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| Streets Alive! The need we want to address:Creating work for re-animating the High Street in our large towns (Bury, Ipswich, Lowestoft) but especially our market towns, many of which have been disproportionately affected by Covid. Making people feel they can be out and safe in their home towns and also enjoy performances that celebrate the arts and heritage of this region with Eastern Angles’ focus on “sense of place”. Seeing the closed shops and empty streets tells us that this is an urgent need to help us all recover from the pandemic. Eastern Angles has acquired extensive experience in site-specific presentations and assembled equipment that will enable us to perform outdoors. We risk assessed and presented events at our Sir John Mills Theatre for which audiences have applauded both the shows and the safe way we have handled their presence. We believe we can combine all this and produce a street theatre presentation that unites entertainment, Covid safety, and reinvigoration of the county’s town economies, while at the same time improving our own resilience. Other towns like Leicester, Coventry and Hull have shown how effective this is. It will be important to celebrate our survival and the return of civic confidence so that entering the high street is a joyful experience, enhances wellbeing, and appeals across the generations.  |
| Streets Alive! What we are proposing to do:We will assemble a team of creatives to explore the creation of a street theatre show involving stilts, costumes, music and puppets that will enliven our high streets and inspire our shoppers. The performances will be free and involve three costumed performers. The characters will be linked to Suffolk heritage. One idea is the Wild Man of Orford, another is The Ipswich Man, who came from North Africa and is reckoned to be the Ipswich’s first Black resident, another is the Anglo-Saxon King Raedwald. These characters will be finalised during an R&D week beginning on May 23rd. We aim to perform in the following locations: Framlingham, Lowestoft, Felixstowe, Ipswich, Brandon, Bury St Edmunds, Newmarket and Halesworth. An important part of the experience will be the design and the sound. It will be eye-catching and entertaining. We have a sound system, skilled stilt walkers, radio mics for the actors, and professional designers to ensure the various parts of the event is sufficient to make an impact. |