



WHITE NIGHT

FESTIVAL OF LIGHT 2018

A new FREE Autumn Equinox Festival for all the family in Bury St Edmunds

WHITE NIGHT: FESTIVAL OF LIGHT 2018

- We hope that Bury St Edmunds first White Night Festival, like its international namesakes, will become an annual event to mark the Autumn Equinox - a celebration of the rich cultural and creative diaspora of this area.
- A Festival to showcase the wealth of local creative talent in the town and surrounding areas and support local businesses.
- For one night only, the town becomes the venue with a carnival atmosphere!
- A great opportunity to engage the whole community, boost the night time economy and encourage visitors to the town.
- To find out more about White Night Festivals of Light around the world go to: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/White_Night_festivals

ARBON ARTS PRESENTS

WHITE NIGHT

FESTIVAL OF LIGHT

VICTORIAN MAGIC LANTERN SHOW
CHILDRENS LANTERN PARADE
ASTOUNDING INSECT CIRCUS MUSEUM!
EXHIBITION & PERFORMANCE
LIGHT SHOWS & DJ SPECIALS
BUSK AT DUSK

Bury St. Edmunds

FRI 21 SEPT 2018

IN AID OF ARBON ARTS CENTRE CIC AND SUFFOLK MIND

the circus is coming to town

2018 THEMES

- **Circus 250; Vote 100; Revolution!**
- Working in partnership with [Circus 250](#)
- **Showcasing local talent**
- All events were FREE across town (apart from the Magic Lantern Show) with suggested donations.
- This event was a fundraiser for the Arbon Arts Centre CIC – a new community arts space planned for Bury St Edmunds, including outreach work and cultural events - with all donations being split equally between this project and Suffolk Mind.
- Two new premieres for the town!



PREMIERE: The Time Machine – A Victorian Magic Lantern Show

Richard Rigby is a Magic Lanternist based in Newmarket of more than 45 years standing and has made many TV appearances – Mr Selfridge, Great British Railway Journeys and more... This was a special ticketed Friends of Moyses Hall Museum event.



PREMIERE: The Astounding Insect Circus Museum!

This internationally renowned company are based just outside Bury St Edmunds yet incredibly have never performed in their hometown! We are addressing this omission right now!

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EVENT PROGRAMME

- Spectacular participatory events were hosted by principal sites within the town centre, beginning with a Magic Lantern show at Moyse's Hall Museum. This was the only ticketed event as it was a Friends event to support the Museum. Everything else on the night was free!
- A Children's Lantern Parade led from outside the Apex through the town to the Abbey Gardens accompanied by the Framtastics Gymnastics Club (Norwich), local Fireflow Circus street performers and local band Thy Last Drop playing acoustically to lead the Parade.
- The children carried lanterns made at special free family workshops held at the Library in the previous week, all culminating at the Abbey Gardens, where visitors enjoyed performances by the various entertainers, as well as the Insect Circus Museum, which was also open the following day for free.



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EVENT PROGRAMME

- Events elsewhere included “St Johns Street and Beyond: Lightshow Trail” in shop windows.
- These lightshows consisted of a digital projector + laptop positioned in each shop, projecting out onto the street through the shop window which had a paper screen set up. We had volunteers from West Suffolk College to operate and monitor these.
- We focused this Lightshow Trail predominately on St John’s Street area + another couple of areas
- The lightshows are a mix of looped powerpoint slideshows and videos featuring work by West Suffolk College students, local artists/makers, groups and charities. It is also a great opportunity for local businesses to promote their work as well.

Kinetic light sculptures by Spadge Hopkins on display in window,

Vinyl Hunter, St John’s Street, White Night Festival of Light 2018



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EVENT PROGRAMME

- A local band's Album Launch party at Vinyl Hunter + Hoo Ha Club with Sketch Lounge DJ session at the Con Club.
- There was also a "Busk At Dusk" event at specific busking points in the centre of Bury St Edmunds that evening inviting local musicians to take part acoustically. There are special 'Busk At Dusk' banners to mark these points sponsored by local business Save Money Cut Carbon.

ST JOHNS ST AND BEYOND...
7PM ONWARDS

LIGHT SHOWS

Showcase of work by WSC students, local artists/makers, groups, charities & businesses

BUSK AT DUSK
BURY ST EDMUNDS

Buskers at various points around town + Album Launch Party at

VINYLO HUNTER

CIRCUS 250

8PM ONWARDS

SEND IN THE CLOWNS
A CIRCUS THEMED
DJ SPECIAL NIGHT
FEATURING
SKETCH LOUNGE

THE HOOHA RECORD CLUB

THE CONSTITUTIONAL CLUB
12 Guildhall Street

In aid of:

Arbon arts centre Bury St Edmunds

mind for better mental health Suffolk

Printed by:
COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

WHITE NIGHT: FESTIVAL OF LIGHT 2018

EVENT PROGRAMME

- A free photographic “Painting With Light” workshop by local business Pixel8, linked to Jessops in the town. This was bookable in advance and took place in Abbey Gardens.

