

## ABOUT THE KING ALFRED WEEKEND & COMMUNITY DIG 2020

The Hyde900 King Alfred Weekend is held annually as close as possible to the anniversary of the King's death on 26th October 899. St Bartholomew's has long commemorated the occasion but since the Hyde Abbey 900th anniversary in 2010, Hyde900 has organised a programme celebrating the Hyde area, both the history ancient and more recent, and including musical and visual arts events.

2020 marks the 10th anniversary of that first Hyde900 programme of events in the summer of 2010, but plans to mark the organisation's first decade have necessarily been much affected by the pandemic. A proper celebration of Hyde900's tenth anniversary will be delayed, but we hope this will go ahead in 2021.

This year's programme is subject to modification where required by changing government guidelines, with the latest information being available at [www.hyde900.org.uk](http://www.hyde900.org.uk). Live events will be subject to social distancing and other precautions applying at the time.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Our thanks are due to the clergy, churchwardens and community of St Bartholomew's, Hyde, to Hampshire Field Club, Hampshire Cultural Trust, the Council for British Archaeology, Friends of Hyde Abbey Garden, Winchester City Council, the Hyde Tavern and all the individuals who have contributed to this festival.

### BOOKING

Advance booking required for all events.

- **Online:** [www.hyde900.org.uk](http://www.hyde900.org.uk)
- **Email:** [events@hyde900.org.uk](mailto:events@hyde900.org.uk)
- **Phone:** 01962 864487

### VENUES

**Hyde Parish Hall**, Hyde St, Winchester SO23 7DF. Level access available at rear.

**St Bartholomew's Church**, King Alfred Place, Winchester SO23 9LH.

**Hyde Gate:** opposite St Bartholomew's Church.

**Hyde Abbey Garden:** next to River Park Leisure Centre car park.

River Park Leisure Centre and Cattle Market car parks are close by. Hyde is a few minutes' walk from the railway station.

### OTHER EVENTS

#### THE ENGLISH PROJECT'S ANNUAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAY LECTURE

'The New Normal for Global English'

*Tuesday 13 October, 18.00-19.00  
virtually via Zoom*

Professor David Crystal reflects on some of the effects of the pandemic on the English language.

This is a fundraising event for the English Project.

Details from the English Project website  
[www.englishproject.org](http://www.englishproject.org).

# KING ALFRED WEEKEND & COMMUNITY DIG

22-25 OCTOBER 2020  
HYDE, WINCHESTER



Miniature head recovered from Trench 8 on the 2019 dig

HYDE900



# KING ALFRED WEEKEND EVENTS

SATURDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

## HYDE900 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

11.00, Hyde Parish Hall

including an update on the past year's events and discussion of future plans.

## GUIDED WALK

**'Bare Ruin'd Choirs': The story of Hyde Abbey from Foundation to Dissolution.**

14.00, Hyde Abbey Gateway.

*Devised and led by Anna Withers.*

This tour explains the location of the Abbey buildings and explores the Abbey area's sometimes troubled history. Hear about the 2013 Unmarked Grave project televised on BBC2 and learn the background to the dramatic findings made during the King Alfred Weekend community dig 2018, now on show in the City Museum's *Gallery of 1000 Years* display.



## GUIDED VISITS TO HYDE ABBEY GARDEN

14.00-17.00. Hyde Abbey Garden.

*Hosted by Friends of Hyde Abbey Garden.*

*Advance booking is required for  
all events.  
See back page for details.*

THURSDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> - SUNDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

## THE COMMUNITY DIG

09:00-17:00 daily

The dig follows on from the highly successful events organised over 2016-18. No experience is necessary and full training will be given. There will be a minimum of six exciting areas to excavate. Participants of all ages are welcome and booking is now open on [www.hyde900.org.uk](http://www.hyde900.org.uk) where further details are available.

The dig will take place at 2 sites in King Alfred Place, and is likely to reveal not only the foundations of the church, but also those of the county bridewell, or prison, built over the site of the church in 1788, about which little detail of the prison building is known. It is also recorded that this area was where the Norman capitals, now in St Bartholomew's church, were found in the 1920s.



FRIDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER

## THE HYDE900 KING ALFRED LECTURE 2020

**King Alfred of Wessex: England's greatest town planner?**

19:30, online

For this year's lecture we welcome guest speaker **Dr Patrick Ottaway**, archaeological consultant, formerly Head of Fieldwork at York Archaeological Trust and Assistant City Archaeologist Winchester Museum Service, author of *Winchester: St Swithun's 'City of Happiness and Good Fortune', an Urban Archaeological Assessment* (2017).

In the late 9th century, King Alfred initiated a programme of urban foundation in Wessex. Each of his towns, some formerly Roman and others entirely new, used a distinctive and innovative street plan. Patrick will review the evidence from Winchester and elsewhere and suggest that town foundation was crucial in Alfred's defence of Wessex against the Danes.

This year's lecture will be organised as a virtual event, but with an option for members of the audience to attend a showing in St Bartholomew's in person if church and government rules at the time permit. Updated information and bookings: [www.hyde900.org.uk](http://www.hyde900.org.uk).



SUNDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

## ANNUAL KING ALFRED DAY SERVICE

10.00, St Bartholomew's Church  
*(subject to church & government  
rules at the time)*

Followed by a procession to the Royal grave site in Hyde Abbey Garden.

## GUIDED WALK

**'Breaking the Rule –  
Monkish Misconduct'**

14.00, Hyde Abbey Gateway.

*Devised and led by Anna Withers.*

While touring the Abbey site, this walk will provide a fascinating insight into a part of Abbey life that is quite different from the usual round of quiet devotion, prayer and study. Hear the story of Hyde Abbey fighting against the Bishop in the war for the throne between William the Conqueror's quarrelling grandchildren Stephen and Matilda. Hear too how two future bishops at least were to officially admonish the Abbots for their monks' decidedly un-pious behaviour!

## GUIDED VISITS TO HYDE ABBAY GARDEN

14.00-16.00, Hyde Abbey Garden.

*Hosted by Friends of Hyde Abbey Garden.*