



A meeting had been scheduled for January 2025 but was cancelled.



The next meeting of Effingham Local History Group
will take place on

MONDAY 10 February 2025 at 7.30

The Village Room, KGV, Browns Lane, Effingham

1. Introductions (if required)

2. Members' reports and queries

This is an informal session where anyone can chip in with news of recent or forthcoming events, research questions, website or archive matters, requests for help, new acquisitions etc. We also often discuss issues about the Group's progress or developments generally.

3. What's in a name? *Mark Chambers*

A potted history of surnames, with reference to some notable Effingham residents, past and present.

INTERVAL & REFRESHMENTS

4. Businesses on Ranmore (II) *Chris Hogger*

The southern part of the parish of Effingham can sometimes feel like another country. It is much more rural than the area north of the A246 and yet, off the narrow lanes largely hidden and unseen, have been many thriving, and surprising, enterprises. Chris's talk last November concentrated on the businesses over to the east, and now it is the turn of the western ones.

5. Date and venue of next meeting/s

17 March at The Village Room, KGV;

7 April, 12 May, 9 June (AGM) venues to be confirmed.



Eddie and Betty Crouch, in the Parish Room in 2011, on the occasion of Eddie being made the first Freeman of the Parish of Effingham



The next meeting of Effingham Local History Group
will take place on

MONDAY 17 March 2025 at 7.30

The Village Room, KGV, Browns Lane, Effingham

1. Introductions (if required)

2. Members' reports and queries

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3. Effingham For Sale *Jeremy Palmer*

A century of Effingham appearances in the pages of *Country Life*, from the 1900s to the 2000s.

INTERVAL & REFRESHMENTS

4. 1904 - an electric car in Effingham *Mark Chambers*

The very earliest secure dating of a car being *owned* in Effingham is a 'For Sale' newspaper advert of 4 June 1904, and the car was an electric one made by the Brush Electrical Company. This talk will look at the range of models Brush could provide for the committed petrol-head around this time, via its ads in *Country Life*.

5. Dates of next meeting/s

7 April, 12 May, 9 June (AGM)



Members of an 'autocarists' club who had motored out from London to Effingham around Easter 1899. 'The autocarists were photographed outside the Hotel Blucher, Effingham, near Leatherhead, where they stayed before returning to town'.



The next meeting of Effingham Local History Group
will take place on

MONDAY 7 APRIL 2025 at 7.30

The Village Room, KGV, Browns Lane, Effingham

1. Introductions (if required)

2. Members' reports and queries

This is an informal session where anyone can chip in with news of recent or forthcoming events, research questions, website or archive matters, requests for help, new acquisitions etc. We also often discuss issues about the Group's progress or developments generally.

3. Businesses on Ranmore (III) *Chris Hogger*

The southern part of the parish of Effingham can sometimes feel like another country. It is much more rural than the north and yet, off the narrow lanes largely hidden and unseen, have been many thriving, and surprising, enterprises. This is the third of three talks concentrated on the businesses there, including one with a very 'interesting' history.

INTERVAL & REFRESHMENTS

4. [Re]constructing the past

Two short silent films spotted and presented here by Jeremy Palmer: just under 20 mins each, they feature the construction of East Horsley's 'Thatchers Old World Tea House' in 1934, and the Thorndike Theatre in Leatherhead in the 1960s. These snippets of documentary footage are totally gripping. If you are interested in hats, mini-dresses, or what we would think of as thrillingly unsafe building practices, you will find these eye-opening. Plus, of course, the chance to compare familiar locations we know today with how they looked in the past.

5. Dates of next meeting/s

12 May, 9 June (AGM)



Effingham's Tea Garden behind Yew Tree House (The Street);
a Frith's postcard from about 1912. Note the fine topiary tea pot!



The next meeting of Effingham Local History Group
will take place on

MONDAY 12 MAY 2025 at 7.30

The Village Room, KGV, Browns Lane, Effingham

1. Introductions (if required)

2. Members' reports and queries

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3. BOOM! *Mark Eller*

Finely-timed to coincide with VE Day celebrations, this will be a quick look at some wartime mapping data.

