

Newsletter Number 26



Welcome to a new year and hopefully a better year for everyone.

The benefits of investment in Great Yarmouth are beginning to be seen with the reconstruction of the Waterways and Boating Lake, the new Marina, the construction of the new covered Market, work on turning the old Palmers Store into a University Learning Centre which will also house the Library, the improved lighting and cleaning up of the Rows, the planting of 505 trees - especially those along South Quay -, reconstruction of parts of the mediaeval town wall and many other projects which are in their infancy.

It is important that the local community is aware of these projects and I trust that you will spread the word and encourage new people to join the Society. We need to be proud of what is being achieved and hope that this will entice more people to use the facilities in the town. This will help local shops, restaurants and businesses which will result in even more people coming into the town.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS:

All to be held at Christchurch, King Street, NR30 2HL at 7.30pm

Tuesday 10 January : The Winter Gardens: History and the Future.

By Kate Blakemore, Stacy Cosham and Rachel Daniel of Great Yarmouth Borough Council. They will present a history of the Winter Gardens, the present situation and plans for the future.

Tuesday 31 January: Equinor in Norfolk – Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Wind Farms; Innovation, Green Growth and Collaboration – maximising the positive societal impacts from Offshore Wind.

By Sue Falch-Lovesey, Stakeholder Manager, Business Development for Equinor.

Tuesday 28 February: Design Code for Great Yarmouth

By Hanna Loftus and Chrissy Cheung of HAT Projects.

HAT Projects have been commissioned to produce a Design Code for the Borough of Great Yarmouth. After an initial meeting with some Civic Society Committee members and representatives of many other organisations HAT Projects will present their report and would welcome comments before it is published.

Tuesday 21 March: The Renovation of the Venetian Waterways

Lee Brown, Events Coordinator at Waterways and cafe, and Ian Guest, gardener at the Waterways and Boating Lake, will cover the history of the building of the Waterways and Boating Lake and their recent renovation.

Tuesday 18 April: 'Great Yarmouth the Number One UK Green Town'

By Rob Haslam, RIBA, MSCD, MBA, Architect and owner of the Old Vicarage and Old Priory. He will talk about some exciting projects to make Great Yarmouth the UK's greenest town.

RECENT MEETING

Tuesday 8 November at 7.30pm at Christchurch, King Street.

“Goodchild Marine: *Reflections*”. by Alan Goodchild

This was an awe inspiring talk by Alan Goodchild who developed an interest in boats at the age of 15 and after an apprenticeship he set up his own business and made his first fibreglass boat in Great Yarmouth at the age 19. Eventually he moved his business to Burgh Castle where he builds a variety of craft, both commercial and leisure, and specialises in the building of Pilot boats which incorporate many novel designs e.g. a special bow to enable the boat to go faster, lightweight hull construction and no internal cables as all communication is via Bluetooth etc. He designed and builds a man overboard recovery platform.

His firm has produced a unique form of dredger head which cuts and sucks enabling the most difficult of areas to be accessed in harbours, canals and reservoirs.

In addition he runs several apprentice schemes and has been chair of at least two national organisations associated with boat building.

Representing the Civic Society at the following events.

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| Nov 29 | Paul Patterson, Bruce Sturrock and I met with Hanna Loftus and Chrissy Cheung of the HAT Project to discuss what should be put in the Design Code for Great Yarmouth. Having met with representatives from other organisations they will produce their report which they will discuss with members of the Civic Society on 28 February before it is published. |
| Dec 1 | Met with representatives from other councils reviewing the work of the Borough Council. |

MIDDLEGATE PROJECT

Before the Covid Pandemic I had had talks with various Council officials to see how we could improve the gardens of the Middlegate Estate. Unfortunately, the Pandemic put a stop to this project but recently I have had talks with the Housing Officer and the idea is that hopefully we can get a number of interested gardeners from the Society to work with those living on the estate to improve their gardens. Gardening is extremely therapeutic and neat and tidy gardens will make the whole estate look so much better. This work will hopefully bring the community together.

If you would like to help in this project please contact me. hsturzaker@icloud.com

MEMBERSHIP FEES

The annual membership fee of £10 was due at the end of September. Many people have paid their annual subscription and I trust that those who have not will consider doing so. Details about paying are on the attached form with this email or you can pay when you attend the next meeting.

Non members may attend our meetings for £2 each and hopefully they will be encouraged to become full members.

Best wishes,

Hugh Sturzaker
hsturzaker@icloud.com

Two Alan Bennett monologues come to St. George's Theatre on Saturday 7 January and Debbie Thompson, Artistic Director of the Theatre, is worried that people may be reluctant to turn out as it is so soon after Christmas. Tickets are £12 each but she is prepared to give a discount for a party. If you would like to come please drop me an email - hsturzaker@icloud.com -, I will buy the tickets and you can pay me on the night. Details are below.



Talking Heads - Lady Of Letters & Her Big Chance

Dates

7 Jan 2023

Irene Ruddock is a single, middle-aged woman living near Bradford and is not afraid to speak, or rather write, her mind. She frequently writes to her MP, the police, the chemist – everyone she can, to remedy the social ills she sees around her. Irene becomes suspicious of a neighbouring couple and picks up her pen...with devastating consequences!

Lesley (portrayed by Julie Walters in the original 1988 broadcast and Jodie Comer in the 2020 remake) is an aspiring actress who, after a series of unpromising bit parts on television, is offered what she believes to be her breakout role in a new film for the West German market. However, Lesley does not realise that the film is a soft pornographic film.

Civic Voice, which is an umbrella organisation for Civic Societies, is running a series of meetings which you can join on line. Details are below:

- **Jan 9th:** Membership Monday - The year ahead for Civic Voice with Martin Hamilton [Register here](#)
- **Jan 10th 2023:** APPG for Civic Societies: Levelling Up Mission Nine - [Pride in Place](#)
- **Jan 12th 2023:** In conversation with Ed Dorrell: Heritage and Civic Pride [Register here](#).
- **Jan 23rd 2023:** In conversation with Prof Matthew Carmona: How do we level up housing design quality? [Register here](#)
- **Feb 13th 2023:** Membership Monday: Balancing heritage and development [Register here](#)
- **Feb 20th 2023:** In conversation with Matt Colledge, The High Street Task Force [Register here](#)
- **Feb 21st 2023:** APPG for Civic Societies: APPG for Civic Societies: What does 'local consent' in planning mean? [Register here](#)
- **March 6th 2023:** Membership Monday: Civic Societies playing a crucial role in saving important buildings [Register here](#)
- **March 21st 2023:** APPG for Civic Societies: Levelling Up our Heritage High Streets [Register here](#) (Civic Voice members only)

You can book your place for these events using the links above.

