

BACTON & COTTON

LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Programme for 2018/2019

September to June excluding December

7.30 pm BACTON VILLAGE HALL

(IP14 4LN)

All meetings - £2 for Members £3 for Non-Members

*Membership is £5 for a year thus saving £4 when attending all of a
season's meetings – so why not join ?*

The Committee regrets that it cannot be held responsible for short notice changes or cancellations by speakers

Chairman: Peter Wenban (peterwenban@gmail.com)

May 21st Medieval Graffiti

Mathew Champion is regarded as England's leading expert on medieval graffiti. For centuries carved writings and artwork in churches lay unnoticed. A world of ships, prayers, cartoons, charms, curses, wood puzzles and so much else will be explained to us.

June 18th The Vikings and their impact on Bury St. Edmunds

The ancient abbey church at Bury St. Edmunds was in its time the biggest in Western Christendom until St. Peter's in Rome was built in the 16th century. The Vikings were powerful invaders and in AD 869 put to death King Edmund with scores of arrows and cutting off his head. He, then being sainted, was buried in the abbey church. The Rev. Tim Stevens will tell us of the Vikings and their considerable effect in Suffolk

(We do not meet in the holiday months of July and August)

September 18th The Domesday Book

When William 1 called his Council to plan defences for his shores he learned that the country's reserve coffers were almost empty. He therefore proposed an assessment of his subjects' lands so that taxation could fund a permanent military force. This resulted in The Domesday Book and, as Tom Doig describes, not an ox, cow or pig was left out !

October 16th Moated Houses of Suffolk

Suffolk, as in the rest of East Anglia is rich with 925 moated houses or sites where such houses existed. Edward Martin will tell us about notable examples in the county, their origins and significance and highlighting some of the most interesting

November 20th The World of Morris

A jolly evening to end this year's programme ! Mike Garland, Mick Reeve and Dave Evans will cover some of the facts and fiction surrounding this historic dancing that is rooted in the life and traditions of East

Anglia. What is The Morris Ring? Is it a pagan ritual ? Are women allowed to dance ? Hopefully Mick will show his expertise in playing the button accordion.

(We do not meet in the busy holiday month of December so will end this last meeting of the year with our customary mince pies, tea and coffee to wish everyone – A Very Happy Christmas and a good New Year !)

January 15th Carnival, Drama and Popular Protest

Kate Jewell will tell us about how people let off steam in the 14th and 15th centuries. The staging of plays to make a specific point, also to point out problems and to criticise the nobility. Very similar to today !

February 19th Roman Roads of East Anglia

James Albone is an archaeologist and historian with a special interest in routeways and movement in the landscape. His PhD was on 'Roman Roads in the Changing Landscape' and this forms the basis of his talk.

March 19th Gravestones and Curiosities in Suffolk Churchyards

Robert Halliday has roamed Suffolk seeking unusual stories and historical events. Among others he has written unique studies of famous people's gravestones and the history of gravestones in Suffolk.

April 16th Take 40 or 50 Swallows

Dr. Pat Murrell looks at how late Stuart and Georgian society made use of wildlife and flora for culinary and medicinal purposes such as Swallow Water, Cowslip Wine, Sparrow Dumpling