Feedback and photographic results from the night:

“So glad I tagged along with my hubby - this class was so interesting and fun.”

“Wow still feeling excited about last nights Light Painting workshop, again thank you to all that attended, thank you to Stella Starr and the team at Arbon Arts for inviting me to come along. Thank you to all involved this evening myself (Pixel8 Photography) had a great time with a great group of people sharing my enjoyment of light painting! Thank you to all those who came along to take part and also to observe as we danced around with lights and created amazing images. To celebrate 250 years of circus we even brought The Greatest Showman to Abbey Gardens! “

- Mark Ellis, Pixel 8



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LOCAL BENEFITS

- We drew together audiences of different ages and abilities through the diversity and universality of the proposed events and aimed to showcase the work of local artists and students of West Suffolk College.
- Economically, the event aims to provide employment for the artists and performers and stimulate town-centre trade, both directly (traders involved) and indirectly (traders open).
- It is also there to encourage visitors and boost the night time economy of the town. Revenues generated explicitly from the event (where applicable, mainly donations) will be donated to the charity Suffolk Mind.
- It is also hoped that the Festival will enhance partnership opportunities amongst the town's principal tourist sites.

FESTIVAL OF LIGHT

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME - FRI 21 SEPT 2018

PLEASE NOTE: ALL events are FREE apart from the Magic Lantern Show!
PREMIERES: Their first appearances in Bury St Edmunds (but hopefully not their last!)



THE TIME MACHINE
A Victorian Magic Lantern Show!
5.30PM ➔ Moyses Hall Museum
Special Friends of Moyses Hall Museum event.
£10/7 for Friends + Family Tickets: £20/15
To book in advance - tel: 01284 706183



THE INSECT CIRCUS MUSEUM!
OPEN ALL DAY SAT 22 SEPT too!
8 - 10PM ➔ Abbey Gardens
Behold the Liberty Beetles & the Cheeky Ladybirds! Be thrilled by the Knife Thrower & the Painted Lady! Laugh at the Dancing Snails!

7.45PM

CHILDREN'S CIRCUS LANTERN PARADE PIXEL8 PHOTOGRAPHY

Starting from outside the Apex in Charter Square, through Buttermarket to Abbey Gardens. A fantastic parade for all ages! Inviting all who participate in our Lantern Making Workshops at Bury St Edmunds Library and anyone else with a lantern to bring and join in the fun!

led by very special guests:
FIREFLOW CIRCUS PERFORMERS
FRAMTASTICS GYMNASTS CLUB
AND
THY LAST DROP!






8PM ➔ Also in Abbey Gardens: **FREE PIXEL8 PAINTING WITH LIGHT WORKSHOP!**
Come and join us as we use light to create extraordinary images! To book a place email: Mark@pixel8-photography.co.uk





LIGHT SHOWS!
Showcase of work by WSC students, local artists/makers & businesses
St Johns St & beyond...
7PM ONWARDS



SEND IN THE CLOWNS!

SKETCH LOUNGE

12 Guildhall Street
8PM ➔



With huge thanks to all participants and support from:



WEST SUFFOLK COLLEGE



Forest Heath District Council



St Edmundsbury Borough Council



West Suffolk District Council
working together



SaveMoney CutCarbon.com



COMMUNITY WORKSHOP



St Edmundsbury Theatre Services



MENTA Growing Business

Printed by Community Workshop: <http://inworkshop.org/>

WHITE NIGHT: FESTIVAL OF LIGHT 2018

OUTCOMES

- The White Nights Festival will develop intergenerational relationships within the community and build a framework for sustainable partnerships between the education, arts, culture, and business sectors for the whole community to partake in.
- We are planning for this to become a regular annual Autumn Festival generating business and visitor interest for the town as well as contributing to the wellbeing of its residents.
- The overall theme is of 'Light' which already opens up so much development and interpretation, but also each year is planned to have a topical theme to it to inspire participants.
- It will enable senior citizens and young people (including those with disabilities and special educational needs) to engage in inclusive community events and workshops and will contribute towards the mental well-being of local residents through arts activities and celebratory events.

