

Rolvenden History Group – Report for Parish Council

2025 Season

The History Group has had a successful and enjoyable season of talks. There are forty-three and we frequently have visitors to the talks that are advertised in the RHG email, Parish Magazine, Tentrox Benefice Connect Up and social media including My Tenterden.

Members have been delighted with the very local history events – Jackie King's talk on the 'Scrapbooks of Tenterden and Rolvenden Newspaper Articles from the Past Sixty Years' was hugely popular as was 'A Church Through Time' which focused on Lawrence Peters, archaeological discoveries and some sixteenth century history. The Christmas 'Show and Tell' was fascinating; members brought along objects that were important to them and talked about them to the audience. It was a wonderful relaxed and sociable event.

The outside speakers engaged and stimulated the audience as we learnt a great deal about various topics ranging from the Wealden Iron Industry, through Kentish and Turkish piracy – including a reference to Captain Jack Sparrow who featured in a talk given by Professor Jackie Eales, moving through 'The Founding of America', a talk which included reference to Robert Cushman who was baptised in Rolvenden Church, the 'Women's Land Army' and 'Eat Your Carrots', 'Victorian Medicine' and 'Kentish Clerical Errors'.

Our new projector has proved an asset with its sharp focus.

We are very grateful to St Mary's for providing us with a home and its audio loop is most helpful to our audience. It is good to be based in such an historical building.

We do need new committee members if we are to continue to go from strength to strength.

This season we have arranged talks, some in house as well as outside speakers.