



HISTORY GROUPS HAVE A STUDY MORNING ON DRAGON HALL, NORWICH

The Post Modern & Classical History Group held a Zoom meeting on 3 March with members of the **Taking an Age Group** to hear a talk on Dragon Hall, Norwich and the life of Robert Toppes. Our speaker, Richard Matthew, gave a fascinating insight into the story of Robert Toppes who became a member of the mercantile elite and emerged in, and ran, Norwich in the 15th century. His importance has come to light in recent years through the 'discovery' of Dragon Hall, his magnificent trading hall near the river in Norwich. We learnt about his family; his roles as Mayor and MP; his diversifying into property and banking; his political troubles; and the magnificent stained glass window he donated to his parish church. It was an excellent talk which will definitely tempt some of our members to visit Norwich when we can. Our thanks to Celia Smith for recommending Richard to us. We have continued to hold meetings by way of using Zoom over the last year and we do have room for one or two more members in the Post Modern & Classical History Group. Pandemics and plagues may come and go but our U3a History Groups continue to entertain and enlighten our members!

Jennifer Ruffles and Linda Gilbert