

## **Report from the Boxford Society**

We continue to monitor Planning Applications but it is a relief to report that nothing has required us to object recently, however, we are certain that new rules and regulations will encourage developers to explore opportunities, so we will be vigilant.

Since last year's AGM we held a very successful meeting in June - so successful that we had to repeat it in September due to public demand! - of Roger Loose's talk about Cox Hill, Ellis Street and Broad Street based on the Society's Archive photographs and Roger's extensive knowledge of Boxford. Then at our Autumn Meeting Wendy Shepherd gave us a fascinating talk about the role of the Womens' Land Army in WW2. Lots of family memories were revisited. In September we had a very interesting Outing to Harwich, when we were welcomed by the Town Crier and led by Andy Schooler, Chairman of the Harwich Society, who is passionate about the town and demonstrated the depth of his knowledge.

Earlier this month, we had an engaging and insightful talk in recognition of the 250th Anniversary of his birth, about John Constable from Patricia Hogkins from Flatford, and I'm sure it will have encouraged everyone to follow up all the other celebrations of his work during the forthcoming year - The Haywain will be on view at Christchurch Mansion in Ipswich shortly - the first time it's ever been in its home county.

In June Roger Loose will be giving us Part 2 of his Old Pictures of Boxford talk concentrating on Swan Street, Church Hill and School Hill. Then in October, Mark Bailey, Professor of Late Medieval History, will make a welcome return to talk about Global Climate Change and the Evolution of the Suffolk Coast in Medieval Britain.

Two Outings are planned over the next 12 months, the first is next month to the Bulmer Brick Works near Sudbury and in September we will be visiting the Unitarian Meeting House in Ipswich, a Grade1 building recently renovated.