

1 JULY -  
10 JULY  
2022



**Bir Singh**  
Festival Patron

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM  
**FESTIVAL**  
**BOX OFFICE**

07802 701911 [leapinghare.org](http://leapinghare.org)

# Welcome to the Festival of East Anglia & Punjab



Essex Cultural Diversity Project is excited to bring you the Festival of East Anglia & Punjab, exploring the story and legacy of Maharajah Duleep Singh and the last royal family of the Punjab who lived in Norfolk.

This year also marks the 75th Anniversary of the Independence of India & Pakistan and Partition, which divided Punjab in two.

With events across Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk, the Festival brings communities together to share cultures, customs and traditions, with a range of activities from melas, music and dance to talks, food and family events – there'll be something for everyone!

Highlights include the Princess Catherine exhibition and exciting events at Ancient House Museum, Thetford; an exhibition on Maharajah Duleep Singh at the Norfolk Record Office showcasing artefacts from the Peter Bance Collection; and The Singh Twins: Slaves of Fashion exhibition at Firstsite, Colchester.

We have also developed the East of England Heritage Trail, which follows in the footsteps of the Duleep Singh family, with new additions... read below about our latest discovery!

**Indi Sandhu**  
Festival Director



## A Punjabi Princess in Essex

We have discovered the fascinating story of Princess Helen Runder Singh Ahluwalia of Kapurthala, an Indian Princess who is buried in All Saints Church, in Dodinghurst near Brentwood.

East Anglia has a strong Sikh heritage; with much of this in Norfolk, a new and important connection to Essex is very exciting.

Her name, Kapurthala, is a kingdom in the Punjab. The current Maharajah of Kapurthala invited me to the royal palace in India to learn more about Helen, the daughter of Randhir Singh, the ruling Maharajah in the state of Kapurthala, and his third Rani Henrietta Melvina.

As a controversial figure in London High Society, Princess Helen's story makes an interesting read, and we have more plans

to explore this hidden history in the pipeline for 2022. Find out more at [essexcdp.com](http://essexcdp.com), and visit Princess Helen's grave on the Duleep Singh Trail.

[essexcdp.com/duleepsinghtrail](http://essexcdp.com/duleepsinghtrail)

**Peter Bance**  
Sikh Historian,  
Author and Curator



# Maharajah Duleep Singh: Norfolk's Princely Family Exhibition

Over 150 years ago the last Emperor of the Punjab, Maharajah Duleep Singh made East Anglia his home when he purchased the Elveden Estate near Thetford.

The Norfolk Archive Centre exhibits artefacts and objects loaned from the renowned collection of Sikh historian Peter Bance, who has spent 25 years amassing this largely unseen archive. Many highlights including the Maharajah's velvet Indian Jacket and Prince Frederick's army uniform.



**DATE:** Sat 2 July – Fri 30 September  
Tues – Fri 10am – 5pm

**VENUE:** Norfolk Record Office  
Martineau Lane Norwich NR1 2DQ

**TICKETS:** FREE event - no need to book



# Maharajah Duleep Singh: Norfolk's Indian Royals

## A talk by Peter Bance

An enthralling talk to compliment Norfolk Archive Centre's new exhibition. Duleep Singh was only 11 years old when his kingdom of Punjab was annexed by the East India Company and surrendered the famous Kohinoor diamond. Exiled to England, he became a favourite of Queen Victoria.

Peter Bance will keep you captivated with anecdotes, unseen Victorian photography from the family's personal albums and give an insight to this fascinating family from historians, archaeologists, philanthropists to suffragettes.

