

Wickham Skeith History & Film Group
AGM Wednesday 15 April 2015 – Chairman's Report

Our 11th year has featured a couple of homegrown evenings; something we try to do each year. Alistair, Liz & I told some tales of life in Wickham Skeith School in Victorian times, while last October, Alistair gave us another selection of his videos. We've also had a range of visiting speakers. Robert Halliday talked about Unusual Graves in Suffolk & Dave Steward told the Story of Dad's Army - the TV version that is. Last November Joyce Kimber gave us a most enjoyable talk on Codes & Codebreaking while Steve & Sue Williams told us all about the Stowmarket Guncotton Explosion. Finally, Simon Gallup gave an interesting presentation on Flatford & Constable Country. We're hoping to arrange to visit Flatford in the summer for Simon to give us a guided walk.

Perhaps the only disappointment last year was that we had to cancel our proposed visit to the Longshop museum because of low numbers.

The highpoint for me was the exhibition we put on about the fostering of Barnardo's Children in Suffolk between 1890 & 1950. It was an emotional day with a number of former Barnardo's children present. I've been extending my research to surrounding parishes & have been asked to do a couple of talks early next year.

Our finances are in a good state & we've been able to keep the entry fee at £2 now for 9 years.

Finally, many thanks to all of you who support us & to the committee, for their continued help & support over the last year.

Pete Davidson