

## THE A-Z OF CURIOUS SUFFOLK

*Sarah Doig*

LECTURE  
11 JANUARY

*The A-Z of Curious Suffolk* romps through the rolling countryside and along the shingled coastline of Suffolk, unearthing a curious, alphabetical cornucopia of strange and mysterious facts about the county. Is the supposedly ancient game of dwile flonking quite so old? What did writers such as Pepys and Defoe say about Suffolk cheese? And which tower was probably just built to curry favour with the monarch? These stories and more will appeal to Suffolk diehards and newcomers alike.



## ST JOHN'S & RUSHMERE HALL PRIMARY SCHOOLS

CONCERT  
8 FEBRUARY

This year **St John's School** has three choirs and an orchestra with 38 members. Led by Danielle Freestone, today the KS2 choirs share some current favourite songs from their repertoire, interspersed with instrumental items.



**Rushmere Hall** is a large primary school in Ipswich. The choir is made up of about 40 year 5 and 6 children. Led by Liz Jones, they perform a variety of African songs.

## A HISTORY OF REFUGEES IN IPSWICH

LECTURE  
8 MARCH

*Martin Simmonds*

Over the centuries, Ipswich has become home to many different groups of refugees from around the world, from the Huguenots of the late 17th century to Basque refugee children and more recent arrivals fleeing persecution and conflict in countries such as Iraq and Syria. This talk aims to reveal the fascinating history of refugees in Ipswich, the mark they have left on the town, and the work of Suffolk Refugee Support in helping our refugee communities.



## CO-OP LADIES CHOIR

**Conductor:** Margaret Morphew  
**Accompanist:** Joe Cleary

CONCERT  
12 APRIL

The Co-op Ladies Choir has been in existence for over 70 years. It performs at various events, including Ipswich Music Day, IAA lunchtime concerts, weddings, social clubs and charity events. The membership is comprised of ladies who have been involved with amateur dramatic and music groups, and competed in music festivals. They perform a variety of music, much of which has been arranged especially for the choir by Joe Cleary.



## TREASURES OF THE TURF

*Chris Garibaldi*

LECTURE  
10 MAY

Chris Garibaldi, Director of the National Horseracing Museum in Newmarket, looks at the museum's collections as they illustrate the history both of Newmarket and the 'Sport of Kings' across the UK from the early 17th century to the present day. Chris examines the history of Palace House, the last surviving element of Charles II's racing palace in Newmarket. He looks at the royal history of the site through documents and works of art, as well as highlighting the museum's ambitious plans for its redevelopment.



## FELIXSTOWE HARMONIES

**Musical Director:** Chandra Grover

CONCERT  
14 JUNE

Felixstowe Harmonies is a 35-strong vocal harmony group that performs songs from the light classical repertoire, traditional folk, swing, jazz and blues and popular songs. Under the leadership of Musical Director Chandra Grover, their aim is to inspire creativity, encourage people to enjoy singing as part of a group and make the best sound they can.



## IPSWICH WOMEN'S BLUE PLAQUES

*Ipswich Women's Festival Group:*  
*Joy Bounds, Agnes Hallander, Pat Dobson*

LECTURE  
12 JULY

Ipswich Women's Festival Group is committed to celebrating the achievements of women, past and present. In 2016, together with Ipswich Society, it commissioned four new plaques to honour Ipswich women, to add to the existing two. Today, some members of the group talk about the lives of these six women: Nina Layard, Margaret Tempest, Edith Cook, Jean Ingelow, Constance Andrews and Mary Whitmore, and discuss why it is important to recognise their contribution to Ipswich life.



## SUFFOLK ORGANISTS' ASSOCIATION

**Soloists:** Ben Banks & Harrison Cole

CONCERT  
9 AUGUST

The Suffolk Organists' Association presents a concert of light classical music played by two of Suffolk's most able young organists: Ben Banks and Harrison Cole. They are both currently studying music at university and have received organ scholarships from their colleges. The Corn Exchange organ was built by one of the best Victorian organ builders, Thomas Lewis, allowing Ipswich to hear a distinguished concert instrument once again a hundred years after the grand opening of the old Public Hall organ, sadly lost in a fire.



**Please note that this event takes place in the Corn Exchange.**

## MINSMERE: A HOME FOR NATURE

*Ian Barthorpe*

LECTURE  
13 SEPTEMBER

The RSPB is the country's largest nature conservation charity, inspiring everyone to give nature a home. Together with its partners, it protects threatened birds and wildlife, so that our towns, coast and countryside will teem with life once again. It plays a leading role in BirdLife International, a worldwide partnership of nature conservation organisations. Ian Barthorpe explores the history, management and wildlife at one of the UK's premier wildlife sites: RSPB Minsmere nature reserve.



