

# ELY MUSEUM

[www.elymuseum.org.uk](http://www.elymuseum.org.uk)

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*The Old Gaol, Market Street, Ely CB7 4LS*

Friends:

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Ely Museum is a bright and friendly local history museum, located in the Bishop's Gaol in the centre of the historical city of Ely. The Museum is the history centre for the Isle of Ely & the Fens and it takes you on a journey through time from prehistory to the twentieth century. Displays include original prison cells, fossils that can be touched, Roman remains, and an archive film of the Fens including punt guns and eel catching. A museum guide, children's guide to the galleries, toilets and a gift shop make this an ideal destination for all of the family.

Ely Museum Trust was set up in 1972 with much voluntary support. After opening in Ely High Street, the Museum moved to the Old Gaol on Market Street in 1997. Dating from the 13th century, this building has been a private house, a tavern, a registry office, and most famously the Bishop's Gaol. Sensitively renovated in 1997 much of the building's history can still be seen, including prisoner's graffiti, hidden doorways, and original planking on the walls.

Ely Museum is an independent museum and a registered charity. It relies on grants by East Cambridgeshire District Council and the City of Ely Council, admissions and the generosity of visitors to remain open.

Summer Opening Times: Mon - Sat 10.30am - 5.00pm, Sunday 1.00pm - 5.00pm -  
Winter Opening Times: Mon - Sat\* 10.30am - 4.00pm, Sunday 1.00pm -4.00pm -  
\*closed on Tuesdays except for school and group bookings. Admission - £3.50 adults, £2.50 concessions, up to 4 accompanied children free

The Friends of Ely Museum consist of a pool of over 200 individuals who enjoy taking an active part in their membership of the scheme. Many Friends are involved in a wide variety of activities to assist the museum, such as helping on the museum's reception, providing essential hands-on help in re-displaying the galleries, giving guided tours and talks and much more.

The Friends committee also assist with fundraising, which allows the Museum to make collection acquisitions as well as providing essential equipment for the smooth running of the Museum. The Friends provide a lively programme of events each year, which can be enjoyed by all members. Being a Friend of Ely Museum allows certain benefits, those benefits are: free Entry to the Museum, a reduced fee to a full programme of talks, the right to attend the AGM and the opportunity to be involved with fundraising and assist as a volunteer. Friends membership: is as follows for Individuals £6, for Couples £10 and for the Family £12.

## **Programme:**

Aug 3 to      ***Something Borrowed: An Egyptian Cat in Ely In Partnership with British***  
Oct 31 2010      ***Museum: Cats today are much loved pets but in ancient Egypt they were***

worshipped. In the afterlife cats were believed to be able to convey the prayers of people on earth to the gods. To do so, like the Egyptian people themselves, they had to be mummified. Find out more about these fascinating traditions from a past world and meet our Egyptian Cat in Ely, on special loan from the British Museum. The display charts the story of the Egyptian cat from its discovery in Egypt to the results of recent high-tech investigations using X-rays and CT scans.

***The Friends of Ely Museum talks*** - Members £1.50, non-members £2 - all held at 7.30pm in the Vernon Cross room at the Museum.

Oct 7

***John Crowe & Mike Rouse*** - Fenland Miscellany

Nov 4

***Will Schenck*** - Work in Egypt

Further information about the Programme is available from the Museum.

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