



heritage open days

King's Lynn

Sunday 10 September 2023
10am–4pm



Heritage Open Day in King's Lynn

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Join in England's annual celebration of local history and architecture. This is your chance to have a wonderful day out exploring King's Lynn's historic buildings. The King's Lynn Civic Society working with the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk, the King's Lynn Town Guides, businesses, residents and Friends Groups have arranged a great programme so you can visit houses, offices, gardens, churches and chapels not normally open to the public. Look out for special events, colourful re-enactors, children's activities, music, dancing, miniature trains, boats, vintage buses and exhibitions. Heritage Open Day is England's most popular grassroots cultural event.

Vintage buses

We have vintage buses FREE for everyone. So if some places seem a bit far to walk – St Faith's in Gaywood perhaps – then hop on the bus. See bus stops and timetable on page 13 or request a stop where safe.



Please note remarks in purple as they indicate warnings, variations or restrictions on opening times or visitor numbers. † indicates there will be a religious service in the morning so after that, visitors will be welcome.

These symbols may help to guide you through the wonderful heritage of King's Lynn:



Creativity Unwrapped is this year's Heritage Open Days theme. Enjoy art by local and national artists here.



Refreshments available from this venue



Children's activities



Pleasant garden



Live music

King's Lynn Civic Society

Heritage Open Day is organised by the King's Lynn Civic Society, which was formed over 75 years ago as a society dedicated to protecting the built fabric of the town and monitoring new build to ensure high architectural and design standards.



All our historic buildings were new once and the Civic Society works with the planning system to ensure that future generations will admire the buildings of today as we admire the buildings from the past. We also want Lynn to remain prosperous and believe that an attractive, clean and busy town contributes to a healthy and happy local population and also attracts visitors. Heritage Open Day is our invitation to you to enjoy our lovely town and have an interesting and fun day.

We say 'only the best is good enough for King's Lynn'. See the best of our town today and if you would like to join our society, come and see us at the Custom House or contact Sandra Coleman on info@kingslynncivicsociety.co.uk.

Boats, cars, buses, trains & ferry

Visit the Classic Car Day on the Tuesday Market Place.

Tour the town in a vintage bus.

Go to the pontoons for a river trip.

Visit the Baden Powell at the pontoons.

Take a ride on the miniature train in The Walks.

Hop on the ferry to visit St Peter's, West Lynn.

Music & dancing

See Mr Gosk's Dance Academy at the Town Hall.

Watch the Massed Morris Dancers.

Listen to Rachel Bea and Pot of Gold Shanty Crew.

The Breakaways ukulele band are in the swing at the Hanse House.

King's Lynn Town Band are in the Bandstand.

Tunnels & towers

Explore the wine vaults at Bank House.

Climb the tower at Clifton House.

Go back in time at the Tuesday Market Place WWII air raid shelters.

Drama & acting

Knights of Skirbeck have set up camp in The Walks.

King's Lynn Under Siege are in The Walks.

East Norfolk Militia are at the Custom House.

Brought to Life are at the Rathskeller.

Walks, talks & exhibitions

Take a historic walk with a Town Guide.

Dr Paul Richards gives a talk at the Hanse House about the artists Henry Baines and Walter Dexter.

'Night Trawlers' at True's Yard Fisherfolk Museum.

And also...

Tastes of Norfolk on the Saturday Market Place.

King's Lynn Civic Society exhibition at the Custom House.

Family trail at Lynn Museum.

See programme for details of these events and many more, or go to the Heritage Open Day page on the King's Lynn Civic Society website.



Hardwick Road Cemetery



1

Hop on the bus to meander in peace and tranquility. Short guided walks and the opportunity to search for ancestors' graves 10am–3pm.

When Lynn's churchyards were full, the Corporation laid out this fine Victorian cemetery, which opened in 1856. One of the first municipal burial grounds in the country, it has remained true to its original plan and planting. Some noteworthy locals are buried here – Frederick Savage, for example. Note the monument in the shape of a boat, which is where five Scottish fishermen are buried, having drowned from 'The Beautiful Star'. A haven for wildlife.

South Gate

2

Visit the South Gate for interactive elements, displays of replica furniture, and food inspired by archaeological food remains dated to the 17th century – it will bring the history of the South Gate to life. It is stone-fronted brick of three storeys with polygonal corner turrets. The side passages are 19th century. The gate as we see it is largely 1437. Upstairs is a spacious room with a fireplace, privy hole and gun ports.



97 London Road



New
for
2023

3

A rare opportunity to see the interior of a beautiful brown brick Grade II listed house dating from 1825. Originally built as part of two houses, a shop, stables and a coach house. When built, this and Buckingham Terrace to the south were the first on this side of London Road south of Valingers Road. For a long time, this was 'The Doctor's House' with the surgery next door at no. 96. Many original features, including the staircase, remain. Beautiful walled garden.

The Church of our Lady of the Annunciation



4

All welcome at 11.30am Mass or 4pm Vespers & Benediction.

Built in 1897 to a design by W. Lunn and replacing an earlier church of 1845 by A.W.N. Pugin. Much of Pugin's work is included in the new church especially the stained-glass window designed by him and executed by William Wailes (the oldest stained-glass window in Lynn). In the church is the restored Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham established by Pope Leo XIII in 1897. It is a copy of the Holy House of Nazareth. See also the tomb of Lorenz Beha, Lynn clockmaker, horribly murdered in 1853. One of Lorenz Beha's clocks is now in Lynn Museum.



Live and Let Live



5

Open from 11am.

Proper 'back street boozer' with traditional pub games

These pubs were common in every town and city until 30 years ago. They have a centuries-old configuration of snug and bar. Experience a modern welcome in this increasingly rare style of English Public House.



London Road Methodist Church



Open from 12pm.

There is a service at 10.30am which everyone is welcome to join.

1pm Nelson's Shantymen: Established in Burnham Thorpe, birthplace of England's greatest seaman, Lord Horatio Nelson. Now based in Brancaster Staithe at The Jolly Sailors. Nelson's Shantymen are a diverse group of enthusiasts, driven in equal measure by a love of singing and a desire to keep the tradition of the authentic sea-shanty alive.

