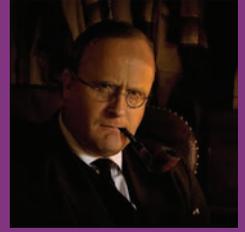




**ABBNEY OF
ST EDMUND
1000 YEARS**



What's On

CELEBRATING THE 1000TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2022

OF THE FOUNDING OF THE ABBEY OF ST EDMUND IN BURY ST EDMUNDS

ABBEYOFSTEDMUND1000.CO.UK

[#ABBEYSTEDMUND1000](https://twitter.com/ABBEYSTEDMUND1000)



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APRIL - NOVEMBER

ABBEY 1000 WALKING TOURS



In 1020 King Cnut founded a great Benedictine Abbey in Bury, to house the shrine and mortal remains of St Edmund. Bury Tour Guides have created six exciting new tours to celebrate the Abbey's millennium, and to provide a deeper insight into the life and times of the Abbey of St Edmund. These 90-minute in-

depth tours provide the opportunity to discover the daily life of a monk; to walk the boundary and explore life on the margins of this once famous Abbey; to hear of its turbulent side; to look at the Abbey's legacy today. For those in a hurry, in just 45 minutes you can experience a whirlwind tour of the Abbey.

The young and young at heart can have fun exploring the Abbey ruins and hearing tales of a thousand years of monk-y business. The chance to spend an hour finding out about Forkbeard and Ivar the Boneless, creating a pilgrim's badge, break a code, tell the time without a watch and find a chicken with its own teapot!



THE ABBEY GARDENS, BURY ST EDMUNDS
SEE WEBSITE FOR TOUR TIMES AND PRICES
BOOK AT: BURYSTEDMUNDSTOURGUIDES.ORG



SUNDAY 1 MAY – WEDNESDAY 30 NOVEMBER

ABBEY 1000 SCULPTURE EXHIBITION



A monthly changing display of sculptures will be on display between May and November in the crypt within the Abbey ruins, where the shrine of St Edmund would have stood.

Schools, West Suffolk College and artists are being invited to create the artworks on a theme of the story of the Abbey and St Edmund. The first sculpture to be installed will be a giant monk (7ft 6ins tall) made from 2mm thick steel and weighing some 250kg designed by Nigel Kaines and made by blacksmith Kevin Baldwin from Designs on Metal.



**THE CRYPT, THE ABBEY GARDENS, BURY ST EDMUNDS
OPEN DURING ABBEY GARDENS OPENING HOURS
FREE ENTRY**



UNTIL FRIDAY MAY 13

ABBEY 1000 SHORT STORY COMPETITION

As part of the Abbey 1000 celebrations, the Bury St Edmunds Literature Festival has launched a Short Story Competition and is inviting all aspiring authors to let the story of the Abbey of St Edmund inspire them.

Stories must be less than 500 words long and linked in some way to the Abbey and its 1000-year history. Other than that, they are limited only by the author's imagination. The competition is in three categories: for those aged 9-12; for those aged 13-17 and for those over 18.



**THE ENTRY FORM CAN BE DOWNLOADED AT:
ABBEOFSTEDMUND1000.CO.UK
ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 13.**



MAY - NOVEMBER

TRAVELLING EXHIBITION: THE STORY OF THE ABBEY OF ST EDMUND



To celebrate 1000 years of the Abbey of St Edmund, a small travelling exhibition will tour local schools, libraries and other venues. It will give children and adults the chance to find out more about the Abbey and to offer their views about it on social media and via the Abbey of St Edmund Heritage Partnership website.

Based on the 2018 Abbey Heritage Assessment, the exhibition will tell the story of the life and martyrdom of St Edmund, the founding of the Abbey guarding his shrine, the building of the great Abbey church, the dissolution of the Abbey by Henry VIII, and the many investigations that have taken place on the site over the past 200 years.

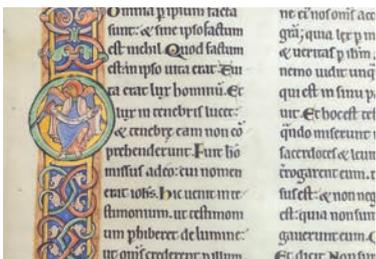


**TO BOOK THE EXHIBITION FOR YOUR VENUE EMAIL
STEDMUNDEXHIBITION@GMAIL.COM**



MONDAY 2 MAY – WEDNESDAY 8 JUNE

SECRETS OF THE ABBEY: HISTORY RETURNS



For the first time in almost 500 years, seven ancient manuscripts from the Abbey Scriptorium will return to where they were written!

