## Thame Midsomer Tours

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#### Press Release

# Thame Midsomer Tours Make Largest Ever Donation to Local Charities! Tuesday 12th November 2024

Thame Midsomer Tours have this year made their largest charitable donation since the tours began, with £1,500 given to each of the Mayor's Charities (this year, Sharing Life Trust and Lord Williams's School Young Carers) and Thame Museum, a registered charity. Around 3,000 Midsomer fans and tourists from home and from around the world have now taken the Midsomer Walking Tour since the tours began seven years ago. Including this year's donation of £3,000, the ever-popular tours have resulted in over £13,000 being donated to local charities, based on two thirds of ticket sales income.

Thame is one of the most-filmed locations, sometimes appearing as Causton, sometimes as one of the many picturesque villages in Midsomer County (aka Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire). The tour covers the 23 Midsomer filming locations in Thame. A member of a team of seven knowledgeable guides, all enthusiastic experts, not only on *Midsomer Murders* locations, the actors, the bizarre methods of murder and much more, but on local history too, will tell you about each location – including Thame Town Hall (aka Causton Town Hall) and Thame Museum. You will also learn fascinating snippets about Thame's history, from its ancient Neanderthal remains to the English Civil War and Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee, up until the present day – one Midsomer filming location, the Prebendal, was home to the late Robin Gibb of the Bee Gees.

The guides are all unpaid volunteers. If you're interested in doing something a bit different that also raises money for worthy local causes, why not talk to Midsomer Walking Tours about becoming a Midsomer Tour Guide? If you have some spare time and like meeting people, enjoy history, and you're a fan of *Midsomer Murders* - although this isn't obligatory as full training will be given to new recruits - get in touch with Tony Long, tour coordinator, to discuss what's involved. Most of all, you will get the chance to meet Midsomer fans, from the local area, from around the UK, and from around the world, who will hang on your every word as you take them on their walking tour of Thame! It's a lot of fun, and the guides get a lot of satisfaction from doing the tours.

Tony said, "We're delighted to have made so much money for local good causes while giving Midsomer fans locally and from countries around the world a wonderful insight into Thame as a major Midsomer filming location and as a fascinating town in its own right. Please join us for a tour when the new season starts in April 2025 and help local causes at the same time."

Thame Midsomer Tours will start again every Wednesday from 2nd April 2025. For more information, go to <a href="https://www.thamemidsomertours.co.uk">www.thamemidsomertours.co.uk</a>.

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### **Notes for Editors**

- Midsomer Guided Walking Tours of Thame will re-start on Wednesday 2nd April and every Wednesday until 29th October 2025. There will also be tours every Saturday from mid-June until mid-September. The tours last around 90 minutes and start at 2pm from outside Thame Town Hall
- Tickets are £10 per person. Book online at <u>ticketsource.co.uk/thamemidsomer</u> or at Thame Town Hall Information Centre in person or by phone on 01844 212833 or at Thame Museum (during opening hours – check websites <a href="https://www.thamemuseum.org/">https://www.thametowncouncil.gov.uk/</a>)
- Ad hoc tours are available if Wednesday and Saturday afternoons are not convenient, contact <u>thamemidsomertours@gmail.com</u> to arrange a tour
- Over 3,000 people have taken the Midsomer Walking Tour of Thame to date.
   Two thirds of tour income is donated to local charities, and over £13,000 has now been donated since the tours began in 2017
- It's estimated that one billion people around the world have seen *Midsomer Murders* and it has been viewed in over 200 countries. There have been 23 series and 132 episodes since *Midsomer Murders* began in 1997

**ENDS**