



## Coming soon

The Holt Society is delighted to announce that it will soon be publishing *Escapades in Holt*, a children's book featuring an illustrative owl to tell stories in rhyme about the town's history. This brainchild of Lindsay Furniss aims to bring local history to life in a way that appeals to children of primary school age and to encourage families to explore and discover the uniqueness of Holt. Susan Williams, Secretary of the Holt Society, has assisted as researcher and editor.

Andy Ward, a local freelance illustrator who also works for the Daily Mail, has been commissioned to illustrate the book. Each double page will tell of an escapade of Holt Owl in verse written by Lynda Turbet, together with additional historical facts.

Funding for the book has been partly met by a loan from the Holt Society which will be repaid by income from sales. In addition, a number of businesses, organisations (including the Holt Society) and individuals have made donations. Further promises of funding are invited (to Lindsay Furniss, [ljfurniss@icloud.com](mailto:ljfurniss@icloud.com)). It is an important part of Lindsay's plan that sets of the book should be given to local schools and children's groups in the name of the donors. Any additional income from sales will be donated to charity.



## Visit 1: The Paston Treasure Exhibition

Tuesday 3 July 2018



When Dr Francesca Vanke (Keeper of Art, Norfolk Museums Service) spoke to the Holt Society in February 2017, she invited us to visit the exhibition she was creating at Norwich Castle Museum in association with the Yale Centre for British Art. The exhibition explores the world of the seventeenth century from the vantage point of a single painting which forms a unique record of a collection once owned by the Paston family but dispersed as the family declined.

Dr Vanke has offered to give her talk twice in the gallery, each time to a maximum of 12 people. As a bonus, members are also invited to a talk by Dr Rob Knee (Paston Heritage Society) on the various houses around Norfolk which used to belong to the Paston family.

Cost £15. To book, contact Catherine Hume at [chume.peacocks@gmail.com](mailto:chume.peacocks@gmail.com) or on 01263 715784. Payment must be in advance.



## NELSON HOUSE

With the acquisition of Nelson House by Holt Town Council come exciting possibilities. Later in the summer a Tourist Information Centre will open there, staffed, it is planned by volunteers who love Holt and know something about what the town has to offer. Anyone interested in helping is invited to contact Holt Town Clerk, Elaine Oliver for further information ([holttowncouncil@gmail.com](mailto:holttowncouncil@gmail.com); 01263 712149). Meanwhile the Council is planning to re-open a skeletal TIC in the old premises, also with volunteer staff.

The Holt Society has been invited to develop a display area in Nelson House. It is envisaged that this will feature various aspects of the town's history and information about local open spaces. We don't see this as a museum and would plan to change the display regularly. Plans are also being made for an accessible archive of old photographs of Holt, viewable on-screen.

- Arrive Castle Museum 12.00 noon by own transport
- 12.30 Dr Rob Knee's talk
- 1.00 Lunch in the Museum Café at individuals expense with reserved table
- 2.15 First tour of exhibition with Dr Vanke
- 3.15 Second tour with Dr Vanke
- 4.15 Finish

## Visit 2: Langham Dome

Wednesday 5 September 2018



We have negotiated a special opening and talk for 30 people. The visit will take around one and a half hours. Please arrange your own transport, arriving at 12 noon. Refreshments are not provided.

Langham Dome is a Scheduled Ancient Monument and one of only a handful of anti-aircraft gunnery domes left in the UK. Built in 1942-43 on the edge of RAF Langham, this intriguing building utilised innovative technology. In 2013, the North Norfolk Historic Buildings Trust, which owns Langham Dome, was awarded grants by the Heritage Lottery Fund and English Heritage to open the Dome as a visitor attraction.

Cost £5. To book, contact Catherine Hume at [chume.peacocks@gmail.com](mailto:chume.peacocks@gmail.com) or on 01263 715784. Payment must be in advance.