



Creative exposure

HEART's photography
competition winners

ROSARY CEMETERY

Focus on the Grade II* listed asset

SUBTERRANEAN CITY

Developing Norwich's underground assets

JUST ADD MUSTARD

Prize-winning heritage recipe

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EDITORIAL

Revelations



One of HEART's principal aims is to reveal the little known with a view to making a virtue of it, and in this first part of the year it seems as if we've been doing a lot more of it than usual.

First we've had some impressive media coverage around our 'Underground Norwich' project, to explore how the city's underground heritage assets might be more effectively exploited and promoted. We've had a huge response to our plea for people's stories about tunnel legends and folklore, and we will share some of these amazing tales in due course.

This leads to our second revelation. Norwich may have the largest collection of urban medieval churches in northern Europe, but we don't shout about it as much as we should. That will all change in March, when HEART publishes the first substantial book on the Norwich churches ever to be produced (all due deference to Claude Messant and Noel Spencer). Nick Groves has done an excellent job with the text, and East Publishing, who helped us scoop two regional awards last year, have provided invaluable design and production support. Another very exciting element is the photography, much of which has been sourced from HEART's recent photography competition.

As quite successful shopkeepers for the last four months, we are keen to unleash the 'light under the bushel' that is Colman's Mustard Shop & Museum, and the impact of the Colman heritage on the world. We have now commissioned a new website which we hope will raise the profile of this remarkable asset internationally.

In January, a range of cultural, business and community bodies responded to the initial thoughts of HEART's technical team, Hopkins Architects and their associates, on the development of The Halls project. The team will now work up proposals, based on this specialised input, which will be revealed later in the year.

In March I will be revealing the secret of HEART's success to heritage and regeneration specialists in the United States, at events organised by the World Bank, US National Trust and Virginia Museums Association. I hope to raise the profile of Norwich and Norfolk in general, but also among specialist interest groups. For example, the Pettus family was very influential in Norwich in the 17th century but then died out. However, the family is alive and kicking in profuse numbers in the US, so it will be exciting to refuel that relationship.

Finally, we have been working with Norwich City Council, Caley's and the Norwich Society to reveal a long-hidden gem in the Guildhall. As part of our overall regeneration and improvement programme for the building, we have jointly funded the cleaning and restoration of a sensational Victorian mosaic in the foyer, which we hope the public will enjoy.

In a climate when people are understandably moved to batten down the hatches to see out the storm of recession, it's good to open a few of them, let in the light and get things moving again. *Michael Loveday, Chief Executive*



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HEART**
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**NORWICH
City Council**

NEWS IN BRIEF

New medieval churches book

HEART will be publishing a new book on the city's medieval churches this Easter.

The Medieval Churches of the City of Norwich has been written by local academic Nick Groves, with interviews by Christina Lister, design and editing by East Publishing, and photography supplied by many local organisations and photographers.

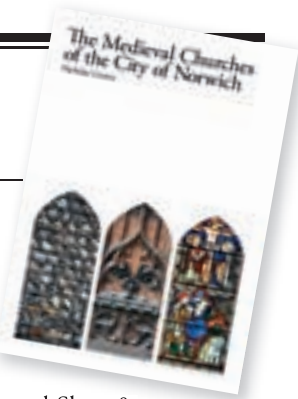
We believe it is the first contemporary book on the city's outstanding collection of medieval churches. It is hoped that it will appeal to both visitors and local people with a broad set of interests – architecture, history, archaeology, religion, culture, stained glass and local history. The book will be a sister publication to HEART's award-winning Norwich 12 guidebook, also produced by East Publishing.

Retailing at £12.95, *The Medieval Churches of the City of Norwich* will be available from Monday 19 April from Jarrolds, Norwich Tourist Information



HEART's new book celebrates the city's outstanding set of medieval churches

Centre, Norwich Cathedral Shop and Colman's Mustard Shop & Museum, and online at www.jarrold.com (ISBN 978-0-9560385-1-7).



HEART is giving away one copy of the new book, signed by the author. Email your name and address to info@heritagecity.org with 'Spring Book Giveaway' in the subject line or write, with your name and address, to: Spring Book Giveaway, Norwich HEART, PO Box 3130, Norwich NR2 1XR. Entries must be received by 5 April 2010. The winner will be notified by 12 April 2010. The winner of *Building Norfolk* from our last issue was Roy Knight from Bury St Edmunds.

Museums at Night

Night owls can look forward to a weekend of ghostly goings-on as Norwich's museums and heritage attractions unlock their doors for Museums at Night 2010.

Norwich 12 is truly getting into the swing of the annual after-hours celebrations, with six of the venues opening their doors during the weekend of Friday 14 May–Sunday 16 May. Visitors will be offered a range of experiences, including an installation, moonlight tours, ghost stories and children's sleepovers. HEART is coordinating the city's events, which are part of the nationwide Museums at Night, organised by Culture24 and funded by the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council. For more information visit www.norwich12.co.uk and www.culture24.org.uk/museumsatnight.

