



Austin Healey Club

26th Year

Daffodil Weekend 2017



April 20th - 23rd 2017





The Austin Healey Club Daffodil Weekend 2017



Welcome to the Austin Healey Club 2017 Daffodil Weekend

As always, the weekend is informal, and all the activities are optional. Just please let Ed or myself know if you go off to do your own thing, so we don't go looking for you! Thanks

This event is a non-competitive touring assembly, so please make sure to observe all speed limits and rules of the road, try to avoid travelling in groups, and have consideration for other road users and the public at all times.

The overall winner of the weekend's events will hold the Alan Holmes Trophy for twelve months, so the best of luck to everyone.

Itinerary

Thursday

7.00pm – 7.30pm	Pre-dinner drinks in the bar/lounge
7.30pm	Dinner

Friday

9.30 am	Planned drive to the City of Ely, for a Treasure Hunt and photo opportunities at Ely Cathedral
7.00pm – 7.30 pm	Pre-dinner drinks in the bar/lounge
7.30 pm	Dinner

Saturday

9.30 am	Planned drive to Wisbech and visit to National Trust Peckover House and Garden
7.00 pm – 7.30 pm	Pre-dinner drinks in the bar/lounge
7.30 pm	Dinner
9.30 pm onwards	Prize giving and Raffle

Sunday

10.00 am	Planned drive to Creake Abbey
1.15 pm (latest)	Lunch at Middleton Hall Golf Club

Have a great weekend, and above all have fun and enjoy yourselves



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Friday - 21st April

The ancient City of Ely and Ely Cathedral

Some Historical Notes

Ely is a fascinating cathedral city in Cambridgeshire.

It is built on a 23-square-mile Kimmeridge Clay island which, at 85 feet (26m), is the highest land in the fens.

Before the fens were drained, the harvesting of osier (willow) and sedge (rush), and the extraction of peat were important activities, as was eel fishing - from which the settlement's name may have been derived - and wild fowling. The city had been the centre of local pottery production for more than 700 years, including pottery known as Babylon ware. A Roman road, Akeman Street, passes through the city; the southern end is at Ermine Street near Wimpole and its northern end is at Brancaster.

The King's School is a co-educational boarding school which was granted a royal charter in 1541 by Henry VIII; the school claims to have existed since 970. Henry I granted the first annual Fair, Saint Audrey's (or Etheldreda's) seven-day event, to the abbot and convent on 10th October 1189; the word "tawdry" originates from cheap lace sold at this fair.

Ely Cathedral has its origins in AD 672 when Æthelthryth (also known as Etheldreda) founded an abbey. This was destroyed in 870 by Danish invaders and was rebuilt by Æthelwold, Bishop of Winchester, in 970. The present building dates back to 1083, with construction started by a Norman abbot, Simeon. Cathedral status was granted it in 1109. Until the reformation it was the Church of St Etheldreda and St Peter, at which point it was refounded as the Cathedral Church of the Holy and Undivided Trinity of Ely.

Architecturally it is outstanding both for its scale and stylistic details. Having been built in a monumental Romanesque style, the galilee porch, Lady Chapel and choir were rebuilt in an exuberant Decorated Gothic style. Its most famous feature however is Alan of Walsingham's octagon, built over Ely's nave crossing between 1322 and 1328, and described as "the greatest individual achievement of architectural genius at Ely Cathedral", by architectural historian Nikolaus Pevsner. This, with lantern above, provides a spectacular internal space and, along with the West Tower, gives a unique exterior landmark that dominates the surrounding landscape. Building continued until the dissolution of the abbey in 1539 during the Reformation. The cathedral was sympathetically restored between 1845 and 1870 by the architect George Gilbert Scott.