4. What are BMs? *Martin Smith*

Martin has photographed features of Effingham that many of us will have 'seen' but perhaps never noticed, and will be explaining them.

INTERVAL & REFRESHMENTS

5. Bills to the Overseers *Sue Morris*

Effingham's Overseers of the Poor were responsible for providing for the needs of the paupers in the parish. The Surrey History Centre holds collections of the invoices sent to the Overseers by various shopkeepers for goods supplied (1771-1800), and these make fascinating study.

6. Date of next meeting

9 June (AGM)



The Old Almshouses on Crossways, photographed in the late 1940s



The next meeting of Effingham Local History Group
will take place on

MONDAY 9 June 2025 at 8.30pm (following the AGM)

at

The Village Room, KGV, Effingham

1. Introductions (if required)

2. Members' reports and queries

This is an informal session where anyone can chip in with news of recent or forthcoming events, research questions, website or archive matters, requests for help etc. We also often discuss issues about the Group's progress or developments generally.

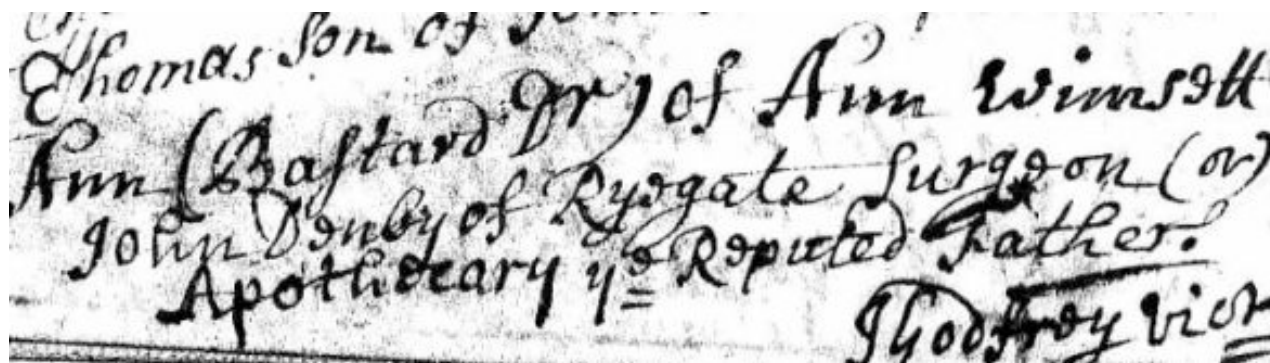
3. The 18th century bulge in illegitimacy (Sue Morris)

The Effingham parish registers record only **one** illegitimate birth in the 1500s and **six** in the 1600s - but surge to **45** in the 1700s, down again to **9** in 1800-51. We will look at these figures, plus some interesting and/or puzzling case histories.

4. Date and venue of next meeting

The Village Room

7.30 Monday 14 July 2025.



Above

A Parish Register entry for 16 October 1727
in the execrable handwriting of Rev Joseph Godfrey, the Vicar:

'Ann (Bastard Dr [= Daughter]) of Ann Wimsett
John Denby of Ryegate Surgeon (or)
Apothecary y^e Reputed Father.'



The next meeting of Effingham Local History Group
will take place on

MONDAY 14 July 2025 at 7.30pm

at

The Village Room, KGV, Effingham

1. Introductions (if required)

2. Members' reports and queries

This is an informal session where anyone can chip in with news of recent or forthcoming events, research questions, website or archive matters, requests for help etc. We also often discuss issues about the Group's progress or developments generally.

3. Taking a toll (*Mark Eller*)

Last month Martin Smith gave a talk about boundary markers and touched on milestones along the turnpike; this talk follows on from that. Along the whole length of the turnpike which ran through Effingham, the *only* tollgate was at Effingham. But where did the turnpike actually begin and end?

4. Final piece in the 1944 Crossword puzzle? (*Sue Morris*)

In 1944 just before D Day the Headmaster of The Strand School which had been evacuated to Effingham was hauled off for questioning by the Secret Services. What happened, and was he really a spy? MI5 has recently released more files ...