New logo for Mustard Shop

Colman's Mustard Shop & Museum has unveiled a new logo and identity, which will be rolled out in the coming months.

HEART took over the shop in August 2009 and has been developing a



strong and distinctive visual identity that will do justice to the shop and museum, the legacy of Colman's and its iconic brand. The design work has been developed by local designer Anne Reekie in consultation with Unilever UK & Ireland, which owns the Colman's brand globally. Norwich-based agency Affinity New Media has also been appointed to create a new website for Colman's Mustard Shop & Museum, which will launch in late April.



2nd Dragon Festival

Following the success of the first-ever Norwich Dragon Festival in February 2009, we have decided to run it again, in February 2011. HEART received a lot of positive feedback after last year's festival, which celebrated the role of dragons in the culture and history of the city. The city-wide programme featured more than 30 events, including storytelling, puppet shows, film, art and craft activities, talks, sculpture, a trail and exhibitions aimed at families, schools and the wider local community. If you would like to be involved in organising an event, volunteering or fund-raising for the 2011 festival, please contact HEART's communications manager Christina Lister: 01603 599570, christinalister@heritagecity.org.

Wensum River Parkway

In December the Wensum River Parkway project partners – HEART, the Norwich Society and Norwich City Council – hosted a conference to review progress to date and discuss future goals with a range of interested stakeholders. The Wensum River Parkway project is funded by the Greater Norwich Development Partnership (GNDP), and aims to re-establish the river as the natural artery through the city, raise its profile as a heritage feature and act as a driver for tourism and leisure industries. New signage and interpretation along the pathways and a walking trail booklet have already been produced. To receive a copy of the latest project report, contact Christina Lister: 01603 599570, christinalister@heritagecity.org.



OUT & ABOUT

Hidden mosaic unveiled

A sensational mosaic, previously 'hidden' by carpet tiles, has been restored in the Guildhall lobby

A beautiful mosaic floor in Norwich Guildhall has been uncovered and restored, for visitors to the building to enjoy free of charge.

The mosaic, which features the castle and lion of the city arms, had been hidden under carpet tiles in the ground floor Guildhall lobby since the 1980s. It was created at the turn of the last century by Italian mosaic artists, economic migrants to the city who lived in the Ber Street area. Their mosaics can also be seen in Norwich Castle, Shirehall, Norwich University College of the Arts, City of Norwich School as well as some city shops.

The specialist restoration was carried out by Rattee and Kett in February. It involved removing the existing carpet tiles covering the mosaic, cleaning the individual tiles and repairing small cracks. The work was financed by contributions from HEART, Caley's Cocoa Café (both of which are housed in the Guildhall) and the Norwich Society, with the support of Norwich City Council, which owns the building.

The mosaic restoration follows £40,000 investment by HEART in the Guildhall for improvements and renovation of the building's fabric, increased interpretation and improved accessibility for members of the public, and equipment and facilities to expand office space for HEART staff and volunteers.



SHAPING 24 identity developed

A logo and visual identity for SHAPING 24, our cultural tourism project involving Norwich and the Belgian city of Ghent, has been produced by local designer, Darren Leader Studio. A website is also being developed, by local agency Selesti, and will be launched by the end of April.

SHAPING 24 – Strategies for Heritage Access Pathways in Norwich and Ghent – is a cultural tourism initiative that links together the 12 heritage sites in Norwich that make up Norwich 12, with 12 heritage sites in Ghent. The project seeks to promote and support the 24 sites, raise the profile of Norwich and Ghent as significant cultural heritage cities and increase awareness of the longstanding historical links between this part of England and the Low Countries. The project is part-funded by the European Regional Development Fund from the European Union's INTERREG IVA 2 Mers Seas Zeeën Cross-border Cooperation Programme 2007–2013.



Did you know...?

As part of its SHAPING 24 project, HEART has been researching historical links between East Anglia (in particular Norfolk) and the Low Countries (in particular Flanders) over the last 2,000 years.

The results, which will be published later this year, will help to improve understanding of the longstanding history these two regions share. The findings will also feed into activity plans for the SHAPING 24 project.

Look out for details in future issues of HEART News, but in the meantime, here's a taster of what we have discovered:

- † Norwich City Football Club's nickname – the Canaries – allegedly comes from the birds that the Norwich-based Flemish weavers used to keep in their workshops as an early warning sign for noxious fumes from dyes.
- † Wealthy Dutch and Walloon immigrants helped increase Norwich's prosperity by employing some of the city's

poorer dwellers.

- † Rich merchants from the Low Countries heavily influenced commerce in Norwich. Jacques de Hem, for example, who is buried with his family at St Michael at Plea, helped the city acquire provisions from Europe after a bad harvest in 1596.
- † When immigrants from the Low Countries came to Norwich to escape persecution, they not only boosted the city's textiles industry, but also introduced the practice of market gardening to the locals.
- † A light Dutch plough that could be drawn by two horses was introduced to Norfolk and Suffolk in the 16th and 17th centuries.
- † Readers who enjoy relaxing with a pint of beer should thank Flanders for introducing hops to the east of England in the 15th century!