As the seat of a diocese, Ely has long been considered a city; in 1974, city status was granted by royal charter.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



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Friday 21st April 2017 - Ely

Driving Notes

This morning we have organised a small walking treasure hunt in the city of Ely. The hunt will take you around an hour and a half to two hours, depending on your pace and how many coffee/beer stops you make, and is designed to take you around the numerous places of interest in this beautiful country city. The crowning glory of Ely is its magnificent cathedral, and we have been able to arrange for us to park our cars in front of the Cathedral on Palace Green. This will give rise to some great photo opportunities. There will be plenty of time during the day for those who wish to visit and explore the cathedral, and indeed any other of the historic places of interest, as well as complete the treasure hunt. There are plenty of cafes, restaurants and pubs for refreshment, and to take lunch as you wish.

From the Le Strange Arms Hotel the suggested route to the parking area on Palace Green, Ely, CB7 4EW, and the start of the Treasure Hunt, is as follows:

Approx. 44.3 miles, 1 hr 10 min without traffic

Zero trip meter on leaving hotel car park.

Turn right out of hotel car park	Mileage	Total Mileage
Turn right onto Golf Course Road	50 feet	
T junction right on to Cromer Rd A149	0.1	
At roundabout, 1 st exit A149, s.p. Kings Lynn, Heacham	1.2	
At next roundabout, 2nd exit, stay on A149	3.7	
Continue on A149, then at next roundabout, 2nd exit, A149	3.6	
At next roundabout, 2nd exit, onto Queen Elizabeth Way, A149	4.2	
Continue on Queen Elizabeth Way, at next roundabout, 2nd exit, A149	2.0	
At next roundabout, 1st exit, stay on Queen Elizabeth Way, A149	1.3	
At large irregular roundabout, with Sainsbury's on your right, head for A10 exit	0.5	16.6
Take 2 nd exit A10, Westwinch Road	0.1	
At next roundabout, 2 nd exit onto Lynn Road, A10	3.7	
Continue on A10, at next roundabout, 2 nd exit, stay on A10	5.6	
At next roundabout, 1st exit and stay on A10	0.9	
Continue South on the A10 for 9.9 miles to the Mildenhall Road roundabout. Take third exit on roundabout, over the River Ouse, following A10	9.9	36.8
At next roundabout, 2 nd exit, stay on A10	1.8	
At next roundabout, 2 nd exit, stay on A10	0.9	
At next roundabout, 1 st exit onto B1411, s.p. Ely Community College	3.2	
At next roundabout, 2 nd exit, continue on Downham Road, B1411	0.1	
Continue on B1411, taking right fork on Downham Road	0.7	
T junction left onto St Mary's Street, s.p. City Centre	0.2	
At traffic lights turn right into Minster Place. Do not swing left into High Street, continue along Minster Place towards Cathedral.	0.5	
With the Cathedral on your left, Palace Green is on your right. Please park on the Green as directed.	0.1	44.3

It's Treasure Hunt time, enjoy!

When you have finished in Ely, the suggested route back to Le Strange Arms is effectively the reverse of the way here, but allowing for one-way systems etc.

Approx. 43.8 miles, 1hr 7 mins without traffic

Zero trip meter before leaving Palace Green.

