

## **THE RE-FOUNDING OF THE ABBEY AT BURY ST EDMUNDS**

**Four free lectures to celebrate its re-founding by Cnut in 1020**

### **FROM RISE TO RUINS**

Abbey of St Edmund Millenium celebrations 1020-2020

Sat 28<sup>th</sup> November: **The Abbey, the Antiquaries and the Archaeologists: Discovering the Abbey of St Edmund (online)** Dr Rik Hoggett FSA

The first of four lectures celebrating 1,000 years of the Abbey, hosted by the Abbey of St Edmund Partnership and Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History. This talk examines the ways in which antiquaries and archaeologists have approached the study of the abbey since the Dissolution, and reveals what recent archaeological fieldwork has told us about the development of the monastic site. Details online. <https://stedscathedral.org/events/from-rise-to-ruins/>

The second of four lectures celebrating 1,000 years of the Abbey, hosted by the Abbey of St Edmund Partnership and Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History. This talk will examine how, focussed on the shrine of St Edmund, the abbey and town were developed together from Anglo-Saxon origins. It will also consider the relationship between the monastery and the townspeople who lived at its gates

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The third of four lectures celebrating 1,000 years of the Abbey, hosted by the Abbey of St Edmund Partnership and Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History. The origins of the first community of St Edmund remain obscure, but probably date back to the late Ninth century. From the earliest surviving written records, we know that the leading families of Suffolk and Norfolk took a close interest in promotion of the saint's cult and support of the abbey. This paper discusses those patrons and benefactors, explores Cnut's re-foundation of Bury in 1020, and considers why William the Conqueror also chose to patronise Bury St Edmunds.

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The last of four lectures celebrating 1,000 years of the Abbey, hosted by the Abbey of St Edmund Partnership and Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History. The abbey possessed vast landed estates and extensive judicial powers throughout Suffolk, and the ways in which it exploited its properties and its rights had a profound influence upon Suffolk life in the Middle Ages: and, indeed, the consequences of some of those decisions are still evident in the modern landscape. This lecture considers the abbey's external relationship with the people of medieval Suffolk, including its stormy relationship with the town itself.

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