



## NEWSLETTER February 2020

SUFFOLK FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY  
Registered Charity No 1087748

Graham has been a magistrate for over 29 years. With humorous stories he looks at our legal heritage which dates back to mediaeval times and is now the backbone of English justice. Explaining the role of magistrates, the part they have played in history he hopefully will include some of his unusual experiences on the bench.

## Next Meeting

13<sup>th</sup> February 2020

**Tales from the Bench**  
with  
**Graham Higgins**

At Haverhill Old Independent Church Hall  
7.30pm



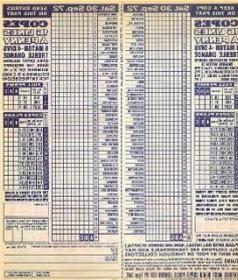
## January 2020 Open Day

Another successful open day was held at the Haverhill Library in January. Throughout the day we had a steady trickle of people coming along to visit. Some requesting help, some just to have a chat about this fascinating hobby. Visitors came from as far as Mildenhall and Norfolk. It was great to meet them all. It was particularly pleasing to hear some of the successes that our dedicated band of helpers achieved which made the day so worthwhile. I should thank all those from our group who helped with the research or on the front desk. It was great to see a such a great response, giving up their time to help others.

# Have just read this elsewhere, it's great!

## Back in the days of tanners and bobs,

When Mothers had patience and Fathers had jobs,  
When football team families wore hand me down shoes,  
And T.V gave only two channels to choose.  
Back in the days of three penny bits,  
when schools employed nurses to search for your nits.  
When snowballs were harmless; ice slides were permitted,  
and all of your jumpers were warm, and hand knitted.  
Back in the days of hot ginger beers,  
when children remained so for more than six years.  
When children respected what older folks said,  
and pot was a thing you kept under your bed.  
Back in the days of Listen with Mother,  
when neighbours were friendly and talked to each other.  
When cars were so rare you could play in the street.  
When Doctors made house calls; Police walked the beat.  
Back in the days of Milligan's Goons,  
when butter was butter and songs all had tunes.  
It was dumplings for dinner and trifle for tea,  
and your annual break was a day by the sea.  
Back in the days of Dixon's Dock Green,  
Crackerjack pens and Lyons ice cream.  
When children could freely wear National Health glasses,  
and teachers all stood at the FRONT of their classes  
Back in the days of rocking and reeling,  
when mobiles were things that you hung from the ceiling.  
When woodwork and pottery got taught in schools,  
and everyone dreamed of a win on the pools.  
Back in the days when I was a lad,  
I can't help but smile for the fun that I had.  
Hopscotch and roller skates; snowballs to lob.  
**Back in the days of tanners and bobs.**



**Wednesday Help Sessions begin again after the brief winter break.**



## Haverhill Family History Group

### Weekly Help Sessions

Haverhill Library Wednesdays 2-4pm

- ❖ Free help and advice
- ❖ Beginners welcome
- ❖ All areas covered
- ❖ Access to Ancestry, Find My Past etc.
- ❖ Guided use of the Internet



Telephone 01440 848095 (Haverhill Library) to book your place

Did you know that 220 years ago on 11<sup>th</sup> February 1800 William Henry Fox Talbot, *inventor and a pioneer of photography*, was born.



William Henry Fox Talbot was born on 11 February 1800 in Melbury, Dorset, into a well-connected family. His father died when he was less than a year old and he and his mother lived in a succession of homes until she remarried in 1804. Talbot went to Cambridge University in 1817.

In 1832, he married Constance Mundy and the same year was elected as MP for Chippenham. In 1833, while visiting Lake Como in Italy, his lack of success at sketching the scenery prompted him to dream up a new machine with light-sensitive paper that would make the sketches for him automatically. On his return to England, he began work on this project at his home at Lacock Abbey in Wiltshire.

Thomas Wedgwood had already made photograms - silhouettes of leaves and other objects - but these faded quickly. In 1827, Joseph Nicéphore de Niepce had produced pictures on bitumen, and in January 1839, Louis Daguerre displayed his 'Daguerreotypes' - pictures on silver plates - to the French Academy of Sciences. Three weeks later, Fox Talbot reported his 'art of photogenic drawing' to the Royal Society. His process based the prints on paper that had been made light sensitive, rather than bitumen or copper-paper.

