

The Ipswich Society



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, a programme of Summer outings and the occasional weekend and short break further afield. 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 Advisory Panel and panels of the One-Ipswich Strategic Partnership. 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. For more information on The Ipswich Society visit www.ipswichsociety.org.uk

I/We* wish to join The Ipswich Society as an individual/family* member and enclose a cheque for £6/£10* as first annual subscription. If you join during Heritage Open Days Weekend membership will continue until the end of 2012.

Name _____
(BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE)

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, 11 Dalton Road, Ipswich IP1 2HT

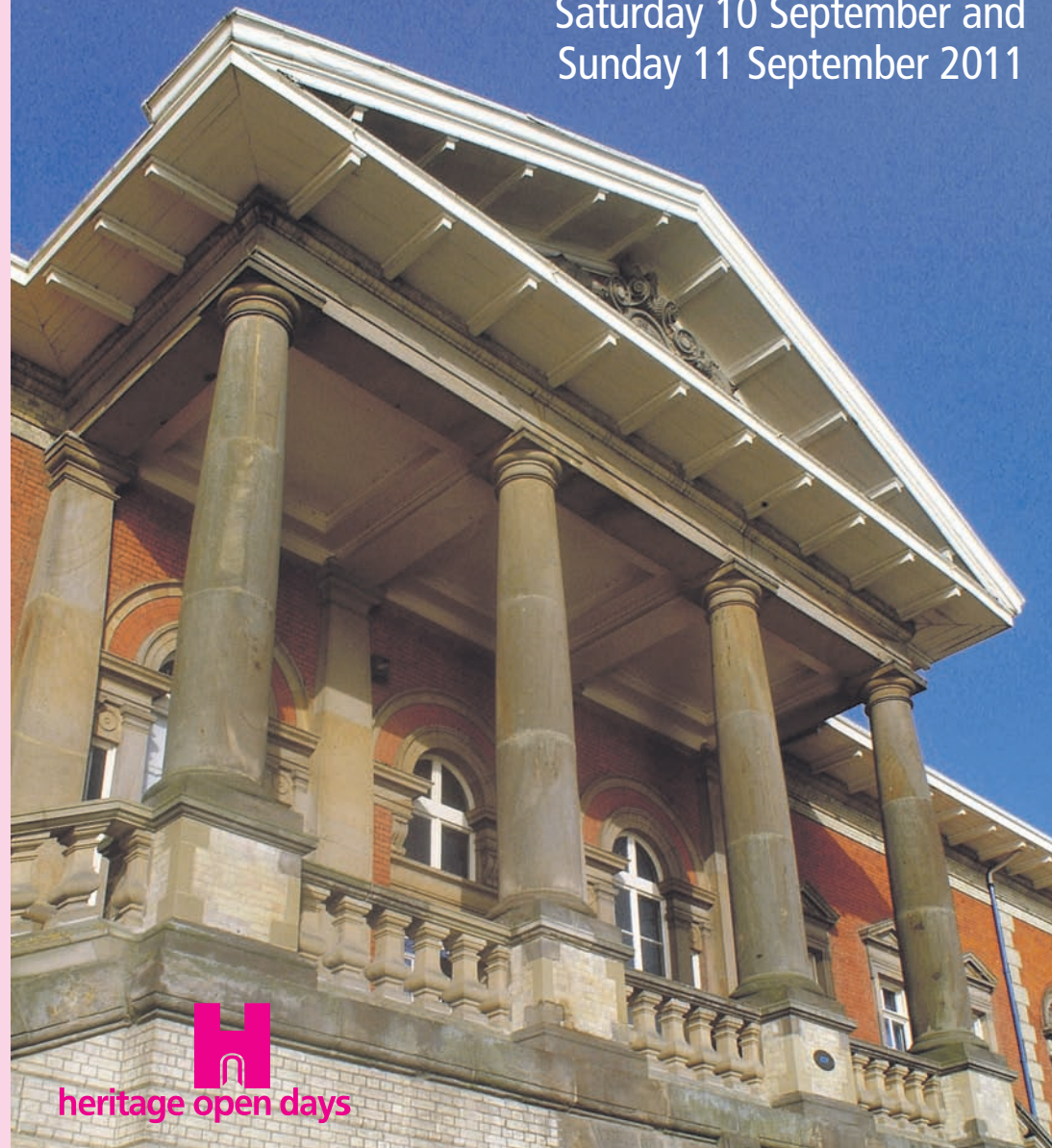
IPSWICH

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

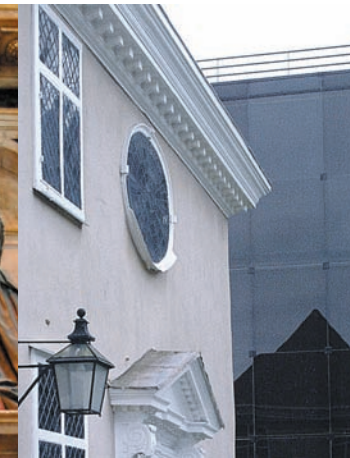
The Ipswich Society



Saturday 10 September and
Sunday 11 September 2011




heritage open days



IPSWICH

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS is England's biggest and most popular voluntary cultural event and The Ipswich Society is once again pleased to organise access to many local buildings of historical interest with the co-operation of owners and occupiers.

English Heritage gives central co-ordination and a national voice to the event which last year attracted around one million visitors nationwide.

The Ipswich Society is grateful to all concerned for their participation in this European event.

The buildings listed represent seven centuries in the history of Ipswich and will be open to the public during the weekend of September 10th and 11th, 2011.

The Heritage Open Days event provides a chance to see inside historical buildings, many of which are not normally accessible to the general public.

In this leaflet, descriptions of the buildings are necessarily brief but in most cases further information will be available at the site and/or guides will be on hand. Opening times may be subject to change.

Add an extra dimension to the Heritage Open Days weekend by joining one of the town centre walks, led by an Ipswich Tourist Guide.