This free-of-charge exhibition will give you the rare chance to view these amazing artefacts up close as well as learn more about the history of the Abbey.



ST EDMUNDSBURY CATHEDRAL, BURY ST EDMUNDS
FREE ENTRY. FOR CATHEDRAL OPENING TIMES AND TO BOOK VISIT:
STEDSCATHEDRAL.ORG/ABBNEY-1000-EVENTS



VISIT: ABBEYOFSTEDMUND1000.CO.UK FOR MORE EVENTS AND BOOKING DETAILS!

MONDAY 9 MAY – FRIDAY 13 MAY

ST BENET'S ABBEY PILGRIMAGE



This 5-day pilgrimage starts in the Norfolk Broads at Ludham Church before heading to St Benet's Abbey for a short act of worship. Monks from St Benet's were sent to Bury St Edmunds by King Cnut to help form the Abbey. From there, pilgrims will cross the river Bures to Norwich. The next days are spent walking through the Norfolk and Suffolk countryside and stopping at places of worship along the route. If weather permits, there will be a special Evensong in the Abbey ruins to finish.



**FROM LUDHAM CHURCH IN NORFOLK VIA ST BENET'S ABBEY
TO ST EDMUNDSBURY CATHEDRAL, BURY ST EDMUNDS.
FULL PILGRIMAGE £445 (INCLUDES ACCOMMODATION AND
MEALS) DAY PILGRIMS £10 PER PERSON.
TO BOOK VISIT: [STEDSCATHEDRAL.ORG/ABBAY-1000-EVENTS](https://stedscathedral.org/abbey-1000-events)**



SATURDAY 14 MAY

A PILGRIMAGE OF SONG

For all who enjoy walking and singing. A walk from Chevington to St Edmundsbury Cathedral, singing a service at churches along the way.

At the cathedral we join with visiting Benedictines from across the UK for a final service, a hot meal, and a live Zoom talk on Benedictine Wisdom from Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury.



**ALL DAY EVENT. MEET AT CHEVINGTON VILLAGE HALL • 9.30AM
DONATION: £15 PER PERSON (UNDER 18'S FREE), MEAL (OPTIONAL) £17.60 (ALL
AGES). TO BOOK VISIT: [CANTUSFIRMUS.ORG.UK](https://cantusfirmus.org.uk)**

SATURDAY 14 MAY & SUNDAY 15 MAY

ABIDING WISDOM

A gathering of Benedictines for the first time in 500 years since the dissolution of the monasteries. Monks and nuns from Benedictine communities around Britain and other countries, with lay Benedictines and speakers (including former Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams) will explore the wisdom of Benedict for 21st century living. The weekend will include ecumenical worship, fellowship, celebration and a procession into the Abbey ruins.



ST EDMUNDSBURY CATHEDRAL, BURY ST EDMUNDS

SATURDAY 14 MAY 2PM – 9.30 PM AND SUNDAY 15 MAY 9.30AM – 5PM • TICKETS £10

TO BOOK VISIT: [STEDSCATHEDRAL.ORG/ABBAY-1000-EVENTS](https://stedscathedral.org/abbey-1000-events)



SATURDAY 21 MAY

BURY ST EDMUNDS BIOBLITZ

With the help of school children, members of the public, skilled naturalists and partner organisations, Bury Water Meadows Group are looking to build on their existing knowledge of the species that visit or reside within the bounds of the Abbey Precinct.



Are you able to add to the list of 361 species recorded by Bury Water Meadows Group volunteers in recent years, or perhaps help refresh the list of over 60 lichen species found in the Abbey Gardens and Great Churchyard 30 years on from the last concerted recording effort? There will be a series of walks and demonstrations throughout the day.



THE ABBEY GARDENS AND WATER MEADOWS • 8.30AM – 4.30PM • FREE
SOME SESSIONS NEED TO BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE AT:
[ABBEOFSTEDMUND1000.CO.UK](https://abbeyofstedmund1000.co.uk)

VISIT: [ABBEOFSTEDMUND1000.CO.UK](https://abbeyofstedmund1000.co.uk) FOR MORE EVENTS AND BOOKING DETAILS!

SATURDAY 21 MAY

BURY BACH CHOIR: BACH & VIVALDI



The Bury Bach Choir was founded in 1932 to perform the great choral masterpieces, and is proud of its history and its central position in the cultural life of Bury St Edmunds. It was recently described by the East Anglian Daily Times as “a treasure for the town”.