The research and report have been produced by HEART's project officer Laura Crossley. For more information contact 01603 599577, lauracrossley@heritagecity.org.

OUT & ABOUT

HODs need you!

It's that time again – HEART will once more be coordinating the Norwich Heritage Open Days (HODs), taking place Thursday 9–Sunday 12 September 2010.

The HODs programme involves open buildings, guided tours, exhibitions, talks, family activities, window displays, music recitals and re-enactments. Participating venues include museums and tourist attractions, private homes, churches and cathedrals, city-centre shops, restaurants and pubs, and offices and workplaces.

We would love to hear from anyone



interested in organising an event, suggesting a venue to open up or volunteering to steward at an event. HODs will provide insurance, publicity, guidance and support for events, such as advice on funding and matching up with volunteers. To get involved, please contact Sophie Cabot: 01603 305573, sophiecabot@heritagecity.org, Norwich HEART, PO Box 3130, Norwich NR2 1XR.

HODs events brochures will be available at www.heritagecity.org/hods and will be distributed around libraries, local cultural venues and tourist information centres from early August. We will also be posting and emailing out brochures directly (send your contact details to Sophie Cabot, see above, to be added to the distribution list).

Clockwise from top: HODs visitors enjoy a tour of one of the city's many medieval vaulted undercrofts; Elm Hill, in the Cathedral Quarter; subterranean Norwich (the Norman House beneath the Law Courts)



Going underground

Norwich has the largest collection of medieval, vaulted undercrofts in the UK, many of which predate the buildings sitting above them. More than 60 undercrofts have been identified, although only a tiny proportion are accessible or in use.

The city's underground assets, which also include ancient cellars, passages and subterranean structures, occupy an important place in the city's history and have enormous potential – both individually and collectively. We know there is a huge appetite to explore and learn more about

these unique architectural treasures – the tours of undercrofts during Heritage Open Days every year are always massively popular. Cities such as Edinburgh, Barcelona and Montreal have already developed their extensive underground assets for visitors to enjoy more fully, which is contributing positively to the local visitor economies, and this is something we would like to emulate.

HEART has recently commissioned a researcher to undertake a feasibility study of Norwich's underground assets, looking at their value, likely public interest, accessibility, condition and potential. This will feed into plans to give them greater prominence, ranging from enhanced information online to physical access improvements over the next few years.

Spotlight on Cathedral Quarter

HEART is working with Norwich City Council, VisitNorwich, the Friends of Elm Hill and a range of local businesses and organisations on a new marketing initiative to promote the 'Cathedral Quarter'. Events and leaflets are being developed to promote this beautiful, historic and cultural area of Norwich, which includes Elm Hill, Tomblond, Princes Street, the Cathedral Close and Bishopgate. It is hoped the Cathedral Quarter initiative will emulate the success of the Norwich Lanes project, which has increased visitor numbers and levels of spend in the shops, and created new jobs. For more information please contact Clare Millar at VisitNorwich: 01603 727945, clare.millar@visitnorwich.co.uk



PHOTOGRAPHY

Norwich has more surviving medieval churches than any other city in northern Europe. To celebrate this unique architectural and historical legacy, HEART launched a photography competition last year, which also aimed to showcase inspiring photography talent. The competition attracted a high standard of entries, and here we display the winning photographs