**DATE:** Wed 6 July 1pm in-person and live streamed options

**VENUE:** Norfolk Record Office Martineau Lane Norwich NR1 2DQ

**TICKETS:** Booking essential at [bit.ly/NorfolksIndianRoyals](https://bit.ly/NorfolksIndianRoyals)

**DATE:** Wed 6 July 7pm

**VENUE:** Elveden Village Hall IP24 3TJ

**TICKETS:** Booking essential via  
Festival Box Office





# Ancient House Museum Festival Events

Most FREE admission advance booking recommended from Festival Box Office

## History Mystery: Who was Maharajah Duleep Singh really?

An immersive family friendly event exploring the life of Maharajah Duleep Singh. Meet costumed characters, get hands on with real historical artefacts and explore documents, photographs and paintings. The event draws on brand new research conducted as part of TORCH from Oxford University and you can meet Sikh Researcher Dr Priya Atwal.

**DATE:** Sat 2 July 10am – 5pm



## Princess Catherine Duleep Singh Exhibition

Ancient House joins with Peter Bance to mark the life of Princess Catherine Duleep Singh. The display features a newly commissioned portrait by Sikh contemporary artist InkQuisitive.

*“I am pleased we have the opportunity to celebrate this remarkable woman, a member of a fascinating family that once ruled the Sikh Empire of Punjab in Northern India.*

*Princess Catherine was a campaigner for women’s rights and assisted Jewish people escape from Nazi Germany.”*

Curator Oliver Bone

Why not complete the Princess Catherine Museum Trail too?

**DATE:** Running until Sun 10 July Tues – Sat 10am – 5pm\*

**TICKET:** Free with museum admission

[www.bit.ly/PrincessCatherine](http://www.bit.ly/PrincessCatherine)

\*Sat 9 July 10am – 2.30pm



## The Norfolk Regiment and Partition

Discover how the Norfolk Regiment was involved in the end of Empire in India. Learn about the Commonwealth War Graves commemorating Indian servicemen at Thetford cemetery.

**DATE:** Sat 9 July 10am – 3pm



**ANCIENT  
HOUSE**

MUSEUM OF THETFORD LIFE



## Streets of London, Stories from Punjab

Talk by Rav Singh



Researcher Rav Singh, founder of *A little History of the Sikhs*, presents an illustrated talk of artefacts from the early 19th century Kingdom of Lahore that can be found in London. He weaves together stories that will take us through London, across the United Kingdom and cities across Western Europe.

**DATE:** Sat 9 July 3pm

## The Rise of the Sikh Soldier

Talk by Gurinder Singh Mann  
and Book Signing



SIKH MUSEUM INITIATIVE

The might and prowess of the Sikhs has been noted in the annals of history but what constitutes this development has seldom been discussed or understood in a meaningful context. The book considers the rise of military methods from the time of the Gurus.

**DATE:** Sat 9 July 6pm

## Festival Finale Day

Explore Ancient House Museum founded by Prince Frederick Duleep Singh. Meet costumed characters to learn about the connections between the Norfolk Regiment and Maharajah Duleep Singh. Experience digital object handling of Sikh relics with the digital interactive from The Sikh Museum Initiative.

**DATE:** Sun 10 July 10am – 5pm



## Message from our Festival Patron – Bir Singh

I was invited to Norfolk by the Anglo Punjab Heritage Foundation and had the opportunity to visit the Grave of Maharajah Duleep Singh at Elveden Church during my recent UK concert Tour.

It was a great honour for me to visit the church, pay my respects, and recite a poem about how we are all one no matter what our faiths are - a reference to the Maharajah, who was born a Sikh but later became a Christian.

I wish the festival organisers a successful event and to keep the links between East Anglia and Punjab alive through the legacy of the Duleep Singh story.