The choir celebrates its 90th birthday in 2022 and the summer concert in its anniversary year features three Bach cantatas and Vivaldi’s Gloria.



ST EDMUNDSBURY CATHEDRAL • 7.30PM

TICKETS: £27, £22, £17, UNDER 21’S GO HALF PRICE.

BOOK AT: WHATSONWESTSUFFOLK.CO.UK/WHATS-ON

THURSDAY 26 MAY

M R JAMES ON THE ABBEY CHURCH AT BURY

M R James is best known for his ghost stories, but his work as a medievalist scholar remains highly respected in scholarly circles and researching the Abbey of St Edmund was a lifelong passion. M R James’ seminal lecture on the Abbey of St Edmund was delivered at the Athenaeum on Thursday, 21 April 1932.



2022 will mark the 90th anniversary of his lecture and on May 26 a recreation of James’ Athenaeum lecture will be given by Robert Lloyd Parry, a performance storyteller of M R James’ ghost stories. The evening will be introduced by Dr Richard Hoggett, who discovered James’ handwritten notes of his lecture at Cambridge University Library in 2018. The lecture is sponsored by The Bury Society.



THE ATHENAEUM • 7PM • ADULTS £10, UNDER 18S/STUDENTS £8

TO BOOK VISIT: WHATSONWESTSUFFOLK.CO.UK/MRJAMES

FRIDAY 27 MAY

RACHMANINOV VESPERS

When the Abbey of St Edmund was established in the year 1020, the glorious sounds that rang through its mighty arches were those of plainsong, the already ancient musical treasure of the Church. Plainsong would be sung by the monks every day and The Abbey of St Edmund would have rung with this music day and night.



In 1915 the great Russian composer Sergei Rachmaninov turned aside from the writing of his magnificent piano concertos and symphonies and focused on the plainsong tunes of a chain of services known as “the All-Night Vigil”, (but often referred to as the “Vespers”) weaving a rich and complex galaxy of choral sound around the plainsong tunes. As the sun goes down, The English Arts Chorale and Eye Bach Choir sing an hour’s glorious choral music from this magnificent and awe-inspiring galaxy of sound.



ST EDMUNDSBURY CATHEDRAL • 9PM
FREE ENTRY, NO BOOKING REQUIRED

SATURDAY 28 MAY

INTO THE LIGHT - IN CELEBRATION OF 1000 YEARS OF THE ABBEY OF ST EDMUND

Suffolk Philharmonic Orchestra, celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, presents a musical celebration of 1000 years of the Abbey of St Edmund!

