

Spring 2018



Vote 100 Open Day: Suffrage Saturday at Bury Record Office

Courses: New York in Fiction
Vernacular Building in Suffolk in the 21st Century
In Flanders Fields the Poppies Blow
Putting Flesh on the Bones of our Ancestors

Talks: The Ipswich Urban Archaeology Database Project
Stories and Folk Legends from Transylvania
Lawson Lies Still in the Thames
Secret Bury St Edmunds
The Black Death

Workshops: House History
Palaeography (Part 1 & 2)

Please visit www.suffolkarchives.co.uk for more information, including our opening hours, contact details and services

Free Event

Vote 100: Suffrage Saturday

Saturday 10 February 10.00am Bury

2018 marks a series of important anniversaries that helped shape democracy in the UK. As part of this year long commemoration, Bury St Edmunds Record Office are holding a Suffrage Saturday. Come along to find out about all things suffrage.

Talks £7.50

James Oakes (1741-1829)

Dr Pat Murrell

Saturday 3 February 10.00am Bury

The life and times of a Bury inhabitant who became a successful yarn manufacturer, prominent member of Bury Corporation, JP, astute banker, and the man responsible for Sandys' remodelling of the Assembly rooms, now known as the Athenaeum. A family man, he employed the architect John Soane to 'Georgianise' his property which still survives in Guildhall Street. In his spare time he kept an invaluable record of local life. His fourteen diaries covering from 1778 to 1827, held at the Bury branch, form the basis of this lecture.

I Didn't Find it on the Internet: Archives for Family History not Available Online but at your County Record Office

Emma Sealy

Friday 9 February 10.00am Ipswich

This workshop will introduce visitors to how they can use Suffolk Record Office archives in their family history research. A variety of archives including nonconformist, employment, poor law, school, apprenticeship and probate records will be available for visitors to look through.

Suffolk Medieval Graffiti Survey

Matt Champion

Saturday 17 February 10.30am Ipswich

Today graffiti is regarded as something anti-social and destructive, but that hasn't always been the case. The walls of our medieval churches are covered with graffiti inscriptions - everything from ships and dragons, to prayers for long dead children - and were both accepted and acceptable to all levels of medieval society. These were no mere doodles by bored choirboys, but the hopes, dreams and fears of countless long-dead generations. They are, quite literally, the lost voices of the medieval church.

Suffolk Lives and Life (1660-1830)

Dr Pat Murrell

Saturday 3 March 10.00am Bury

Using a variety of sources including sessions papers, wills, early newspapers, unpublished private correspondence and journals, this considers the ordinary and extraordinary lives of some Suffolk inhabitants. It will feature those who struggled to survive, those that prospered, and those that caught the attention of others for their unusual, scandalous or criminal behaviour.

The Black Death

Dr Mark Bailey

Saturday 3 March 10.30am Ipswich

The Black Death killed half of the population of Suffolk in 1349, and returned again in 1361 and repeatedly thereafter. This seminar will sketch the latest research on the disease and its spread, and its impact on local communities, using examples drawn from Suffolk material.

British India from Contemporary Postcards

Robert Butterworth Snr.

Saturday 10 March 10.00am Bury

Come and join us for an illustrated presentation concerning events just within human recollection. For over 200 years the British Raj in India forged a single nation out of a sub-continent of warring states. Marvel at the audacity, cheer at the triumphs and weep at the tragedy. All human life is here.

The Ipswich Urban Archaeology Database Project

Dr Hannah Cutler, Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service

Monday 12 March 7.30pm Ipswich

Ipswich's archaeological record is rich and internationally recognised. The town of Ipswich has its origins as one of England's four 7th–9th century AD 'emporium' or 'wic' trading sites, and was a major Anglo-Saxon pottery production centre. The historic core of Ipswich lies at the centre of the wider Ipswich Borough, which spans the Gipping valley where it meets the Orwell estuary and covers approximately 4000 hectares. This area includes significant prehistoric, Roman and earlier Anglo-Saxon remains. The completion of the Urban Archaeology Database has now made searching for and presenting information on Ipswich's archaeology and history possible. This presentation will describe the story of Ipswich through its archaeology and show how Geographic Information Systems have enhanced our understanding of the town.

Stories and Folk Legends from Transylvania

John Row

Saturday 17 March 10.30am Ipswich

For the last year John Row, veteran storyteller and poet, has been collecting stories from Romania. Many are from the people of Transylvania where he has a house. Transylvania has been a melting pot for many cultures for hundreds of years, Romanians, Germans from Saxony, Hungarians, Rom and Jews and the stories reflect

this. This talk will include Romanian wonder tales, local legends and folk tales told to him by people who have lived there for generations. Meet the Iele, the Zmeu, Muma Padurii, Faurul Pamantului (the blacksmith of the Earth) and many other figures from Romanian folklore. There will be an opportunity to ask John questions.

