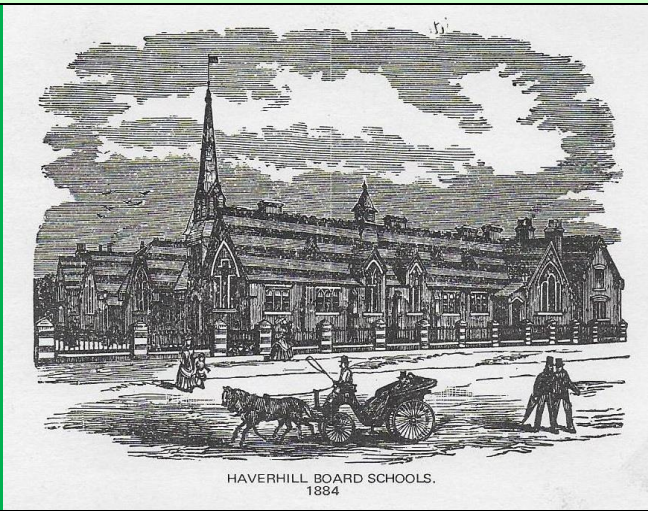




NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2025

SUFFOLK FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity No 1087748

Next Meeting:

Thursday 13th February 2025 at 7.30pm

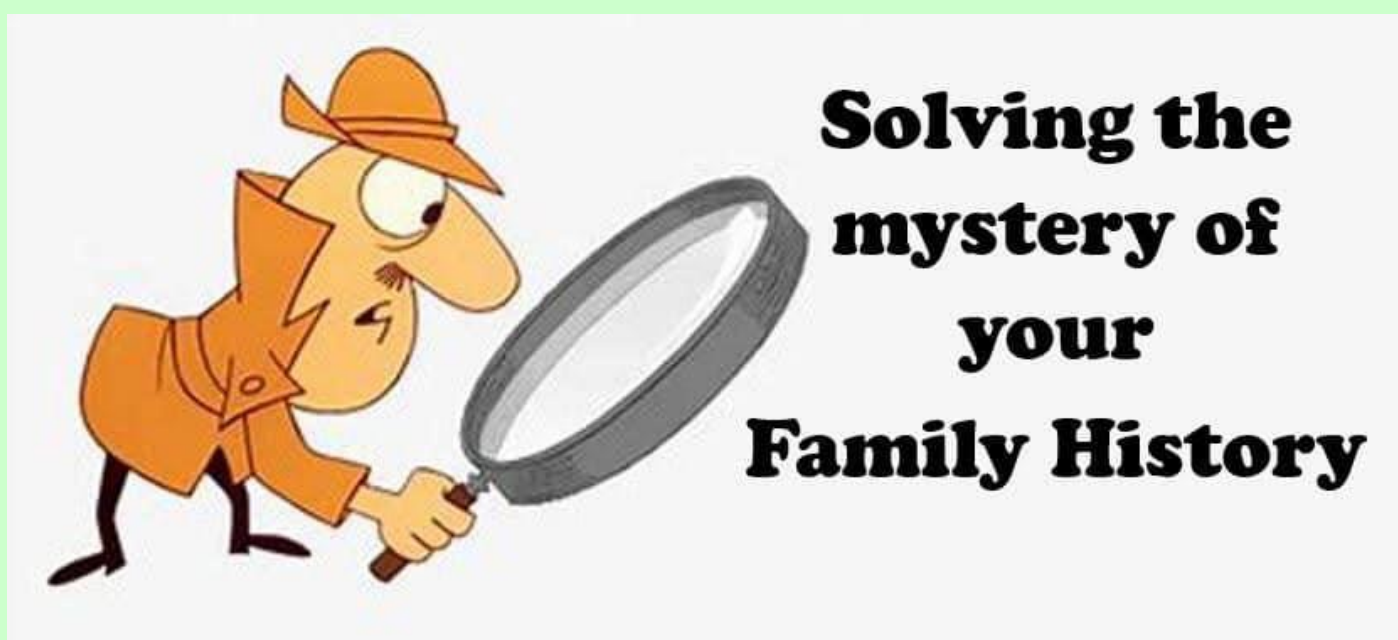
Old Independent Church Hall

Eglantine Jebb with Margaret Woodley

This is the Story of Eglantine Jebb who travelled to the Balkans, a European War Zone in 1913 and seeing the devastation caused by war especially to the children came home and began to raise money to relieve the starving across Europe. This eventually led to the creation of the **Save the Children Fund** in 1919



Our Secretary, Charmian Thompson, was warmly welcomed when she recently gave a presentation to the West Wickham & District Local History Club. The theme for the evening was 'How to climb your family tree'. This was well received by those present resulting in some interesting questions and stories. I would like to thank their group for the small fee, which was very much appreciated. Charmian has kindly donated this to our group funds.