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Bury St. Edmunds

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Arbon arts centre
Bury St Edmunds

In association with:

FRIENDS OF MOYSES HALL MUSEUM & ASSOCIATED COLLECTIONS

MOYSES HALL MUSEUM

PIXEL8 PHOTOGRAPHY

mind
for better mental health
Suffolk

CIRCUS 250

Step Right Up Folks! Arbon Arts Centre CIC presents a new Festival of Light in Bury St Edmunds to showcase local creative talent, where, for ONE NIGHT ONLY, the town becomes the venue to celebrate Autumn Equinox. This year's Themes: Circus 250; Vote 100; Revolution! Fun for all the Family!

Designed by Stella Starr: stellastarr.co.uk <https://arbonarts.wordpress.com>

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- Evaluation will be achieved through registers of workshop and event attendees, schools and community participation, and press coverage.
- Sustainability will be demonstrated through the partnerships created between the Local Authority, arts, culture, education, commerce and the lasting impact of new relationships and connections within the community.

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PRESS – LANTERN WORKSHOPS



Workshops were held for children on Saturday to make lanterns in preparation for the Festival of Light extravaganza.

The workshops which were organised during the morning and afternoon, were held at Bury St Edmunds library.

Stella Keen, one of the directors for the 'White Night Festival of Light', said: "It seemed to go really well, we got good feedback."

The afternoon workshop saw 25-30 adults and 25-30 children attend.

Article in Bury Free Press



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PRESS



A festival celebrating the autumn equinox burst into Bury St Edmunds on Friday in a ray of white light.

White Night: The Festival of Light, organised by the Arbon Arts Centre saw a variety of events storm into the town, including an insect museum, lantern parade and magic lantern show.

Alex McWhirter, one of the directors of the event, said: "It went very well, considering it was the first time, it was

very well received and well attended.

"The inside circus saw 400 visitors."

The festival included, a lantern parade which saw gymnasts come all the way from Norwich, as well as children who had attended previous workshops to make the lanterns which were showcased from the arc to the Abbey Gardens.

The town saw circus performers parade through the streets and the procession

was met with an insect circus museum who originally come from Great Livermere but was their first time performing in Bury.

Mr McWhirter said: "People seemed to be very impressed."

Much of the funding for the festival – which is planned to become an annual event – came from locality budgets and sponsors, including St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath councils, MENTA and West Suffolk College.

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PICTURE SPECIAL

Festival of Light shines through Bury St Edmunds in an array of activities and events, including a parade



Annabelle and Phoebe Lucas at the start of the lantern parade at The Apex.



Children's lantern parade, fireflow circus performers.

Light festival is all white on the night



Jonathan Austin and daughter Tess, seven, try out the insect circus museum.



Framtastics gymnastic team at the parade.



Children's lantern parade, children have fun in an Eco car.

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PHOTOS FROM THE NIGHT – SEE WEBSITE FOR FULL GALLERY.



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TESTIMONIALS



We think it's a great event you have created and are keen to participate where we can.

- Local business participant

What a great effort - superb!! Very exciting and happy to help.

- Local participating artist

- Thank you so much for allowing us ([SaveMoneyCutCarbon](#)) to be involved. We had a fantastic time. There was a fantastic turnout for the lantern parade and the kids loved Whizzy our little car. We would love to be involved again next year if you would like us there.

- I thought the whole event was such a lovely idea, and I hope you don't give up and try and make it an annual event. I had some friends with me who also thought what a great time of year to have something to go to.

- I think it is a magical evening, walking with everyone with the music and lanterns into the darkness of the Abbey Gardens was just so lovely. I will look forward to next years - hope it will be the first of many.

- Just beautiful! Well done all of you.

- It was brilliant. I hope they do it again next year - really magical.

- Thank you Stella Starr for your perseverance. It turned out to be a great night despite any setbacks. Great Hoo Ha and Sketch Loungers evening. Pleased to be part of Bury St Ed's first Festival of Light. Well done you for making it happen.

- Luckily I was one of the first few people to look round this fascinating Insect Circus museum last night! I still went back again this morning to have a longer look round though.

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TESTIMONIALS



I just wanted to say well done! It all went splendidly, the Magic Lantern show was fabulous, and the street performers and the light shows all looked great. As we walked home around 8.30pm all you could hear were families enthusing about it all. You can be justly proud of a great event.

- Councillor Diane Hind

- An extraordinary night indeed. I would say a very successful event. Very well done to you and all your team. We counted about 400 people into the Museum on Friday night and another 400 on Saturday.