FIBIS - India Office Records Family History Sources

Valmay Young

Saturday 7 April 10.00am Bury

Experienced British India family history researcher and FIBIS (Families in British India Society) trustee, Valmay Young, will give a presentation on some of the material available in the India Office archives for British India family history research. A research surgery will follow the talk to help with specific personal research queries or problems.

Written in Stone

Martyn Taylor

Saturday 21 April 10.00am Bury

This fully illustrated talk tells a sideways view of some of the rich history of Bury St Edmunds via the inscriptions that are literally written in stone. Local author and tour guide will show you some of the people forever etched into our past.

Secret Bury St Edmunds

Martyn Taylor

Saturday 28 April 10.00am Bury

How often we take for granted what surrounds us, but what of the rich history of the town we don't see? Local author and tour guide Martyn Taylor will do just that, showing you some of the strange and downright weird elements that make Bury St Edmunds such a wonderful place.

The Guildhall and the Work of the Guildhall Feoffees in Late Stuart and Georgian Bury St Edmunds

Dr Pat Murrell

Saturday 5 May 10.00am Bury

With the Guildhall currently undergoing extensive renovation and restoration this looks at the building, the work of its owners, and its varied uses between 1660 – 1830. Belonging to the town's oldest and premier charitable body it was also home to Bury Corporation. Besides being a seat of authority it was a place of political intrigue, electioneering, justice, feasting and entertainment.

Voices from the Workhouse

Janette Robinson

Saturday 12 May 10.30am Ipswich

There is so much information about workhouses – official records, newspapers, poetry, photographs – but missing is the voice of the inmate – what was it like to live in the workhouse? A unique record has come to light in the written memories of a lady

admitted into Wickham Market Workhouse with her family. Does the image compare to the actual?

Lawson Lies Still in the Thames: The Extraordinary Life of Vice Admiral Sir John Lawson

Gill Blanchard

Saturday 19 May

10.00am

Bury

The extraordinary career of a 17th century merchant seaman, who became a Vice-Admiral. Lawson played a major role in the English civil wars, the Restoration, the Anglo-Dutch Wars and the beginnings of the transformation of England into a global political and economic power. Until now he has been largely ignored by historians.

Five week courses

£37.50

In Flanders Fields the Poppies Blow

Caroline Holmes

Starts Tuesday 6 February 10.00am

Bury

In five sessions Caroline Holmes will explore memorials to the Great War through plantings and paintings with special reference to East Anglia.

1. Introduction – impressions of the golden afternoon. Gardens, canvases and families of and by Gertrude Jekyll, the Impressionists and the water lilies at Shrublands Park.
2. The Sandringham Company. Gallipoli, Queen Alexandra and the Verdun Oaks.
3. War Graves Commission, headstones, crosses and the Cenotaph. Creating suitable resting places for the fallen dead. British, French, American, Australian and German.
4. Not just Gardens of Remembrance. Corners of rural churches laid out in uniformity as well as countless memorials throughout Suffolk.
5. Beyond poppies. Inspired by an article by Newman Flower 'My War Garden' and his worldwide distribution of seeds. The history of the Flanders poppy. Monet's water lily panels.

Putting Flesh on the Bones of our Ancestors

Sarah Doig

Starts Thursday 22 February

10.00am

Bury

A series of five workshops given by experienced family and local history researcher, Sarah Doig. In each session, Sarah will delve into the wealth of fascinating sources of information which provide details of our ancestors, their lives and the places they inhabited. So, if you are either a newcomer to family history, a more experienced user of archives who wants to learn more, or interested in exploring information about the house or locality you live in, these talks are for you.

WHO? This workshop will cover the more familiar “building blocks” which give us the basic details about our ancestors such as census returns, wills and parish registers. Sarah will explore some of the less obvious pieces of information in the sources which are easily overlooked.

WHAT? A look at the archival sources which provide us with information about how our ancestors were educated and what they did for a living. These will include delving into school records, trade and occupational directories and armed service records.

WHEN? A session that will focus primarily on newspapers; an amazing treasure trove of information about people and places from the early 1700s onwards. Find out more about our criminal ancestors, property sales, bankruptcy and all manner of village events.

WHERE? An exploration mainly of sources in the archives which tell us about where our ancestors lived. Sarah will show the range of maps available to family and local historians, as well as looking at some of the ways in which our ancestors were taxed over the centuries.

HOW? This final session delves into documents which tell us about how our forebears coped with poverty, sickness, illegitimate children and other trials and tribulations of life. Sarah will show archival examples to illustrate this intriguing aspect of our family and local history.