A unique legacy

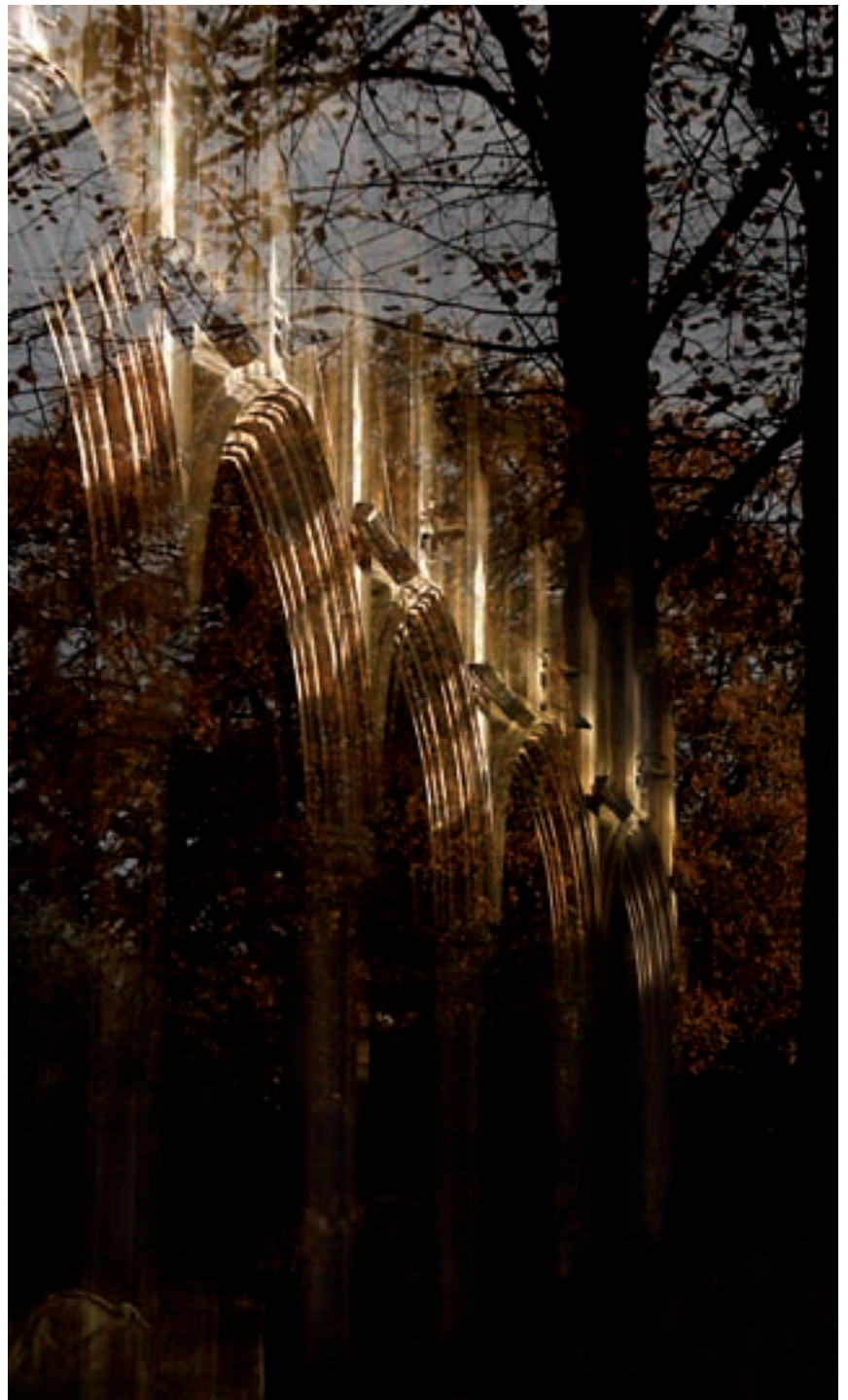
The overall competition winner was Julia Cameron with her image of St Stephen's Church, entitled "Inside/outside reflections", which won the art and architecture category. The judges commented: "Simply a beautiful photograph. The light spills onto the arches, highlighting the detail in the stonework which is framed by the reflection of the trees. The tone and warmth of the autumn leaves is seductive against the architecture of the church. The photographer has created a piece of art."

Julia said: "I am absolutely thrilled to be the winner of the competition and enormously surprised. I was made redundant at the end of August and feel that the competition has provided an opportunity for personal regeneration – from redundancy to photography!"

"I found the categories to be challenging, but also very interesting and absorbing. I took well



Julia Cameron's prize-winning entries in the history (above) and art and architecture categories – her image of St Stephen's church (right) was also the overall competition winner





over 300 photographs of St Stephen's alone. The reflections in the door of St Stephen's really were a gift. Having the right light, the trees in perfect form and colour – and realising the effect of the interior merging with the exterior – was a real wow moment! I consider myself to have been very, very lucky.”

Past and present

Norwich has more standing medieval churches – 32 – than any city north of the Alps and they still play a central role in city life in many ways. The competition explored themes that relate to the past and present uses of churches and the place they have in today's society. The categories were:

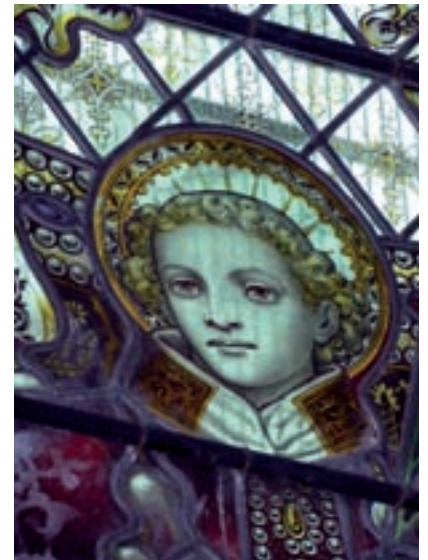
- † history and tradition
- † people and community
- † inspiration and learning
- † restoration and conservation
- † worship and contemplation
- † art and architecture
- † enjoyment and fun
- † innovation and change

A total of 157 entries were received and a winner was selected in seven of the categories, and of these an overall winner was chosen. Winning and shortlisted entries went on display at a public exhibition in The Forum, 22 February–5 March, supported by a programme of content at The Forum's digital gallery Fusion, 1–13 March 2010. Some of the photographs are also included in HEART's forthcoming book on the city's medieval churches (see page 3).

