

# SUFFOLK FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY SUDBURY & DISTRICT GROUP



## Update

January 2019

### TONIGHT'S SPEAKER

We welcome back Sue Tibbetts with her talk entitled Pin Money (The Ladies of Ballingdon)

### PRICE OF CERTIFICATES FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

The GRO are raising the price of a birth, marriage or death certificate for England & Wales on 16 February 2019 from £9.25 to £11.00. At the same time, the charge for the PDF version will rise from £6.00 to £7.00.

Therefore, now is the time to place any orders that you are planning and beat the price rise!

### CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

We hope you saw our Group's Christmas Tree at the Festival in St Peter's Church in December. Most of the committee helped but Penny led the way. Sue made 'Marg' the stork (named by her husband Jerry)!

The theme was 'A New Generation, Birth and Baptism'. We found some interesting names including the birth of a male named Christmas Holly Aldous in Norfolk, he went on to name his son Christmas.



## **GUEST ARTICLE: PSYCHOLOGICAL THEMES WITHIN GENEALOGY**

<https://www.lostcousins.com/newsletters2/midjan19news.htm#Guest>

Ruth Billany, a LostCousins member, Associate Fellow of the British Psychological Society and Chartered Psychologist was interested to find two articles in a recent copy of The Psychologist (November 2018 p.29 and p.34) that examined the psychological themes that emerge when creating family trees: self identity; attachment; resilience; and, emotional geography.

First, Paula Nicolson, Emeritus Professor at Royal Holloway, University of London, examines developing identities in the 21st century.

“Discovering family roots, or genealogy, has become a favourite pastime for many. The sheer volume of TV programmes, magazines and ‘how to’ books bear witness to this. Genealogy fascinates because knowledge of family history provides some understanding of our ancestors’ day-to-day experiences, life chances and expectations. But why do we care? Why has the exploration of family origins become so engaging in recent years? And what are the psychological dimensions to this enterprise?” .

You can read more of the article <https://thepsychologist.bps.org.uk/volume-31/november-2018/family-trees-selfies-and-our-search-identity>

Second, Antonia Bifulco, Professor of Lifespan Psychology at Middlesex University, writes about three generations of her Polish family.

The article “Half the world away – family identity and emotional geography”, begins with “Most of us are interested in our origins and family histories. Can psychology aid us in discovering identity through such research? Can sharing our family stories lead to uncovering common or even universal psychological themes, crossing place and time to reveal who we are?” Later Bifulco states “Emotional geography fascinates me. Like most people I have attachment to places. So, when considering family history in terms of places, cities, streets and houses become a very personal way of embodying the past lives of others”.

Read more <https://thepsychologist.bps.org.uk/volume-31/november-2018/half-world-away-family-identity-and-emotional-geography>

P.S. From Anne:

The above articles concentrate solely on the assumption that people trace their own family, hence the emotional involvement (maybe). Personally, I have found my own family to be one of the dullest family history projects I have ever done! Having ‘picked up’ over decades of reading history that life was often very hard and miserable in the past I have not been reduced to tears because ancestor went in the workhouse or a baby died or something.

What the above articles never mention is the thrill of the chase but without the blood! The puzzle aspect of it all, the logic, the deciphering, the untangling, the detective work, the where-else-can-I-look, the challenge of uncovering something that no one else has found. I don’t care whose family it is providing it gives me

something to puzzle over and solve and in the process learn such a lot of social, local, national and international history.

So, why do you do family history? Is the psychological, self-identity, emotional family stuff “makin’ summat outa nowt”? I dunno – I just like doing it!

*Anne Grimshaw*

## **FOXEARTH & DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY**

Provisional programme of events - 2019

Jan		No meeting.
Feb	Tues 12th	Film Archive evening
Mar	Tues 12th	A.G.M. with Cheese & Wine. Alan Fitch My life so far Including four years in the RAF how they turned out.
Apr	Tues 9th	Robyn Lloyd Hughes - The Rise & Decline of the Stour Valley Railways
May	Tues 14th	David Burnett - Chilton: the first three thousand years
Jun	Tues 11th	Peter Minter - Visit to Bulmer Brickyard, with talk on recent restoration projects
Jul	Tues 9th	? Sudbury Cemetery Churchyard Mapping
Aug	Mon 12th	Minibus trip to Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome - near Maldon.
Sep	Tues 10th	Pat Murrell - The History of Cupola House.
Oct	Tues 8th	Ian McMillan - The History of Liston Hall
Nov	Sat 16th	Ashley Cooper & Andrew Phillips - "A Sudbury Boy Wunders (sic) aloud after 80 years" (Memories of the Sudbury Market Hill & surrounding businesses).
Dec	Tues 10th	Members' Christmas meal - details TBC

All meetings held in Foxearth Village Hall 7.30pm (unless otherwise stated).

New members and friends always welcome.

Visitors £2 Members £10 per year

For more information, contact: Clare Mathieson 01787 311337 or Lynda Rumble 01787 281434

Email: foxhistsoc@gmail.com website: www.foxearth.org.uk

## **OUR LIBRARY**

We have a large number of books in our library which we are happy to loan out to members. We have set up a book for you to fill in the details of the book/s you are borrowing; Name; Tel No; Membership Number. Just return them at one of the next meetings you attend.

## **SUFFOLK RECORD OFFICE**

If you would like to spend an afternoon or even all day researching your local ancestors I suggest going to the Record Office in Bury and taking a look through the local paper of that time. Remember with cuts to all services, if we don't use it we will lose it!

## **NEXT MEETINGS:**

26 Feb	Medicine on the Battlefield	<i>Jonathan Belsey</i>
26 Mar	Burston School Strike	<i>Bryan Thurlow</i>
30 Apr	'General' Quiz Night – All welcome Teams of 6 usual entrance fee refreshments raffle	
28 May	Broad Stripes & Bright Stars and some Historical Curiosities found by Anne + Group AGM	<i>Anne Grimshaw</i>
25 Jun	History & the Printed Cartoon (New & improved)	<i>Martyn Roper</i>
30 Jul	The Story of a Suffolk Bevin Boy	<i>Barbara McElroy</i>
August	No meeting	
24 Sep	The English Gypsy Caravan	<i>Geoffrey Kay</i>
29 Oct	Church Brasses and Brass Rubbing	<i>Martin Stuchfield</i>
26 Nov	In a Manner of Speaking (A humorous look at the story of the English Language)	<i>Charlie Haylock</i>
December	No Meeting	

If a meeting needs to be cancelled at short notice (ie due to bad weather) we will put it on our Group Website page.

## **PLEASE TAKE A POSTER TO DISPLAY**

### **NEED TO GET IN TOUCH?**

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