

# History of Tiffield Society



Since last April, we have continued a good variety of generally well attended talks and visits in our 15th year. We have also become subscribing members to both Milton Keynes Heritage Association and Northamptonshire Heritage Forum and our members can now access regular newsletters giving details of many other history societies, their talks, outings, archaeological excavations and more in our area.

In April 2025 we had a fascinating talk on "Sulgrave Manor and the Washington Family" with Martin Sirot Smith, in full Tudor role and costume as Lawrence Washington – who was the builder of the Manor in 1539.

In July we had a two very informative guided walks; firstly around the historic core of St Albans and subsequently around the impressive Cathedral, followed by lunch at a local hostelry.

On October 20th 2025 we started our new season with our brief AGM at 7:15 followed at 7:30 by "Operation Monet" given by our own Andy Tennet. This was a real 'Who-Done-It': stolen goods and those involved.

On November 17th Mike Curtis gave a talk entitled "In Search of the Catuvellauni". This was about the Late Iron Age tribe who lived in our part of the Midlands and their incorporation into the Roman world and landscape.

On Monday 16th December we had our light hearted Christmas Quiz. John Beasley posed some interesting questions, mainly historical, and a good, if a bit head scratching time was had by all.

This year on January 19th 2026 John Paul Carr gave us a talk on "Northamptonshire on the big and little screen". This was an entertaining look at county celebrities and locations connected with the county since the dawn of cinema & TV.

On February 16th Sharn Matthews gave a talk on "Fashion and Morality". This discussed ideas about who decided, and when, which women's fashions were immoral, and why!

On March 16th Jake Roberts gave us a talk about "The Battle of Denmark Strait" also known as "The Sinking of the Bismarck". Details of the important threat it represented in WW2 and the hunt for the ship was covered and illustrated with some splendid large models of the Prinz Eugen (Bismarck's sister ship) and HMS Rodney who delivered the coup de grace.

On April 20th the talk about "Slavery and anti-slavery in Northamptonshire" by John Buckell will be given, carried over from its postponement last year. This will cover Northamptonshire slave holders as well as anti-slavery campaigners, from the 1600's to abolition.

Looking forward in May and June we have no meetings.

In July we will have our summer visit. Venue and subject yet to be confirmed.

All our talks are held from October to April on the 3rd Monday of the month, starting at 7:30 pm, in the Upper Room in The George.

If you would like to know more about the history of Tiffield our 'Concise History of Tiffield' can be found at; <https://www.tiffieldparishcouncil.org.uk/history-of-tiffield-society>

Our investigations into Tiffield dwellings, and in particular, listed buildings, continues and we are talking to long standing residents about their memories of Tiffield in the past. If you have any interesting information, anecdotes from days gone by, or anything else such as photos or documents like deeds, please do share them with us. It all helps to build a picture of what village life used to be.

Once again we thank Molly and Matt, (and previously Laura and Martin) for letting us use the 'top room' at the George for our meetings.

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