5. Date and venue of next meeting

The Village Room

7.30 13 September 2025.



Illustration from the 'Effingham Village Scrap Book' produced in 1949 by the Effingham Women's Institute, showing the former tollgate cottage on Guildford Road although dating it too early by two centuries.



The next meeting of Effingham Local History Group
will take place on

MONDAY 8 September 2025 at 7.30pm

at

The Village Room, KGV, Effingham

1. Introductions (if required)

2. Members' reports and queries

This is an informal session where anyone can chip in with news of recent or forthcoming events, research questions, website or archive matters, requests for help etc. We also often discuss issues about the Group's progress or developments generally.

3. The foundlings (*Sue Morris*)

This is the next in a series of topics arising from the entries in the St Lawrence Church registers. Who were the 14 infants sent to Effingham from London's Foundling Hospital between 1756 and 1791? And what became of them?

4. Highlights of Effingham in the 1920s (*Chris Hogger*)

Volume 7 of *Studies in the History of Effingham* includes a fascinating article by Chris on the many events and entertainments in the life of the village 1903-10, assembled from newspaper reports and other sources. This presentation showcases the 1920s, a complex and unsettling post-War decade.

5. Date and venue of next meeting

The Village Room

7.30, 13 October 2025.

Captain Thomas Coram, the kindly old sea-captain who set up the Foundling Hospital in Lamb's Conduit Street, London, in 1739. This portrait of him in 1740 is by William Hogarth.





The next meeting of Effingham Local History Group
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MONDAY 13 October 2025 at 7.30pm

at

The Village Room, KGV, Effingham

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2. Members' reports and queries

This is an informal session where anyone can chip in with news of recent or forthcoming events, research questions, website or archive matters, requests for help etc. We also often discuss issues about the Group's progress or developments generally.

3. Highlights of Effingham in the 1920s - Part 2 (Chris Hogger)

Volume 7 of *Studies in the History of Effingham* includes a fascinating article by Chris on the many events and entertainments in the life of the village 1903-10, assembled from newspaper reports and other sources. This presentation showcases the 1920s, a complex and unsettling post-War decade.

