

June 2023

The Hadleigh Society

AGM

The 41st AGM of the Hadleigh Society will be on Wednesday 28th June 2023 in the Guildroom at 8pm.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the 40th AGM
2. Treasurer's Report
3. History Group Report
4. Environment and Planning Report
5. Chair's Review
6. Election of Officers and Executive Committee Members.
7. Review of subscriptions
8. Commencement times for Society Talks

The AGM will be followed by a short presentation by Richard Fletcher on "Hadleigh's Overlooked Heritage".

The Minutes of the 40th AGM, 2022 can be found on our website at <https://hadsoc.org.uk/agm/> . We will send them to you if you ask.

The following are standing for re-election.

Jan Byrne	President
Richard Fletcher	Honorary Secretary
Chris Drake	Honorary Treasurer
Graham Panton	Member
Martin Looker	Member
Sue England	Member
Kate Reddington	Member

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NOMINATION FORM

Society members are invited to make nominations for service on the Society’s **Executive Committee** for the year following the Annual General Meeting in the following capacities:

Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary or as one of our Committee members. All posts are honorary and seconded nominations must be sent to The Honorary Secretary, The Hadleigh Society, c/o 6 Lister Road, Hadleigh, Ipswich, IP7 5JN or by email to secretary@hadsoc.org.uk to be received not later than 13 June 2023.

I nominate the following for service on the Executive Committee of The Hadleigh Society for the year 2023/2024. In each case the nominee has agreed to stand.

Name	Position Nominated	Name of Seconder
Signed		
Name		Date

HADLEIGH GUILDHALL REVIEW

Hadleigh Market Feoffment are undertaking a review on the future of the Guildhall complex.

The Guildhall is vested in the Official Custodian for Charities, the Town Council is the sole Trustee, with the Hadleigh Market Feoffment (HMFC) acting as custodian. Although the Council is the trustee the HMFC is run as a separate business with its own staff plus separate allocated hours of the Town Clerks time and separate finances.

Grants have been raised for £15,000 from the Architectural Heritage Fund and with HMFC support £20,916 has been earmarked for the work.

Inham Pinnock Associates have been appointed to lead the project, they are an economic and regeneration consultancy.

To date they have produced an Options Appraisal plan having looked at the use of the building, Hadleigh's population, etc and produced suggestions for the future use of the building. One of the options the HMFC asked them to evaluate is the sale of the property.

The Morton Partnership have produced a full assessment of the condition of the Premises. (the Morton Partnership undertook the surveys of the building back in the 1980s when the Town Council took on the Trusteeship of the Feoffment), and Caroe Architecture Ltd has been commissioned to

produce a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) to inform works to improve the usage of the building.

Being more than a little concerned about the rumours we were hearing about the future of our Guildhall Complex the Hadleigh Society History Group put their project plans on hold and together with the Archives group (basically the same people) have undertaken a full timeline of the Complex. The timeline starts from 1374 running through to the 2020s and is over 30 pages long. All of the items in it are referenced. This Timeline will be on the Hadleigh Society website in the near future.

The Town Council invited the Archives group to meet with Caroe Architecture, and they were given a draft of our Timeline. There followed a 'face to face' meeting which included the University of Cambridge's Historic Building Consultant and was followed with meetings by Zoom.

Our timeline has been used and has saved the researchers a vast amount of time (and money) as we were able not only to suggest the resources that they needed for their research but also to produce many of the documents they would have needed to find. In December we were asked to look at their draft document, and many of our corrections and alterations from that

draft have been incorporated in the CMP. Various specialists in Medieval Timber framed buildings have researched the building and both Paul the caretaker and Roger Kennel have been round parts of the building with them.

The CMP, whilst we may not agree with all of the findings, is a very full report of the building and undoubtedly will be an excellent resource for the future. Also the photographs from the CMP and Morton’s survey are a wonderful record of the building as it was in the winter of 2022/23.

The CMP produces statements on the significance of the building: Evidential, Historical, Aesthetic and Communal, the degree of significance of the building being outlined according to the following scale:-

- Evidential value looks mainly at the building structure, identifying the changes over the centuries and its place within the archaeological interest within the town.
- Historical derives from the way in which historical figures, events and aspects of life can be connected through a place to the present.
- Aesthetic derives from the way in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from a place.