Leave the Palace Green via the smooth ramp to the right of the green, when facing the cathedral	Mileage	Total Mileage
CARE. Both Minster Place and The Gallery are one-way. Head down The Gallery to the small roundabout, first exit onto Back Hill.	0.2	
Continue onto Station Road. At mini roundabout take first exit, continuing on Station Road.	0.2	
Take right hand lane, go under the Low Height Railway bridge onto Bridge Road, A142	0.1	
Follow A142 across the River Ouse, turn first left onto Queen Adelaide Way	0.2	
T junction right onto Ely Road, B1382, s.p. Prickwillow	2.0	
Turn immediate left onto Branch Bank, s.p. Littleport	100 feet	
At roundabout, 2 nd exit onto Lynn Road, A10, s.p. Downham Market	4	6.8
At next roundabout, 2 nd exit, stay on A10	9.9	
Continue on A10, at next roundabout, 2 nd exit, A10, s.p. Kings Lynn	0.9	
At next roundabout, 2 nd exit, stay on A10	5.6	
At large irregular roundabout, 4 th exit onto Queen Elizabeth Way, A149, s.p. Cromer, Hunstanton	3.7	26.9
At next roundabout, 2 nd exit, stay on Queen Elizabeth Way, A149	0.7	
Continue on A149, at next roundabout, 2 nd exit, A149, s.p. Cromer, Hunstanton	1.3	
At next roundabout, 2 nd exit, stay on A149, s.p. Hunstanton	2	
At next roundabout, 1 st exit, stay on A149	4.3	
At next roundabout, 2 nd exit, onto Lynn Road, A149, s.p. Hunstanton, Heacham	3.6	
At next roundabout, 2 nd exit, stay on A149, s.p. Old Hunstanton, Wells	3.7	
Turn left into Golf Course Road	1.2	
Turn left into Hotel Car Park entrance	0.1	
Enter Hotel Car Park	50 feet	43.8

Don't forget to hand your Treasure Hunt sheet and your Friday Quiz to Dave or Ed!

Meet at 7:00 pm for dinner at 7:30



The Austin Healey Club Daffodil Weekend 2017



Saturday - 22nd April

Peckover House and Garden, Wisbech - Some Historical Notes

Peckover House is a secret gem, an oasis hidden away in an urban environment. A classic Georgian merchant's town house, it was lived in by the Peckover family for 150 years. The Peckovers were staunch Quakers, which meant they had a very simple lifestyle, yet at the same time they ran a successful private bank, the story of which can be seen in our banking exhibition. Owned by the National Trust it is located in North Brink, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire.

It was built in 1722 and bought by Jonathan Peckover at the end of the 18th century. Alexander Peckover was created Baron Peckover in 1907. The Peckovers, a Quaker banking family and owners of the Peckover Bank, presented the building to the National Trust in 1948. During the period in which the building was in the ownership of the Peckovers, the building was known as Bank House. The exterior of the house gives little idea of the elaborate and elegant interior of fine panelled rooms, Georgian fireplaces with carved over-mantels, and ornate plaster decorations.

The two acre Victorian walled garden at the back of the house, is an outstanding sensory delight, with an orangery, summerhouses, croquet lawn, herbaceous borders and more than 60 varieties of rose. There are interesting and rare trees, delightful summer houses and fruiting orange trees, thought to be 300 years old, roses, herbaceous borders, fernery, croquet lawn and 17th-century reed thatched barn. In the barn is an attractive café ideal for coffee and/or lunch.

Wisbech Town is a market town, inland port and civil parish in the Fens of Cambridgeshire. It had a population of 31,573 in 2011. The tidal River Nene runs through the centre of the town and is spanned by two bridges. The name is believed to mean "on the back of the (River) Ouse", Ouse being a common Celtic word relating to water, and the name of a river that once flowed through the town. Since 2011, Wisbech has become the second largest town in Cambridgeshire (after St Neots). Before the Local Government Act 1972 came into force in 1974 Wisbech was a municipal borough.

During the Iron Age, the area where Wisbech would develop lay in the west of the Brythonic Iceni tribe's territory. Like the rest of Cambridgeshire, Wisbech was part of the Kingdom of East Anglia after the Anglo-Saxon invasion. It is the only one of the Marshland villis of the Isle to be mentioned in the Domesday book, probably comprised the whole area from Tydd Gote down to the far end of Upwell at Welney.