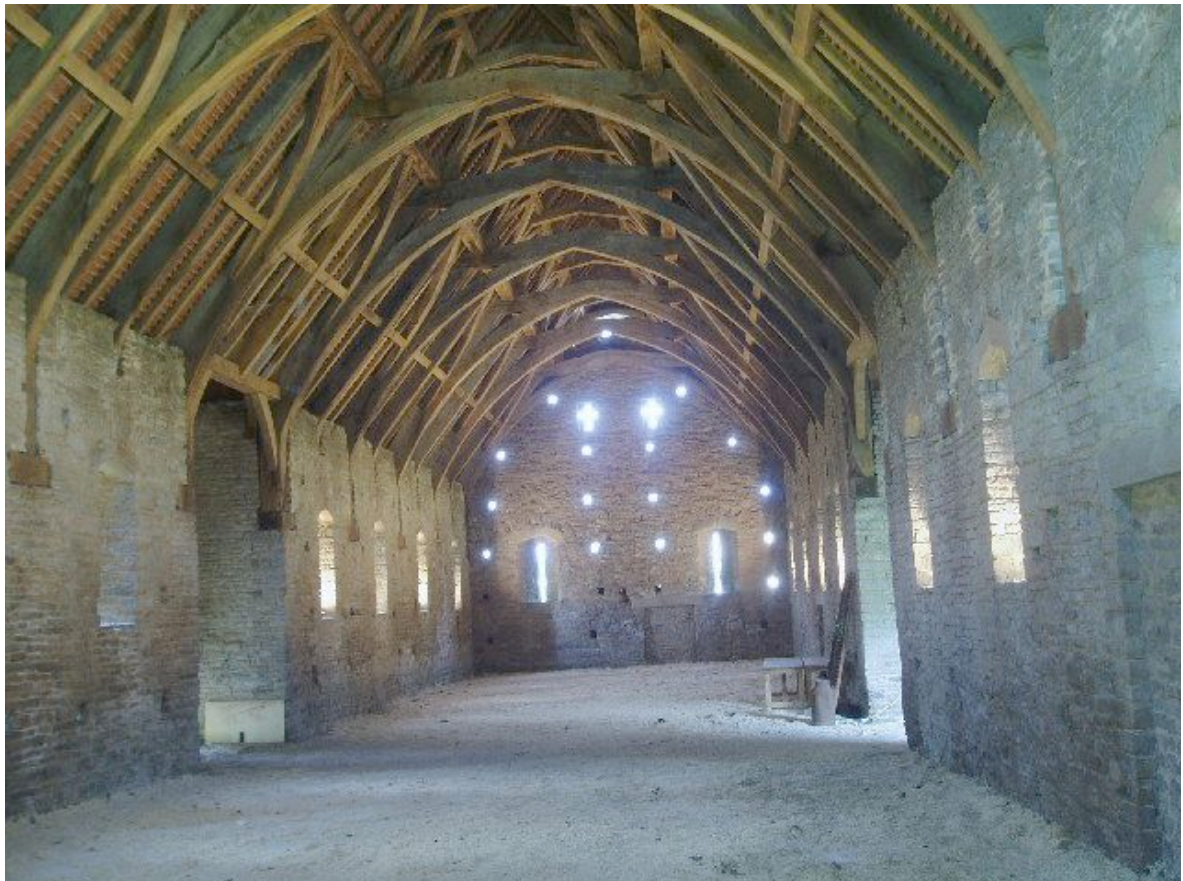
4. The Effingham Tithe Barn

This is a talk about a vanished structure. Little Bookham's Tithe Barn is still in fine shape, but where was Effingham's? And what happened to it?

5. Date and venue of next meeting

The Village Room

7.30, 10 November 2025.





The next meeting of Effingham Local History Group
will take place on

MONDAY 10 November 2025 at 7.30pm

at

The Village Room, KGV, Effingham

1. Introductions (if required)

2. Members' reports and queries

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3. Sir Tom Sopwith 1888- 1989 (*Sue Morris*)

In this season of Remembrance, it seems appropriate to look at a topic related to WWI. Sopwith's aviation career began at Brooklands. He became a remarkable pilot, and a builder of airplanes during World War I and II. Without him, Britain's future might have been very different. He also had a profound influence on Effingham. In 1919 he bought the huge Lovelace estate which covered large sections of East Horsley and Effingham - but in 1920 he was forced to sell most of it again. The consequences for Effingham were dramatic.

INTERVAL & REFRESHMENTS

4. Sir Thomas Sopwith 1888 - 1988

Derek Ruffles has provided this recording made in 2012 of a TV programme first broadcast in 1988. It is narrated by the inimitable Raymond Baxter - what a voice! There are so many aspects of this 30-minute item to enjoy.

5. Date and venue of next meeting

The Village Room

7.30, Monday 8 December 2025.



Tom Sopwith
aged about 23
in 1911



The next meeting of Effingham Local History Group
will take place on

MONDAY 8 DECEMBER 2025 at 7.30pm

The Village Room, KGV, Effingham

1. Introductions (if required)

2. Members' reports and queries

This is an informal session where anyone can chip in with news of recent or forthcoming events, research, website or archive matters, requests for help etc. We also often discuss issues about the Group's progress or developments generally.

3. Postcards from eBay: new / interesting views including other villages
Jeremy Palmer
Jeremy's constant surveillance means that he comes across a great many images of Effingham's immediate neighbourhood and we are intending that this will become a permanent Agenda item.

INTERVAL

Festive refreshments, slightly more substantial than usual

4. The Traditional Effingham Local History Group Christmas Quiz

Kay and Jeremy will lead us through this year's Christmas Quiz: your annual opportunity to demonstrate your impeccable knowledge of historical oddities. This year we will be looking for missing words from descriptions of ancient occupations, then using them to make (very) tenuous connections to Effingham events & people.



Another chance to see a favourite image: A 'One-horse open sleigh'!