

# The Hadleigh Society

## PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

All are on Wednesdays at 8pm, now in the United Reformed Church, Market Place.  
Entry is free for members, £3 for non-members.

Jun 24 <sup>th</sup>	AGM		
Aug 19 <sup>th</sup>	Witches in and around Suffolk	Pip Wright	
Oct 7 <sup>th</sup>	Medieval Mystifications	Mark Bailey	
Dec 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Rejoice and be Merry	Chanters Jigge	
Jan 27 <sup>th</sup>	Angels and Demons, Exploring Suffolk Churches	Sarah Doig	
Mar 24 <sup>th</sup>	Three hundred years of local countryside history	Ashley Cooper	
May 5 <sup>th</sup>	Tales of Suffolk Smugglers	Barbara McElroy	

## THE HADLEIGH SOCIETY

### Honorary Secretary

Richard Fletcher  
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All views expressed are those of the contributors and are not necessarily those of the Hadleigh Society

### Other Contacts

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The Hadleigh Society website has past and present newsletters, etc at <http://www.hadsoc.org.uk/>

## THE HADLEIGH SOCIETY IS MOVING VENUE!

After many years of using the Guildhall as a venue for the Society's talks, due to the restricted capacity of the Guildroom, its limited facilities and the current increased size of our audiences it has been necessary to find larger premises that can comfortably accommodate us.

We had hoped to use the Grand Hall in the Town Hall, but this was not available on the dates required. We have, however, now found a venue able to accommodate our requirements and which only involves a short hop across Market Place from the Guildhall.



## THE NEW VENUE IS THE URC CHURCH SPACE IP7 5DL

The church space can easily seat over 100 people, provide comfortable seating, already set out, together with a projector and screen permanently set up for talks. Many of you may be familiar with the Church Space as it is regularly successfully used for the monthly Hadleigh U3A Lectures. **Our first event at the URC will be:**

**The Society's 44th AGM, Wednesday 24 JUNE 2026**

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## A NOTE FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

We are fast approaching the Society's 44th Annual General Meeting, and it's but another 6 years to hit our half century in 2032. The Society is not a large organisation, but I do believe it is an important asset to the safeguarding of the historic identity and heritage of Hadleigh, and considerable praise for this must be given to the members of the Society's History Group who spend many hours researching and highlighting the town's historic past.

Unfortunately, Suffolk has, like elsewhere, faced a wave of recent community and amenity losses, ranging from the sudden collapse of large charities to the closure of local notable amenity societies, of treasured local village/farm shops, historic pubs, and retail hubs such as Partridges of Hadleigh. Many closures are due to external financial pressures but in the voluntary amenity and community sector it is a change in the nature of the membership and users of the Societies and Amenity Groups. A particular issue is the diminishing number of people able to devote time to running these voluntary Societies.

The Hadleigh Society is not immune to these changes, fortunately however we have retained a steady membership level and members willing to volunteer a little time to assist the operation of the Society. Having said that, we have lost over the past couple of years several executive members who we have not yet managed to replace. With the advance of the AGM there is now an opportunity for members to step up and fill these vacant committee spaces. Being a Committee member is not an onerous task as it involves attending six 2 hour, early evening committee meetings a year. More importantly however it gives an opportunity to influence the Society's choice of future speakers, heritage properties to visit, suggestions for heritage/design awards, and finally inputting one's view on important planning applications or planning policy pronouncements that affect the town's future.

So, if you fancy a go, there are nomination forms for the Committee in this Newsletter - look forward to seeing you at the Committee table.

We have been in the Guildhall for years and would like to have so continued. However, due to the limited capacity of the Guild

Room, the diminishing number of helpers to set up the equipment and increasing hire costs we are moving to the main church space of the URC opposite the Town Hall. This move coincides with the holding of the AGM and an additional benefit of the move is

that we can once again offer refreshments after the AGM and Roger Kennell's Talk. So do come along and enjoy the new setting within which our future talks will be held.

Richard Fletcher, Chairman.

## THE 44TH AGM OF THE HADLEIGH SOCIETY

will be held on Wednesday 24 June 2026 in the United Reformed Church, Market Place at 8 pm

### ITEM 5 - Election of Officers and Executive Committee Members

Jan Byrne remains President

#### AGENDA

1. Minutes of the 43rdAGM
2. Treasurer's Report
3. History Group Report
4. Chair's Review
5. Election of Officers and Executive Committee Members. [See below for details of posts and candidates for election].

The following are standing for re-election. The description in brackets indicates the principal activities the Committee Member undertakes for the Society.

Richard Fletcher  
Chair and Honorary Secretary

Chris Drake  
Honorary Treasurer

Graham Panton  
Member [Webmaster]

Martin Looker  
Member [Publicity]

Mark Lawrence  
Member [History Group Representative]

The Minutes of the 43rdAGM, 2025 can be found on our website at <https://hadsoc.org.uk/aggm/>

The AGM will be followed by:-

1. A short talk on **Tales from the Vestry** by Roger Kennell, and
2. Light Refreshments in the Community Room

## NOMINATIONS

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 a Committee member

The study group shall elect a representative to the Executive Committee whose name shall be notified to the Society's Secretary at least fourteen days before the Annual General Meeting of the Society and their election ratified at the Annual General Meeting.

## CONSTITUTION NOTES

The Executive Committee is responsible for the management and administration of the Society doing all such other things as are necessary for the attainment and furtherance of the Society's aims, at all times working in the best interests of the Society.

The Executive Committee shall consist of the Officers:

- Chairman,
- Vice Chairman,

- Honorary Secretary,
  - Honorary Treasurer,
  - Study group representative
  - Other members
- making a group of not less than **SIX** and not more than **EIGHT** members.

Officers and Members of the Executive Committee shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting of the Society, and outgoing members may be re-elected, except that any member who has served for a period of five consecutive years shall not be so eligible for a period of at least one year **unless no other candidate is proposed for that position.**

Nominees for election as Officers or Committee members shall declare at the Annual General Meeting at which their election is to be considered any financial or professional interest known or likely to be of concern to the Society. The Officers and members of the Committee shall normally be resident or work in the area of benefit but the Committee shall have power to co-opt additional members from outside the area of benefit.

A President and Vice-President may also be elected at a General Meeting of the Society, for periods to be decided at such a meeting. The President and Vice-Presidents may attend any meeting of the Executive Committee but shall not vote at any such meeting.

## NOMINATION FORM

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](mailto:secretary@hadsoc.org.uk) to be received not later than 10 June 2026.

I nominate the following for service on the Executive Committee of The Hadleigh Society for the year 2026/2027. In each case the nominee has agreed to stand.

NAME	POSITION	NAME OF SECONDER
SIGNED	NAME	DATE

You may copy this form or write your own letter to The Honorary Secretary so long as you include the necessary details.