

WANT TO SEE MORE?

Holy Trinity Church contains George Abbot's renaissance style tomb and a brass plaque which portrays his parents and all 6 of their sons.
(Opening times Tues – Sat 10am – 3pm).

The Free Grammar School, now the Royal Grammar School, was the school attended by George Abbot. The building is situated on the Upper High Street and is marked by a heritage plaque providing additional information.

Abbot's statue stands at the junction of Upper High Street and North Street. It shows the Archbishop with an open book in his hand; a reference to the fact that he was one of the translators who worked on the King James Bible published in 1611.

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Visit the website for more information about George Abbot and Abbot's Hospital, including special events and news on www.abbotshospital.org.

WANT TO SEE INSIDE ABBOT'S HOSPITAL?

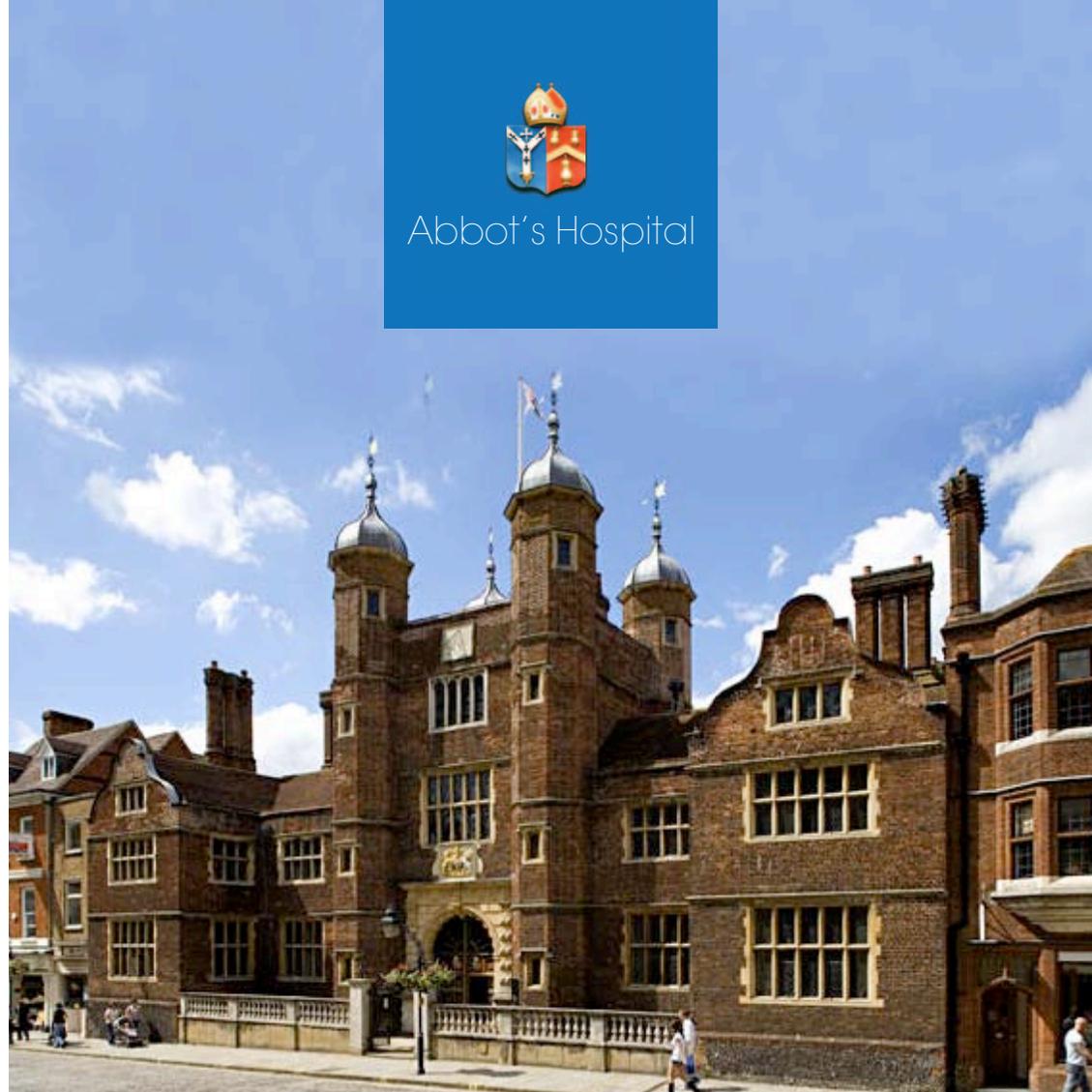
Tours are run every Saturday at 11am (May – September). £3 per person (under 16s free). There is no need to book. Group tours (minimum 6 people) can be arranged at a time to suit throughout the year. £5 per head. Must be booked in advance. Contact [01483 455591](tel:01483455591) or master@abbotshospital.org