Fox Talbot went on to develop the three primary elements of photography: developing, fixing, and printing. Although simply exposing photographic paper to the light produced an image, it required extremely long exposure times. By accident, he discovered that there was an image after a very short exposure. Although he could not see it, he found he could chemically develop it into a useful negative. The image on this negative was then fixed with a chemical solution. This removed the light-sensitive silver and enabled the picture to be viewed in bright light. With the negative image, Fox Talbot realised he could repeat the process of printing from the negative. Consequently, his process could make any number of positive prints, unlike the Daguerreotypes. He called this the 'calotype' and patented the process in 1841. The following year was rewarded with a medal from the Royal Society for his work.

Fox Talbot was also an eminent mathematician, an astronomer and archaeologist, who translated the cuneiform inscriptions from Nineveh. He died on 11 September 1877.

***From the BBC History Web-site***

# Our first trip of 2020

**Cambridge Museum of Technology - Thursday 21st May 2020 leaving Haverhill bus station at 10am returning at 3.30pm.**



Cambridge Museum of Technology is the home of our industrial heritage. Based in the city's historic sewage pumping station, the Museum helps people to explore, enjoy, and learn about their industrial heritage by celebrating the achievements of local industries and the people who worked in them.



The large site on the River Cam has green spaces for picnics and a fun, relaxed atmosphere for families. There are audio-visual displays, hands-on exhibits, and children's activities, as well as traditional museum displays and historic buildings.



The Victorian Pumping Station with its original machinery showcases 19th-century engineering and technology. Displays on the forgotten industries of Cambridge reveal an alternative side of the city's history to the famous colleges. And the story is brought into the 20th Century with exhibitions on innovative local companies in our new building.

**Cost £10.00pp - Includes coach, entrance fee and tour.**

*These trips are always popular and bookings are on a first come first basis. For further details contact [brian@suffolkfhs.co.uk](mailto:brian@suffolkfhs.co.uk) or come along to the February meeting to book.*

We are looking for ideas for our 2021 annual exhibition to be held at the Arts Centre in Oct 2021.

Anyone got any thoughts?

Please contact me on [brian@suffolkfhs.co.uk](mailto:brian@suffolkfhs.co.uk)



Haverhill Family History Group  
Over 500 members

Suffolk Family History Society  
Website



# Haverhill Family History Group

## 2020 Programme of Meetings & Events

Usually, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs of the month, **unless stated otherwise**, start 7.30 pm,

Old Independent Church Hall (**CB9 9EF**), members £1 visitors £2.50 inc. tea/coffee

13 Feb 2020	Tales from the Bench	<i>Graham Higgins</i>
12 Mar 2020	More to it than brick The history and geology of brick making	<i>Peter Minter</i>
9 Apr 2020	Rural Essex in Victorian and Edwardian times	<i>Peter Layzell</i>
14 May 2020	AGM The Burston School Strike – The longest school strike in English History	<i>Bryan Thurlow</i>
21 May 2020	Trip (Cambridge Museum of Technology)	<i>Must Book</i>
11 June 2020	A Haverhill Festival event (Haverhill Arts Centre) Pie 'n' Mash & Prefabs	<i>Norman Jacobs</i>
July 2020	Moot Hall & Combined Military Services Museum Maldon	<i>Must Book</i>
July 2020	A guided village walk – TBC	<i>Must Book</i>
10 Sept 2020	The Foundlings	<i>Ruth Miller</i>
17 Sept 2020	Trip to Ridgewell Museum	<i>Must Book</i>
Sept 2020	Trip (TBA)	<i>Must Book</i>
Sat 19 Sept 2020	OPEN DAY at Haverhill Library (CB9 8HB) 10am – 3pm	<i>Ourselves</i>
8 Oct 2020	The History of Spoken English Joint Meeting with Haverhill L/H Group	<i>Charlie Haylock</i>
12 Nov 2020	Mistletoe & Myths TBC	<i>Mike Wabe</i>
10 Dec 2020	Christmas Quiz A light-hearted social evening with refreshments	<i>Ourselves</i>

**Wednesday afternoons, help with your Research at Haverhill Library 2 - 4pm**

Guided use of the Internet, especially for newcomers or those 'stuck'

telephone 01440 848095 to book your place