The walks leave from the Tourist Information Centre at St. Stephen's Church at 10.30am only on Saturday and on Sunday.

The routes will pass many of the buildings listed. Booking advisable but not essential.

**FREE GUIDED
WALKS
SATURDAY AND
SUNDAY**

1. ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH, St Stephen's Church Lane

A 15th and 16th century church, converted into the Tourist Information Centre. The exterior is a patchwork of flint, stone and brick. Inside, the windows create a pleasant, light space. In the chancel is a splendid monument (pictured above) to Robert and Mary Leman who died on the same day in 1637.

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

2. UNITARIAN MEETING HOUSE, Friars Street

Built in 1699 and is one of the architectural gems of Ipswich. Original box pews, 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 spy-hole for use against visits from opponents of nonconformist worshippers.

**Saturday 10am - 5pm;
Sunday 12 noon - 4pm**

3. WILLIS BUILDING, Friars Street

Built 1973-75. Designed by Norman Foster Associates. RIBA award for best post-war British building. Its free form was shaped to the site boundary and its black glass walls reflect the surrounding buildings as a collage of architectural styles. Dramatic escalators and roof-top lawn. One of the very few post-War buildings to be nationally listed as of Grade I importance. Guided tours.

Saturday/Sunday 10am - 2pm

4. TOWN HALL, Cornhill

Opened in 1868, good example of high Victorian civic architecture. External features of classical columns, statues and sculpted heads. Grand staircase has oak balustrade and cast iron work. The Mayor's Parlour will be open. Guided tours by the Town Sergeant.

**Saturday only.
Guided tours 10.30am, 12 noon and 2pm**

5. ARLINGTONS, Museum Street

Substantial Grade II listed building with attractive facade sporting Doric columns and a grand classical staircase (1550 from the old Seckford Hall). Recently converted to a stylish cafe-bar and brasserie. Originally built as a museum in 1847 for the benefit of the people of Ipswich. Darwin's tutor John Henslow gave free public lectures here. The brasserie is open every day from 8am - 10pm.