- Insect Circus Museum

- Thank you so much for booking us. What fun we had!! We really did enjoy it. It's bookings like that that remind me how much I love my job. Getting to do the thing I love along with my friends to entertain the public and make them happy whilst being part of something larger and more magical just makes my heart sing. What we were part of and witnessed was obviously such a success. You did a brilliant job pulling it all together and the vision is so worthwhile. I look forward to more of your creations and events.

- Erin, Fireflow

- What a hero! Vinyl cafe display looked very effective! It was a triumph anyway and was also delighted by the turn out so a massive YES to ART from the people of Bury! We stood outside the Nutshell and listened to the band for ages - they are always great fun!

- Congratulations on yesterday. Wasn't it a great turn out! The acrobats looked like a shoal of fish - so beautiful.

- Superb night Stella. You should feel damn proud.

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HUGE THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS FOR HELPING MAKE THIS HAPPEN!

Local council for funding from their locality budgets:



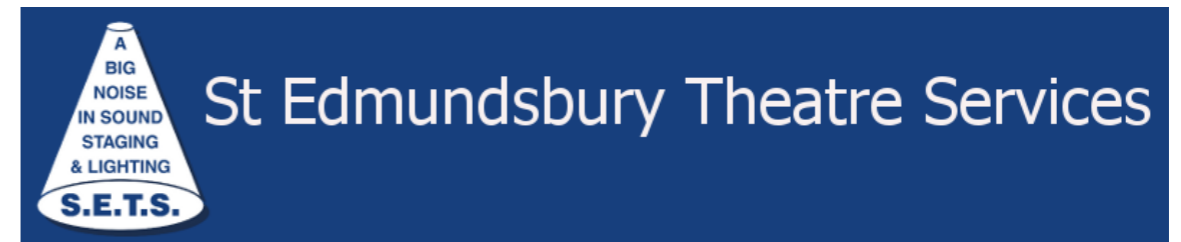
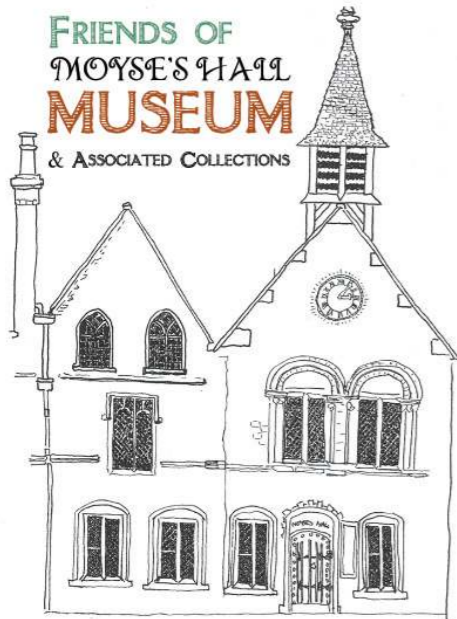
BURY ST EDMUNDS
TOWN COUNCIL



Forest Heath & St Edmundsbury councils
West Suffolk
working together

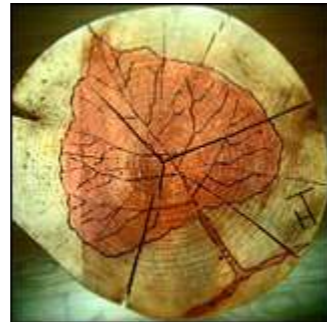


And local groups and businesses:





Bury St Edmunds



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Arbon is an old Suffolk name. The Latin version of Arbon is "Arbor Felix" which means "Happy Tree". In Old Norse, Arbon is "Arnbjorn" meaning "Eagle Bear".

The Arbon Arts Centre CIC is working with local people for the benefit of residents of Bury St Edmunds and the surrounding area, as well as for visitors to the area. It will also link with other cultural centre's across the East Anglian region.

The Arbon Arts committee are:

- Stella Keen, local artist, international curator and director of The Jeff Keen Archive and Arts Connections East. Former director of Vavavavoom! Cabaret theatre.
- Alex McWhirter, Heritage Officer at Moyse's Hall Museum
- Louise Gridley, local artist and teacher
- Rosie Copeland, local artist and Chair of The Bury Arts Society
- Genista Dunham, local artist and teacher
- Nicky Reed/Harli Tree, local artist and photographer
- (Nominated Associate) Joff Whitten, general manager at Gecko Theatre and also on the East of England Heritage Lottery Fund's Committee
- (Nominated Associate) Josephine Harpur, former gallery owner

<https://arbonarts.wordpress.com>

Contact Stella Keen: 07989 393891 / stella@stellastarr.co.uk