In the 17th century, the local inhabitants became known as the "Fen Tigers" because of their resistance to the draining of the fens, but the project turned Wisbech into a wealthy port handling agricultural produce. At this time Wisbech was on the estuary of the River Great Ouse, but silting caused the coastline to move north, and the River Nene was diverted to serve the town.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



The Austin Healey Club Daffodil Weekend 2017



Saturday 22nd April 2017 - Peckover House, Wisbech

Driving Notes

Today we have planned a more country route than yesterday, from North Norfolk into the Fens, to visit Wisbech and Peckover House, a hidden treasure of a National Trust house and gardens on the banks of the River Nene. The house gardens and the Reed Barn café are open from 11:00, the house itself from 12:00.

Don't forget your pass to get you into the house and gardens, in the envelope in your pack!

From the Le Strange Arms Hotel the suggested route to the parking for Peckover House, which is a large free carpark to the side of Wisbech Rugby Club at the rear of Peckover House, is as follows:

Approx. 42.6 miles, 1 hr 45 min without traffic.

Zero trip meter on leaving hotel car park

Turn right out of hotel car park	Mileage	Total Mileage
Turn immediate left onto Wodehouse Road	50 feet	
T junction right onto Waterworks Road	0.3	
T junction left onto A149	0.2	
Take right fork, s.p. Ringstead	0.2	
Into Ringstead, at Give Way, straight on into High Street	1.3	
Road turns sharp right, s.p. Heacham, Sedgeford	0.5	
T junction left, B1454, s.p. Fakenham, Docking	2.2	
Right fork at small triangular green, s.p. Fring	250 feet	
T junction left, s.p. Docking	1.9	
Right fork to Bircham	250 feet	
Turn left, s.p. Bircham Tofts, Great Bircham	2.4	
Turn right by War Memorial, B1153, s.p. Hillington	0.1	
Into Flitcham, stay on B1153, at Hillington turn right onto A148, s.p. Kings Lynn	5.3	14.4
Turn left, B1153, s.p. Congham, Grimston, Gayton, Narborough	0.4	
Crossroads, turn right into Well Hall Lane, opposite s.p. to Waterworks.	3.4	
T Junction right onto B1145, no s.p., small post box on stalk opposite junc.	1.5	
Turn left into Church Lane, no s.p.	0.3	
T junction left, continuing on Church Lane, no s.p., (East Winch Rd to right)	1.2	
T junction right, s.p. East Winch	0.7	
T Junction right, A47, STOP, CARE s.p. King's Lynn	0.8	22.7
Turn left into East Winch Road, s.p. Waste Disposal Tip (yes, really!)	0.6	
Turn left, just prior to 7.5 ton restriction, no s.p.	1.0	
T junction left, no s.p.	0.7	

Road narrows, over bridge	0.5	
Follow road through 90 degree right, Castle Road joins from left	0.7	
T junction left, A134, s.p. Thetford	1.7	27.9
Turn right, s.p. Tottenhill	300 feet	
Cross roads, A10, CARE, straight across into Watlington Road	0.7	
T junction left, s.p. Watlington	0.5	
Into Watlington village, T junction right, by The Angel pub	0.8	
Follow road around to the left, becomes Station Road	500 feet	
Over railway crossing	0.4	
T junction right, into Lynn Road	0.9	
Follow road around to the left, s.p. Tilney St Lawrence, St Johns Highway, into	0.3	
Magdalen High Road. CARE! typical undulating Fens roads!		
Cross roads, continue straight on, Magdalen Road	1.8	
Cross roads, continue straight on, St John's Road	1.7	
T junction left, no s.p.	0.6	
Turn right, s.p. Wisbech, King's Lynn, shortly after the Woolpack Inn	0.3	
Turn left and merge onto A47 towards Wisbech for 3.3 miles	0.3	36.2
At roundabout 3 rd exit, B198, s.p. Walton Highway, Walsoken	3.3	
At roundabout 1 st exit, continue on B198, s.p. Wisbech	0.3	
Stay on B198 towards Town Centre, at mini roundabout 2 nd exit, no s.p.	1.5	
At next roundabout, right hand lane, A1101 Town Centre. BP garage on the left	0.7	
Follow 4 th exit, s.p. Wisbech St Mary, towards Chapel Road Parking		
Over the River Nene, take 1 st left, follow Chapel Road Parking	0.1	
Follow North Street around, past Old Market, forking right into Chapel Road	300 yards	
Turn right into Chapel Road Car Park, just past the Hand Car Wash.	500 yards	42.6

All car parking in Wisbech is free!

