

Report to Pulham Market and Pulham St. Mary Annual Parish Meeting

Despite all the recent financial constraints on Adult Education and the availability of on-line learning, the WEA has maintained its provision of courses in the Pulhams. We are supported by an enthusiastic core group who enjoy learning together, joined by new members who are attracted by a particular course.

In Autumn 2018 we studied Medieval Timber-framed buildings, especially those in our area. John Walkers' life-long research and enthusiasm gave us fresh insight and understanding of the familiar buildings around us. He also made it possible for us to visit several private houses of interest.

In January 2019 we started an Industrial Archaeology course, which followed the development of east Anglian crafts and trades over the centuries. It proved to be a wide ranging subject, in which we considered landscape, natural resources, scientific inventions, and the intensity of labour involved in shaping our landscape. At the end of the course several of us followed through on what we had learnt by visiting the Museum of East Anglian life in Stowmarket.

Next Autumn we look forward to a social history course, "Dressing the Victorian Woman, – social, economic and fashionable history", followed in January 2020 by "Page to Screen, – adapting literature to the Movies".

Changes to the management structure, such as centralisation of services and on-line enrolment, have removed some of the user-friendly traditions of the WEA. However the committee are determined to maintain a welcoming ethos of shared learning and friendship.

Isobel Auker. Secretary

Pat Whiteside. Chair

