

VISIT TO IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM, DUXFORD As part of the HLF 'Tilty and The Second World War' project, there was a group visit to Duxford on Sunday 23rd June. A tour and talk had been organised, which took place in the American Hangar. The talk was both interesting and instructive, and included much information about the aircraft – specifications, production and delivery during the war, for example – together with insights into the history of those who flew them, and the ground crews that kept them flying. There were also some very



entertaining tales about the airmen, which chimed well with memories of the American squadrons based at Little Easton, as reported by some local residents.



Sixteen of the group were able to attend the visit, and the weather was good enough that we could take full advantage of the chance to look round the site after the talk. Several people hadn't been to Duxford before, but enjoyed it so much that they're planning to go again soon! And those who had been before found

that there are always new things to discover.

MEETINGS THIS YEAR have been very well attended, and their themes and subjects much appreciated. **January's** meeting focused on wartime memories; it included readings of evocative descriptions of rationing, night trains, air raids, Morrison shelters and Lancaster bombers – and a demonstration of how to use a child's gas-mask. These were presented by Jane and Martin Pedley, and Mike Longman, and illustrated the kind of stories that will feature in the HLF project. In **March**, we had an external speaker – Mike Perry, of Lipson's in Dunmow, who gave a fascinating presentation incorporating a diverse range of local vintage photographs. We also had an external speaker for the **May** meeting – Tim Turner, of Sworders, who gave an entertaining and informative talk focusing on the auction world. His comments on, and evaluation of, items people had brought along were memorable too!

We have had an excellent range of speakers over the last year or so – external and home-grown! – and hope to continue the trend. If you have any suggestions or recommendations for speakers for 2014, then do please get in touch: tilty.archaeology@gmail.com

PUBS & PILLBOXES WALK

This has been postponed until the end of September – date to be advised.



ABBEY WALLS - RENOVATION



Conservation and renovation work continues on the Abbey walls, and we hope to be able to arrange a talk on-site in the near future.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Tuesday September 10th

Next General Meeting – Alf Wright (on Local Artists & Writers)

Saturday October 19th

HLF End of Project Celebratory Event – Displays, Website Launch, BBC Broadcast Re-enactment, Refreshments

Tuesday November 12th

AGM + Darren Stone (presentation on Mills)