**Saturday/Sunday
8am - 10pm**

6. IPSWICH MUSEUM, High Street

See how the museum looked 100 years ago in the Victorian Natural History Gallery, discover life in Roman Suffolk, the Anglo-Saxon origins of Ipswich or visit the exciting new Egyptian Gallery. Follow the growth of our town in the Ipswich Story gallery. Other collections include artefacts from Africa, Asia North America and the Pacific, the Suffolk Wildlife Gallery and fossils, rocks, and minerals from our region.

Saturday only 10am - 5pm

7. IPSWICH SCHOOL, Henley Road (meet in reception at main entrance, Henley Road)

Built 1851/2 in Elizabethan style. Porch and tower reflect in style the gateway to Wolsey's College in St Peter's Street and Tom Tower at Wolsey's foundation, Christ Church, Oxford. Library with stained glass by John Piper.

**Saturday only.
Guided tours 9am, 10am and 11am**

8. CHRISTCHURCH MANSION, Christchurch Park

16th Century mansion in an historic park setting. Rooms furnished in various styles from Tudor to Victorian periods. The most significant collection of Constable and Gainsborough paintings outside London. Admission free.

**Saturday/Sunday 10am - 5pm
Special event Friday 9 September only with costumed Tudor tours at 6.30pm and 7.30pm**

9. FREEMASONS HALL, 8-10 Soane Street

The hall was completed in 1870 and updated in 1911 by architect George Henry Bertram Gould. Later extended to incorporate adjoining dwelling house. The temple, dining room and foyer contain many items of masonic interest.

Saturday only 10.30am - 4pm



10. BETHSDA BAPTIST CHURCH, St Margaret's Plain

A classical style building by the architect F G Fauch. Opened in 1913, seats 800, has a splendid gallery on three sides providing the best view of the interior.
Saturday 10am - 3pm

11. PYKENHAM GATEHOUSE, Northgate Street

Built about 1471 for William Pykenham, Archdeacon of Suffolk, as the entrance to his residence on the site now occupied by the Ipswich & Suffolk Club. Timber-framed with interesting internal and external architectural features. Restored 1982/3 by Ipswich Building Preservation Trust.
Saturday 10am - 4pm

12. ADMIRAL'S HOUSE, Tower Street

Probably built during the reign of Charles II (1660-1685), with the later addition of a fine Georgian front. The interior is a mix of architectural styles. Once the home of Admiral Benjamin Page, visited by the Duke of Wellington in 1820, it houses the Ipswich Institute's members restaurant, coffee lounge and lecture rooms.
Saturday/Sunday 10am - 4pm

13. IPSWICH INSTITUTE and LIBRARY, Tavern Street

Founded in 1824 by Dr. George Birkbeck, the Ipswich Mechanic's Institution moved into a former chemist's shop at 15 Tavern Street in 1834. The present layout housing a popular independent library in a light and airy barrel-vaulted hall, dates from 1876. A hidden gem of Ipswich's cultural and architectural heritage.
Saturday/Sunday 10am - 4pm

14. ST. LAWRENCE CHURCH, Dial Lane. Grade II listed building superbly restored as a town centre community facility with stylish cafe open weekdays.
Saturday 10am - 2pm

15. CHRIST CHURCH (United Reformed/Baptist), Tacket St Built in 1857 as Congregational church by John Wight to the design of local architect F J Barnes. Gothic style in Kentish ragstone, ashlar dressing. Interior has large gallery, cast iron work and stained glass east window.
Saturday 10am - 6pm

16. 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. Roof was refurbished after a fire.
Saturday 9am - 5pm; Sunday 3 - 5pm

17. HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, Back Hamlet/Bishops Hill A rare Suffolk Georgian church and one of Ipswich's "best kept secrets" with a surprising and harmonious interior that includes a remarkable stained glass window commemorating the fallen of the parish in World War I amongst its treasures. Holy Trinity, the nearest active church to the University and Waterfront (for events visit www.holytrinityipwich.co.uk)
Thursday-Sunday 10am - 4pm; Service 11am Sunday