Vernacular Building in Suffolk in the 21st Century: The Orchard Barn Story

Sarah Partridge

Starts Friday 23 February 10.00am Bury

Since co-founding OBe Community Interest Company and taking on the restoration of Orchard Barn in 2007, Sarah has worked with over 2000 local volunteers and trainees. They have sourced trees from the local woods and dug their own earth, as well as repairing the 17th century timber frame ‘like for like’ using traditional hand tools, techniques and authentic materials. OBe’s next project is the reinstatement of the 1580 Suffolk Long House adjacent to Orchard Barn. Come along to this series of talks to hear not only about the traditional building skills being kept alive, but also how the timber frame of the Long House is taking shape!

1. Building Traditional Skills – a community project
2. Trees for Timber – where, how, who, what
3. A New (hand-cut) Roof for Orchard Barn
4. Earthworks – daub, cob, clay lump
5. Reinstating the 1580 Suffolk Long House

Ten Week Courses

£75

New York in Fiction

Ulrike Horstmann-Guthrie

Starts Thursday 11 January 2.00pm Bury

One of the iconic cities of the world, New York has inspired fiction from many great writers, who, whether they love or hate her, cannot resist her fascination. Our selection

includes Theodore Dreiser's *Sister Carrie* (1900); *The Everyman's Anthology: New York Stories*, ed. Diana Secker Tesdell; Toni Morrison's *Jazz* (1992) and Francis Spufford's Costa winner *Golden Hill* (2016).

Workshops

£12.50

House History

Thursday 8 February	2.00pm	Ipswich
Thursday 22 March	2.00pm	Ipswich

This two hour session uses a variety of maps (tithe, enclosure and district valuation), tax returns, census and directories, to help you find out the social history of your property back to 1800.

Taster Workshops

Lowestoft Record Office will be running a series of 1 hour workshops, designed to get you started on the basics for family and local history. Topics will include parish registers, civil registration, school records and maps. Dates and further details will be advertised on the website and in branch.

Workshops

£25.00

Palaeography

Part 1 Monday 23 April	2.00pm	Ipswich
Part 2 Monday 7 May	2.00pm	Ipswich

Palaeography is the study of old handwriting and this two part workshop introduces you to the basic techniques for reading local documents, written in English, from about 1600-1900. You will use examples from Suffolk Record Office's collections.

Part 1: letters, abbreviations, numerals, money, dating, measurements, punctuation and language.

Part 2: parish registers, wills, inventories, bonds and deeds.

Walks

£7.50

Peto's Lowestoft

Sunday 20 May	11am	Lowestoft
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Join historian Ivan Bunn on this ever popular walk to discover the impact that Samuel Morton Peto had on early Victorian Lowestoft and the growth of the town.

Larks in the Parks

Sunday 22 July

11am

Lowestoft

North Lowestoft is blessed with a number of delightful parks all of which have a fascinating history. Historian Ivan Bunn will be your guide on this fascinating walk.

Booking form

Please complete the form with your contact details and send to the relevant Record Office.

Event title

Date

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Total amount enclosed

£.....

Name.....

Address.....
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Post code

Tel.....

From May 2018 The Data Protection Laws are changing.

This means that you will need to consent to us holding your personal data in the future.

Please tick the box if you consent to having your contact details stored on our database so we can notify you of future Record Office events.

Information on our database will not be shared with third parties and will only be used by the Record Office for marketing purposes.

Please make cheques payable to: **Suffolk County Council**
You may also phone us and pay by credit/debit card

Bury Record Office, 77 Raingate Street, BURY ST EDMUNDS, IP33 2AR, Tel 01284 741212
bury.ro@suffolk.gov.uk

Ipswich Record Office, Gatacre Road, IPSWICH, IP1 2LQ, Tel 01473 263910
ipswich.ro@suffolk.gov.uk

Lowestoft Record Office, Central Library, Clapham Road, LOWESTOFT, NR32 1DR, Tel 01502 674680
lowestoft.ro@suffolk.gov.uk

Record Office Visits

Are you a member of a society or group? Have you thought of going behind the scenes at an archive to learn about how records are selected, preserved, stored and shared with the public?

Suffolk Record Office's popular day time and evening visits include a strongroom tour, a talk on the record office and a selection of archives tailored to your group's interests.

£60 day time and £65 evening

How to stay in touch with us...

Why not follow us on Twitter, Facebook or Instagram for our latest news?

If you'd like to receive the events programme electronically, email us at archives@suffolk.gov.uk

You can also find out the latest news about The Hold project on our website at: **www.thehold.org.uk**

We do our best to avoid changing or cancelling events but sometimes it's unavoidable. Where possible we will notify people in advance and post updates on our website and through our social media accounts.

If you cancel your booking it is non-refundable. In the event of Suffolk Record Office cancelling we will offer you the opportunity to book another course or have your payment refunded.