But, being a Saturday there will be rugby being played in the grounds next to the car park from 13:00, so if you arrive a bit later and find the car park full, there is roadside parking available in Harecroft Road, first right just past the entrance to the car park, or in the general roads around and in front of Peckover House.

Please make sure that you take note of, and obey, any parking restrictions, double yellow lines, and signs etc.

The entrance to Peckover House is on North Brink, which is easily reached by a short walk from Chapel Road Car Park. Turn left out of the car park entrance, and cross over Chapel Road. Walk approximately 75 yards and take a turning to the right, Exchange Square. There is a National Trust brown signpost pointing down Exchange Square, follow this down through the arch at the end, and turn right onto North Brink. Peckover House is on the right, approximately 100 yards along.

Your entrance to the house and gardens is prepaid. Please just show your National Trust Peckover House brochure with the yellow sticker attached, in the envelope in your pack, to the staff at the entrance.

Don't forget, you can purchase coffees, teas, soft drinks, cakes and sandwiches etc. in the Reed Barn in the gardens.

To return to Old Hunstanton, the quickest and easiest way is via the A47 and the A149. This is approx. 29.4 miles and will take around 50 minutes without traffic. The suggested route from the Chapel Road car park to the A47 and back to Old Hunstanton is shown below.

You can of course go 'off piste' if you wish, taking a more leisurely route, stopping for afternoon tea etc. Bear in mind though the evening dinner, and course there's always the beers in the Ancient Mariner, so don't overdo the cream cakes!

Zero trip meter on leaving car park

Turn left out of Chapel Road car park onto Chapel Road	Mileage	Total Mileage
Continue past Old Market into North Street	300 yards	
Turn left onto A1101	0.1	
Move into right hand lane, follow A1101 around to the right, s.p. A1101 Downham Market, A47 Kings Lynn, Peterborough onto, bridge across the River Nene	50 yards	
Move into left hand lane, roundabout 1 st exit, B198, s.p. Port Area, Walsoken, West Walton. Do not turn left into Bedford Street. BP garage on the right	150 yards	
At mini roundabout, 1 st exit, no s.p., follow B198,	0.7	
At next roundabout, 2 nd exit, B198, s.p. P'borough, King's Lynn	1.5	
At next roundabout, 1 st exit, A47, s.p. King's Lynn	0.3	2.7
Continue on A47 for approx. 10.5 miles. On approaching the A47/A149/A10 junction, take left hand lane and use slip road towards A149	10.8	
At roundabout, take 2 nd exit onto Queen Elizabeth Way, A149, s.p. Cromer, Hunstanton. Note – on business park Sainsbury's, likely cheap fuel	0.1	13.6
Continue on A149 for 3.9 miles. At roundabout, 2 nd exit, s.p. Hunstanton	3.9	
Stay on A149, following Hunstanton. At approx 10.6 miles, at roundabout 2 nd exit, s.p. Old Hunstanton, Wells. If you take 1 st exit here, will take you into Hunstanton itself. After approx. 0.5 miles, there is Tesco, 98 octane available. Cheaper than BP!	10.6	28.1
Turn left into Golf Course Road	1.2	
Turn left into Hotel Car Park	0.1	29.4

Don't forget to hand your Saturday Quiz and Anagrams to Dave or Ed.

Meet at 7:00 pm for Dinner at 7:30



The Austin Healey Club Daffodil Weekend 2017



Sunday Morning - 23rd April

Creake Abbey – Some Historical Notes

Creake Abbey is a ruined abbey situated alongside the River Burn and a mile to the north of the village of North Creake. The abbey church was dedicated to Saint Mary.

