and 4pm



Left: Freemasons Hall

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 8th 10am-3pm

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. On Sunday 16th between 10am and 11am and again between 2pm and 3pm, you will be able to see Em, the Tudor Player and experience music, song and dance you may have heard in 16th Century Ipswich

**Saturday 15th and
Sunday 16th 10am-4pm**

*Right: Pykenham Gatehouse
Drawing courtesy of Heather Ling*

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 15th and
Sunday 16th 10am-4pm**

15

The Ipswich Art Gallery, High Street

Ipswich Art Gallery shows exhibitions of international importance and provides a unique stage to showcase the region's artistic talents. Ipswich Art Society presents Open Call 2018 celebrating more than 50 years of the Anna Airy Award and displaying works by past winners. There will be craft art tables, who knows, maybe you will be a future Anna Airy Award winner!

**Saturday 15th 10am-5pm
Sunday 16th 11am-5pm**



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 8th 10am-4pm

Saturday 15th 10am-4pm

Sunday 16th 10am-4pm



17

R Gwinnell & Sons, The Old Bell, Stoke Street

Probably the oldest hostelry in Ipswich and said to have sold beers for at least 500 years. It ceased trading as a pub in about 2006 and lay derelict for 10 years. The property was bought at auction by its present owner who sympathetically renovated much of the building. Now a funeral directors, with chapel of rest and mortuary. R Gwinnell & Sons are planning to renovate the first floor which we hope will be open for Heritage Open Days next year.

Saturday 15th 10am-4pm

18

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 16th 10am-4pm



19

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 8th and Sunday 9th 11am-4pm

*Above: The Old Bell
Left: The Ipswich Institute*

Buildings list

- 1 St Stephen's Church
- 2 Unitarian Meeting House
- 3 Willis Towers Watson
- 4 3-5 Silent Street
- 5 Ipswich Museum
- 6 Ipswich School
- 7 Ipswich Building Society
- 8 Oddfellows Hall
- 9 Christchurch Mansion
- 10 Freemasons Hall
- 11 St Margaret's Church
- 12 Bethesda Baptist Church
- 13 Pykenham Gatehouse
- 14 Admiral's House
- 15 The Ipswich Art Gallery
- 16 Ipswich Institute & Library
- 17 R Gwinell and Sons,
The Old Bell
- 18 Blackfriars
- 19 Quay Place
- 20 Tooley's Court
- 21 Fore Street Pool
- 22 St Clements Church
- 23 Isaac Lord
- 24 Old Custom House
- 25 Suffolk Records Office
- 26 St Mary-at-Stoke Church
- 27 St Peter's Church
- 28 Gippeswyk Hall
- 29 Broomhill Swimming Pool
- 30 Broomhill Library
- 31 Castle Hill Community Centre





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 15th and
Sunday 16th 10am-4pm**

*Above right: Tooley's Court
Right: Fore Street Pool*

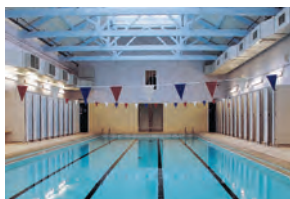


21

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.

**Saturday 15th and
Sunday 16th 10am-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 15th and
Sunday 16th 11am-3pm**

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 Isaac's Griddle area.*

**Sunday 16th
Tours: 10am, 11am & 12pm**

24

Old Custom House, Key Street

Built 1844/5 by architect John Medland Clark using a polychromatic 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 8th and
Sunday 9th 10am-4pm**

**Saturday 15th and
Sunday 16th 10am-4pm**



25

Suffolk Records Office, Gatacre Road

Come and see the plans and the model of the new Records Office 'The Hold' to be located on the University's Waterfront Campus. On Saturday 8th you can see the plans of Ipswich buildings, designed by the architects Cautley and Barefoot. Learn how to undertake your property history research using the record office's collections. On Saturday 15th join a behind the scenes tour of Ipswich record office. A National Lottery grant of £10.3m was awarded by the Heritage Lottery Fund to create a flagship heritage centre for Suffolk.