About the competition

The competition ran from 1 September to 31 October 2009, following the success of the Norwich 12 photography competition that HEART ran in 2008. The judging panel comprised Ricky-Joe Burrage, a contemporary Norwich-based photographer; Andrew Johnson, art director at East Publishing; and Michael Loveday, chief executive at Norwich HEART.

The judges were very impressed with the standard of entries, which they believed showed creative, inspiring and thought-provoking approaches to the categories. They thought the photographs really captured both the magnificent architecture and historical legacy of the churches, as well as their vibrant role in today's society.



Clockwise from top left:
More category-winning entries – by Gary Rayner (innovation and change), Julia Cameron (restoration and conservation), Sheena McIntyre-Warnock (inspiration and learning), David Sherwood (people and community), Julia Cameron (worship and contemplation)

HERITAGE NOW

Honour for city cemetery

Rosary Cemetery, one of the city's most enchanting natural treasures, has been designated an area of 'exceptional historical interest' by English Heritage.

The accolade came after English Heritage upgraded the City Council-owned cemetery from a Grade II to Grade II* in its Register of Parks and Gardens of special historic interest in England. This high-profile recognition of the historical importance of Rosary Cemetery is a wonderful tribute to the work of the volunteer group, the Friends of the Rosary Cemetery.

Since it opened in 1821 as England's first non-denominational burial ground, Rosary Cemetery has become a haven for wildlife, nature supporters, history enthusiasts and those seeking a non-conformist burial.

Notable people buried at the cemetery in Thorpe Hamlet include members of the Colman and Jarrold families, and several

Norwich School painters. It is also the burial place of victims of the September 1874 Thorpe rail accident, which involved a head-on collision between two trains on the Norwich-Brundall line.

The main purpose of the Register of Parks and Gardens is to help safeguard sites of national importance. Rosary Cemetery was awarded a Grade II* listing by English Heritage because it is England's earliest garden cemetery and the country's first non-denominational cemetery. Many of the original informal plantings of mature trees survive, amid a varied collection of mid and late 19th-century monuments laid out in a grid pattern. These include monuments of local and national social interest, including those to the Colman family, mustard manufacturers. The cemetery chapel was rebuilt to designs by the Norwich architect Edward Boardman in 1879.

To read more about the origins of the Rosary Cemetery, turn to page 11.



Many of the 19th-century monuments in Rosary Cemetery have local and national historical significance

Hostry opens at Norwich Cathedral

In December 2009 a striking new building opened on the west side of Norwich Cathedral: the Hostry. Sensitive construction on the original footprint of the old monastic hostry – the traditional point of welcome for worshippers, pilgrims and students when Bishop Herbert de Losinga founded the monastic community in 1096 – the new building connects visitors with the cathedral's historic traditions.

Completion of the building project concludes an 11-year development supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Friends of Norwich Cathedral and many charities, individual benefactors and members of the business community.

The Hostry offers:

- † full disabled access
- † a central atrium that rises up into the roof-space
- † a ground-floor education room for school parties and community groups
- † an open-plan area on the ground floor for exhibitions
- † the hutory – in monastic times the one area where monks could receive visitors – which provides a glazed link through into the cathedral and houses a digital interpretative exhibition on the role, past and present, of the cathedral
- † a first-floor community room that can seat 150 people or be used



open, providing excellent modern conference facilities

- † a light and airy first-floor rehearsal room for choristers and members of the senior choirs

Hopkins Architects' design recreates the volume of the medieval hostry while making as little impact as possible on the fabric of existing buildings and archaeological remains. Visitors even enter through the original hostry arch, now linked into the new building having stood in isolation for many years.

The sensitive design of the new Hostry connects modern-day cathedral visitors with its monastic tradition

Building materials reflect those used in the cathedral, such as oak, limestone and glass. The roof and first floor are independently supported on internal, flitched-oak columns which resemble trees reaching up through the airy building, with branches at the top bearing the load.



