

WOLVEY LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Wolvey Local History Group

Founded in 1980, the Group's programme includes:

- ◆ monthly lectures, visits and discussions
- ◆ compiling & studying its document archive
- ◆ preparing its photographic archive
- ◆ establishing a historical database
- ◆ archaeological field work and study
- ◆ publishing the results of the Group's work

For further information
about membership and
the current programme
go to the Group's website

www.wolvey-history.org.uk

or contact the Secretary at

mail@wolvey-history.org.uk



**Promoting the historical identity
of five rural communities in
north-east Warwickshire.
All have roots in prehistoric times
and the Roman roads of
Watling Street and the Fosse Way
form two of their boundaries.**

DISCOVERING OUR HISTORY

The Group undertakes field work to increase our knowledge of the area and understand more about our roots.

Searching for the township of Copston Parva

Organised in collaboration with Warwickshire Museum Field Services

Copston Parva (Little Copston), a township of Wolvey, was first mentioned in 12th century records during the reign of Henry II. A document of 1250 records a Chapel. There are no further known references to Copston Parva after 1518 and we do not know why the settlement was left.



The team assembles to commence systematic field walking, collecting and recording finds, from their 20' square.

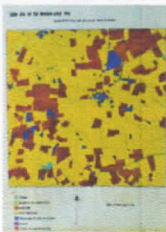


Geophysical surveying to identify underground structures.



Examining the medieval pottery and other finds.

Plotting the history of land use in Wolvey



Land use surveys provide an important commentary on the changing economics and rural practices of the area. Field work is planned to provide up-to-date information for comparison with earlier surveys undertaken in 1932 and 1969.

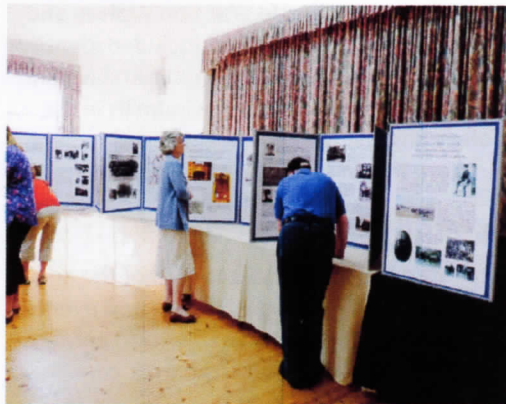


EXHIBITING OUR HISTORY

As opportunities arise, the Group organises exhibitions about the history of the villages and of its collections.

Wolvey in Wartime, 1914-18

An exhibition prepared by the Group as part of the World War 1 centenary commemoration in Wolvey.



Open Day

An opportunity for local residents to see the photographs of people and places in the villages over the last century.



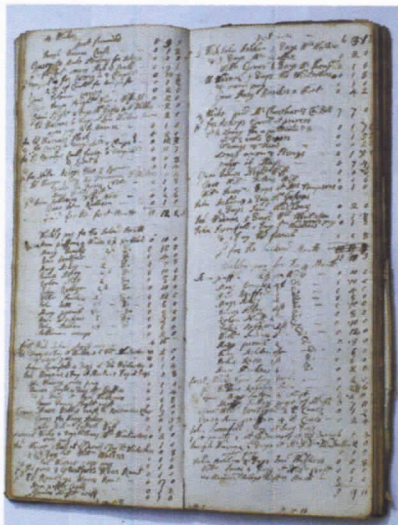
BBC Exhibiton

The Group's display at the Great British Story: A Peoples History exhibition, organised by the BBC at the Herbert Museum & Art Gallery, Coventry

RECORDING OUR HISTORY

The Group holds document and photographic archives relating to the villages and undertakes oral history recordings of some of the older residents.

Document Archive



Two pages from the Account Book of the Wolvey Overseer's of the Poor, 1786-96

The Group maintains an archive of copy documents relating to the five parishes. They form a basis for study and research by members. As a matter of policy all original documents are deposited in the Warwickshire Record Office

Photographic Archive

The Group also holds a photographic archive involving some 5000 images. Many of them have been copied from the family photographs of villagers.



Maypole dancing at Burton Hastings



Harvesting at Copston Magna with a horse-drawn binder.



The Clark family, Withybrook's champion hedge-layers



Road accident at The Square, Wolvey, 1920 involving a car and a charabanc.

RESEARCHING OUR HISTORY

The Group members undertake study and research into the history of the villages and maintains a database of archaeological and historical information.

Recent research

Members have done a number of studies to better understand the influence of World War 1 on Wolvey and this work continues. Other work has included identifying people and places in the photographic archive and establishing the location of the four windmills in the popular Wolvey engraving. The latter proved to be a fraud, taken from the windmills of Montmartre, Paris!

The Villages' History Database

Study is facilitated by a searchable record of the archaeological finds and the people, places and events of the five parishes. It includes nearly 7000 entries. Members can also submit entries from their computers on-line.

WOLVEY LOCAL HISTORY GROUP Archive data entry form 1	PEOPLE		INFORMATION			
NAME	DATE	DESCRIPTION	DATE	LOCATION	STATUS	REFERENCE
...

Group Publications

Some of the members' research findings are in the Group's publications:

