Hunstanton Heritage Centre

A journey through Hunstanton’s past from Neolithic/Bronze Age; the development as a purpose built Victorian resort; its rapid growth and the changes due to the increase in tourism from the early 1900’s.

Heritage Centre, Northgate
Hunstanton, Norfolk PE36 6BB
www.hunstantoncivicsociety.org.uk

Telephone Contacts
(01485) 572195 — 534200 — 535292

Opening Times
Wednesday, Saturday & Sunday
April to October 1.00pm to 5.00pm
To mid Nov and from mid Feb & March 12 noon to 3.00pm
(closed mid Nov to mid Feb)
Open Bank Holidays & other times for groups etc. by prior arrangement.
Admission Free, Donations welcomed.
We have no public funding.

Other areas of local interest

Old Hunstanton—Ancestral home of the le Strange Family

St Edmund’s Point — Lighthouse — Wolf Legend — Chapel

The Cliffs — Top in the UK — Coastal Geosites Category

Heritage Gardens — Gold Awards Britain & Anglia in Bloom

Lords of the Manor
The le Strange Family

Henry 1815 - 1862  Hamon 1840 - 1918

Henry L’Estrange Styleman le Strange
Founder of the Town of Hunstanton St Edmund in 1845, creating a vision of a resort with the help of his friend William Butterfield the architect.
The railway came in 1862, 3 months after the death of Henry and it was left to his son, Hamon, to supervise the town’s development

The Railway  1862 - 1969

Very few buildings existed before the railway was completed but Henry realised a railway would bring rapid investment to the new town assuring a popular resort and therefore a prosperous future. A boost to the line’s popularity came when Queen Victoria bought Sandringham for her wayward son, Edward.

The Pier  1868 - 1978

The original concept of a Pier was a means of receiving and dispatching goods and people. By the early 1900’s its use became more for promenading and entertainment.

The Blue Lagoon Swimming Pool  1928 - 1967

The Boating Lake  1932 - 1988

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Celebrating Hunstanton’s history including the arrival, in 855AD, of a 15 year old Saxon boy called Edmund, later to become King, martyr and first Patron Saint of England.
Visitors can see the wonderful collection of fossils from the beach when it was truly tropical.
Coverage of Hunstanton’s extreme weather includes the 1953 floods, when two members of the USAF received George medals for their heroic rescue efforts.
The frozen sea in 1963, and the 1978 storm which washed away most of the Victorian Pier.

Many aerial views of the Town, Past ... & … Present

We have the Vault Cinema with 55” TV screen showing films of the railway, floods and other TV programmes