

## **The Medieval Parish Churches of Norwich: City, Community and Architecture**

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Medieval parish churches are important social and cultural assets that are vibrant centres for their communities when in religious, cultural or economic use. However, when they are no longer used they can also create foci for anti-social behaviour and negative societal impact.

UEA Professor Sandy Heslop is leading a research team whose work can inform local organisations, policy makers, citizens and tourists to understand the historic, social, functional and architectural context of medieval churches in Norwich and how alternative uses for sites and buildings could be identified. The Norwich Research Park Translational Fund has provided funding for a Partnership Manager who will establish a two way dialogue and knowledge exchange. The aim is to develop new models that will inform heritage care and management, regeneration strategies, cultural tourism and urban development of these historic buildings. A number of events will be held including a conference, exhibition and information exchange seminars which will disseminate the results of the project across East Anglia and nationally.