

19th December, 2019
Talk by Jane Glennie
“Put Your Best Face Forward”



Members from all four Local History groups were invited to a joint Christmas Celebration arranged by Local History 2. 50 members were entertained by Jane Glennie who presented “*Put Your Best Face Forward*”. Jane played the part of wartime housewife “Mrs. Cox” offering helpful home front hints.



How did women manage to brighten their corners and feed their families during the days of rationing and war? How did they create impressive Christmas “treats” from the most basic of ingredients? Generously, “Mrs. Cox” demonstrated a recipe for chocolate flavoured truffles using cocoa powder and mashed potato – some “lucky” individuals got to taste test!

What ingenious tricks did wartime housewives use for their hair and makeup to look their best for the festivities? “Mrs. Cox” revealed all! Whoever would have thought of using lard instead of Brylcreem? And what about butter and cochineal for lipstick or burnt cork for mascara and eyebrow pencil? Imagine socialising amidst the pleasing aromas of rancid lard and butter mixed with burnt cork – mmm!

“Mrs Cox” encouraged us to join in a recipe guessing game as well as a good old fashioned sing along.

The request for everyone to "bring some food to share" resulted in a colourful buffet of modern treats which we all appreciated whilst tackling a fun Local History Quiz.



An excellent afternoon of interesting historical snippets, a brain workout with the quiz all complemented with good company and good food.