

CUSOP HISTORY GROUP REVIEW 2017-2018

2017-18 has continued to be a success for Cusop History Group with membership numbers growing to 53 and continued good attendances at talks and outings.

COMMITTEE

Following the AGM last year Sue Hodgetts was re-elected as Chair and website co-ordinator with Sandra Sheldon as Treasurer and Membership Secretary, Denise Derbyshire as Research Co-ordinator and Keith Hodgetts as Programme Secretary. Other members agreed to assist with refreshments/meetings.

WEBSITE

Our website is www.cusophistory.wix.com/cusop and this has continued to develop with new additions. There is a link on the main Cusop site:

www.cusop.net E-mail: cusophistory@gmail.com

Facebook: Cusop History-Group

Twitter: @cusophistorygroup

We have had a number of interesting queries and contacts during the year via the website and Facebook. Our Utah member with ancestors from Cusop visited and has been in contact about his research which we have been able to assist with. A former Hay resident now living in Devon, found an old Little Book of Common Prayer belonging to LG Wheeler, Cusop Rectory. With a bit of investigation we found that this was the vicar's wife who lived in Cusop in 1941. The book has now found its way back to Cusop.

EVENTS

AGM and School Days

After the AGM in July 2017, Sue Hodgetts presented the History of Cusop School with artefacts from Brecon Museum. Members relived their school days.

History Walk around Cusop. On Friday 4th August a group of members met at Cusop Church at 9.30am and had a fabulous day walking around Cusop historical sites and places of interest guided by John Wilks.

By popular demand on Sat 9th September **Tony Usher** re-visited us. This time he talked about **The Lords Marcher-** the fascinating story of the Welsh Marches 1067 – 1536

Although a number of members have been to visit HARC, on Friday 20th October we managed to get **Rhys Griffiths Senior Archivist** from **Herefordshire Archives and Records Centre** to come to Cusop to share some of the interesting things to be found about Cusop in the archives.



Local historian **Penny Platts** came to Cusop on Sat 11th November with her multi-media talk and tasting on the **History of Cider in Herefordshire** which was very enjoyable.

On Saturday 9th December members got together for the **CHG Christmas Social**. We showed some early transport films about visiting Wales and shared stories, drank wine and ate nibbles

Our highlight in January 2018 was a visit to the famous **ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM IN OXFORD**. A group of us went behind the scenes with an insider's expertise from Denise. We saw rare objects and paintings of the 13th to 18th C. and had a guided tour of the exhibition, 'IMAGINING THE DIVINE'.

A packed audience of 55 came along to the re-arranged talk on Sat 10th February when **Mary Pennoyer Morgan** presented **The History of the Moor**

On Saturday 17th March **John Price** shared some **Fascinating Insights** with his **Local Social History Films** including the Cusop Dingle song and an audio recording about Major Armstrong.

We had an entertaining and very interesting talk about The History of Kington Camp from Mari Fforde on Friday April 13th, which included some recently discovered film footage.

The private visit to **Clifford Castle** in June 2018 was very well attended by members and guests. We had a lovely evening, fabulous views and a fascinating and informative tour with Keith Hill, the current owner who has undertaken restoration work.

Cusop History Group Research 2017-2018

Throughout the year a number of research areas have continued, new projects started and varied research tasks completed, with helpful co-ordination by Denise. This provides consistency, ensures that researchers can be put in touch with each other and have access to information sources or materials. Detailed research documents and in progress research papers are held on the CHG shared drive and where appropriate and when ready, project details have been added to the website. Members have been encouraged to get involved and share findings with the group.