

Deddington and District History Society

Programme for 2024-25



Deddington Town Hall

Source: Deddington OnLine Gallery

2024

Thurs 10th October

Karen and Brett Wiles: Life on the Home Front in World War II

What happened on the Home Front during WWII and how was the country kept going? Some very surprising facts, first hand memories, music and hundreds of photos.

Thurs 14th November

Brian Pile: Memories of Banbury Cattle Market

Midland Marts ran the Banbury Cattle Market from 1925 until 1998. It was the largest cattle market in the UK and one of the largest in Europe. Retired auctioneer Brian Pile will tell us about his work at Banbury.

Thurs 12th December

Launton Handbell Ringers

The Launton Handbell Ringers have a unique collection of bells and we can look forward to hearing about them and listening to their selection of music for Christmas time with each ringer holding four bells at one time.

2025

Thurs 9th January

Tim Healey: A Seventeenth Century Christmas

Yuletide celebrations during the English Civil War and Restoration, Wassailing rites, frost fairs and Twelfth Night customs are included in this talk by freelance writer and broadcaster Tim Healey.

Thurs 13th February

Stephen Wass: Archaeology of Stowe Landscape Gardens

Archaeologist Dr Stephen Wass has carried out a variety of archaeological investigations at Stowe Landscape Gardens. His talk will shed light on the long history of the site.

Thurs 13th March

Liz Woolley: Lord Nuffield's great generosity to the Oxford colleges

William Morris, Lord Nuffield, probably did more than any other individual to transform Oxford in the twentieth century, physically, economically and socially. His success as an industrialist allowed him to become one of Britain's most generous benefactors; he gave away the equivalent of £1.5 billion in today's money, to causes including health, education and academic research. This talk looks specifically at Lord Nuffield's vital support to various Oxford colleges, including the saving of St Peter's from closure, and the founding of the college which bears his name, Nuffield College. It also explores his complex and sometimes difficult relationship with the university.

Thurs 10th April

Ciaran Walsh: Jericho: Oxford's first industrial suburb, from cholera epidemics to gentrification

Radical historian Ciaran Walsh will present a social history of Oxford's first working class suburb from hard times to gentrification.

Thurs 8th May

Professor Robert Evans: The Oxfordshire Blue Plaques scheme

Have you ever wondered who is nominated to be commemorated by a Blue Plaque? Professor Evans is Chairman of the Oxfordshire Blue Plaques Board and will tell us about the scheme and some of its recipients.

Thurs 12th June

Clive Evans: Deddington Primary School and its history

Deddington Primary School is an integral part of the community in Deddington but how much do you know of its history? Headteacher, Clive Evans, will share some interesting facts about the school.

The Deddington & District History Society exists to foster interest in the history and archaeology of this area.

Meetings take place in ***Deddington Primary School at 7.30pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month*** from October to June and all are welcome.

Membership for the season is £34 for couples, £18 for singles or £4.50 at the door for non-members.

Enquiries to Jean Dipper, Secretary (email jean.dipper@btinternet.com).

Ideas and suggestions for talks and speakers for the 2025-26 season would be welcome.