**Bir Singh** Punjabi Singer, Composer and Lyricist  
**Patron of the Festival of East Anglia & Punjab**



## PROGRAMME

**Fri 1 – Sun 10 July Tues – Sat 10am – 5pm Sun 12pm – 4pm**  
**Museum Trail: Spot the Khanda Trail**

**Sat 2 July 10am – 5pm**  
**History Mystery: Who was Maharajah Duleep Singh really?**

**Running until Sun 10 July Tues – Sat 10am – 5pm**  
**Exhibition: Princess Catherine Duleep Singh**

**Running until Sun 10 July Tues – Sat 10am – 5pm**  
**Museum Trail: Princess Catherine Duleep Singh**

**Running until Sat 10 September Mon – Sat 9.30am – 5pm**  
**Exhibition: Lahore Copper and Brass**

**Running until Sun 11 September 10am – 5pm**  
**Exhibition: The Singh Twins: Slaves of Fashion**

**Sat 2 July – Fri 30 September Tuesday – Friday 10am – 5pm**  
**Exhibition: Maharajah Duleep Singh: Norfolk's Princely Family**

**Sat 2 July 12pm – 4pm**  
**Global Village at Streets Alive**

**Sun 3 July 11.30am – 4pm**  
**Global Village at Hadleigh**

**Tues 5 July 2pm**  
**West Stow Hall & Prince Frederick Duleep Singh**

**Wed 6 July 1pm**  
**Talk: Maharajah Duleep Singh: Norfolk's Indian Royals**

**Wed 6 July 7pm**  
**Talk: Maharajah Duleep Singh: Norfolk's Indian Royals**

**Sat 9 July 10am – 3pm**  
**The Norfolk Regiment and Partition**

**Sat 9 July 3pm**  
**Talk: Streets of London, Stories from Punjab**

**Sat 9 July 11am – 6pm**  
**ThetFest: Circus Raj performances 12.30pm, 2.30pm and 4pm**

**Sat 9 July 6pm**  
**Talk: The Rise of the Sikh Soldier and book signing**

**Sat 9 July 7pm**  
**Curry Night**

**Sun 10 July 10am – 5pm**  
**Festival Finale Day at Ancient House Museum**

**Sun 10 July 1.30pm**  
**Talk: The Execution of Bhagat Singh Legal Heresies of the Raj**

**Sun 10 July 3pm**  
**Talk: Princesses, Spies and The Suffragette**

**Sun 10 July 1pm – 5pm**  
**Thetford Mela**

### KEY

 NORWICH	 THETFORD
 COLCHESTER	 HADLEIGH
 KINGS LYNN	 ELVEDEN
 CHELMSFORD	 WEST STOW

**TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM**  
**FESTIVAL**  
**BOX OFFICE**

**07802 701911**  
**[www.leapinghare.org](http://www.leapinghare.org)**

## Spot the Khanda Trail

Find all the Khandas hidden around the museum to win a small prize with our family trail. A Khanda is the symbol representing the Sikh faith and is also a military emblem. It is made up of separate parts, a double edged Khanda sword in the centre, a Chakra and a pair of crosses (Kirpans).

**DATE: Fri 1 July – Sun 10 July 10am – 5pm**

**VENUE: Lynn Museum PE30 1NL**

**TICKETS: FREE with museum admission**







## Global Village at Streets Alive

Global Village arrives in Chelmsford High Street. Featuring the Raj Circus from Rajasthan India with large puppets and stilt walkers along with African storytelling, Bollywood Dancing, Brazilian Capoeira and Samba, and Henna hand painting. Activities for all ages.

**DATE:** Sat 2 July 12pm – 4pm

**VENUE:** Chelmsford High Street, Tindall Square area next to Lloyds Bank

**TICKETS:** FREE event – all welcome



## Global Village at Hadleigh

A day of dance, music and performance from around the world. Featuring a range of artists from near and afar, including the amazing Circus Raj, the Rajasthan Heritage Brass Band, Usifu Jalloh from Sierra Leone, BrazilArte and Colchester Chinese Cultural Society.

**DATE:** Sun 3 July 11.30am – 4pm

**VENUE:** Hadleigh Country Park, Chapel Lane, Benfleet SS7 2PP

**TICKETS:** FREE event – all welcome  
(public car park – charges apply)



Essex County Council



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## West Stow Hall and Prince Frederick Duleep Singh

Enjoy a guided tour of late 15th century West Stow Hall. Prince Frederick Duleep Singh led an excursion of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History to the house on 1st August 1901 and the tour includes the account of his visit.

