

The TALBOT TRAIL

50p

Sculptures depicting Sudbury's Heritage

Illustrated walk
with MAP & HISTORY



GET AN OFFICIAL STAMP
FROM SUDBURY TOURIST
INFORMATION OFFICE



THE TALBOT TRAIL

The bronzes on Sudbury's 'Talbot Trail' illustrate various interesting episodes in the town's history over the centuries. This is an ancient market town with strong royal connections in medieval times.

The 'talbot' was a breed of hunting dog and the town coat of

arms depicts the dog owned by the notorious Simon of Sudbury.

Follow the map in the centre of this booklet, for a fascinating walk around the old town.

Once you've spotted the bronzes on the dark red bollards, tick them off and get your booklet stamped at the Tourist Information Centre.

TOWN GAOL

Behind Sudbury Town Hall, in Gaol Lane, is an impressive Victorian doorway that forms the entrance to the Tourist Information office and Heritage Centre. Originally this was the gateway to Sudbury Court. Prisoners were locked up in the gaol below to await trial.



101 DALMATIANS The drinking fountain and horse trough sit against the railings outside St Peter's Church. This was the site where Pongo and Perdita stopped for water while searching for their lost puppies in 101 Dalmatians - the children's book by Dodie Smith.

TO ARMS AGAINST THE ROMAN INVADER !!



BOUDICEA The Queen of the Iceni, Boudicea, is likely to have gained the support of the Trinovante at Sudbury in AD 44 on her way to rout the Roman garrison at Colchester and burn the town to the ground. Sudbury is thought to have been a Trinovante stronghold in those days. The Trinovante tribes supported the neighbouring Iceni.

ROTTEN BOROUGH

Charles Dickens wrote 'Pickwick Papers' in 1836. The Eatanswill setting of the 'Rotten Borough' is thought to be modelled on Sudbury. In one Sudbury election, a wealthy parliamentary candidate is said to have spent £10,000 in bribing voters.

EXCUSE ME SIR,
DID YOU JUST DROP THIS ?



RUNNING BOY

In April 1879, a young apprentice named James Bigmore, ran alongside the Norwich coach, all the way from Sudbury to Norwich, a distance of 60 miles in 6 hours!





12

The Croft

13

St Gregory's Church

11

Mill Hotel

5

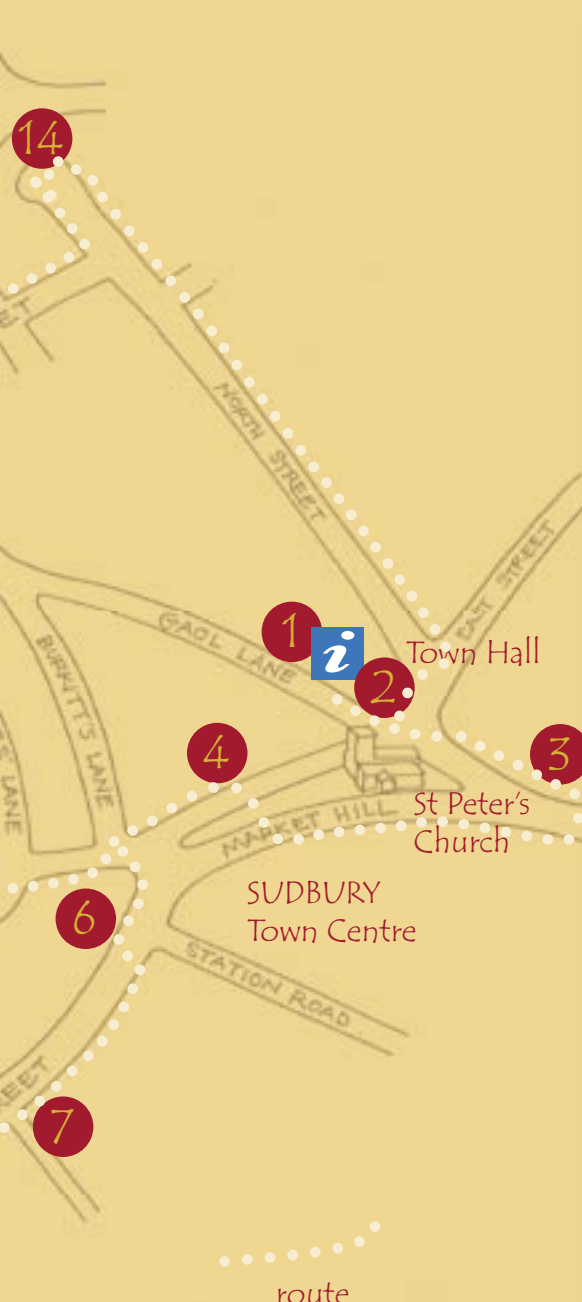
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8