Saturday 8th 10am-1pm
Cautley and Barefoot
architects exhibit.

Saturday 15th 10am-4pm
Tours at 10am, 10.30am,
11am and 11.30am

26

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 1846, served the small hamlet of Stoke, with its single aisle and box pews offering 100 seats. With the increase in the parish population an 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 one 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 a very special category alongside Christchurch Mansion, Wolsey's gateway and The Ancient House. Guides will be on hand at most times and historic guide booklets are available.

Saturday 8th 9am-4pm
Sunday 9th 12-4pm



*Above left: St Mary-at-Stoke
Left: The Old Custom House*

27

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 8th 9am-4pm

**Saturday 15th and
Sunday 16th 10am-4pm**

28

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. The new building was Inspired by the kind of barn structure which might have once stood there, and you are invited to join tours of this leading arts and heritage venue throughout the day.

Afternoon tea is available from the café.

On Saturday you will also be able to see Em, a Tudor player. Experience music, song and dance as you may have heard it in 16th century Ipswich

**Saturday 15th and
Sunday 16th 10am-4pm**

Gippeswyk Hall

29

Broomhill Swimming Pool, Sherrington Road

One of 14 grade II listed lidos left in England. The lido operated for 64 years before closing in 2002. The pool has the last known Wicksteed diving stage in the country. Fusion lifestyle's heritage lottery Fund bid for it's renovation was successful in securing a full grant of £3.4 million. The project plan includes a fitness suite, terrace café and heritage rooms, and indicates a mid-2020 reopening.

**Saturday 15th and
Sunday 16th 10am-4pm**



TUDOR PLAYER

Look out for Em, the Tudor player to experience music, song and dance as you may have seen and heard it in 16th century Ipswich. Learn some dances from the period, enjoy the music and find out more about the life of a travelling player. Emma Mordue performs as part of The Kentwell players, at the great Tudor re-creations at Kentwell hall, as well as at events and workshops up and down the country.

On Saturday 15th Em can be found at Gippeswyk Hall, (Red Rose Chain). On Sunday 16th Em will be around the town centre and at Pykenham's Gate House at 10-11am & 2-3 pm.



Broomhill Swimming Pool

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

at 10.30am on Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th

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 passing many of the buildings listed in this guide.

Contact Ipswich Tourist Information Centre
Telephone:
01473 258070
Email:
tourist@ipswich.gov.uk

30

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 8th 10am-5pm
Sunday 9th 11am-4pm

Saturday 15th 10am-5pm
Sunday 16th 11am-4pm

31

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 15th and Sunday 16th 10am-4pm

IPSWICH TRANSPORT MUSEUM BUS

SATURDAY 15TH ONLY

1	Custom House, Waterfront	10.30	11.30	12.30	13.30	14.30	15.30
2	Bolton Lane	10.35	11.35	12.35	13.35	14.35	15.35
3	Sherrington Road, Broomhill Pool	10.47	11.47	12.47	13.47	14.47	15.47
4	Henley Road, Ipswich School	11.00	12.00	13.00	14.00	15.00	16.00
5	High Street	11.02	12.02	13.02	14.02	15.05	16.02
6	Museum Street	11.04	12.04	13.04	14.04	15.04	16.04
7	Princes Street	11.05	12.05	13.05	14.05	15.05	16.05
8	Return to Custom House	11.15	12.15	13.15	14.15	15.15	16.15

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 Custom House every 60 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

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



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 2019.

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

RIBA Suffolk Autumn Exhibition


**12 - 24
OCTOBER
2018**




RIBA Suffolk are pleased to announce an Exhibition of Architecture to be hosted in collaboration with the Ipswich Society and the University of Suffolk.

Hosted at the University of Suffolk Waterfront Building in Ipswich the exhibition will showcase the work of local RIBA Chartered Practices in Suffolk.

We will also be highlighting previous exemplary projects which have won the annual RIBA Suffolk Design Award, promoting the RIBA Suffolk Design Review Panel as well as exhibiting entries for the newly established Student Design Competition.

 @riba_suffolk

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www.ribasuffolk.com



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of Suffolk**

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