

Area Museums Committee Report from Cllr Alexandra Kemp

This year, the Museum lent timbers from Seahenge to the World of Stonehenge exhibition in the British Museum.

Turner's Painting, Walton Bridges has been loaned to Lynn Museum.

The Museum's Kick the Dust Project, continues its work with young people and is staging family participation events about Shakespeare at the Guildhall, including Play in a Day, Enchanted Forest Fun, and Montagues and Capulets.

There has been an exhibition in the Museum, Sowing Seeds, Growing Stories, about the story of gardens and gardening in West Norfolk, including memories from the Taylor family seed shop in Norfolk Street.

I will conclude with this, from the British Museum's Seahenge blog, which shows West Norfolk's contribution to our understanding of the Bronze Age: "At the heart of *The world of Stonehenge* exhibition stands an oval of 15 timbers. These are some of the 55 split oak trunks that form the circle of an Early Bronze Age funerary monument: Seahenge. At 4071 years old, the archaeological and contemporary stories of this remarkable henge are magical and inspiring. In its timbers we see traces of actions that speak of community, humanity and empathy. The timbers of Seahenge were first spotted on the beach at Holme-next-the-Sea in North Norfolk in 1998. The monument was originally constructed on the edge of a tidal saltmarsh. The tide would creep in and out up muddy creeks, and with it the coming and going of birds, and the reflected light. It is this saltmarsh setting of Seahenge as much as the timbers themselves which gives us a real sense of the feeling and atmosphere of this ancient monument".