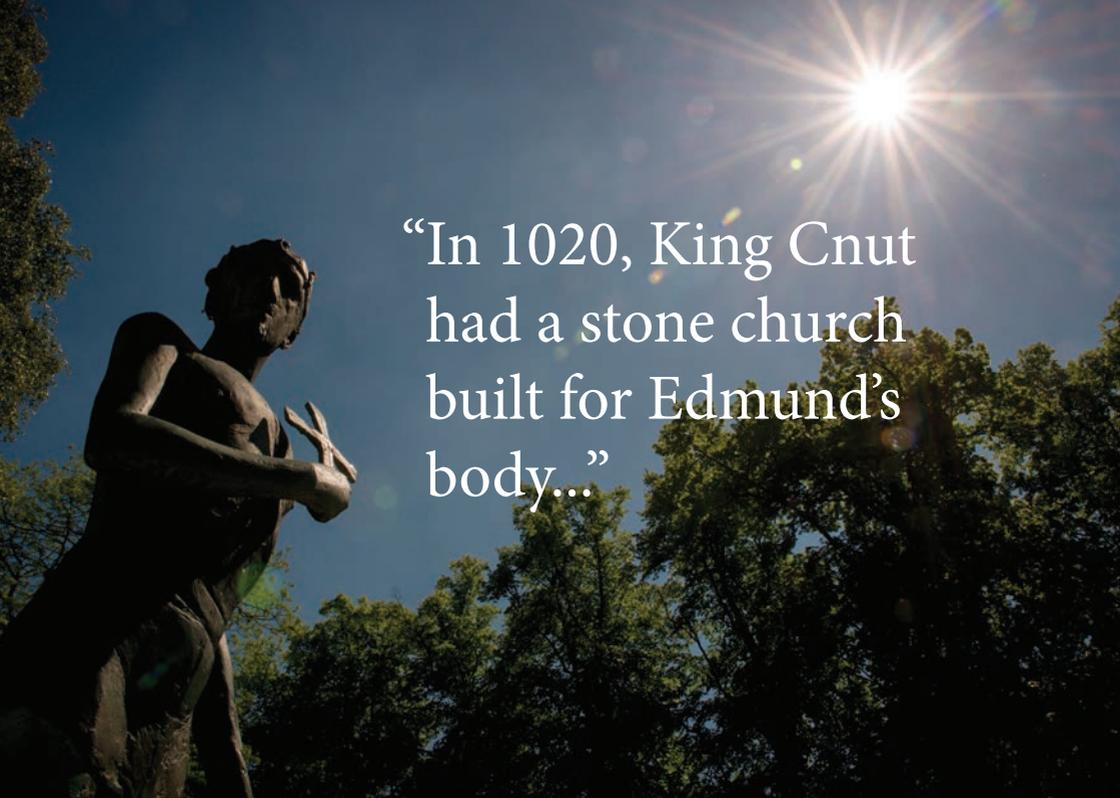


The concert features the World Première of the 1,000th Anniversary commission ‘Into The Light’ by Paul Carr, Britten: Fanfare for St Edmundsbury, Parry: I Was Glad, Elgar: Enigma Variations, including Nimrod. With The English Arts Chorale, Eye Bach Choir, Tenor James Gilchrist, and Suffolk Philharmonic Orchestra. Conducted by Leslie Olive. This special concert is sponsored by Home Instead Bury St Edmunds.



ST EDMUNDSBURY CATHEDRAL • 7.30PM
TICKETS: £36, £32, £29, £25, £22 • CHILDREN HALF PRICE
TO BOOK VISIT: WHATSONWESTSUFFOLK.CO.UK/WHATS-ON

VISIT: ABBEYOFSTEDMUND1000.CO.UK FOR MORE EVENTS AND BOOKING DETAILS!



“In 1020, King Cnut
had a stone church
built for Edmund’s
body...”

In Medieval times, The Abbey of St Edmund was one of the richest, largest and most powerful Benedictine monasteries in England.

People came from all over Europe to visit the Shrine of Saint Edmund, the first Patron Saint of England, and it became one of the most famous and wealthy pilgrimage locations in England, visited by royalty.

Edmund, King of East Anglia, was killed by The Danes on 20 November 869, after refusing to give up his Christian faith. He was tied to a tree and shot full of arrows before being beheaded.

In 903, the body of Saint Edmund, was moved to the Anglo-Saxon settlement of Bedricesworth (later known as Bury St Edmunds).

In 1020, King Cnut had a stone church built for Edmund’s body and 13 Benedictine monks from St Benet’s at Hulme in Norfolk and 7 from Ely arrived. This was the beginning of the Abbey of St Edmund, 1000 years ago, and it became a site of great pilgrimage as people from all over the world came to visit St Edmund’s shrine. Pilgrim badges were collected as badges of honour from where they had visited.

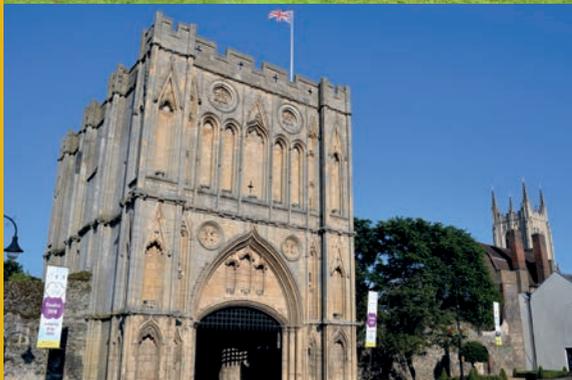
A great Abbey Church would be built consecrated on 29 April 1095 with the bejewelled shrine of St Edmund standing behind the high altar.

The Abbey's history until its dissolution in 1539, is one filled with intrigue, mystery, riots and unrest but undoubtedly its most important role was in the Magna Carta story. In 1214 a band of barons met in secret in the Abbey, and there they swore an oath to force King John to sign a Charter of Liberties. That Charter – Magna Carta, sealed the following year, helped form the basis of the United States Constitution, and the Human Rights Act.

Today, the Abbey remains are extensive and include the complete 14th century Abbey Gate and Norman Tower, as well as the impressive ruins and altered west front of the immense church.