2.30pm Lavender Hill Mob Theatre Company: An inclusive organisation, established in 2001. Specialising in the provision of Musical Theatre and British Sign Language, their ethos is 'Respect, Encouragement and Commitment' and anyone interested in Theatre is most welcome. Their performance showcases a selection of what the group has to offer, so if you're interested, visit the website (www.lhmtc.co.uk), YouTube channel (LHMTV), follow on social media, or email info@lhmtc.co.uk.

1858–9 Gault brick façade, round arched windows on three bays, centre bay projecting. Turning Italianate. Inside, a gallery runs round the chapel. Fine building inside and out.

All Saints' Church



Open from 12pm. Rector's tour at 3pm

The church is also open on Saturday 10am–5pm

All Saints' Church is the oldest building in the town, with parts dating back to c.1090, although most the church dates from c.1400. It is now surrounded by the Hillington Square flats built following slum clearance in 1968. Come and see the anchorite's cell, the apostles' screen (the only surviving medieval painted artwork in Lynn), the medieval roofs, the fine Victorian and later stained glass including two Great War Memorials. Refreshments available.

The Jewish Cemetery

8

In the Millfleet next to Hillington Square is a little brick compound with 16th-century brick in some walls. The original function is unknown. There are headstones 1811–46. A sign of King's Lynn's rich and diverse history. Chat to the stewards, read the display about Jewish traditions and learn about the people who were members of this Jewish Community.

The Library

9

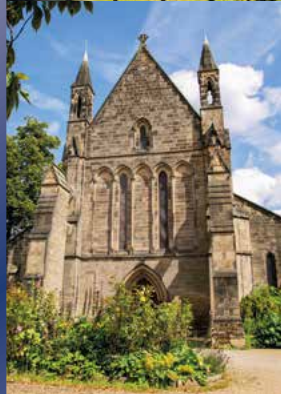
Come along to find out more about the history of the library, from its opening in 1905 by Andrew Carnegie, the Scottish-American industrialist who donated the money to establish it.

St John the Evangelist Church



Open from 12pm

In 1843 John Motteux, then the owner of Sandringham, was forbidden to sit in a pew at St Nicholas' Chapel because he had not paid for it. He therefore offered £1,000 for a new church where seats would be free. The building was designed by Victorian architect Anthony Salvin in the Early English style, and was completed in 1846. St John's was the first Anglican church built in King's Lynn since the Reformation, and contains interesting corbels, stained windows and organ.





St John's House (King's Lynn Night Shelter)



11

Tours, an exhibition about our work, and cream teas in the garden (indoors if wet)

Built in 1871 as the vicarage for the newly built St John's Church next door, it was used as a vicarage until 2019 with many Lynn people having fond memories of visiting – or of living here: we had one visitor not long ago who was born in the house and showed us the window where as a child she watched the exciting day the circus came to Lynn by train! The house was leased in 2020 by the Diocese of Norwich to the King's Lynn Night Shelter, who welcome the homeless of West Norfolk for nine months of the year.



The Walks



12

The Walks is the only surviving listed Grade II 18th-century park in Norfolk and important in a national context.

Fens Falconry

12pm & 2pm Flying demonstration

See these majestic birds close up and flying.



Grey Goose Archers

Have a go and see how good your aim is. A small charge to support the club.

Miniature train

Take a ride on a model train courtesy of the King's Lynn Model Engineers Society. A small charge to support the club.



King's Lynn Under Siege

In 1643, Marmaduke Rawdon was commissioned to raise a regiment in Oxford to fight for King Charles and in 1977 a group of history enthusiasts reformed his regiment – continuing to fight for 'the King and the Cause.' Our members travel throughout the United Kingdom and Europe re-enacting battles with live cannon fire, musket shotte, pike skirmishes and a range of Living History activities. Visit the soldiers, officers and townsfolk of 1640s King's Lynn in The Walks and watch Royalist soldiers drill to defend the town and make ready for the impending siege of King's Lynn.

Knights of Skirbeck

Here to bring you a spectacular day of medieval military life.

- 10am** Encampment open for public show and tell (interactive displays of armour, weapons and talks on medieval life), opportunities to try on and take photos, also stocks for those who are misbehaving.
- 11am** What would the town militia wear? A talk on the clothing of the period.
- 12pm** Military rest and eat. Bring a family picnic.
- 12.30pm** Activities restart
- 1pm** Death of a king. Weapons and how they were used.
- 2.30pm** Dressing of the knight
- 3pm** Hand-to-hand combat in the arena



2pm King's Lynn Town Band at the Bandstand

The Red Mount Chapel

13

The late 15th-century Red Mount Chapel was a wayside chapel for pilgrims on their way to the shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham. The upper chapel of 1506 has a fan-vaulted roof, further decorated with quatrefoils.

Majestic Cinema

14

Open 10am – 1pm. Tours every 30 minutes.

This fine original cinema was built in 1928 with great attention to detail, in art-deco style. Stained glass windows and wonderful plasterwork on the ceilings, which you never see in the dark! Please leave the screen rooms promptly as a matinee is scheduled for the afternoon. You are welcome to look around the rest of the building, which is open all day.

Lynn Museum



15

Hoards: Archaeological Treasures from West Norfolk

This stunning exhibition features a selection of important archaeological hoards (stores of money or valued objects), all discovered in West Norfolk. From 2,000-year-old gold coins buried in a cow bone to silver shillings from the English Civil War found in a silver cup, discover more about the theories behind these spectacular discoveries.

Objects on display include a group of Bronze Age artefacts from the beach at Holme-next-the-Sea which were found close to the timber circle Seahenge. Also making their museum debut are some very rare early coins found at Fincham dating back to the Anglo-Saxon/Viking period.

Family trail. Meet our Bronze Age Man and handle artefacts

Built as the Union Baptist Chapel in 1859, it has been the Museum since 1904. Italian gothic in two colours of brick with a tower and short spire. 'Seahenge', the Holme timber circle, is now in the former school room and highlights from the museum collection are on display in the Chapel.

King's Lynn Town Hall and Guildhall



16

The Mayor is At Home. Teas and coffees in aid of the Mayor's Charity.

11.30am, 1.30pm, 2.30pm and 3.30pm Dancing by Mr Gosk's Dance Academy 18th-century country dances and cotillions.