THANK YOU

We hope you have enjoyed your "tour". Abbot's Hospital is a registered charity and receives no statutory funding. If you would like to contribute to our work please place your donation in the box provided. You will be helping to preserve Abbot's Hospital for many generations to come.



Abbot's Hospital



Abbot's Hospital

A Visitor's Introduction

This short guide is intended to help you learn a little more about the building and what makes Abbot's Hospital such an important part of Guildford's heritage.



GEORGE ABBOT, Archbishop of Canterbury from 1611 to 1633, was born and educated in Guildford. One of the most important men in England, Abbot founded The Hospital of the Blessed Trinity in 1619 because he wanted to provide for the town he loved. Abbot's Hospital was never a place for people in ill health but for elderly local people needing low cost accommodation. Today 25 residents live at Abbot's; a diverse and exciting community of people.

From the **BLUE ROPE** look straight ahead at the **DEDICATION STONE**, this records that the Hospital was intended for 12 single men (Brothers) and 8 single women (Sisters). The original Brothers and Sisters each lived in one unfurnished room with a stone floor and simple fireplace. If you look at the large **WINDOWS** to the right and the left of the courtyard you will see where those residents lived. They were expected to work in order to live at the Hospital and received a small weekly allowance to pay for their food. The residents ate together in the **COMMON HALL** (door next to the open archway) and food was served by the Sisters from the **BUTTERY** (reached by the door in the far left hand corner of the courtyard).

For many years it was compulsory for residents to attend Chapel services twice a day; those failing to turn up were fined! The door in the right hand corner of the courtyard leads to the Hospital **CHAPEL** and the **BELL TOWER** above the Dedication Stone contains the bell linked to the

Hospital **CLOCK** which would have called the residents to Chapel. This clock was installed in the eighteenth century but is thought to be medieval in origin.

The open archway immediately opposite where you are standing leads to the **KITCHEN GARDEN** (where the Brothers grew fruit and vegetables) and the 1984 **BUILDING**. The addition of this building plus alterations to the **UPPER COURTYARD** made it possible for couples to live at Abbot's for the first time. The 1984 Building backs on to North Street and is next to the **OLD CLOTH HALL**, founded as a Manufacture by George Abbot in 1629 to provide skills training for unemployed Clothworkers in the town.

High on the right hand side of the building you will see a patch of discoloured bricks. This is where the bell housing for the **PITY BELL** should hang. The Pity Bell was installed to enable travellers or those in need to summon the Duty Brother and ask for help. The housing is currently being restored and will be returned to the Hospital shortly.

Before you leave Abbot's Hospital, take a moment to look at the magnificent **GATEHOUSE** from the pavement (or better still, from the steps of Holy Trinity Church).

The main doors show George Abbot's **INITIALS** and the **COAT OF ARMS** he used while Archbishop of Canterbury; the **LATIN INSCRIPTION** reads "God has made this house for our rest". Above the arch are the Royal Arms of James I and the window of the **PRESENCE CHAMBER** built by Abbot for his own use when he visited.

At the top of the gatehouse is the **MONMOUTH ROOM**, originally the Hospital's strong room (as demonstrated by the barred windows) and used to imprison the Duke of Monmouth before he was executed at the Tower on London.