EVENTS

Event	Location	Details	Times and prices	More information
Norwich medieval churches photography exhibition	The Forum, Millennium Plain, Norwich	Free exhibition featuring winning and shortlisted entries from last year's photography competition: a stunning collection of photographs	22 February to 5 March, all day Free	www.heritagecity.org
Norwich's medieval churches: lunchtime talks	Fusion in The Forum, Millennium Plain, Norwich	Free talks about various aspects of the city's medieval churches	1 to 5 March, 12.30-1.30pm Free	
"Watching Prime Ministers" – the John Garrett Memorial Lecture	Thomas Paine Study Centre Lecture Theatre, University of East Anglia	Free talk by Professor Peter Hennessy, author of <i>The Prime Minister: The Office and its Holders Since 1945</i> . The first annual lectures in memory of John Garrett, former MP for Norwich South	11 March, 6.30pm Free To register your interest, email johngarrettmemoriallecture@uea.ac.uk	www.uea.ac.uk/psi
The Medieval Splendour of Norfolk Church Rood Screens: photography by Paul Hurst	Hungate Medieval Art, St Peter Hungate, Princes Street, Norwich	An exhibition of beautiful photography of Norfolk's medieval rood screens, which separated the chancel and nave of medieval churches	14 January to 13 March, Thursdays to Saturdays 10am–4pm Normal entrance fees apply	www.hungate.org , 01603 623254
Memories of the Norwich Yards by Frances Holmes	Dragon Hall, 115–123 King Street, Norwich	Talk on the Norwich yards, from their development by rich 18th-century merchants through their deterioration into early 20th-century slums, the slum clearance and their role in city life today	18 March, 7.30pm £5 (£4 members of the Norfolk and Norwich Heritage Trust)	www.dragonhall.org , 01603 663922
May Day Food Fair	Gressenhall Farm & Workhouse, Gressenhall, Dereham	Norfolk produce from local suppliers, traditional recipes cooked on the farmhouse range, workhouse gruel and the history of food from the fields	3 May, 10am–5pm Normal museum admission applies	www.museums.norfolk.gov.uk , 01362 869263
History Fair	Gressenhall Farm & Workhouse, Gressenhall, Dereham	Popular annual event for local history societies and organisations from all over Norfolk	31 May, 10am–5pm Normal museum admission applies	
Museums at Night	Various venues in Norwich	Several of the Norwich 12 buildings will be putting on special events after hours during Museums at Night weekend	14 to 16 May	www.norwich12.co.uk , www.culture24.org.uk/museumsatnight

If you are holding a relevant event between June and August and would like to appear on this page in the next issue of HEART News, please send details to sophieharrison@heritagecity.org by 12 April 2010.

HERITAGE NOW

Prize-winning recipe

An inventive recipe for Norfolk Black Pudding & Mustard Loaf Cake was chosen as the winner in a competition run by HEART for Colman's Mustard Shop & Museum. Budding chefs were asked to come up with a tasty recipe featuring a Colman's mustard product. The competition was run last November to help celebrate the 10 year anniversary of the shop, now owned by HEART, being based in Norwich's Royal Arcade.

The winning recipe, Norfolk Black Pudding & Mustard Loaf Cake, was submitted by Sandra Stevens from Ipswich. The dish uses Colman's Dry English Mustard Powder and the judges particularly liked the inclusion of locally sourced ingredients, such as Norfolk dry-cured back bacon and Norfolk rape seed oil.

As part of the competition prize, Sandra's recipe was featured on the menu at The Assembly House Restaurant. The prize also included a meal for two at the restaurant and a selection of Colman's Mustard Shop & Museum goodies.

The competition was judged by Richard Hughes, chef and proprietor of The Lavender House and more recently, general manager and chef patron of The Assembly House Restaurant; HEART's chief executive and gourmet Michael Loveday; and Nick Cook, manager of Colman's Mustard Shop & Museum.

Above right: Norfolk Black Pudding & Mustard Loaf Cake. Below: Competition winner Sandra Stevens with her prize



Norfolk Black Pudding & Mustard Loaf Cake

Ingredients

150g Norfolk dry-cured back bacon
150g black pudding
100g hard cheese
150g plain flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
3 heaped teaspoons Colman's Dry English Mustard
100ml semi-skimmed milk
100ml Norfolk rape seed oil
Salt and pepper
3 large eggs

Method

Heat oven to 180°C (350°F or Gas Mark 4).
Cut the black pudding into rounds about 1cm thick, chop the bacon into small pieces and fry both gently until crisp.
Put to one side.
Grate the cheese and put to one side.
Mix all the other ingredients into a smooth batter and add the black pudding, bacon and cheese, mixing well.
Pour into a buttered loaf tin and cook for approximately 40 minutes until brown and well risen.
Serve with salad garnish.



FROM THE DATABASE

HEART is currently compiling a database that will become an online portal full of information on Norwich's heritage – people, buildings, events, organisations and industries. Most of the articles have been written by volunteers who are passionate about various elements of the city's history. Once launched, this database will be accessible free online.

In each issue we bring you a different article from the database. This month, a feature on the Rosary Cemetery by Nick Williams

The Rosary Cemetery, Rosary Road



The Rosary Cemetery in Rosary Road, Norwich was the first non-denominational cemetery in England, licensed for burials by the Bishop of Norwich in 1821 when the first interment took place. It was to be a cemetery where people were free to be buried with the religious service of their choice or none, if that was their preference.

It was laid out, with an avenue of trees and a variety of trees and shrubs, on five acres of a former market garden known as the Rosary. While many European cities had cemeteries separate from churches, there was no such tradition in England.