Soloists from the West Norfolk Music Centre and other local groups

Sale of historic books and maps of King's Lynn

A striking group of buildings. This complex comprises the Trinity Guildhall, the 1624 porch and Victorian council chamber. The Guildhall was built in 1423 after a fire had destroyed its predecessor. Behind it is a fine Assembly Room of 1767 with distinguished portraits, fine mirrors and the original chandeliers. The buildings have a handsome chequer-work front of flint and stone.

Stories of Lynn



17

Explore and find out more at Stories of Lynn following our creative sensory trail

The Lynn town treasure, including the King John cup, maces and sword are on display. Then, in complete contrast, visit the Old Gaol House and experience crime and punishment through the ages.





On the Saturday Market Place



18

Norfolk Heritage Market Norfolk food, drink and crafts

11.30am: Massed Morris Dancing See page 14

King's Lynn Borough Archives

19

A display on the cinemas of King's Lynn

King's Lynn has one of the finest collections of borough archives in the country. They include royal charters from 1204, deeds and accounts from the 13th century, and minutes of the town's governing body from the 14th century onwards. A Heritage Lottery Fund grant has enabled the installation of state-of-the-art archive stores to keep our heritage safe for future generations.

FREE Guided Town Walks

20

11am, 12pm, 1pm & 2pm. Meet outside Stories of Lynn.

Each walk will last about an hour, concentrating on the old town area, and finishing near the Custom House. No need to book.



King's Lynn Minster



21

Open from 11.30am

12.15pm, 1.45pm & 3.15pm: Bell Tower Tours including a brief history, chiming and swinging bells of different weights, the ringing chamber and weather permitting the tower roof. **Groups limited to 12 people at a time:** timed tickets may be obtained from the Minster from 11.30am (not in advance). Suggested donation: Adult £5, 11–16s £4, no under 11s and 11–16s must be accompanied by an adult. Sensible footwear must be worn.

A stately cruciform church founded in 1101 by bishop Herbert de Losinga and forming part of a Benedictine Priory. Built in limestone with the unusual feature of two western towers 82ft high. The south-west tower is still largely of the 12th, 13th & 14th centuries on the three succeeding floors. At one time it had a spire and the crossing had a central lantern 132 feet high. The spire fell in the great storm of 1741 severely damaging the nave and aisles. Note the flood marks near the door, and the moon clock on the south-west tower. The south chancel houses the two largest memorial brasses in England. Across the churchyard are the remains of the priory, now used as housing. Many treasures on display, including the Beryl Dean Altar Frontals, the four 'Pelligrini Panels', statues of the four apostles and various items of church plate. The minster café will also be open.

Wenss Chop and Ale House



22

1pm–4pm: See the accommodation upstairs

Two attractive but contrasting buildings make up the complex formerly known as Wenss. No. 9 is brick, rendered later, an early 18th-century two-storey building. Then no. 10, a mid-19th-century corner to the High Street with Ionic pilasters to the door. The building was first used as a pub in 1872, when the licensee was Simon Claxton Luckily, who was succeeded by James Wenn in 1877 and Lizzie Wenn in 1889.

White Hart



23

Open from 12pm.

3pm: Rachel Bea: 1940s singer Rachel Bea is a retro artist with a clear, authentic and romantic sound is making her a must to book for vintage festivals this year. Her renditions of *White Cliffs of Dover*, *When the Lights Go On Again*, and *We'll Meet Again* have brought audiences to their feet and moved them to tears whilst upbeat numbers such as *In the Mood* and *Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy* are guaranteed to get them jiving!

The White Hart is a Grade II listed traditional English pub situated in the Medieval Quarter of King's Lynn on the edge of the historic Saturday Market Place facing The Minster. It is King's Lynn's longest continuously licenced public house and has 13th- and 14th-century brickwork on show.

Lath Mansion

24

An imposing mansion, this is a fine Grade II* listed mid-17th-century house re-fronted circa 1730 for the 'Samuel' Browne dynasty of rich merchants. Six bays in two-and-a-half storeys of brown brick with quoins and a big pediments doorway. Grand hallway and impressive staircase with chandelier suspended from a fine ceiling. Converted to apartments in 1989.

Hampton Court secret garden



25

Take care on uneven steps and ground. Enter from St Margaret's Lane.

The 15th-century riverside warehouse forms the western range of Hampton Court and is accessed from St Margaret's Lane. The river was where the garden is and the open arcaded front gave access to the warehouses. These arcades were filled in during the 17th century when the river moved westwards, but remains are evident today.

Greenland Fishery

26

The Greenland Fishery dates from 1605, originally the property of a wealthy trader and Mayor of Lynn, John Atkin. He had the house built for his family and it was designed to be a place for lavish entertaining. After three generations of the Atkins, the house has had many uses: a whaling pub, a bakery and a museum. It is still a fine example of 17th-century domestic architecture, and a great rarity in King's Lynn. Highlights of the building are the early 17th-century wall paintings and painted wood panelling.

Pink House



Now
for
2023

27

This mid-16th century Grade II listed building was originally two cottages. It boasts period details including brick and flint construction, two beautiful inglenook working fireplaces, and an impressive bay window. The current owner has transformed the ground floor into a boutique gallery space to showcase her unique, hand-sculpted artworks. Today you can view both the preserved architecture and contemporary artworks that honour traditional and unusual material combinations, such as gilded wires on lamb hide and organic cactus leather.





Friends Meeting House



Open from 12pm. Temperance pub for the day – try a selection of international non-alcoholic beers

The Quaker Meeting House was formerly The Hulk public house, restored in 1967. Early 18th century, of rendered and colour-washed brick (with inclusions of stone probably from the former Carmelite priory nearby) with a clasped purlin-type roof, a late example. The main meeting room has been enlarged, making an attractive peaceful space with French doors leading into a courtyard with raised bed planters.



At the Pontoons

29

River trips

Join Richard Stannard for a 30-minute trip up the river. Cost: £6. On the hour and half-hour between 10am and 3.30pm.