18. UNIVERSITY CAMPUS SUFFOLK Iconic Waterfront building opened to students in September 2007. Constructed to high sustainability standards and achieved a BREEAM rating of 'Excellent'. Designed to conserve energy in the summer, cool air is used to chill the structure for the next day. The green (often red) sedum roof acts to add insulation, retain rainwater, encourage biodiversity and absorb some CO2.
Thursday/Friday/Sunday Guided tours 10.30am and 1.30pm

19. ISAAC LORD (machine room) 7 Wherry Quay, Ipswich The Isaac Lord site comprises one Grade I and two Grade II listed buildings. It is

perhaps the finest example in the region of a late 15th - early 16th century merchant's house and warehouse complex. Now a popular waterside bar and coffee tavern. The maltings is a rare example of an 18th century hand malting concern. Machine room restored to full working order.
Machine room tour/demonstration Saturday/Sunday 10am, 12 noon

20. OLD CUSTOM HOUSE, Key Street (entrance at ground level below the main staircase) Built 1844/5. Architect John Medland Clark. Impressive use of a 19th century redbrick with a white stone polychromy technique. Grand external staircase. The ground floor formerly included a bonded warehouse which has been converted into the Waterfront Conference Centre. This Centre is manned by Ipswich Maritime Trust who are presenting an exhibition on Ipswich's maritime history. (see front cover)
Saturday/Sunday 10am - 4pm

21. ST PETER'S CHURCH, St Peter's Street Probably the site of the first church in Ipswich. Present building 14th century, enlarged in 1870s. A rare and massive 12th century Tournai font bowl in black marble from Flanders. Currently leased to the Ipswich Hospital Band who have received a Lottery Grant to convert the redundant Church into a Heritage Centre, rehearsal and concert venue. St. Peters is also the home of the Ipswich Charter Hangings - eight magnificent embroidered panels, commissioned by Ipswich Arts Association and designed by Isabel Clover, depict Ipswich from Anglo-Saxon times to the present day. Special events include camera display, "Just Us" tapestry exhibition and live music. Lecture about the church's history on Sunday at 2pm. GeoSuffolk (www.geosuffolk.co.uk) will show local septarid, flint and limestone flushwork, Tournai limestone and much more.
Saturday/Sunday 10am - 4pm

22. ST MARY-AT-STOKE, Stoke Street One of only two medieval Grade I listed Anglican churches in the town it benefits from the "Midas touch" of William Butterfield, the genius Victorian Gothic Revival architect who greatly enlarged it in

1870/1. The site pre-dates the Saxon era when Stoke (Saxon = stockade) was a fortified hill protected by water and marshes.
Saturday 9am - 4pm; Sunday 12 - 4pm

23. SUFFOLK NEW COLLEGE Opened in September with state of the art accommodation to meet the needs of the local community and business. Training facilities include a 100 seater fine dining restaurant, three kitchens, radio, television and dance studios, a 60 seat performance theatre and an 80 seat lecture theatre. Also within the college are industry standard automotive and construction workshops as well as teaching accommodation and IT suite. Sports facilities include sports hall, badminton courts, one seven-a-side football pitch and ten 5-a-side football pitches
Saturday 9am - 1pm with guided tours on the hour and half hour

24. MAGISTRATES' COURT HOUSE, Elm Street To commemorate 650 years of Justices of the Peace the Magistrates' Court House in Elm Street will be open on the afternoon of Saturday 10th September. There will be an opportunity of being able to see a 'mock trial' and to find out about the workings of the court.
Saturday 12 noon - 3p.m

25. GIPPESWYK HALL, Birkfield Drive Grade II* listed building dating back to the early 17th century but with later re-developments, and as such is a treasure chest for any architectural enthusiast or history buff. Home to Red Rose Chain Film & Theatre Company, an innovative and independent not-for-profit organisation who are a big part of the thriving local arts scene. Best known for "Theatre In The Forest", their spectacular outdoor theatre in the heart of Rendlesham Forest, the company also works with overlooked or hard-to-reach groups to create original and insightful films and plays. There are currently development plans, backed by the Heritage Lottery Fund, to redevelop part of the existing building into a purpose-built theatre and arts venue to serve the local community.
Saturday 10am - 4pm