The site was originally occupied by an almshouse for the poor, and was founded by the Augustinians as a priory in the 12th century. Voluntary grants of alms by the leading families of Nerford and Creake and by the faithful of the neighbourhood seem to have built up resources sufficiently to warrant elevation from Hospital to Priory and thence to Abbey, which happened in 1231. Henry III made a number of grants to Creake in its early years. Gifts of parish churches included Hapton and Wreningham, Gateley and St. Martin at Quarles and later in 1365 of St. Andrew, Great Ringstead.

The heyday of the Abbey was during the fourteenth century when there were but six canons, though the Rule required in addition to the abbot, prior and cellarer, a cantor, sacrist and kitchener, refectorian, infirmarian, almoner, master of novices and guest master, which according to Bedingfield, may have been posts filled in rotation or plurality. There will have been junior canons and, from time to time, novices. There would finally be numerous servants, tailors, laundresses and their assistants, the messor, shepherds and cowherds for the farm, not to mention of residents of the hospital. Unlike some of the abbeys thereabouts, it was still fulfilling its hospital function as late as 1397.

In 1483, a fire swept through the abbey, damaging the church and several of the other buildings, such that it was beyond the capacity of the convent to restore it. The abbot appealed to the king as patron of the house, and Richard III, 'moved with pite' gave the abbey by way of alms towards the rebuilding of the handsome sum of £46-13s-4d to be paid out the revenues of the lordship of Fakenham. Robert Walsingham, appointed abbot in 1491, began extensive rebuilding of the quire and presbytery and Sir William Calthorpe left £74 towards the completion of the work. By 1503 the work was well advanced and lands given by Waler Aslak were for the completion of the north side of the quire. By this time the abbot was Giles Sherington. However, in 1506 an outbreak of the 'sweating sickness' wiped out the monastic community, the abbot himself being the last to die. The abbey site and estate was given to Lady Margaret Beaufort in 1507, and ended up in the ownership of Christ's College, Cambridge.

A few sections of the church walls remain standing, and demonstrate their traditional Norfolk flintwork. There are some remaining carved details in the window arches and doorways. However, little else survives apart from foundations. The site is now in the care of English Heritage, and freely accessible to the public.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



The Austin Healey Club

Daffodil Weekend 2017



Sunday 23rd April – Creake Abbey

Driving Notes

Today some of us will be heading off home straight from the Le Strange Arms. We hope that those who are leaving enjoyed the event and will want to come again next year.

For those who are staying on for the Sunday lunch, we have planned a little route taking us out to Creake Abbey, in North Creake, where there is a lovely tea room for mid-morning coffees and teas, a fine food hall for a few country specialities to take home, and also some interesting craft and art shops. There are also the ruins of Creake Abbey itself, free to enter and have a look around.

Approx. 14.0 miles, 30 minutes without traffic

Zero trip meter on leaving hotel car park

From hotel car park entrance, go straight across Golf Course Road into Sea Lane.	Mileage	Total Mileage
T junction left onto A149, Old Hunstanton Road no s.p.	0.6	
Take right fork, s.p. Ringstead	0.4	
Into Ringstead, at Give Way, straight on into High Street	1.3	
Left turn, s.p. Docking	0.5	
Follow road around to right at small green, with large tree, no s.p.	0.2	
Continue across minor cross roads, with road curving to right	2.7	
At cross roads, turn right, B1454, s.p. Fakenham	1.3	7.0
Take left fork, s.p. Burnham Market	0.6	
Right turn, s.p. North Creake	2.8	
T junction left, B1355, s.p. Burnham Market	2.7	
Right turn, by Creake Abbey signs	0.8	
Follow road into Creake Abbey site, taking right fork towards café and Food Hall. CARE! SLOW! Vicious speed bumps marked by white painted stones	0.2	14.0