The Baden Powell

Built by Walter Worfolk in 1900 at his boatyard on the River Nar, the Baden Powell is a beautiful and historic double-ended vessel; the only one of its kind in existence. Come on board and talk to the crew and trustees about how it was saved and restored; visit the stall or book a future trip to see King's Lynn waterfront from a unique perspective. The boat will be at the pontoon until 3 pm as there are two planned sailings at 3pm and 5pm. To book, go to www.floatourboat.co.uk.

King's Lynn Coastal Rowing Club

Building, rowing and racing of traditional coastal skiffs on the Great Ouse. Come down to the town's pontoons and see our St Ayles skiffs. These have been built by club members and are rowed not only in the Great Ouse but farther afield on the North Norfolk coast. New members are always welcome, whether you want to row or learn some boat-building skills.



T.S. Vancouver



Have a taste of what the Sea Cadets do! Tours of the building throughout the day

The Training Ship Vancouver is the home of the King's Lynn Sea Cadets. It is not actually a ship, but as near to a ship on land as can be devised. An interesting gable-ended warehouse added as the river retreated westward.



Marriott's Warehouse



On the second floor: a display of Fred Hall's models featuring some of the finest historic buildings in Lynn. King's Lynn Town Guides will be on hand to tell you about the history of the buildings depicted.



Incorporating stone from the demolished friaries of Lynn, this brick warehouse was originally constructed by the Clayborne family to store their corn, salt and wine. It is Grade II* listed and takes its name from the Marriott brothers who owned or leased several granaries on the South Quay in the 19th century, including this warehouse. It is now in the care of Marriott's Warehouse Trust.

A short film celebrating the work of the Preservation Trust will be shown throughout the day

Thoresby College was built just after 1500 by Thomas Thoresby, wealthy merchant and former mayor. Originally called 'Trinity College', it housed a community of 13 or so chantry priests appointed by the town's Trinity Guild. In 1547 it was sold into private hands. Despite many uses over the ensuing centuries, the footprint of the medieval building remains unchanged with many original features surviving, including the fine roof of the Great Hall and the grand oak door with Thoresby's name carved into it. The building was saved and restored by the King's Lynn Preservation Trust 1963–8.



On King's Staithe Square



The Naval Children's Charity

The Naval Children's Charity has been helping Naval Children since 1825. They are based in Portsmouth and help Naval families and children all around the UK and the Commonwealth. The Eastern region of the charity will have a stall here.

Stroke Association

Learn about a basic Tai Chi group which helps stroke survivors to improve balance and co-ordination while helping to reduce stress for both them and their carers.

West Norfolk Sub-Aqua Club

The Club was founded in the mid-1970s and currently has 30 members. It is an active group meeting once a week, with regular training taking place at the Alive St James pool. The club is lucky to have its own compressor and 2 RIBs for local coast diving. They also arrange overseas trips for warmer diving! Come and meet them on King's Staithe Square.

11.15am Nelson's Shantymen

See page 5

12.30pm Massed Morris Dancers

The King's Morris and their guest dancers. See page 14.