10

Noah's Ark Lane


The Common Lands



Quay Theatre

The TALBOT TRAIL

The Bronzes

(starting at Sudbury Tourist Information Centre) 

- 1 The Town Gaol
- 2 101 Dalmatians
- 3 Queen Boudicea
- 4 The Rotten Borough
- 5 Running Boy
- 6 The Great Blondin
- 7 Mr & Mrs Gainsborough
- 8 River Transport
- 9 Dancing Bears
- 10 Amicia de Clare
- 11 Water Meadows
- 12 The Peasants' Revolt
- 13 Simon of Sudbury
- 14 William Kemp's Jig

The 'Talbot Trail' has been produced by Sudbury Market Town Partnership Officer, Tom McConnell. The bronzes were sculpted by Rob Pewsey and Robin Drury. The project was sponsored by The East of England Development Agency, 'Action for Market Towns' and supported by Sudbury Town Council and The Sudbury Society.





THE GREAT BLONDIN

In 1872 this world famous high wire artist made a visit to Sudbury. On a rope suspended across the yard behind The Anchor in Friars Street, Blondin demonstrated his powers by pushing a member of the public across the abyss, in a wheel barrow.



GAINSBOROUGH

Sudbury is the birthplace of Thomas Gainsborough. He bought a house with his new wife, Margaret, at 31a Friars Street. Here his daughters were born and he painted many portraits of them before moving to London.



RIVER TRANSPORT

Access to the North Sea and London by boat allowed Sudbury's industries to thrive. Clay in this region produced bricks that were much sought after. Bricks were one of a number of products sent by barge to London from the Quay in Quay Lane.



THE THINGS WE HAVE TO DO TO EARN A CRUST



DANCING BEARS

Bears were brought to Sudbury by Victorian showmen to entertain the local population. The muzzled bears were taken down the passage beside 54 Church Street, opposite, where the showmen lodged in cheap accommodation at the rear.

AMICIA

The daughter of the Earl of Gloucester in 12th century, married into the powerful de Clare family and brought her wealth to Sudbury. She founded a hospital by Ballingdon Bridge and, it is thought, had a new bridge constructed with stone from northern France



I HEREBY PROCLAIM YOUR RIGHT TO GRAZE THESE MEADOWS IN PERPETUITY



THE COMMON LANDS

The famous Water Meadows that nuzzle up to the town have been grazed continuously for a thousand years. In 1260 Richard de Clare gave the pastures to the burgesses of the town for a rent of 40 shillings a year.

TALBOT TRAIL
12
Peasants Revolt



PEASANTS' REVOLT

As Chancellor it was Simon's job to support the king and raise funds for the war with France. He made every person over 15 pay a Poll Tax, something the poor bitterly resented. A rebellion in 1381 resulted in Simon being decapitated by an angry mob.

SIMON OF SUDBURY

Simon Theobald, achieved fame by becoming Archbishop of Canterbury AND Chancellor of the Exchequer. He used his wealth to establish a college for priests in Sudbury at the end of the 14th century. All that remains is the gate to the college standing in St Gregory's churchyard.

TALBOT TRAIL
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Simon of Sudbury



TALBOT TRAIL
14
Will Kemp's Jig



KEMP'S JIG

William Kemp, who famously danced from London to Norwich in 1599, found a partner to dance with in a Sudbury milkmaid. She danced with him as far as Long Melford.