



Saffron Walden Steampunk Weekend July 2023

Presented by

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What is Steampunk?

- Steampunk Activities;
 - Set in a pseudo-historical world(Victorian heritage).
- Steampunk; are a highly creative and artistic community.
- Steampunks; best parts of the past, making a brighter future.
- Steamunks; Value good manners and polite conduct.
- Steampunks; Value high quality products, made to last.
- Steampunks; Value and encourage creativity.

- Whilst activities are set in a pseudo-historical world which harks back to our Victorian heritage, Steampunks do not promote any of the inequalities of that past.
- Steampunk encompasses a wide variety of input from a highly creative and artistic community.
- It includes writers, musicians, dancers, sculptors, model makers, costume makers and a host of other disciplines and skills.
- It has been summed up as; *“Well can you imagine what things would be like if the Great Exhibition had never finished?”*
- Steampunks try to take some of the very best parts of the past and make them part of a bright future.
- They value good manners and polite conduct and try to encourage this by setting an example for others.
- They think things should be made to a high quality and to last, thus helping the environment.
- They value and encourage creativity and have been asked to collaborate in educational and arts projects across the country.

Inclusive for all

- All inclusive community.
 - All ages, genders, abilities and ethnic backgrounds.
- Steampunks are rebelling against;
 - Throwaway society, poor manners and antisocial behaviour, homogenisation and commercialism.
 - But are polite, friendly, care about the environment, the past and encourage creativity.

- Indeed their's is deliberately an all inclusive community.
- You will find Steampunks of all ages, genders, abilities and ethnic backgrounds.
- They also come from all walks of life from students to academics and from comedians to solicitors.
- Punk in the seventies was a rebellion against contemporary society.
- Today's Steampunks are most definitely rebelling, but they are making a stand against throwaway society, poor manners and antisocial behaviour, homogenisation and commercialism.
- Steampunks are punks who are polite, friendly, care about the environment and the past and encourage creativity.

Supporting Sustainability

- The DIY ethic - very strong in Steampunk.
- Creativity - main common denominator.
- Philosophy on sustainability, durability and craftsmanship
 - Re-purpose or upcycle an object and give it a whole new lease of life

- The DIY ethic is very strong in Steampunk, with creativity being the main common denominator.
- It also fits in with their philosophy on sustainability, durability and craftsmanship.
- It is more environmentally friendly to take an object and repurpose it, giving it a whole new lease of life, than to recycle it.

A Maker Culture

- Steampunks - make or modify everyday objects to fit the neo-Victorian aesthetic.
- Steampunks - own fashions, music and tastes.
- Steampunks - enjoy socialising, often dressing in distinctive steampunk fashions.
- Steampunks - visit historical sites, and also enjoy music gigs and performances.
- Steampunks - aspire as a community to **Be Splendid!**

- Steampunks often make or modify everyday objects to fit the neo-Victorian aesthetic.
- This could be making a wood and brass cabinet for your PC or a mock ray-gun suitable for an adventure with Jules Verne.
- Steampunk started as a science fiction genre but it is now a community and has its own fashions, music and tastes.
- They are a community that enjoys socialising, often dressing in distinctive steampunk fashions.
- They visit historical sites as well as enjoying music gigs and performances.
- For many Steampunks, two words have come to sum up what they aspire to as a community:
- **Be Splendid!**

Images



Be Splendid
A Steampunk Couple



Polite Rebels

Two separate events:

- Sunday Steampunk Market*
- Steampunk Promenade*



A Maker Culture

*Costumes and
Memorabilia*

Why do it?

Opportunities

- Appeals to young and mature audiences
- Significant boost to the local economy
- Involvement of local organisations, groups, performers & businesses
- Great publicity for the town
- A multi-site event
- Something NEW for the town
- Regular event every 3 years

- Appeals to young and mature audiences
- Significant boost to the local economy
 - Would boost the Sunday offer
- Involvement of local groups, performers & businesses
- Something new for the town
 - It will have the Wow factor
- It will achieve great publicity for the town (regional and national)
- A multi-site event: Market Square, Common, Castle Grounds, Jubilee Garden, Bridge End Garden, Fairycroft House etc.
- To develop it into a regular event every 3 years
- To involve local organisations such as Fairycroft House, Saffron Screen, Saffron Hall, Hyperfusion, BID etc

Who will we be working with?

The Ministry of Steampunk

- Non-profit organisation
- World's leading Steampunk facilitators.
- Organise the largest and longest running steampunk festival in the world
- The Asylum' – City of Lincoln August Bank Holiday Weekend
- <https://ministryofsteampunk.co.uk/>



- The Ministry of Steampunk are a non-profit organisation who do it for the love of it
- They are the world's leading Steampunk facilitators.
- They organise the largest and longest running steampunk festival in the world,
- 'The Asylum' which is held over the August Bank Holiday Weekend in the historic city of Lincoln.

What will the event look like?

A combination of any of the following:

- A Sunday Steampunk Market
- Steampunk Walking Trails
- Mobile Steampunk Sculptures/Vehicles
- Steampunk Promenade
- A Secret Cabaret at the Town Hall
- A Mad Hatters Tea Party/Picnic
- Steampunk Bands at Fairycroft House
- A Film at Saffron Screen (e.g. Chitty Chitty Bang Bang)
- An Orchestra at Saffron Hall

Budget

Income	£	Notes
		<i>Assuming successful application; ECC grants from £2,500 to £30,000 to deliver arts and culture projects. SWTC to contribution at least 10% of the project costs.</i>
Grant: ECC Arts & Cultural Fund	16,250.00	
Grants: Other	1,000.00	<i>Uttlesford District Council & Saffron Walden Arts Trust</i>
Event in Town Hall	2,000.00	<i>The Secret Caberet; £20.00 x 100 = £2000.00</i>
Bar Takings from event	1,200.00	<i>Estimation of bar takings</i>
Car parking	500.00	<i>Car parking for 100 cars on Football Club Car Park and Basketball pitch £5.00 x 100 = £500.00</i>
Common Rental and Utilities	1,400.00	<i>Hire of The Common for Beer Festival, including utilities</i>
Total Income	22,350.00	
Expenses		
Ministry of Steampunk	4,000.00	<i>Accommodation and expenses of The Ministry of Steampunk organisers</i>
Vintage Bus Hire	1,300.00	<i>Vintage Bus Hire to and from Audley End Station for 2 days</i>
Staff Cost	2,600.00	<i>Approximate SWTC operational staffing costs for the event</i>
Event in Town Hall	2,600.00	<i>SWTC run event; Hiring of Secret Caberet and Hall Hire</i>
Bar Cost of Sales	600.00	<i>Purchasing of Drinks supplies</i>
Incidentals	1,500.00	<i>Staffing and stewarding to car park space, hire of track</i>
Security	4,000.00	<i>Private Security Firm to manage licensed area and areas of high risk</i>
Utilities costs	1,000.00	<i>Elec,water , Hire of toilets etc for Common area</i>
Programme of Events	500.00	<i>Printing of Programme</i>
Total Expenses	18,100.00	
Total Income / Expenditure	£4,250.00	

- See Spread sheet document for narrative.

Q & A

- Officers of the Town Council have met and reviewed this project.
- It is felt to be both financially viable and deliverable.
- Assets & Services Committee to discuss and reach a decision.
- Decision reached...?

Thank you for your time

Mark & Colette

Officers of the Town Council have met and reviewed this project and feel that it is both viable and deliverable.

We therefore recommend this event to Council.