Refreshments including tea and coffee, samosas and cakes served from 3pm.

**DATE:** Tues 5 July 2pm (arrive 1.45pm)

**VENUE:** West Stow Hall Icklingham Road  
West Stow Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP28 6EY

**TICKETS:** £18 includes tour and refreshments.  
Booking essential via Festival Box Office



## The Singh Twins: Slaves of Fashion

Explore narratives around Empire, enslavement, conflict and luxury consumerism connected to the story of India's historical trade in textiles, and the relevance of these issues in our world today, in this colourful and thought-provoking exhibition, from internationally acclaimed artists, The Singh Twins.

*"If you care about the environment and you care about human rights, then you should really care about what you put in your shopping basket too, and that's partly what the message of Slaves of Fashion is about. But it's equally about redressing neglected and hidden histories, showing how we are all connected through a shared colonial heritage and how our understanding of global narratives around Empire can help us to view ourselves and the world around us in a new light."* – The Singh Twins, 2022.

**DATE:** running until Sun 11 September  
**Open Mon - Sun 10am – 5pm**  
**VENUE:** Firstsite, Lewis Gardens High Street  
Colchester Essex CO1 1JH  
**TICKETS:** FREE – no need to book  
**For more information:** [bit.ly/SinghTwins](https://bit.ly/SinghTwins)



Image - INDIGO © The Singh Twins

**Firstsite**



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Art Fund  
Museum of  
the Year 2021  
Winner

## Lahore Copper and Brass Exhibition

Discover the South East Asia Collection Museum in the heart of Norwich and its Lahore Copper and Brass exhibition, many of the objects on display are from the Kasera Bazaar in Lahore, which is famous for its metalwork.

**DATE:** running until Sat 10 September  
**Mon – Sat 9.30am – 5pm**  
**VENUE:** The South Asia Collection Museum  
34-36 Bethel Street Norwich NR2 1NR  
**TICKETS:** FREE – no need to book  
**For more information:**  
[thesouthasiacollection.co.uk](https://thesouthasiacollection.co.uk)



# Annual Curry Night

Join Gez and Rosy Chetal at the Thomas Paine Hotel on Saturday 9th July for authentic and locally sourced Indian food, homecooked by Rosy! Celebrate their 9th anniversary with Dhol hand drums and Bollywood music.

**DATE:** Sat 9 July 7pm til late (food served from 8pm)

**VENUE:** The Thomas Paine Hotel, Thetford, IP24 1AA

**TICKETS:** Tickets £30 via Festival Box Office



## 'The Execution of Bhagat Singh Legal Heresies of the Raj'

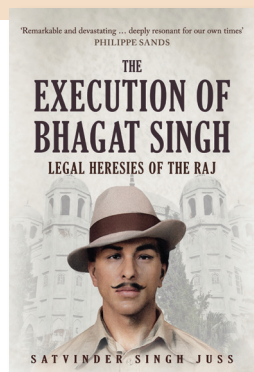
Talk by Satvinder Singh Juss

Bhagat Singh was an Indian nationalist considered to be one of the most influential revolutionaries of the Indian independence movement. His reputation has outshone all participants in the struggle up to and almost including Mahatma Gandhi. He was only 23 when executed on the charge of murder, having already received a life sentence for bombing the Central Assembly in Delhi. But it must be remembered that pre-independence India had two rival approaches to the quest for freedom.