Dissenters

The new cemetery was opened by Thomas Drummond (1765–1852), a retired Unitarian minister. It's difficult to be definite about Drummond's reasons, but as a Unitarian he had experienced the prejudice against dissenters. Like many urban centres, Norwich had seen the growth of a wealthy commercial class, many of whom were dissenters: Baptists, Methodists, Congregationalists and others who found irksome the restrictions imposed by the Church of England on their freedom of action and their ability to participate in public life.

Prior to the opening of private cemeteries the majority of burials took place in parish churchyards, where the burial service had to be conducted in the manner prescribed in the book of Common

Prayer. Non-conformist ministers were forbidden to conduct funerals, and fees for burial services were paid to the Church of England.

Some dissenting groups had their own burial grounds in Norwich. The Unitarians had one at the Octagon in Colegate, and there had been several Jewish burial grounds (including those at Oak Street and Mariners Lane) and one for Quakers at Gildencroft. But until Drummond opened the Rosary there was no non-denominational burial ground. Apart from these small cemeteries, all burials took place in the city's churchyards.

Other factors that made the new cemetery a viable proposition included the increase in the city's population – which led to overcrowding and high death rates – overcrowded churchyards, sanitary problems and public fear of body-snatchers.

While the Church of England opposed the establishment of private cemetery companies elsewhere, in Norwich the liberal attitude of Bishop Bathurst seems to have ensured the Rosary's relatively smooth birth. The cemetery company was established in 1819 and the Rosary was registered with the Bishop of Norwich on 14 June 1821 (recorded on a plaque on the Rosary chapel, designed by Edward Boardman then built in 1881 to replace the original chapel of 1821).

Even then, as the ground was unconsecrated, the established church largely ignored the Rosary. Ministers of all sects were allowed to officiate at funerals, but the records show that Thomas Drummond performed almost all the early burials.

Burials at the Rosary

The first burial, in November 1821, was the re-interment of Ann Drummond, wife of the founder, who had died two years earlier and been buried at the Octagon. There were few burials during the early years, but from 1831, the year of a cholera outbreak, numbers increased to 50 annually and from 1850 to 100 a year. By 1900,

18,000 people were buried in the five-acre cemetery. It was later extended north to Telegraph Lane, adding eight more acres, which are still in use.

Among the people buried at the Rosary were many individuals who made major contributions to the life of the city in the 19th century: Jeremiah James Colman, industrialist, philanthropist and politician; Richard Hanbury Gurney, banker; James Sillett, Norwich school artist; Jacob Henry Tillet, reformer and founder of the Norfolk News; and Robert Webster, first chairman of Norwich City Football Club.

Originally the Rosary was run as a private company with shareholders, but it appears to have been effectively controlled by Drummond. In 1841 it became a trust, presumably to safeguard its future after Drummond's death. It remained so until 1954, when the funds in hand were insufficient for the trust to continue and responsibility was passed to Norwich City Council. The council continues to manage the cemetery, assisted for the last 10 years by the Friends of the Rosary. The Friends work with the local community to preserve and protect the cemetery, and to encourage its use as a sanctuary for wildlife and a place for relaxation and contemplation in the midst of a busy city.

To find out more about the Rosary Cemetery and how you can get involved, contact the Friends of the Rosary, 20 High Green, Norwich NR1 4AP or email mark@benthicsciences.co.uk.

Get in touch

We would love to hear from people who have knowledge of a particular person, building, event, organisation or industry in Norwich, and could write an entry on it for the database. Please contact Nick Williams for more information at nickwilliams@heritagecity.org or on 01603 599572.

Q&A DR NICK GROVES



Dr Nick Groves is Trustee of the Norwich Historic Churches Trust (NHCT) and author of HEART's forthcoming book on the city's medieval churches. He was born in North Walsham and has lived in Norwich since 1979.

What first sparked your interest in history and heritage?

It's always been there: I was one of those annoying children who always wanted to know "What was it like when...?" Although, for various reasons, I read music for my first degree, I have always been interested in all aspects of church history and archaeology. I have gradually returned to the study of history, and recently completed this return with a doctoral thesis at Lampeter on the city's churches in the late 19th century.

What character from history would you like to have dinner with and why? What questions would you like to ask them?

Keeping it on a local level, I think perhaps Sarah Glover (1786–1867). She invented the Doh-Ray-Me system of learning to sing, the Norwich Sol-fa, and exhibited it at the Great Exhibition (without her, there would be no Doh, a deer ... !), yet she was a most modest person. She had some very advanced ideas on education for her day, and founded a school for poor children where she put them into practice. I would like to ask her about her teaching methods and ideas. Interestingly, she is buried at Great Malvern, in the same graveyard as Jenny Lind.

What is Norwich's best kept secret and why?

I am tempted to say Norwich itself. We are comparatively isolated, and although people know of Norwich they do not know it. When friends come here, they are always overwhelmed by the richness of our heritage, and frequently envious that we have managed to preserve so much of it.