## ROSEWOOD

**Squeezeboxes and vocals:** Simon Haines  
**Strings and vocals:** Phil Lyons  
**Wind and vocals:** Val Woollard

Rosewood brings together East Anglian folk musicians who play and sing contemporary and traditional tunes and songs. Their varied repertoire stretches from Marco Uccellini (1610-1680) to Kirsty McColl (1959-2000) with lots in between. An entertaining afternoon is guaranteed!



CONCERT  
11 OCTOBER

## THE QUAKER INFLUENCE IN 19th CENTURY IPSWICH

Mike King

In this illustrated talk, Mike King focuses on influential Quakers in Ipswich who shaped not just the town but the world beyond, including the Alexanders, who developed local banking, and the Ransome family business which made such things as revolutionary ploughs and traction engines. Ransomes helped develop the original Ipswich Museum in 1847, the first gasworks and the docks, including the cast-iron Stoke bridge, while Charles May made telescopes for the Orwell Park Observatory, the Greenwich Observatory and contributed to the railways.



LECTURE  
8 NOVEMBER

## JENNY'S ACCORDIONISTS

**Accordionists:** Melanie Lodge, Glenis Caley, Nina Strong, Kieren Hynd, Suzanne Shaw-Smith, Duncan Smith  
**Keyboard:** Maria Gilgar  
**Percussionist:** John Caley

Jenny's Accordionists play a variety of compositions, including classical, swing, standards and world music. Today's programme includes some seasonal music. The group competed at the World Music Festival in Innsbruck in May 2016 and achieved first place in the Advanced Ensemble Section. They have performed at many venues, including Bury St. Edmunds and Chelmsford Cathedrals.



CONCERT  
13 DECEMBER

## 2018 EVENTS AT A GLANCE

11 JANUARY	THE A-Z OF CURIOUS SUFFOLK <i>Sarah Doig</i>
8 FEBRUARY	ST JOHN'S & RUSHMERE HALL SCHOOLS
8 MARCH	A HISTORY OF REFUGEES IN IPSWICH <i>Martin Simmonds</i>
12 APRIL	CO-OP LADIES CHOIR
10 MAY	TREASURES OF THE TURF <i>Chris Garibaldi</i>
14 JUNE	FELIXSTOWE HARMONIES
12 JULY	IPSWICH WOMEN'S BLUE PLAQUES <i>Joy Bounds, Agnes Hallander, Pat Dobson</i>
9 AUGUST	SUFFOLK ORGANISTS' ASSOCIATION <i>This event is in the Corn Exchange</i>
13 SEPTEMBER	MINSMERE: A HOME FOR NATURE <i>Ian Barthorpe</i>
11 OCTOBER	ROSEWOOD
8 NOVEMBER	THE QUAKER INFLUENCE IN 19th CENTURY IPSWICH <i>Mike King</i>
13 DECEMBER	JENNY'S ACCORDIONISTS

ADMISSION IS FREE with a retiring collection to defray expenses. Donations of at least £2.00 per person are valued to maintain the series.

Tea and coffee are served from 12.30pm.

Seats are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. We apologise in advance if, on your arrival, the hall is full. Due to fire regulations we must comply with maximum capacity rules.

An Ipswich Arts Association initiative coordinated by Vera Rogers and Joy Bounds. For further details contact Vera Rogers on 01473 836972.

Ipswich Arts Association has 55 member organisations and promotes the voluntary arts sector in the area. Its initiatives include the monthly Lunchtime Town Lectures and Concerts, organising the Classical Stages at Ipswich Music Day and curating the Ipswich Charter Hangings on view at St Peter's by the Waterfront. IAA is also a campaigning organisation, working to raise the profile of the arts in Suffolk. To find out more about IAA, its activities, members and events, visit [www.ipswich-arts.org.uk](http://www.ipswich-arts.org.uk)



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## Ipswich Arts Association

# TOWN LECTURES & CONCERTS 2018

Presented at Museum Street Methodist Church (entrance in Black Horse Lane), Ipswich IP1 2EF from 1.00 to 1.50pm



Earliest known English racehorse c.1690 by JP Closterman © NHRM

For the nineteenth year, Ipswich Arts Association hosts a series of lectures and concerts. The lectures reflect the history and cultural background of Ipswich and Suffolk through the eyes of Suffolk-based speakers. Lectures alternate with concerts given by local musicians, featuring different styles of music through the ages.

Admission free with a retiring collection. Suggested minimum donation £2.00.