- Communal is made up of many layered meanings that a place may hold in contemporary society.

The degree of significance is outlined in the following scale:-

- **Exceptional**, defines areas or aspects considered to be of international importance.
- **High** is used to define areas or aspects considered to be of national importance or value.
- **Some** is used to define areas or aspects considered to be of local importance or value and have an element considered of potentially national interest.
- **Neutral** is used to define areas or aspects considered to be of neutral value.
- **Detracting** defines areas or aspects considered to have a negative value or which are intrusive to the significance of the whole.

The report concludes that the Overall significance of Hadleigh Guildhall is therefore

EXCEPTIONAL (International.)
 Evidential value, High (National)
 Historic value, Exceptional (International)
 Aesthetic value High (national)
 Communal EXEPTIONAL (International)

Those of us that know the building well have always thought of it as being ‘special’ and we not wrong!!

Throughout the consultation process the Archives / History group made quite clear that the Guildhall complex had been used by the people of Hadleigh as a civic centre, social centre as well as numerous other services for residents, for the whole of its almost 600 years, and is still owned and used by the people of Hadleigh.

The reports can be found on <https://www.hadleightownhall.co.uk/future-use-study>

With a new town council in place we do not know which councillors will be on the Market Feoffment working group and how or if they will proceed with any of the report's recommendations for the buildings' future but presumably any decisions they make about the building will have to be open to public consultations, so Hadleigh Society will be on full alert.

Jan Byrne

THE IPSWICH SOCIETY VISITS HADLEIGH



Roger Kennell leading a group of Ipswich Society Members to the Deanery Tower

Margaret Woods, as Chair, and on behalf of the Society welcomed The Ipswich Society to Hadleigh on Tuesday 30 May 2023 to provide a tour of the Deanery Tower and a short walk around the Medieval Heart of Hadleigh. Twenty-seven members of the Ipswich Society arrived and Roger Kennell lead the

Deanery Tower tours, whilst Margaret Woods provided a detailed background talk to the Medieval heart of the town as the group walked the area.

The Friends of St Marys very kindly arranged access to the Deanery Tower and also provided refreshments at the Church. In return the Ipswich Society provided a donation in excess of £200 towards the upkeep of the church and tower. Jan Byrne, our President, also attended to welcome the Ipswich Society and provided useful backup information to the group concerning the history of the church and Guildhall.

The Ipswich Society members were, by all accounts, very appreciative of the knowledge provided by Roger and Margaret in their respective tours and left at 12.30pm for a further tour of the Guildhall at Finchingfield. On their

departure the visitors were given a small leaflet produced by our Secretary which provided a summary of the building of the Deanery Tower and the Tour of the Medieval centre of Hadleigh.

A copy of Roger Kennell's notes on the Deanery Tower are provided below as an interesting brief summary of the Towers history.

THE DEANERY TOWER



One of the Barley Twist chimney stacks

This fine late 15th century brick tower, completed in 1495, and with its Grade 1 listing, stands close to two other Grade 1 listed buildings, Saint Mary's Parish Church and the Guildhall. These three buildings complete a quite remarkable grouping of buildings, all showing a different shape, each displaying different materials and importantly, all still being used for their original

intended purpose. This grouping is arguably unsurpassed in its architectural content and scope anywhere else in the county, or maybe the country.

Background to its building

A timber-framed Parsonage House had been built by 1322 behind where the Deanery Tower now stands, and towards the River Brett. This building met the needs of the various incumbents of Saint Mary's Church for many years. In the year 1469 William Pykenham was inducted as Rector of Hadleigh. Pykenham, who had studied at both Oxford and Cambridge Universities, held a number of other livings and church appointments including being a church lawyer. It appears that Pykenham also had a good measure of his own self-importance from these various positions.

During Pykenham's time at Hadleigh, he was appointed in 1471 as Archdeacon of Suffolk, and which also entitled him to a residence in Ipswich, but this was before he built the Hadleigh Tower. It was probable that this appointment, and an interest at Stoke by Clare College determined that the old parsonage house that he inherited was not up to his present-day standards. William Pykenham then began planning his tower. Built as a gatehouse style, brick gatehouses were then in vogue, with a throughway to the old parsonage house. This manifests itself in the magnificent brick tower

built by Pykenham and completed by 1495. The tower is full of complex details from obtuse angles for the twin turrets to the range of purpose made bricks to change the wall thickness in different places, including the recessed panels. Add in the various moulded bricks and the terra-cotta trefoils, an oriel window and the workmanship to incorporate the diapering work with flared headers to achieve the completed tower fully reflects the Grade 1 listing.