The ruins are surrounded by the beautiful Abbey Gardens, an award-winning 14-acre park, and visited by 1.3 million people from all over the world every year.

Saint Edmund's final resting place is a great mystery; some believe he is buried somewhere within the abbey precincts!



MONDAY 30 MAY – SUNDAY 20 NOVEMBER

ABBHEY 1000 TOWN TRAIL

Take a trip back in time to over 1000 years of Bury St Edmunds history on the Abbey 1000 Trail.

Brought to you by Our Bury St Edmunds Business Improvement District, in association with author and chairman of The Bury Society Martyn Taylor, the self-guided FREE trail will take you time travelling through history!



There are Bury St Edmunds Gift Cards to be won by those who can find all the answers and submit their entry forms before 30 November!



TOWN CENTRE • SELF-GUIDED TRAIL

PICK UP A FREE TRAIL LEAFLET FROM VISITOR INFORMATION POINTS IN THE TOWN OR VISIT: OURBURYSTEDMUNDS.COM/ABBHEY1000TRAIL

TUESDAY 7 JUNE, TUESDAY
14 JUNE, TUESDAY 21 JUNE

ABBHEY 1000 TALKS

Bury St Edmunds Guildhall will be holding a series of talks to celebrate this special anniversary.

Dissolution - What happened next? (Tuesday 7 June), Riots, Revolt, and Rebellion (Tuesday 14 June), Fleeces to Philanthropy (Tuesday 21 June) will explore different aspects of The Guildhall's tumultuous relationship with the Abbey. The talks will be around an hour long, presented by professional actors in costume, bringing to life events and voices from history.



BURY ST EDMUNDS GUILDHALL • 7PM

TICKETS £15 (INCLUDES A DRINK)

TO BOOK VISIT: BURYSTEDMUNDSGUILDHALL.ORG.UK/WHATS-ON

SATURDAY 11 JUNE

ORA SINGERS

Visit the magnificent St Edmundsbury Cathedral for a performance by the ORA Singers marking the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and the millennium of the Abbey of St Edmund with

a programme of glorious choral works written during both Elizabethan periods, pairing pieces composed in the 16th century with 21st-century commissions inspired by them. The concert begins with O Lord, make thy servant Elizabeth, an iconic piece by William Byrd, and ends with Bob Chilcott's newly commissioned work with the same title.



ST EDMUNDSBURY CATHEDRAL • 3PM

TICKETS: £35, £25, £15, UNDER 30S HALF PRICE.

BOOK AT: [BRITTENPEARSARTS.ORG/EVENTS/ORA-SINGERS](https://www.brittenpearsarts.org/events/ora-singers)

WEDNESDAY 22 JUNE
– SUNDAY 26 JUNE

THROUGH THE CENTURIES FLOWER EXHIBITION

Fabulous floral displays from flower clubs around the county will depict the 10 centuries of the Abbey, from 1020 -2020. Wander the Cathedral aisles while you take in these floral works of art.



ST EDMUNDSBURY CATHEDRAL

WEDNESDAY TO SATURDAY 10.00 AM - 5.30 PM

FREE ENTRY BUT DONATIONS WELCOME

VISIT: [ABBEYOFSTEDMUND1000.CO.UK](https://www.abbeyofstedmund1000.co.uk) FOR MORE EVENTS AND BOOKING DETAILS!

SUNDAY 26 JUNE

THE CHURCHES TOGETHER SUMMER CELEBRATION 2022

As part of the Abbey 1000 celebrations, The Churches Together Summer Celebration 2022 will celebrate our town and the fact that we all have much more in common than divides us. There will be a stage on the green near the 'Dovecote' on which bands from different groups will perform music, including worship songs, in various styles. There will also be a children's show followed by Songs of Praise (3.30pm - 4.15pm). All welcome. Bring a picnic, a rug, a gazebo if you have one, and enjoy the music 1.30pm - 3.30pm.



ABBEY GARDENS • 1.30PM – 4.15PM
FREE

WEDNESDAY 29 JUNE

SCHOOL CELEBRATIONS

An Education Heritage project led by Community Artist and Educator Louise Gridley will culminate in a Schools Celebration event in the Abbey Gardens in Bury St Edmunds on 29 June.

There will be performances and a historical dress themed parade through the town.



ABBEY GARDENS
FREE

SATURDAY 2 JULY

WALK • DRAW • EXPLORE

Coming this summer... a day of drawing inspired by the Abbey ruins and the stories hidden amongst the stones. Artists and tour guides will be on hand to share tips and inspiration. Drop in and give it a go, everyone is welcome, materials are provided and it's totally free!



