

Newsletter February 2020



Nostalgia is a Thing of the Past a première with John Jarvis

Join us for an immersive evening time-travelling with local cinema historian and musician, John Jarvis. In the first part of the evening, John will be showing a treasure trove of re-discovered video recordings



with Holt residents. Now skilfully edited and brought back to life again, we will hear the voices, see the characters and landmarks, and share in many of the funny, mischievous and often poignant stories. In conversation with Mary Alexander, John will explain the background, identify the characters and put them into context with video clips and photographs.

During the interval, the bar will be open for alcoholic and soft drinks. In the second part of the evening, John will recreate an imaginary stroll down 'old' New Street - using webcam footage to identify the location of old buildings and businesses. Other long term local residents will contribute to these memories. In fact, we will have some former Holt 'celebrity' guests in the audience - all will be revealed on the night!

This is a community event organised by the Holt Society and everyone is welcome. Do bring photographs and memories to share. The centre and bar will be open until 10.00pm for conversation afterwards.

There is no booking and no charge. We are expecting a large audience, so please arrive in good time to ensure a seat.

Thursday 5th March 2020 Holt Community Centre
Doors and bar open 6.00 pm for a prompt 6.30 pm start.

Annual General Meeting

Friday 3rd April 6.30 pm. Holt Community Centre
Buffet and refreshments available. No charge. No booking.

Agenda papers will be distributed.

Talk after business: **Douglas Robb** Headmaster, Gresham's School.

Early Norfolk County Maps: a Collector's Journey

An illustrated talk by Richard Jefferson
Thursday 20th February 6.00 for 6.30 pm
Church Hall, Church Street.

Richard is a Holt Society member and has given talks on a variety of subjects to many local societies. He was a history teacher and has played cricket for Surrey and Norfolk.

Richard will bring his collection and illustrate his talk with slides. Do bring along your own maps if you wish.

Cost for members £4, non-members £5, including a glass of wine or a soft drink.



Parking in the car park by the Church is £1 per hour. Take a torch to tap in your car registration number!

DATES FOR 2020

Booking is needed for visits but not for talks or the AGM. Further details of events will be found elsewhere on these pages.

Thursday 20th February 6.00 for 6.30 pm
Early Norfolk County Maps: a Collector's Journey.
A talk by Richard Jefferson

Thursday 5th March 6.00 for 6.30 pm
Nostalgia is a Thing of the Past
with John Jarvis.

Friday 3rd April 6.30 pm
Annual General Meeting
and talk by Douglas Robb.

Friday 15th May afternoon
Visit to Ware Hall House, Wells.

Last November, the Holt Society committee entertained (at their own expense) Steve Benson (with Peta) to a meal at Il Calabrese restaurant in Holt to thank him for his service to the Society.

HOLT SOCIETY CHILDREN'S ART PRIZE

As part of the 2019 Holt Festival, the Holt Community Centre hosted the first children's Art Prize. Two hundred children from Holt Primary School had enjoyed a week of workshops, led by a team of professional artists working in a huge variety of techniques on the theme of Love Holt.

The resulting exhibition was amazingly creative, exhilarating and a joy to view. It filled the Community Centre and continued throughout the whole of Festival week, being seen by an estimated 1000 plus people.

In an evening of exhibition, fun, cake and film the prizes were presented. These were offered by a range of local organisations including the Holt Society. Most appropriately, our prize, presented by Polly Binns, was for models of buildings displayed alongside each child's description of their ideas and techniques employed. The winning entry was a splendid colourful and exuberant interpretation of Benbow's greengrocers on the High Street.

The judging was led by Anwen, Lady Hurt, Artistic Director of the Holt Festival, assisted by Holt Mayor Councillor Rodney Smith and artists Beverley Scott and Rainie Kay.



The Holt Society goes natural

Holt Society visits are not all about fine buildings. Last September we visited Natural Surroundings, a wildlife garden centre celebrating its 30th anniversary on the Bayfield estate. We were welcomed by Anne and Simon Harrap who explained how they look after the flood-plain meadows along the River Glaven and maintain the informal gardens with a strong emphasis on wildlife.

Henry Crawley (*photo*) gave a brief talk about the work of the River Glaven Conservation Group and took us to see one of the many river improvement projects managed by the Group - the new channel around



Bayfield lake. For 120 years the river had been diverted through a brick-lined tunnel to bypass the lake and avoid silting. In 2015, 1.2 km of sinuous surface channel was created with over thirty riffles and ponding areas to improve biodiversity.

The sumptuous homemade cakes and tea finished off a superb afternoon visit.

VISIT WARE HALL HOUSE

Discover the remarkable story of a 15th century house threatened with demolition in Ware, Hertfordshire, then taken down piece by piece and re-assembled 100 miles away at Wells-by-the-Sea by owner May Savidge. A Holt Society visit has been arranged for the afternoon of Friday 15th May. To book a place, please contact Catherine Hume at chume.peacocks@gmail.com or on 01263 715784. Cost £10 per head to include tour, tea and film. Payment must be in advance.

Join the committee

We are looking for two new members for the Holt Society committee to replace those retiring at the AGM. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Tony Leech (Chairman) tonyleech3@gmail.com

Heritage Room in Nelson House



Holt Town Council has invited the Holt Society to establish and manage a heritage room in Nelson House. As well as displaying some of the posters devised for the 2015 Picturecraft exhibition, our collection of old photographs of Holt will be accessible to all. It is planned to store other archival material about the town and its activities in the room and to include a small display of Holt-related artefacts.

REMINDER – The New Year means that the annual subscriptions are due. For those who don't pay by standing order can I please ask that you send your subscription (£5 per person) to Keith Gosden, Hanworth House, 23 Cromer Road, Holt NR25 6EU if you have not already done so. Cheques should be made payable to The Holt Society. Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you at the AGM.