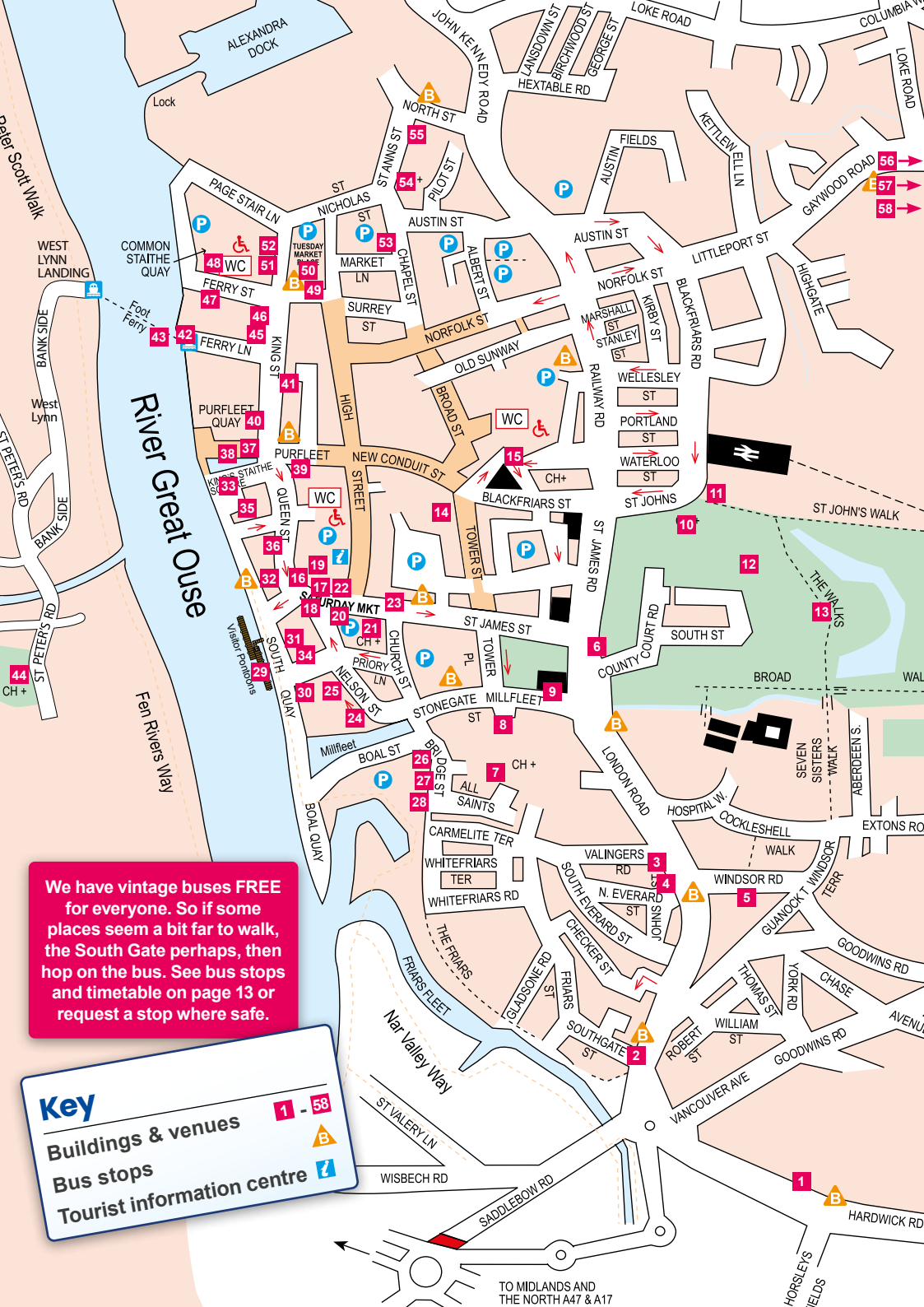
1.15pm The Kentwell Players

A group of travelling musicians named for the hall in Suffolk that brought them together. They are often found portraying the lives of 16th-century travelling players, although their historical and musical interests span from medieval to modern times. Performing at festivals and events up and down the country, they showcase historical entertainment of many kinds, including music and song, juggling and plays, dance and jests, using period appropriate instruments, clothing and props. Some instruments on show could include loud Renaissance winds such as shawms, rauschpfeife, sackbut and bagpipes – quieter instruments such as recorders and pipe and tabor – the evocative sound of the Hurdy Gurdy, and of course all held together with the beat of the drum.

2.15pm Nelson's Shantymen See page 5

3.30pm Massed Morris Dancers See page 14



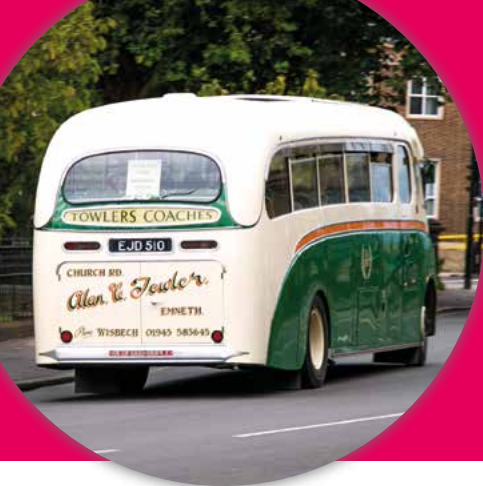


We have vintage buses FREE for everyone. So if some places seem a bit far to walk, the South Gate perhaps, then hop on the bus. See bus stops and timetable on page 13 or request a stop where safe.

Key

- Buildings & venues 1 - 58
- Bus stops B
- Tourist information centre i

TO MIDLANDS AND THE NORTH A47 & A17



Free Vintage Bus Service

Supporting
Heritage Open Day
in King's Lynn

King's Lynn service (bus number 38)

Bus Station, Bay H	0950	1005	1020	1035	then at the same times each hour until	1505	1520	1535	1550	1605
True's Yard	0952	1007	1022	1037		1507	1522	1537	1552	1607
Tuesday Market Place	0956	1011	1026	1041		1511	1526	1541	1556	1611
Custom House	0958	1013	1028	1043		1513	1528	1543	1558	1613
Saturday Market Place	1000	1015	1030	1045		1515	1530	1545	1600	1615
Millfleet, Library	1002	1017	1032	1047		1517	1532	1547	1602	1617
London Road RC Church	1005	1020	1035	1050		1520	1535	1550	1605	1620
South Gate (southbound)	1007	1022	1037	1052		1522	1537	1552	1607	1622
Hardwick Cemetery	1009	1024	1039	1054		1524				
Hardwick Road, McDonald's layby	1012	1027	1042	1057		1527				
South Gate (northbound)	1015	1030	1045	1100		1530	1540	1555	1610	1625
Millfleet, opposite Library	1017	1032	1047	1102		1532	1542	1557	1612	1627
Marriott's Warehouse	1020	1035	1050	1105		1535	1545	1600	1615	1630
Custom House	1022	1037	1052	1107		1537	1547	1602	1617	1632
Saturday Market Place	1025	1040	1055	1110		1540	1550	1605	1620	1635
Bus Station, Bay H	1030	1045	1100	1115		1545	1555	1610	1625	1640

Gaywood service (bus number 39)

Bus Station, Bay H	1010	1040	1110	1140	then at the same times each hour until	1540	1610
Gaywood Road (KESA)	1017	1047	1117	1147		1547	1617
Gaywood Hall Drive (St Faith's)			1120	1150		1550	1620
Gaywood Hall Drive (St Faith's)			1125	1155		1555	1625
Gaywood Road (KESA)	1028	1058	1128	1158		1558	1628
Bus Station, Bay H	1035	1105	1135	1205		1605	1635

Vehicles kindly supplied by private preservationist, local independent operators, Lynxbus and by Eastern Transport Collection, a registered Educational Charity.

Please note that buses do not have the facility to carry child buggies and do not have disabled access.

Lynxbus operate Sunday services into town from a number of villages; see <https://www.lynxbus.co.uk/bus-times-fares/>



IN THE CEREMONIAL ROOM

11am – Talk by Dr Paul Richards

'This is Lynn at a glance – a view at once arresting and exceptional': In praise of the artists Henry Baines (1823–94) and Walter Dexter (1876–1957)

IN THE GALLERY

Exhibition of art by Arturo Limbo

12pm & 2pm

The Breakaways (ukulele band)

Promoting the playing of the ukulele as an enjoyable and social activity. Hits from the 1950s and 60s.

1pm & 3pm

Pot of Gold Shanty Crew

Now firmly established on the local music scene and performing regularly in Shanty Festivals, Pot of Gold have gained an enviable reputation for singing traditional, and not so traditional, shanties and songs of the sea, in their own unique style.

They are incredibly proud of one particular Crew member who, they think, is the only signing shantyman in the country.

Expect a totally inclusive, laid-back, entertaining session, full of great songs, fantastic harmonies, humour, brilliant musicianship and audience participation – the complete experience that has entertained audiences from King's Lynn to the Cutty Sark

and Port Isaac and many places in between. Visit the website for more information: potofgoldshantycrew.co.uk.

ON THE SOUTH QUAY

2.30pm – King's Morris Dancers and their guest dancers

The Morris Dancing team of King's Lynn, the King's Morris was formed in 1978. Like most modern teams, they are a revival side; a team formed in a town that does not have a tradition of Morris Dancing. Dances are from the Bledington, Fieldtown, Bampton, Badby, Bucknell and Adderbury 'traditions'.