10AM - 4PM • FOR MORE INFO VISIT: ABBEYOFSTEDMUND1000.CO.UK

FRIDAY 1 JULY – FRIDAY 30 SEPTEMBER

THE ABBEY OF ST EDMUND: ARTISAN AND PILGRIMAGE EXHIBITION



A new exhibition at Moyses's Hall Museum will help tell the story of St Edmund and the Abbey. 'The Abbey of St Edmund: Artisan and Pilgrimage' will include original stained glass, new stained glass and original pilgrims' badges. There will also be touch screen displays, loans from national, private and regional collections and family workshops and master classes in medieval craft skills.



**MOYSES'S HALL MUSEUM • FREE ENTRY TO THE ABBEY EXHIBITION
NORMAL ADMISSION PRICES FOR OTHER AREAS OF THE MUSEUM
SEE WEBSITE FOR OPENING TIMES: MOYSESHALL.ORG/WHATS-ON**

SATURDAY 16 JULY

PICNIC IN THE PARK

Pop into the Abbey Gardens on 16 July to celebrate the 1,000th Anniversary of the Abbey of St Edmund.

Bring a picnic and enjoy live music, entertainment, food and drink stalls, tours of the Abbey and much more in the picturesque Abbey Gardens among the remains of the Abbey.



As part of Picnic in the Park, Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds presents an immersive storytelling of classic Mystery Plays with a contemporary twist. Performed by members of the Theatre Royal Young Company, the plays will be performed in cycles throughout the day, featuring classic mystery play stories including the creation and Noah's Ark (with our own spin...).

In addition, The Celebrations for All project will allow hundreds of people with mobility issues to take part in the Picnic in the Park, thanks to funding by The National Lottery Heritage Fund.



**ABBAY GARDENS • 10AM – 4PM
FREE ENTRY, NO BOOKING REQUIRED**

VISIT: ABBEYOFSTEDMUND1000.CO.UK FOR MORE EVENTS AND BOOKING DETAILS!

FRIDAY 14 OCTOBER - SATURDAY 15 OCTOBER

BURY ST EDMUNDS LITERATURE FESTIVAL 2022



BurySt.Edmunds
Literature Festival

This year's Bury St Edmunds Literature Festival will take place on October 14 and 15 in Bury St Edmunds Town Centre.

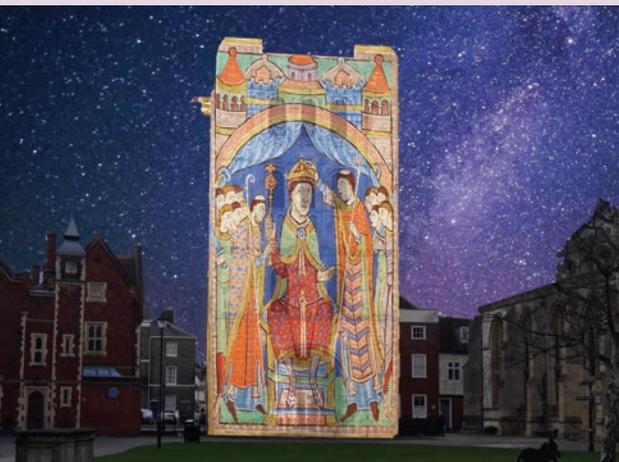
This year, the Festival will have an Abbey 1000 theme, to coincide with the town's celebrations of the 1000th anniversary of the founding of the Abbey of St Edmund. Authors to be announced soon.



**FOR DETAILS AS THEY ARE ANNOUNCED VISIT:
BURLITFEST.WORDPRESS.COM**

THURSDAY 17 NOVEMBER – SUNDAY 20 NOVEMBER

ST EDMUND'S WEEKEND SPECTACULAR



Innovative 3D projections onto the historic Norman Tower and the Cathedral Tower with an enchanting light trail through the Abbey Ruins. The 3D projections will include carefully researched historical images and sound, as well as contemporary art and voices.



**THE ABBEY GARDENS
5.30PM – 8.30PM • £3 ENTRY**

FOR TIMES AND TO BOOK VISIT: STEDSCATHEDRAL.ORG/ABBAY-1000-EVENTS

SATURDAY 19 NOVEMBER

ST EDMUND LECTURE

The Edmund Lecture will be given in the Cathedral Nave by a prominent contemporary speaker. It will explore the parallels in the medieval conflicts between the Abbey and the town and the modern conflicts we know only too well within our national and international relations.



