

SUTTON COURTENAY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Formation of the Society List of Meetings and Talks

The first meeting of the History Society was held in All Saints' Church in April, 2008. The church was an occasional venue for meetings and for hosting visiting organizations and groups for a talk by the Society about the village's history. Most meetings were held in the Village Hall 5-6 times a year with at least one visit, usually in the summer, to a place of interest.

List of Topics and Speakers

2008-9

1804 – A Turning Point for Sutton Courtenay: Michael St. John Parker

Midwinter in May – Researching Family History: Rev. J Midwinter

Excursion to Woodstock County Museum

Family History – The Lure of the Graveyard: Alan Simpson

Prehistoric and Archaeological Discoveries from Sutton Courtenay Gravel Extraction:
Bob Eeles

Dissent in the Thames Valley: Manfred Brod

Guided Tour of the Bodleian Library

The Abingdon Water Turnpike Murder: Mark Davies

Providing for the Needy – Six Poor Widows of Sutton Courtenay: Mary Thompson
Sutton Courtenay Charities: Anne Grimm

Maps of Oxfordshire – A History: John Leighfield

2010-2011

Some Houses and their Inhabitants of Sutton Courtenay: Part 1: Dr Ron Dell

Staying Healthy and Entertained in Victorian North Berkshire: Trevor Davies

AGM and Photo Quiz about the Village

2010-11 continued

Historical Oxford Canal Walk: Led by Mark Davies

Local Anglo-Saxon Discoveries: A royal villa at Sutton Courtenay, some recent work:
Prof. Helena Hamerow

Servant Lives in Victorian and Edwardian England: Dr Pamela Horn

Buildings, Houses and their Inhabitants of Sutton Courtenay: Part 2: Dr Ron Dell

Visit to Berkshire Records Office, Reading

Keeping a Level Head. A History of Ordnance Survey Maps and Surveying:
John Talbot

Visit to Museum Resource Centre, Standlake

Visit to Roman archaeology dig at Frilford

New Ways of Looking at Old Churches: Tim Porter

A Glimmer in the Dark: Life, Arts & Crafts of Anglo-Saxons: Martin Way

2012-13

Sutton Courtenay Memories: Members' recollections

The Thames at War: Bill King

AGM & Talk - Exploring Your Roots: Alan Simpson

Queen's Jubilee Celebration: Exhibition in Church

Visit to excavations at Dorchester-on-Thames

Tales from the Church and Churchyard: Revd. Helen Kendrick & Mary Thompson

The Black Death: Its Nature & Effects on Society. Prof. Greg Stores

2012-13 continued

The History of Didcot Power Station.

Wallingford: Royal Stronghold of the Middle Thames Valley: Judy Dewey

AGM & Talk - History of Wilts & Berks Canal.

Guided Walk of Wallingford led by Judy Dewey

Visit to Abingdon County Museum

Time Out of Mind: Customs & Rituals of 19th Century Oxfordshire: Shaun Morley.

Tin Helmets & Gas Masks: Martin Way.

2014-15

Informal Evening: Family Histories.

History of the River Thames: Andrew Sargent

AGM & Talk - Victorian of Sutton Courtenay Remembers: Henry Lock by Malcolm Lock

Visit to Chalgrove Church wall paintings & Chalgrove Manor

World War I Commemoration: All Saints' church: Joint village event

Child Labour in Rural Oxfordshire: Liz Woolley

The Roman Invasions, Occupation and Colonisation of Britain: Bill King

The History of Salter's Steamers: Simon Wenham

AGM & Talk - Eccentric Oxford: A History of Mischief & Mayhem: Richard Smith

The Civil War in Oxford: Stephen Barker

The History of Abingdon: Anne Gould

Visit to Ewelme

2016-17

Sutton Courtenay's Schools: The Victorian School and Courtenay Lodge School:
Mary Thompson & Clare Simpson

Children's Experiences of the 2nd World War in Oxfordshire: Liz Woolley

AGM & Talk - Local Names and their origins: John Talbot

The Oxford Botanic Gardens – The Last 393 Years: Timothy Walker

Drove Roads of Oxfordshire and Beyond: Tim Healey

Redcoats to Riflemen: The County Regiment's Storey: Brigadier Robin Draper

The History and Impact of the Local Railways: Lawrence Walters

Pagans & Puritans: The Story of May Morning in Oxfordshire: Tim Healey

Prehistoric, Roman & Saxon Discoveries at Bridge Farm, Sutton Courtenay
John Boothroyd

The Golden Age of Stage Coaching: Martin Way

Visit to Botanic Gardens, Oxford: Visit to Harwell

2018-19

Morris' Motopolis: The Motor Works and Transformation of Oxford: Simon Wenham

James Sadler of Oxford, the First English Aeronaut: Mark Davies

AGM: Focus on Sutton Courtenay: Pictures that tell a story by members;

Visit to Nuffield House

Lost Villages of Oxfordshire: Deborah Hayter

History of AERE Harwell Through the Camera Lens: Eric Jenkins

The History of Abingdon & Culham Bridges: Jackie Smith

Early Women Professional Gardeners: Katherine Bradley

Visit to Waterperry Gardens

AGM & Presentations by members – Nigel French, Bill Hanks, John Talbot,
Mary Thompson

The History of Harcourt Arboretum: Timothy Walker

A 17th Century Christmas: Tim Healey

2020

January 21st - The History of the Army at Didcot: David Taylor

(Meetings suspended due to Covid restrictions)