**DATE:** Sun 10 July 1.30pm – 2.30pm (doors open 1.20pm)

**VENUE:** Not Just Books Limited 23 Riverside Walk IP24 2BB

**TICKETS:** FREE event – Booking essential via Festival Box Office



## Princesses, Spies and The Suffragette Talk by Sufiya Ahmed

A talk by Sufiya Ahmed, award-winning children's and YA author, on princesses, action, adventure and resistance. Sufiya will share the stories of Sophia Duleep Singh and Noor-Un-Nissa Inayat Khan, and how they inspired her to create the fictional heroine in her new book Rosie Raja: Churchill's Spy, a thrilling and empowering WWII adventure out this Summer.

**DATE:** Sun 10 July 3pm - 4pm (doors open at 2.50pm)

**VENUE:** Not Just Books Limited 23 Riverside Walk IP24 2BB

**TICKETS:** FREE event Booking essential via Festival box office



NotJustBooks  
Independent Bookshop

Essex Cultural  
Diversity Project



# ThetFest A feast of everything local



Festival of East Anglia and Punjab will be part of ThetFest with the internationally renowned Circus Raj, a tantalising troop of artists and performers who excel in presenting an unprecedented royal format of circus that was once exclusive to only Maharajahs and Nobles.

**DATE:** Sat 9 July 11am – 6pm

**Circus Raj performance times** 12.30pm – 2.30pm and 4pm

**VENUE:** Kilverstone Estate Kilverstone Road Thetford IP24 2RL

**TICKETS:** FREE event everyone welcome

## Essex Cultural Diversity Project

Energising cultural diversity in arts and heritage,  
in Essex and beyond. [www.essexcdp.com](http://www.essexcdp.com)

Essex Cultural Diversity Project would like to thank the following:

### FESTIVAL PATRON

**Bir Singh** - Punjabi Singer,  
Composer and Lyricist

### FESTIVAL TEAM

**Indi Sandhu** – Festival Director

**Jo Nancarrow** – Digital Lead

**Nicky Bettell** – Finance Lead

**Corinne Fulford** – Leaping Hare  
Box office/ Marketing

**Melissa Hawker** – Ancient  
House Museum events

**Sean McLoughlin** – Production

### FESTIVAL PARTNERS/ FUNDERS

**Oliver Bone** – Ancient House  
(Norfolk Museums Service)

**Peter Bance** – Anglo Punjab  
Heritage Foundation

**Breckland Council**

**Steve Miller** – Norfolk  
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**Mary Muir** – Norfolk  
Arts Service

**Nick Sellwood &**

**Victoria Draper** –  
Norfolk Record Office

**Sally Shaw & Stuart Tulloch** –  
Firstsite

**Valerie Watson** – Local Flavours

**Eileen & Andy Gilbert** –  
West Stow Hall

**Jane James** –  
Not Just Books Limited

### FESTIVAL SUPPORTS/ SPONSORS

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**Jon Pennells** – Chilterns

**Nisha Tandon** – Arts Ekta  
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**Dawn Gerber** – BBC Look East

# Thetford **FEAP**

Festival of East Anglia  
& Punjab

## Festival of East Anglia & Punjab Finale

### A range of cultural activities and performances

Epika Dance  
Bollywood Sparkles  
Jugnu Bhangra Group  
Munde Punjab De  
Internationally renowned Netherlands  
Dj Balli Kalsi  
Sikh Martial Arts display  
Baba Fateh Singh Gatka Akhara  
Colourful Silk River Flags by Kinetika

### Ancient House Museum events

The Cookery Theatre with authentic  
Punjabi cooking demos by Nisha Tandon  
& Nabeela Yasin-Iannelli from ArtsEkta,  
Northern Ireland Safina Karim, Vasanti Patel  
Punjabi food, henna and information stalls

**DATE:** Sunday 10 July 1pm - 5pm

**VENUE:** Thetford Riverside

“On The Green” IP24 3AQ

**TICKETS:** FREE Family event

– all ages welcome

Photo courtesy of Maria Cooke



Essex Cultural  
Diversity Project  
[essexcdp.com/event/feap](http://essexcdp.com/event/feap)



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