ST EDMUNDSBURY CATHEDRAL
FOR MORE DETAILS AS THEY ARE ANNOUNCED VISIT:
[STEDSCATHEDRAL.ORG/ABBAY-1000-EVENTS](https://stedscathedral.org/abbey-1000-events)



SUNDAY 20 NOVEMBER

ST EDMUND'S DAY

Special celebrations for St Edmund's Day at St Edmundsbury Cathedral and St Edmund's Church to conclude the Abbey 1000 celebrations.

Sunday 20 November, Service times to be publicised nearer the time



St Edmund's Day

20TH NOVEMBER



NO BOOKING REQUIRED.
VISIT: [STEDSCATHEDRAL.ORG/ABBAY-1000-EVENTS](https://stedscathedral.org/abbey-1000-events)
FOR MORE INFORMATION.

VISIT: [ABBEOFSTEDMUND1000.CO.UK](https://abbeyofstedmund1000.co.uk) FOR MORE EVENTS AND BOOKING DETAILS!

Legacy of The Abbey

The Abbey of St Edmund Heritage Partnership



The Abbey 1000 celebrations are part of a much larger project to provide a legacy for the Abbey of St Edmund in Bury St Edmunds.

The Abbey of St Edmund Heritage Partnership was formed in 2016 to promote collaboration between the Cathedral, local Councils and many local and regional organisations.

The Partnership aims to care for the whole Abbey area and to explain its heritage for the benefit of the community. They carried out a Visitor Survey in 2021 which showed a clear demand for more on-site information, activities and events in and around the Abbey.

They then originated the initial ideas and sourced a Heritage Grant to help fund the Millennium Celebrations. The Partnership has an exciting broader vision to develop this momentum to improve the Abbey area now and in future:

“The ten-year vision for the Abbey of St Edmund is that it will inspire all its visitors through excellent conservation, learning and community engagement.”

In this work, the Partnership are working jointly with English Heritage on heritage interpretation and historic fabric conservation.

They have published an Overarching Plan which will direct work over the next ten years. It is supported by work with English Heritage, Historic England and The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

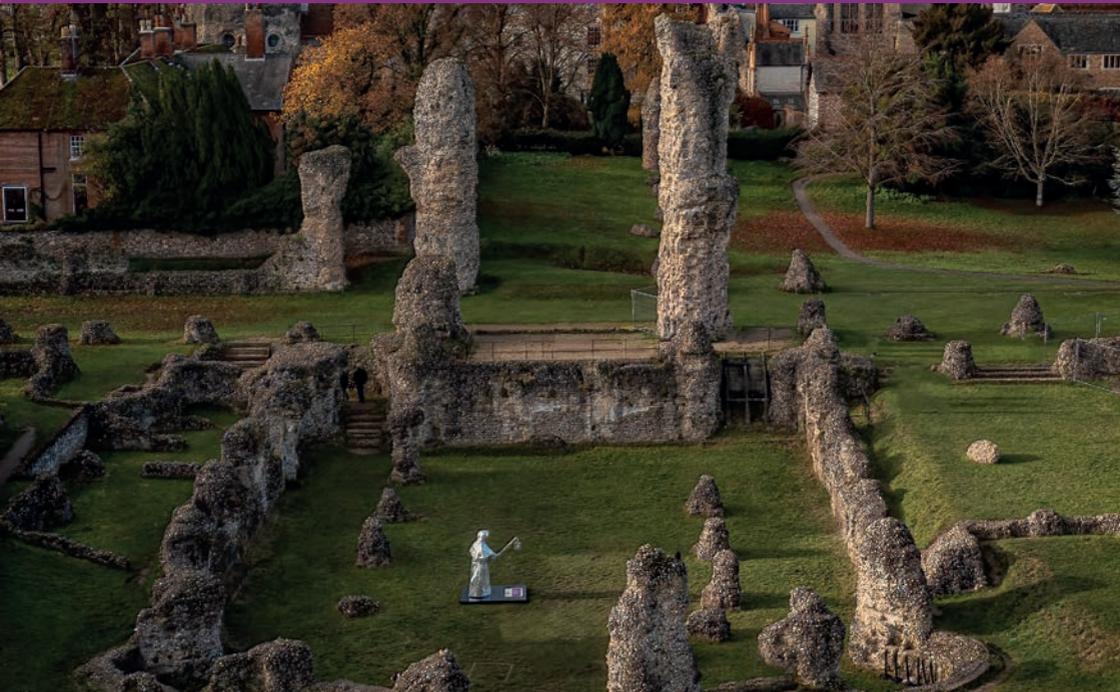
At present the partnership are consulting the local community to help develop their plans. This consultation will shape future projects and activities and ensure they are realistic and have wide support.



