



ST. GEORGE'S GUILDHALL

August 2026 – Newsletter 3

Welcome to our August newsletter. We are continuing our work to deliver an exciting new phase of life for a place of exceptional heritage significance and the UK's oldest working theatre - St George's Guildhall. This transformational project will protect and celebrate the Guildhall's historic fabric while reimagining the site as a dynamic visitor attraction and cultural hub.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS



AUGUST

Family Fun Sessions

Storytelling, games, crafts, and drama at various locations around the Borough during August.

Suitable for ages 4-11, £2 per child accompanying adults free. 10:30am – 11:45am & 12:30pm – 1:45pm

- **Wednesday 26th August** – Downham Market Library



- **Thursday 27th August** – The Beacon, North Lynn

Dragon Arts Workshops

Creative hands-on sessions for children aged 5-11 exploring your favourite dragon in August. £3 per child drop off session.

- **Saturday 22nd August** – Stories of Lynn, King's Lynn

Play in a Day

Create and perform a play about Dragons with storytelling, games, crafts and drama, 10:30am – 3pm

- **Monday 24th August** – Town Hall, King's Lynn

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

Heritage Open Day

- **Sunday 13th September** - More details to follow

Robert Armin Festival

- **Thursday 17th September** - Schools' festival celebrating Robert Armin. More details to follow.

NOVEMBER

The Dragon Festival

- **Saturday 7th November** - The town-wide Dragon Festival returns to give youngsters another opportunity for creative play and performance with Dragons!

BOOK YOUR PLACE TODAY!

Don't miss out - booking is essential for these events. To find out more and secure your place please contact us via the following ways:

Online: www.kingslynncornexchange.co.uk

Call our box office: **01553 764864**

Email: cornexchangeboxoffice@alivewestnorfolk.co.uk

Visit: **King's Lynn Corn Exchange, Tuesday Market Place, King's Lynn, PE30 1JW**

MEET THE TEAM

In the last issue we introduced the wider team, but over the next few issues we'll continue to introduce you to the people delivering the project. This month it's the turn of the team from **Howarth Tompkins**, who are architects and work on behalf of the Borough Council as lead consultants and designers regarding the refurbishment of the Guildhall site.



Martin Lydon
Associate
Director



Simon Ricketts
Associate

Simon Ricketts, Associate, says: 'A project like this might only come along once in a lifetime! To be involved in the next phase of the Guildhall's long and storied history is a rare opportunity. The scheme will invigorate the cultural life of King's Lynn and provide its residents with a versatile venue with a range of supporting facilities fit for the next century. We're honoured to be part of the team delivering St George's Guildhall and its surrounding buildings and look forward to the Guildhall welcoming its first audiences.'

PROJECT UPDATES

Current works on site

Through August, our main contractor has continued to make good progress across the site. Repair works are well underway to the Red Barn and Guildhall roofs, addressing the essential structural repairs and ensuring their ongoing integrity.

At the Riverside Restaurant section of the site, existing roof coverings have been fully stripped, and the area has been assessed by the design team to confirm the scope and requirements for repairs. Progress continues at the Shakespeare Barn, where excavation works for the new drainage runs are underway, supporting the next phase of building works.

Brick and mortar repair samples have been prepared and are in process and are due to be signed off with key stakeholders.

The next phase of work includes:

- Robinson's, our timber preservation specialist continues to undertake the restoration work on the Crown Post Truss
- Gaining full approval for the Mortar samples to proceed with the site brick repairs
- Starting further drainage works around site
- Continuing timber repairs to the Guildhall roof



New Signage Installed



Guildhall Masonry Repointing



Guildhall Roof Works



Roofworks to the Old Warehouse



Roofworks to the Riverside Restaurant



Roof works to the Red Barn

PROJECT TIMELINES

Following the start of on-site works at the end November 2025, the works are well under way with a view to the site re-opening in 2028. Key dates are set out below:

Winter 2025



Construction Period

Summer 2028



Interpretation Fit Out

Summer/Autumn 2028



Site Reopening to Visitors

Please note: Site reopening is scheduled for late summer 2028, overlapping with the interpretation fit-out phase as final works are completed.

FURTHER GUILDHALL NEWS





King's Lynn Town FC Unveils New Away Shirt

King's Lynn Town Football club has revealed its new away shirt for the upcoming season, featuring a bespoke pattern inspired by the historic floorboards at St George's Guildhall. With its subtle nod to the town's cultural heritage, the background design pays homage to the Guildhall, which is being sensitively preserved and enhanced as a local, regional and international centre for arts, creativity and theatre for everyone to enjoy. Read more: [AWAY SHIRT 2026/2027 | King's Lynn Town](#)

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

There will be lots of chances for people to get involved as the project progresses. Our contractors and events team will be running a range of activities and engagement events for everyone to take part in.

To keep up to date with the latest developments, visit the Council's Facebook page [here](#), where we regularly share project news, team video updates, and information about upcoming activities and events.

VOLUNTEER FOR THE GUILDHALL

Gain local knowledge, build your customer care skills and enjoy a rewarding experience in supporting West Norfolk's heritage, culture and tourism sector. We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to join our team and help us bring our superb local area to life for our visitors. To learn more, contact us at culture@west-norfolk.gov.uk