26. BROOMHILL SWIMMING POOL, Sherrington Road Situated in an unrivalled position at the edge of Broomhill Park, Broomhill Pool was completed in 1938. The pool is an outstanding modernist lido with 50 metre pool, wide sun terraces and diving stage. The pool closed in 2002 and now needs considerable repair and restoration.
Saturday/Sunday 10am - 5pm

27. FRESTON TOWER, Freston Enigmatic Elizabethan six-storey tower overlooking the River Orwell. Built in 1578 by Ipswich merchant Thomas Gooding. Restored by the Landmark Trust and available for holidays. From Ipswich, take the Wherstead Road to Bourne Bridge and

turn left onto the B1456 towards Shotley. Take footpath opposite Freston Boot PH.
Friday/Saturday/Sunday 10am - 4pm

28. MARTLESHAM HEATH CONTROL TOWER MUSEUM The museum depicts the history of one of the country's most important airfields between 1917 and 1939. A WW2 fighter base involved in the Battle of Britain. In 1943, the 356th Fighter Group of the USAAF operated from the base escorting 8th US Air Force bombers in daylight raids. Museum open Sundays until the end of October. Special Open Day with free admission and car parking.
Sunday 11am - 4pm

IPSWICH TRANSPORT MUSEUM BUS TRIPS (Saturday only)

Take a free trip back in time by travelling between the destinations on an Ipswich Transport Museum veteran bus accompanied by a Tour Guide.

Every effort will be made to maintain the timetable below but please remember that we are using buses over 40 years old!



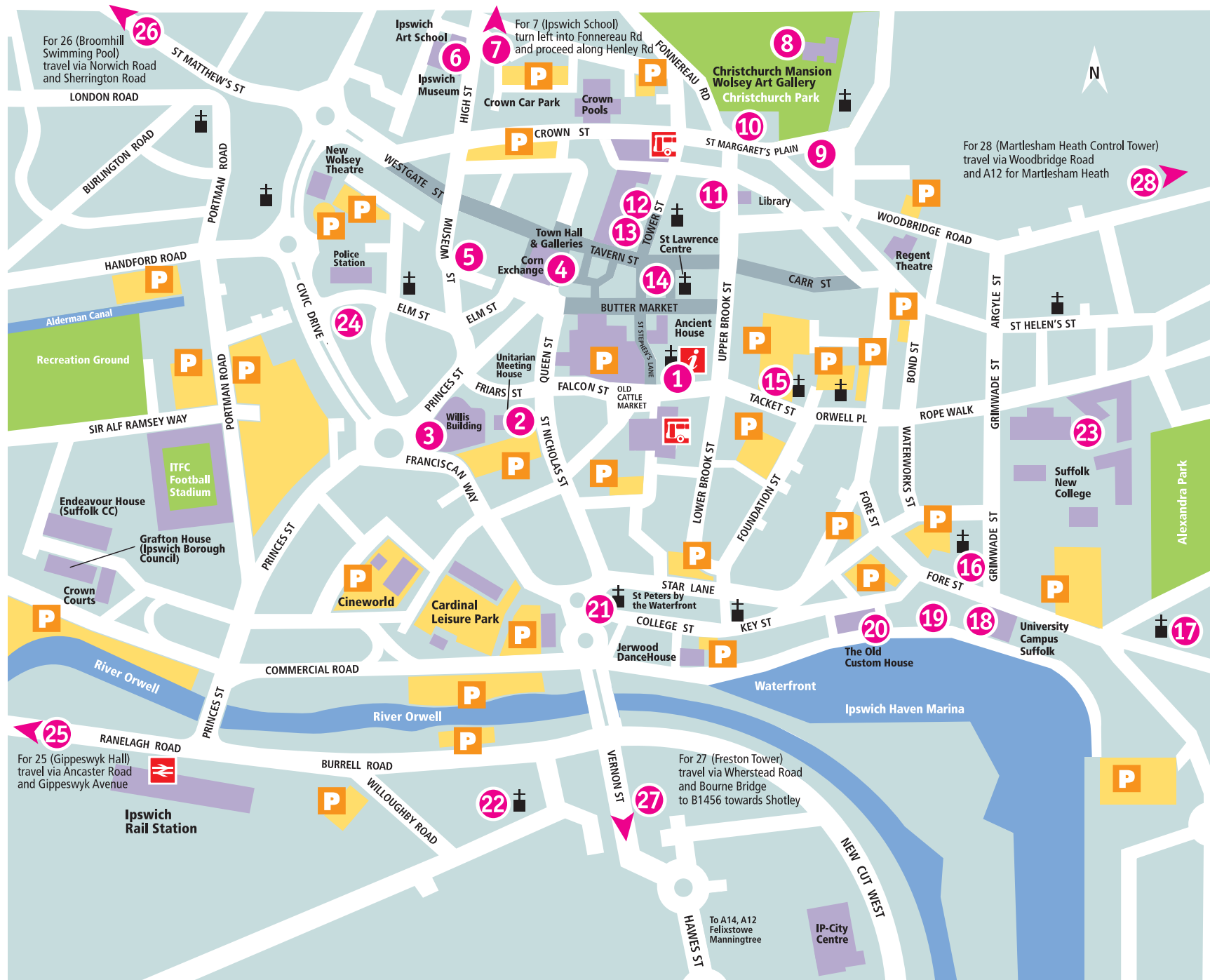
TIMETABLE AND ROUTE (timings approximate - Saturday only)