Open from 10am

Serving food and drink

Brought to Life 17th-century re-enactment group

17th century bows, arrows, muskets, pikes cannon balls, barber surgeon equipment on display; a demonstration of how to make cord laces; musket and pike demonstrations.



Open from 10am

Teas, coffees and delicious home-made scones and cakes

Hanse House



34

Talk, art and music. See page 14 for further details.

Behind the 18th-century street façade is a building of great interest, the Hanseatic Warehouse (late 15th-century) running down to the river. There is a quadrangle formed by two parallel warehouse ranges closed by a shorter range. The Hanseatic League owned these buildings which were demanded as part of the Treaty of Utrecht in 1474. The only extant Hanseatic building in England. Did you know King's Lynn is a member of the New Hanseatic League of 194 European cities? Visit www.hanse.org for more information.

Bank House



35

Rough steps and ground in tunnels

Stunning Grade 2* listed Georgian merchant's house on the quayside in the heart of historic King's Lynn, now unique 12-bedroom hotel. Adjacent Counting House, now bar and restaurant, built in 1789 to take advantage of trade to and from Europe. Became first branch of Barclay's bank. Spectacular vaulted wine cellars join a network of tunnels and cellars under King's Staithe Square. Statue over front door of Charles I. Magnificent wrought iron gates. Beautiful views from riverside terrace. Downstairs public rooms and cellars (uneven steps and floor) may be visited. Open for meals, teas, coffee and cakes and bar. Bank House famous afternoon teas must be pre-booked.

Clifton House

36

Open from 12pm. Numbers to tower restricted.

A grand early 18th-century merchant house with an entrance flanked by barley-sugar columns. The five-storey Elizabethan watchtower overlooking the river and with views to the Wash has been carefully restored and incorporates a little museum and rooms showing historic furniture.

Custom House



37

**An exhibition of the work of King's Lynn Civic Society
Venue for Greyfriars Art Space**

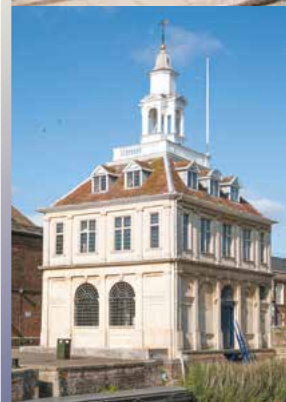
Henry Bell's Custom House of 1685 is a gem of a building. It uses the grammar of classical architecture perfectly with two orders of pilasters, Doric below and Ionic above and very fine carving of garlands and grotesques. There is a statue of Charles II over the entrance, a hipped roof and dormers and gallery surmounted by a tall and graceful cupola. It was built as a merchants' exchange with all the arcading originally open except on the eastern side which were filled in 1742.

On Purfleet Quay

38

East Norfolk Militia

A small group of militia are sent to Lynn in response to the Napoleonic threat of invasion from the Wash. Listen to their stories of army life and see the equipment they have. Hourly musket demonstrations.





GroundWork Art Gallery



39

Extraction 3: The Ground Beneath Our Feet: showing the work of 12 artists working on this theme locally over the summer

GroundWork shows the work of contemporary artists who care about how we all experience the environment. Exhibitions and creative programmes explore how art can enable us to respond to a changing world and imagine how we can shape its future. A neglected 1930s industrial building has benefited from a contemporary conversion and a new lease of life. Winner of 2018 Mayor's award for conversion – in recognition of a design of special quality which enhances the surroundings in this borough.

WhataHoot



40

Open from 9am. 12pm & 2pm: Talk about the history of gin, how it's made, the building, and how WhataHoot started.

The WhataHoot Distillery is a 16th-century warehouse, packed full of original features including beams and exposed brickwork, which has been sympathetically restored and converted to create a home for WhataHoot. Located just off King Street, as well as being the hub of production for WhataHoot products, the distillery houses the ground floor 'Pantry' which is open daily for supplies of WhataHoot products and the bespoke Gin School and Spirit Lounge where visitors can experiment and make their own gins.

28–32 King Street

41

One of the most interesting houses in Lynn. Clad in an early 19th-century brick skin and a medieval timber-framed house, although a stone house of about 1180 can be found inside. You can see the arches remaining from this Norman house. The chimney stack was pushed into the wall c.1550.

Ferry Lane Social Club



42

Open from 10.30am. Great views from the over water terrace. Real ale.

At the end of Ferry Lane is this private club. It was the Ouse Amateur Sailing Club, but is now independent. It used to be the Ferry Boat Inn, where the Cambridge boat crew would stop for refreshments after their training row up the Ouse. The Club has a special licence for today so the bar is open.

West Lynn Ferry

43

**River crossings from 10am to 3.30pm today every 30 minutes
A small charge of £3 return to keep the ferry running**

Take part in living history. There has been a ferry across the Great Ouse since at least 1285, which was vital as the nearest bridge was at Wickenhall St German's. It has changed ownership over the years from private to public. The Trinity Guildhall owned it in 1392, followed by the Corporation in 1649 and Norfolk County Council in 1973. Today it is owned by West Lynn Ferry Ltd who carry on this unique tradition.

St Peter's Church, West Lynn



44

1.30pm Rector's tour

The church was rebuilt further inland c.1271 after its predecessor was washed away. It is a cross-shaped building with a short lead-covered spire. Come



Discover more of King's Lynn

Pick up a **FREE** copy of Discover King's Lynn which features an illustrated map to help you explore this fascinating town.

Visit the King's Lynn Tourist Information Centre at Stories of Lynn for help and guidance to make the most of your visit to King's Lynn and West Norfolk.

Join a guided walk with the King's Lynn Town Guides to learn more about the people, stories and historic locations throughout King's Lynn's history.

Explore the stories of sailors, fishermen, explorers and merchants on the King's Lynn Maritime Trail. The Trail guide costs 50p from King's Lynn Tourist Information Centre or True's Yard Fisherfolk Museum.

After dusk, look out for the spectacular Lynn Lumière light projections, on some of King's Lynn's most prominent buildings.

