

The Aldeburgh and District Local History Society

Programme for 2017-18

www.adlhs.org.uk

The Society explores the local history of the area covered by Aldeburgh, Thorpeness, Leiston, Snape, Iken, Sudbourne and Orford . Its aims are to facilitate and encourage research into the history of the area, to record present day events for future generations and, where appropriate, to publish the outcomes of the Society's work

COMMITTEE

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
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ADLHS 2017-18 PROGRAMME

"19th Century and Victorian East Anglia"

VISIT.

Wed. 13 September - Visit: Norwich Castle Museum

(Depart 09.00 - return leave 15.30).

Norwich Castle Keep is one of the finest surviving secular Norman buildings in Europe, reflecting the awesome might of the Norman kings. From the 14th to the 19th Century it was used as the county gaol, and in 1894 converted into a civic museum. It has since undergone the creation of new galleries to house one of the the best collections anywhere of works by the Norwich School of Artists, Norwich silver, Lowestoft porcelain, ceramic teapots. These we (Group A) shall view with Francesca (Fine Arts Curator) talking us through the massive variations of styles throughout the 19th Century, whilst Group B (with a Tour Guide) visits the Courtroom, learning of the forms of punishment metered out to the convicted which were somewhat different to today in this country! Groups switch over after lunch, then likely time for some independent viewing. More details in flyer.

LECTURES AND EVENTS NOTE VENUES VARY

Wed. 18 October: "The rise and decline of the Victorian Reading Room".

6:30pm at Aldeburgh Church Hall.

-SARAH DOIG, BMus (Hons), DipLib.

Sarah Doig is an independent historical researcher, writer and speaker with a keen interest in Victorian social history. The village reading room was a mid-nineteenth century invention and, whilst not confined to East Anglia, the region appeared to embrace the concept wholeheartedly. Sarah will tell the story of the rapid rise of reading rooms, born out of a desire by the rich landowners and churchmen to provide an alternative to the public houses for the labouring class. She will outline the life of the reading room from the perspective of the user and of the managers, followed by the reasons for its equally speedy decline in the twentieth century..

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Wed. 15 November: Members' Research Evening:

6.30pm at Aldeburgh Church Hall..

-VICTORIA COZENS: "The Preservation of Life from Shipwreck" - a 19th Century overview. Active and popular "hands-on" ADLHS member on our digs, not to mention very helpful drinks dispenser at our lecture meetings, Victoria will cover the period of saving lives at sea before the RNLI was conceived in 1824. She is also a crew member of our Aldeburgh Lifeboat.

-PHILIPPE TAYLOR: "An Aldeburgh Parson". Arguably more so than today, the Church featured importantly in people's lives, socially as well as spiritually. Having two talks on the subject (the second on Feb. 21 by our vicar, the Revd.Mark Lowther) is not excessive, given so many aspects available to cover. Tonight, ADLHS committee member and past editor of the Chronicle, is launching the two-parter with his contribution featuring a particular past parson in Aldeburgh.

Wed. 24 January 2018: "If I could have been treated by a lady doctor...." - the entry of women into the medical profession.

6.30pm at Aldeburgh Church Hall.

-Dr. ELEANOR BUTLER MB BS.

Having qualified at the Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, Dr. Butler worked in general practice in Birmingham and South East London for 37 years, and for much of her career was involved in the training of young doctors and organising their three year Vocational Training Programme in local practices and hospitals. As much of Eleanor's clinical training took place at the small hospital on the Euston Road bearing Elizabeth Garrett Anderson's name, she developed a natural curiosity in the entry of women to the medical profession. Her research uncovered the unbelievably hard struggle led by Elizabeth and two other pioneers and their amazing perseverance.

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Wed. 21 February: "Our Church in the 19th Century".

6.30 at ALDEBURGH PARISH CHURCH (note venue change).

-The Revd MARK LOWTHER

We are so fortunate that our very busy and likeable vicar is finding the time to talk to us. He will tell us of the physical recovery and restoration of the fabric of our own and local churches in 19th century Suffolk after years of neglect, and the efforts of the churchmen to create public interest leading to vibrant congregations once more. Our parish church as venue is the perfect background for such descriptive explanations.

Wed. 21 March: Annual General Meeting, followed by Lecture: "Family, Community and Remembrance - Aldeburgh in the 1910s".

6.30 at ALDEBURGH COMMUNITY CENTRE (note venue change).

-KATE TILLER, MA, PhD, FSA, FRHistS.

The backgrounds, circumstances and contrasting local connections of the 85 people named on the town's memorial to its First World War dead represent in many ways a microcosm of Aldeburgh in the 1910s. This study will reflect on that microcosm and what it reveals of the society and economy, the culture and character of Aldeburgh in a decade of comfort and confidence, shock and dislocation. Kate is an ADLHS committee member, and Reader Emerita in English Local History at Oxford University, and Visiting Professor in History at the University of Suffolk.