One friend who came to visit was struck dumb by the Royal Arcade: he had no idea we had such high-quality Art Nouveau work here!

What is your favourite historic building in Norwich and why?

This is a tough one: there are so many! I think I will go for St George Tombland, where I was Director of Music 1989–2006. It's one of the smaller churches, but has a fascinating history – and some exquisite Georgian furnishings. It was added to in stages as the parish acquired the money, rather than totally rebuilt, which makes it more interesting as a building.

What do you think was the worst heritage disaster in the city's past?

The historical part of me wants to say the loss of almost half the city's churches in the late 16th century – they had too many even then! But the part of me that lives in Norwich today says the Magdalen Street flyover and Anglia Square. They are brutal and intrusive, and utterly insensitive to the townscape, and the road isolates the northern part of the historic city centre.

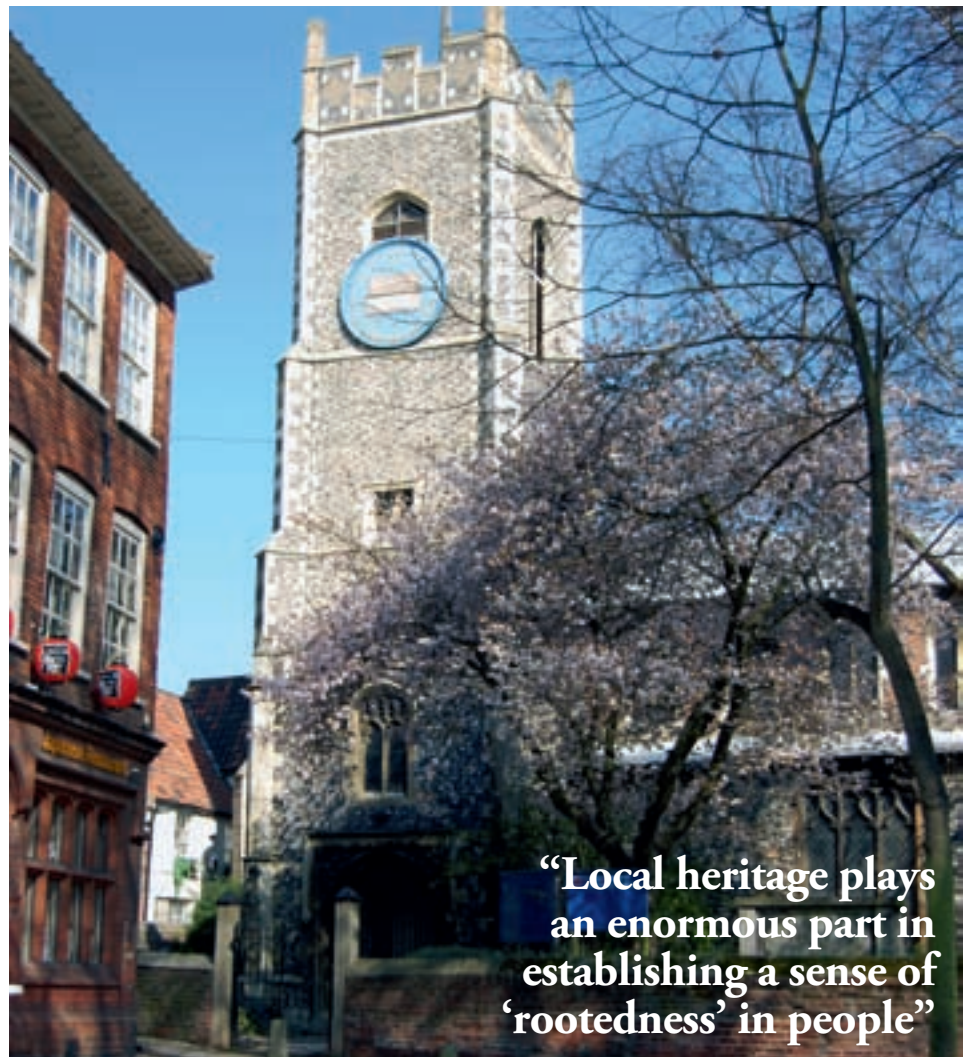
Do you feel it is important that local people understand and appreciate their local heritage? If so, why?

Yes, I do. Without a sense of history – of where we come from – we cannot make informed and sensible decisions about where we are going. A sense of rootedness is also important, and local heritage plays an enormous part in establishing that sense. In my 'day-job' I teach adult classes in various areas of history, and the desire to find out about our heritage is very strong.

How do you think the city's heritage will continue to influence its future?

I would hope that a growing sense of the importance of the city's heritage will inform future development – not in the sense of throttling any new developments at birth, but more by ensuring that they are sympathetic to what is already here – unlike the flyover! I think our narrowest escape was that the 1945 Plan was never implemented.

St George Tombland, one of the smaller Norwich churches, has a fascinating architectural history



“Local heritage plays an enormous part in establishing a sense of ‘rootedness’ in people”