The siting of the tower to the church was also probably planned by Pykenham to provide a maximum impact upon his visitors and so also impose his status on anyone's arrival.

The Building



Brick vaulted ceiling of the private Chapel

Importantly, the Tower contains accommodation for the gatehouse keeper, a reception room for those visiting Pykenham on church business, and on the first floor, a study which incorporated an oratory, being a private chapel, and a

garderobe, Pykenham's own loo! The upper room was a bedroom. The building of the tower took some years to complete, construction taking place in the summer months only to escape damaging winter frosts, but additionally the huge quantities of bricks that were needed, and the work itself was complex in its design and detail to construct.

The tower when completed was free-standing, viewed from the churchyard today, there is attached to the right-hand side a further red-brick building, known as the Deanery House. The old parsonage house had continued in use but was deteriorating and although a major refurbishment took place during the late 18th century, its overall condition did not meet the requirements of the incumbent due to arrive in the early 19th century in Hadleigh. From 1831-1833 the new accommodation was built and claspings to the north and west elevations of the tower. Doorways were cut through the thick tower walls on all three levels to create one large residence. On completion, the old parsonage was taken down, although some of the fittings were incorporated into the new Deanery House.

In 1961 the Deanery House was reduced in size, being then too large for the living at that time. William Pykenham died in 1497.

Roger Kennell

The Oxford Movement & the Deanery Gatehouse Tower



The Dean's Library/Study

The Oxford Movement was essentially formed from a small council of theologians which met at the Hadleigh Rectory [in the Deanery Tower] from 25th to 29th July 1833. Mr. Hugh James Rose, then Dean at Hadleigh, together

with colleagues Mr. Palmer & Mr. A. Perceval, formed as it were the right wing of the little council. Their Oxford allies were the three Oriel men, Mr. Keble, Mr. Froude, and Mr. Newman. They became known as the Tractarians, a liturgical movement, of catholic revival. Their basic position was that the Church of England was becoming a protestant sect, and should be realigned, to become the national church again. They were galvanised into action by the Catholic Emancipation Act of 1829, which seemed to set the worldwide Catholic Church in opposition to provincial Anglicanism, and a sermon preached by John Keble at St Mary, Oxford, titled 'National Apostasy'. Present on this occasion were several people who would

become prominent members of the movement. The group developed their ideas through a series of some 90 tracts, hence their alternative name of the Tractarians. The Oxford Movement still relevance in the current Church of England.

Richard Fletcher



Painting by Benjamin Coleman 1629 showing interior of St Mary's Church with landscapes either side.

<p style="text-align: center;">THE HADLEIGH SOCIETY</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PROGRAMME OF EVENTS 2023</p>		
<p>Honorary Secretary Richard Fletcher 6 Lister Road Hadleigh Ipswich IP7 5JN 01473 827891 secretary@hadsoc.org.uk</p> <p>All views expressed are those of the contributors and are not necessarily those of the Hadleigh Society</p>	<p>Wed 28 Jun</p>	<p>AGM and talk</p>	<p>Richard Fletcher</p>
	<p>Wed 23 Aug</p>	<p>History of the Guildhall complex</p>	<p>History Group</p>
	<p>Wed 4 Oct</p>	<p>Thomas Gainsborough's Life & Art</p>	<p>Emma Boyd</p>
	<p>Wed 6 Dec</p>	<p>Minstrels and Mayhem</p>	<p>Dr Kate Jewell</p>
	<p><i>Meetings are held in Hadleigh Guildhall Guildroom at 8pm, unless otherwise notified. Entry is free for members, £3 for non-members.</i></p>		
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<p>Chairman</p>	<p>Margaret Woods</p>	<p>chair@hadsoc.org.uk</p>	<p>01473 823798</p>
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<p>The Hadleigh Society website has past and present newsletters, etc at http://www.hadsoc.org.uk/</p>			