Waterfront Old Custom House	1100	1200	1300	1400	1500	1600
Bolton Lane Christchurch Mansion/ Freemasons Hall	1104	1204	1304	1404	1504	1604
Henley Road Ipswich School	1110	1210	1310	1410	1510	1610
High Street Ipswich Museum	1112	1212	1312	1412	1512	1612
Museum Street Arlingtons	1115	1215	1315	1415	1515	1615
Friars Street Willis/Unitarian Meeting House	1118	1218	1318	1418	1518	1618
Old Cattle Market Tourist Information	1120	1220	1320	1420	1520	1620
New Cut Waterfront viewpoint	1125	1225	1325	1425	1525	1625
Rail Station	1135	1235	1335	1435	1535	1635
Waterfront Old Custom House	1142	1242	1342	1442	1542	1642

IPSWICH TRANSPORT MUSEUM is open every Sunday and bank holiday until the 28 November from 11am - 4pm (last entry 3.30pm)

Location of buildings Ipswich town centre

1. ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH
2. UNITARIAN MEETING HOUSE
3. WILLIS BUILDING
4. TOWN HALL
5. ARLINGTONS
6. IPSWICH MUSEUM
7. IPSWICH SCHOOL
8. CHRISTCHURCH MANSION
9. FREEMASONS HALL
10. BETHSDA BAPTIST CHURCH
11. PYKENHAM GATEHOUSE
12. ADMIRAL'S HOUSE
13. IPSWICH INSTITUTE & LIBRARY
14. ST. LAWRENCE CHURCH
15. CHRIST CHURCH
16. ST CLEMENT'S CHURCH
17. HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
18. UNIVERSITY CAMPUS SUFFOLK (UCS)
19. ISAAC LORD
20. OLD CUSTOM HOUSE
21. ST PETER'S CHURCH
22. ST MARY-AT-STOKE CHURCH
23. SUFFOLK NEW COLLEGE
24. MAGISTRATES' COURT
25. GIPPESWYK HALL
26. BROOMHILL SWIMMING POOL
27. FRESTON TOWER
28. MARTLESHAM HEATH CONTROL TOWER MUSEUM



Access for people with disabilities is a problem in some of the buildings, particularly Pykenham Gatehouse (11).