More information:

King's Lynn TIC
Stories of Lynn
Saturday Market Place
King's Lynn PE30 5DQ

Tel: 01553 774297
storiesoflynn.co.uk

Stories of Lynn
mobile app



CONTEMPORARY
AND COUNTRY

heads & tails

PICTURING PEOPLE AND OTHER ANIMALS

CONTEMPORARY AND COUNTRY AT THE
FERMOY GALLERY AND SHAKESPEARE BARN

(ST GEORGE'S COURTYARD, OFF KING STREET, KING'S LYNN PE30 1EU)

09 SEPT – 28 OCT, 2023

OPEN 11AM TO 4PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS

Image: Colin Self

Funded by:



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and see the seven-sacrament font, the stunning east window of the three Marys at the tomb, the fine medieval roof with statues of the apostles, and the memorial brass of the priest Adam Outlaw. Why not catch the ferry and enjoy the views across to the riverfront of Lynn on the short walk along the riverbank to the church? Please note that St Peter's is now open daily to visitors.

Evershed House, 23–25 King Street

45

Open 10am–1pm

This former merchant's house dates from the late 17th century. In the early 17th century, there were malthouses, brew-houses, warehousing and stables behind the main building, extending along Ferry Lane to the river.

The narrow court between the two wings was glazed over at second-floor level. This has provided first-floor galleried walkways and a new staircase. This allows the original Georgian structure to be seen and appreciated. Note the Hanseatic gables on the rear elevation.



The Guildhall of St George



46

In the Fermoy Gallery and Shakespeare Barn: Heads and Tails – Picturing People and Other Animals

The site was given to the already existing Guild of St George by Royal Charter in 1406 with a second Royal Charter confirming this in 1461. The present Guildhall was built between 1410 and 1430. It is the largest extant medieval Guildhall in the country with two outstanding ceilings still intact. It has an unrivalled history of theatre with the first performance being in 1445: new research supports local tradition that William Shakespeare's company performed in the Guildhall in 1592/3. It is the oldest working theatre in the country and the only one still surviving in which Shakespeare performed. Scenery was made there for Queen Alexandra, Queen Mary and King George V and HM The Queen Mother patronised the fundraising to restore the theatre in 1948–1951. Guided tours will take place throughout the day and there will be information on the current project of restoration and renewal.



Crown & Mitre

47

1pm Rachel Bea: see page 9

Recently reopened under new management, this lovely traditional pub is believed to have origins dating back to the 16th century. First mentioned in records dating from 1743, it was a popular drinking location for the sailors from the many ships docked along the King's Lynn quayside and has a conservatory that opens out right on the edge of the river.



The Pilots' Office

48

This is the home of King's Lynn Conservancy Board, who are the Statutory Port and Harbour Authority, and are responsible for the safe navigation of all the users of the river Great Ouse and approaches. The Pilots' Office was built in 1864 in red brick, with a little three-bay loggia to the ground floor and a tower, square below, octagonal above. The first King's Lynn baths were here.



World War II Air Raid Shelters

49

These shelters were re-discovered during upgrading of the Tuesday Market Place. The stewards are from the Bridge for Heroes and any donations collected are for them.

King's Lynn

CLASSIC CAR DAY



10 September 2023, 10am - 4pm
Tuesday Market Place
Part of Heritage Open Day

Free to attend

Pre-booked exhibitors only

west-norfolk.gov.uk/classiccarday

Borough Council of
King's Lynn &
West Norfolk



Classic Car Day on the Tuesday Market Place

50

See page 20

The Corn Exchange



51

Go backstage, do a sound check and rig the lights, see the new cinema screens and take part in activities throughout the day

Built in 1854, its architects, Cruso and Maberley, used the latest technology to construct the Corn Exchange. The façade is baroque and prominently features Ceres, the Goddess of Corn. Although built for local farmers to sell their corn, the Corn Exchange has hosted a variety of events, including celebrations for Queen Victoria's Jubilee, election counts, preaching and, in 1909 '... a most up-to-date roller-skating rink'. In 1996, the building was restored and refurbished as a 700-seat theatre, which offers a full programme of entertainment and events.

19 Tuesday Market Place



52

Treasure hunt in the secret garden for children

Converted into Hawkins Ryan solicitors' office is a late 18th-century house of five bays and two storeys with a further two bays to the north rebuilt c.1840 to match. The cantilevered staircase in the north extension is set within an oval well, with the lantern dome providing light. Fine features retained. A secluded secret garden can be found full of beautiful plants including lavender and roses.

The Lattice House



53

**Open from 9am. Serving traditional drinks like mead.
11.30am & 2.30pm The Kentwell Players See page 11**

A late 15th-century timber-framed house with various later alterations and extensions. The house was built in about 1480 as a single range fronting the street, probably with shops on the ground floor and domestic accommodation above. In the late 15th century, the south wing was added, followed by the north wing in the early 16th century and the central wing in the 19th century. The façade has a jettied first floor, with a dragon post at the south-east corner. Inside there is an open hall with a crown post roof as well as some original window frames and wall paintings.

By 1714, the south part of the building was being used as an inn, and the 'Lattice' name was first adopted at this time, probably recalling alehouse windows which were screened with a trellis or lattice, and generally painted red. A piscina was uncovered at the east end of the south wall, comprising a stone trough, possibly relocated from the Augustinian Friary following dissolution in 1539.

St Nicholas' Chapel



54

**11am Pot of Gold Shanty Crew See page 14
All day: A demonstration by Lavender Lace-makers
Exhibition by King's Lynn and District Camera Club**



Churches
Conservation
Trust

This light-filled building is the largest parochial chapel in England – but bigger than some cathedrals – and was built as a chapel-of-ease ('easy to get to') for St Margaret's Priory and parish church, which retained control over it. Most of the chapel was rebuilt between 1380 and 1410. Like many





harbour churches, it is dedicated to the patron saint of fishermen and sailors. The chapel's oldest feature is part of the tower dating back to 1225, incorporated into the 15th-century chapel which has huge windows, an amazing painted main door c.1400, an enormous font canopy, and the first Angel roof in East Anglia. But the slender spire is entirely Victorian, since the earlier one blew down in the 'tempest' of 1741. Explore the history of the chapel and medieval Lynn through their interactive interpretation, or follow one of the three children's trails around the chapel.

