

Bergh Apton Local History Group Report

20.05.26

Last year was another busy year. Following the AGM in April 2025 John Ling organised an exhibition in the village hall over the weekend of 4/5 May was a stunning description of the events leading to Victory in Europe and of the people connected to the village. The Tommie Trail was open all week and there was a concluding outdoor service the following Sunday. A huge amount of effort was put in by John Ling, assisted by Chris Johnston, and it was attended by many visitors from far and wide.

In June we joined members of the Conservation Trust in June for a BBQ in the garden of the respective chairmen. A lovely and sociable evening was a most enjoyable event.

The historical re-enactment of our pub, The Hare, was opened in August where we were pleased to welcome members and their guests to a very special evening enjoying a barrel of local bitter.

In October we held a very informative and increasingly jolly evening with David Crease, a master brewer, who took us through the history of brewing accompanied by relevant samples of beer.

November's meeting was a talk about the history of pilgrimage, given by Linda Davy and enriched by Lorie Lain-Rogers' account of her own pilgrimage; Walk of Kindness.

The Remembrance Day service in November was even busier than in the past and we were so pleased that many people returned to the village hall afterwards for hot soup and a chance to mingle.

This year at the AGM 2026 we had an interesting talk by Dr Mary Frewster on 'The table set before us'. A history of dining. This particularly focused on silver from Norfolk.

At the AGM Linda Davy stood down as Chair after being the Chair since the group began. Fortunately Lorie Lain Rogers has stepped into the role.

In May we had a guided tour of Norwich Castle to explore the renovations to the keep. The guide provided a very full account of history of the castle as well as the renovation process. This was much enjoyed by all of the group.

A copy of the Tithe map has been renovated by Norfolk Archive Team funded by BALHG. A copy which was also funded by BALHG has been made which is now available for viewing in the church. We are very grateful for John Lings' dedication and hard work. John Ling will explain more.

The Archiving activities continue apace and we are progressing with our digitalization of records to allow wider access. This is now available to be viewed on your phone or computer. They can be accessed by going to the Village Website and clicking on the Village Archive in the history group area.

We have the following events arranged for the rest of the year.

Joint Annual Midsummer BBQ with BA Conservation Trust. June 22nd 6.30

The Annual meeting of The Hare Pub August 7th 6pm-9pm. Venue to be agreed.

September (date to be confirmed) Visit to Bury St Edmunds. A guided walk of the centre including the Abbey and a trip to Moyse's Hall Museum

The History of the Norwich Shawl. October 21st 7.30 Talk by Joy Evitt from the Costume and Textiles Association

Norwich at work: trades and industries in 19th -20th century. Nov 18th A talk by Adrian O'Dell.

Suzanne Whitby

Secretary