



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE  
**ALUMNI**  
SUFFOLK CAMBRIDGE SOCIETY

# Suffolk Cambridge Society

## NEWSLETTER 2024

Dear Member,

I hope you have been able to attend some or all of our events in 2023 and found them thoroughly enjoyable. Our aim is to have engaging and highly knowledgeable speakers at interesting venues and, most importantly, for our events to be enjoyable social occasions.

Looking back at the past year.

In June we had an excellent visit to the Euston Estate near Thetford. The guided tour of the estate was highly memorable followed by an excellent lunch. Our thanks go to the Estate Director, Andrew Blenkiron for hosting the visit. In September, we were honoured to have a talk at Trinity College from the Nobel laureate and past Master, Sir Gregory Winter. After lunch there was a visit to the Wren library and an excellent talk by the Librarian who had very kindly arranged a special exhibition for us of some of their prized collection relating to Suffolk. Our final event for the year was a talk by Professor Stuart Rogers who had recently retired as Chief Scientist at Cefas (Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science). His presentation on the balance between protecting and exploiting the marine environment was excellent and thought provoking. Unfortunately, the first event we had arranged for 2023 had to be cancelled at short notice as our speaker, Bridget Kendall, had fallen seriously ill. Our best wishes go to Bridget and we hope at some future date to be able to invite Bridget to talk to us about the Ukraine/Russia conflict.

Looking ahead to 2024, we are in the process of organising four meetings.

The first will be on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April for a talk by Toby Capwell in the Castle Community Rooms in Framlingham. Toby was the Curator of Arms and Armour at the Wallace Collection. Toby is also a skilled jousting knight and was one of the two mounted knights in full armour for the funeral procession of Richard III in Leicester.

Following on from the successful visit to the Euston Estate in 2023 we are hoping to confirm a visit to the Elveden Estate. The most likely date for the visit is Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June and we hope to get this confirmed shortly.

The third event we are hoping to arrange will be a visit to The Ark Church at Isleham. The Ark was opened in 2021 and is an awesome building constructed of green oak with commanding views across the Fens. The visit will also include Isleham Priory Church which is the best example in England of a small Norman Benedictine priory church surviving in a surprisingly unaltered state.

Our final event for 2024 will be a talk by Martin Seeley, Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, and member of the House of Lords. Martin is a member of the Suffolk Cambridge Society and 2024 may be the final year before his retirement as Bishop. The most likely date

for the talk is Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November at the Cathedral in Bury St Edmunds and will be an interesting occasion for Martin to reflect on his life as a Bishop and member of the House of Lords.

My sincere thanks go to the Committee for organising another successful year for the Society.

I wish you a happy and successful 2024.

*Michael Sullivan*

Michael Sullivan  
Chairman