True's Yard Fisherfolk Museum



55

Special exhibition: Night trawlers

Medieval Merriment – Living history, food experiences & craft activities

A Community Museum that celebrates the story of the North End fisherfolk. Two Georgian cottages are set out as in the 19th-century with a museum, fishing smack, smoke house, shop and Georgian tearoom. The Museum celebrates 32 years telling the story of the North End.



FREE Guided Walk: Gaywood

New for 2023

56

10.20am Meet outside King Edward VII Academy

This walk lasts about 45 minutes, starting at KESA, and finishing at St Faith's Church. No need to book. Check the bus timetable on page 13 for an easy way to get there and back from the town centre!



King Edward VII Academy



57

There will be Old Lennensians and current staff available to provide you the opportunity to tour the buildings and see some of the amazing renovations that have taken place over the last year.

From the grand oil paintings and the gold-leaf embellished clock to the many Honours Boards and War Memorials which adorn the halls of King Edward VII Academy, there is no lack of history within this Edwardian style building. Originally founded in 1510, from a bequest in the will of Thomas Thoresby (1450–1510), former Mayor of King's Lynn, the current building was donated by Sir William Lancaster, an alumni, in 1906. The former Grammar School has served as a landmark in King's Lynn for more than a century, and has welcomed monarchs and royal visitors on many occasions.

St Faith's Church, Gaywood



58

9.45am The church will be open for Sunday worship

Open from 11.15am. Bellringing taster sessions. Guided tours of the church. Children's activities in the afternoon.

St. Faith's lies in the heart of Gaywood, which was not part of King's Lynn until 1937. The tower is a fine local example of early brickwork although no one is quite sure of its date and the whole church was built of brick. Come in through the ancient 12th-century doorway to find two huge amazingly detailed oil paintings of Queen Elizabeth I and the defeat of the Armada and the discovery of the Gunpowder Plot: Parliament meeting above and the gunpowder and the Devil below! There are beautifully carved oak furnishings from the early 20th century and some much older woodwork as well.



Events & activities timetable

TIME	PLACE	DETAILS
10am	The Walks	Knights of Skirbeck: Call to arms. Time to enlist locals to the town militia.
10.20am	King Edward VII Academy	Free guided walk: Gaywood. Meet at the school gates
11am	St Nicholas' Chapel	Pot of Gold Shanty Crew
11am	Saturday Market Place	Free guided Town Walk (meet outside Stories of Lynn)
11am	Hanse House: Ceremonial Room	Talk: Dr Paul Richards on the artists Henry Baines and Walter Dexter
11am	The Walks	Knights of Skirbeck: What would the town militia wear?
11.15am	King's Staithe Square	Nelson's Shantymen
11.30am	Saturday Market Place	Massed Morris Dancing
11.30am	Town Hall	Mr Gosk's Dance Academy
11.30am	Lattice House	The Kentwell Players
12pm	The Walks	Knights of Skirbeck: Military rest and eat. Bring a family picnic.
12pm	The Walks	Fens Falconry: flying demonstration
12pm	Hanse House: Gallery	The Breakaways (ukulele band)
12pm	Saturday Market Place	Free guided Town Walk (meet outside Stories of Lynn)
12pm	WhataHoot	Talk about the history of gin, how it's made, the building and how WhataHoot started
12.15pm	The Minster	Bell Tower Tour (must be booked in advance after 11.30am at the Minster)
12.30pm	The Walks	Knights of Skirbeck: Activities restart
12.30pm	King's Staithe Square	Massed Morris Dancing
1pm	London Road Methodist Chapel	Nelson's Shantymen
1pm	Saturday Market Place	Free guided Town Walk (meet outside Stories of Lynn)
1pm	Hanse House: Gallery	Pot of Gold Shanty Crew
1pm	The Walks	Knights of Skirbeck: Death of a king. Weapons & how they were used
1pm	Crown & Mitre	Rachel Bea

TIME	PLACE	DETAILS
1.15pm	King's Staithe Square	The Kentwell Players
1.30pm	St Peter's Church, West Lynn	Rector's tour
1.30pm	Town Hall	Mr Gosk's Dance Academy
1.45pm	The Minster	Bell Tower Tour (must be booked in advance after 11.30am at the Minster)
2pm	Saturday Market Place	Free guided Town Walk (meet outside Stories of Lynn)
2pm	Hanse House: Gallery	The Breakaways (ukulele band)
2pm	The Walks	Fens Falconry: flying demonstration
2pm	The Walks Bandstand	King's Lynn Town Band
2pm	WhataHoot	Talk about the history of gin, how it's made, the building and how WhataHoot started
2.15pm	King's Staithe Square	Nelson's Shantymen
2.30pm	London Road Methodist Chapel	Lavender Hill Mob Theatre Company
2.30pm	South Quay	Massed Morris Dancing
2.30pm	Lattice House	The Kentwell Players
2.30pm	The Walks	Knights of Skirbeck: Dressing of the knight
2.30pm	Town Hall	Mr Gosk's Dance Academy
3pm	The Walks	Knights of Skirbeck: Hand-to-hand combat in the arena
3pm	Hanse House: Gallery	Pot of Gold Shanty Crew
3pm	All Saints' Church	Rector's tour
3pm	White Hart	Rachel Bea
3.15pm	The Minster	Bell Tower Tour (must be booked in advance after 11.30am at the Minster)
3.30pm	Town Hall	Mr Gosk's Dance Academy
3:30pm	King's Staithe Square	Massed Morris Dancing

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For more information about visiting King's Lynn and
West Norfolk, visit www.visitwestnorfolk.com



Alternatively, contact King's Lynn Tourist Information Centre,
Stories of Lynn, Saturday Market Place, King's Lynn PE30 5DQ.
Email: kings-lynn.tic@alivestnorfolk.co.uk. Tel: 01553 774297

King's Lynn's Heritage Open Day is organised by the King's Lynn Civic Society supported by the Borough Council, Town Guides, Friends Groups, local businesses, private residents and Heritage Open Days National Partnership.

For access information visit heritageopendays.org.uk 

For general information telephone the Tourist Information Centre 01553 774297
kings-lynn.tic@alivestnorfolk.co.uk

While every effort is made to publish accurate information, there may be changes on the day beyond the control of the organisers, who are all volunteers.



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