The Free help sessions have restarted for 2025. Every Wednesday afternoon, at the Haverhill Library, 2 - 4pm. Guided use of the Internet, especially for those starting out or those 'stuck'. **ALL AREAS COVERED**.....Limited numbers so please telephone 01440 848095 to book your place.



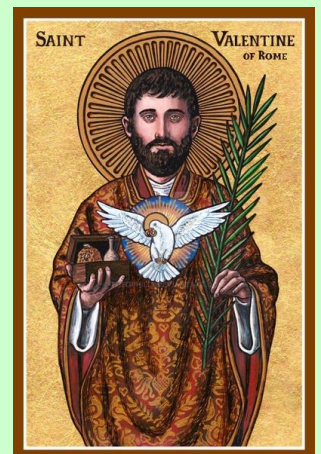
Valentine's Day has a rich and fascinating history that blends ancient Roman traditions with Christian martyr stories. Here's a brief overview:

Origins

Valentine's Day is believed to have originated from a Roman festival called **Lupercalia**, which was celebrated in mid-February. Lupercalia was a fertility festival dedicated to Faunus, the Roman god of agriculture. During the festival, young men would draw the names of women from a box to pair up for the duration of the festival.

Saint Valentine

The holiday is named after **Saint Valentine**, a Christian martyr who lived in the 3rd century. There are several legends about him, but the most popular one suggests that he was a priest who defied Emperor Claudius II's decree that young men should not marry, as single men made better soldiers. Valentine continued to perform secret marriages for young lovers and was eventually imprisoned and executed.



Evolution of the Holiday

By the Middle Ages, Valentine had become one of the most popular saints in England and France. The association of Valentine's Day with romantic love began in the 14th and 15th centuries, possibly influenced by the **"lovebirds"** of early spring. In the 18th century, it became common for couples to exchange flowers, confectionery, and greeting cards.

Modern Traditions

Today, Valentine's Day is celebrated by exchanging **greeting cards (valentines)**, flowers, chocolates, and other gifts. It's a day to express love and affection to romantic partners, as well as friends and family.

Some important dates for 2025

VE Day – 8th May

Suffolk Day – 21st June

Armed Forces Day – 28th June

Haverhill Show – 6th July

VJ Day – 15th August

Other events of Interest

**LINTON & DISTRICT
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**
TUESDAY 18th FEBRUARY 2025



Crime scene search
a talk by Alex Mair
UK Police Search Adviser

**LINTON VILLAGE HALL
COLES LANE - 7.30 p.m.**
Refreshments and Raffle
Visitors and new members always welcome

Haverhill Local History Museum
presents
Extravagance & Eccentricity
Ichworth House and the Hervey family



An Illustrated presentation
by a tour guide and
volunteer with over 20
years of experience.

Everyone welcome.
Join us in the Studio, Haverhill Arts Centre on
Wednesday, 19th February 2025 at 7.30pm.
Members £2, non-members £3, (includes refreshments).



Suffolk Family History Society Zooms

- **Monday 10th Feb: "Constable the Painter who could not get arrested"**
presented by Kim Smith

Use this link to register <https://tinyurl.com/ConstableArrest>

- **Monday 31 March: "DNA Test Taken, Now What?"** with Mia Bennett

2025 Programme of Meetings & Events

Usually, 2nd 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

NB members £2, visitors £3 from September 2024.

13 Feb 2025	Eglantyne Jebb British Social Reformer who founded the Save the Children organization at the end of WW1	Margaret Woodley
13 Mar 2025	Breaking the Law and Transportation	Charmian Thompson
10 Apr 2025	It happened here in Suffolk	Pip Wright
8 May 2025	AGM By George what style	Francis Saltmarsh
12 June 2025	The Mayflower	Cathy Shelbourne
July 2025	<i>Visit (TBC)</i>	<i>Must Book</i>
11 Sept 2025	History of Art	Edel Pinnock
9 Oct 2025	Borley Rectory the most haunted house in England	Bryan Thurlow
13 Nov 2025	CWGC	Mac Macdonald
11 Dec 2025	Christmas Quiz A light-hearted social evening with refreshments	Ourselves

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