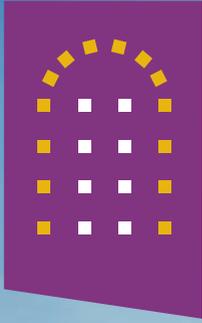
FUTURE WORK

The Partnership will carefully develop more specific plans and projects. This will include how they fund and deliver a programme of projects in stages during the next ten years. Developing a public and private sector fundraising strategy, they will secure best value in commissioning all of their projects.

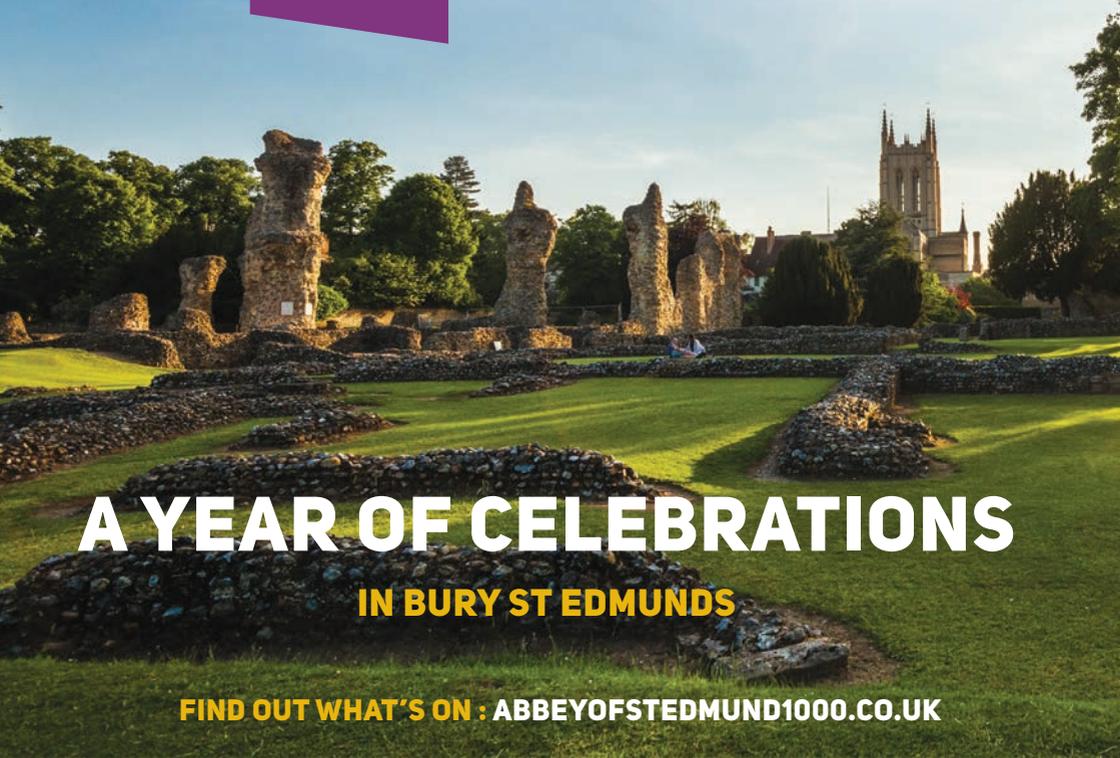
To find out more about the Abbey of St Edmund and the Heritage Partnership visit: abbeyofstedmund.org.uk. To view the Partnership's plan for the Abbey visit: abbeyofstedmund.org.uk/about-the-heritage-partnership/overarching-plan-2/



VISIT: ABBEOFSTEDMUND1000.CO.UK FOR MORE EVENTS AND BOOKING DETAILS!



ABBNEY OF ST EDMUND 1000 YEARS



A YEAR OF CELEBRATIONS IN BURY ST EDMUNDS

FIND OUT WHAT'S ON : ABBEYOFSTEDMUND1000.CO.UK

**WITH GRATEFUL THANKS TO ALL OF THE ORGANISATION WHO MAKE UP ABBEY 1000 C.I.C.
WHO HAVE ORGANISED THE CELEBRATIONS:**

