

# Newsletter November 2021



## LOOKING BACK AND MOVING FORWARD.

October 29<sup>th</sup> saw an audience of about 70 Holt Society members, visitors and guests fill the main hall of The Venue to hear Mary Alexander and Steve Benson 'in Conversation'.



Writing about the event the morning after allows for an immediacy of response and the memory of the sense of a warm and entertaining evening, with people relaxed and absorbed and privy to an intimate conversation between two people who have given many years of their expertise and considerable knowledge to the Holt Society and to the town.

Mary had compiled a wonderful illustrated narrative and led the discussion via those people who have been and continue to be influential in all that the Society stands for. Examples of various Society events over the last 50 years allowed not only for reminiscence of the activities themselves but also the historic times and events behind such celebrations.

One such was the Great Fire of 1708 the potential origins of which were illuminated by Steve with an historian's love of academic detective work. The Holt Society Golden Anniversary in 2015 spanned a whole week of celebration when the Society created multiple activities and exhibitions and installed permanent historic information boards which continue to benefit the town. Much amusement was had by memories of when Anglia TV extensively filmed Holt in colourful newly painted and floral splendour in the 1970s only to broadcast a 2 and a half minute snap shot and to add to the ignominy in Black and White.

Throughout the engaging conversation ran the Holt Society's very active involvement for the protection and the nurture of the heritage and architectural infrastructure of the town through its informative publications and active engagement with NNDC.

It drew to a close by marking the importance of Holt as a community from as long ago as its reference in the Domesday Book and to the recent celebration of that event in the installation of the Domesday Slate by Teucer Wilson in the Memorial Gardens sponsored by the Holt Society for the town.

In recognition of the importance of capturing such a conversation it has been recorded and hopefully will be accompanied with the illustrations we all enjoyed.

As yet there are no dates when it will be available but look out for an announcement in a forthcoming newsletter.

### **NOVEMBER - Members Only Event**

18th - A Stroll Through Georgian Holt. Full details PTO

### **DECEMBER - Members Only Event**

Evening of Friday 10<sup>th</sup>. A seasonal social evening at The Venue. Entrance by pre booking only

### **JANUARY 2022 - Members Only Event**

The morning of either Friday 21<sup>st</sup> or Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup>. Date to be confirmed. An introduction to our new research project about the cellars of Holt.

### **FEBRUARY 18<sup>th</sup> 2022 - Open Event**

#### **LECTURE BY DR SALLY FRANCIS.**

Sally's research background in academia has led her to establishing a modern day saffron farm: Norfolk Saffron.

She will talk about the complex and extensive history of saffron growing in Norfolk and the challenges of modern day production.

**Exclusive to  
Members**

**THE LAUNCH OF THE SOCIETY'S FILM  
'A Stroll through Georgian Holt'**

**Starring our own Steve Benson**

Joe Harding Director and Cinematographer

**NOVEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup> 2021 at THE MEETING ROOM  
ST ANDREWS CHURCH, HOLT**

Tickets: £3.00 per member

Please pay cash / card at the door

**\*\*There will be 2 viewings both limited to 40 seats\*\***

**A - doors open at 5.45pm**

**B - doors open at 7pm**

**Film starts prompt at 6pm**

**Film starts prompt at 7.15pm**

To book by email: [holt societymembership@outlook.com](mailto:holt societymembership@outlook.com)

To book by phone ring either 01263 711223 or 01263 713958

Please state your viewing preference **A** or **B**, the number of tickets,  
your name and for phone booking your phone number

**TICKET BOOKINGS, ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS,  
WILL OPEN AT 09:00 ON NOV 5<sup>TH</sup>**

Confirmation of a successful booking will be notified ASAP