

SURREY FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

2026 SPEAKER LISTING – Website Version



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Affiliated to:

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Abbreviations: NFWI = National Federation of WIs; SFWI = Surrey Federation of WIs

The Editor welcomes advice of any errors and omissions in the Yearbook. Your comments should be addressed to: Yearbook Editor, SFWI, 6 Paris, Parklands, Railton Road, Guildford GU2 9JX or email info@surreyfedwi.org.uk

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PROGRAMME PLANNING

We encourage WIs to plan a varied and exciting programme for their members. This is best achieved if you find a way to get your members to tell you what they would like at the monthly meetings. This can be done by asking them for suggestions in a variety of ways and then booking a wide range of their ideas. Use the aims and objects of the WI as a guide to the full range of areas your meetings should cover. Most WIs have a range of extra activities on offer for members to join in with and members can join with the Federation and National events put on for them. The speakers in the Yearbook have all passed the Federation auditioning process and cover a wide, varied range of subjects.

THE SPEAKER

BOOKING THE SPEAKER:

After initial contact (by phone, email or post) it is a good idea to confirm in writing (email or letter) the exact details of the booking and the meeting they are to attend. This should include time, place, fee and add that they should bring whatever equipment they need to give their talk, demonstration or entertainment. If you are able to provide any amenities i.e. stage, screen, extension cable, blank wall, table/chair, make sure the speaker is aware of this on the form and ask for confirmation of what they would like provided. Speaker's fees and mileage are correct for the year in which the Yearbook is produced.

BEFORE THE MEETING:

Remember to confirm in the month before your meeting that the speaker is coming, and all the necessary arrangements are in place. Check again that they will be bringing all the equipment they need to give their talk, demonstration or entertainment as per your booking form.

LOOKING AFTER THE SPEAKER:

Please factor this into your meeting planning. Check requirements such as parking/ public transport/ timings/ payment etc. and ensure a member is assigned to look after the speaker for the entire time they are at your meeting.

AFTER THE MEETING:

The only way we can monitor the quality of our speakers is by WIs submitting a confidential report about the speaker after their meeting. These can be posted or emailed and are available from the SFWI office or the website to download, [Document Library | Surrey Federation of Women's Institutes](#)

FORMS FOR BOOKING/INVOICING SPEAKER:

These are all available on the Surrey Federation website for you to use/edit as required.

EMERGENCY SPEAKERS:

Please check the Yearbook for SN beside speaker's names. These speakers may be available at Short Notice.

OTHER PROGRAMME IDEAS

Don't stick to the same routine - change things around from time to time.

Do encourage new members to help plan the programme.

Be inventive and use your members' talents and skills.

Encourage members to participate in Group, Federation and National events by including details on your printed programme.

Try to arrange events between the meetings, like rambles, games evenings, theatre and cinema outings, discussion groups etc., and include them all on your programme.

ZOOM MEETINGS

Zoom is a video conferencing platform, which enables you to video call people as well as join and take part in meetings in small or large groups, all from the comfort of your own home. The software can be used on your laptop, iPad or phone and is safe and secure to use. If you would like more information or help on how to use Zoom, please contact the office via email info@surreyfedwi.org.uk who can provide you with guidance.

REMEMBER: Your programme is your calling card and should advertise all the events that you are able to offer members.

ABBREVIATIONS AND NOTES

AEO	Afternoons/Evenings Only	NWE	Not winter evenings
AO	Afternoons only	PPT	PowerPoint
AV	Audio Visual	PT	Public Transport
D	Daytime	PPM	Pence per mile
Di	Digital/computer presentation	R20	Radius 20 miles (miles may vary)
EO	Evenings only	SHO	School holidays only
LTP	Laptop presentation	S	Slides
M	Mileage	SN	Short notice
NE	Not evenings		Zoom/Skype – video conferencing
NSH	Not school holidays		

MILEAGE

Please check with the speaker when booking and again before the talk as mileage charges may vary from speaker to speaker and from year to year. If no rate is suggested, then use SFWI standard rate, which is 40p per mile.

CLASSES

Please contact the speaker for the fee for classes and day schools.

NOTES

The Speaker's List is revised annually, and the Surrey Federation reserves the right to omit, retain or add names.

If Speakers wish to sell items at a WI meeting, this should be by prior agreement. Items must be placed on the WI sales table and the WI concerned given their usual 10% commission. (Note: If a speaker has a money-back guarantee for the goods they sell, WIs should confirm with them in writing whether or not commission will be withheld until the guarantee period has passed. Once the meeting is over, the Secretary should obtain written confirmation from the speaker as to the amount of commission due if no returns are made.)

SPECIAL NOTE FOR ORGANISATIONS OUTSIDE THE WI

The fees listed are for organisations within the WI only. The fees quoted in this book may **not** be applicable to other organisations as many speakers may have reduced their fees for Surrey WI members. Non-WI organisations should contact their chosen speaker direct to negotiate a fee and travelling expenses.

ADVISERS TALKS

WI Advisers are happy to talk about any aspect of the WI. Apply direct to the WI Adviser of your choice. A charge of £15 will be made.

CLIMATE ADVOCATE

Please contact the SFWI Climate Advocate, Rosemary Horton, climate@surreyfedwi.org.uk. There is no charge, just mileage please.

CATEGORIES OF TALKS AND NAMES OF SPEAKERS

1. Architecture, Antiques and Collectibles	Dr Geoffery Mead
2. Art and Photography	Louise Camby Dr Judith Hill Miss Sarah Oldridge Mrs Cherrill Sands Samia Tossio
3. Fashion, Health and Beauty	Peter Batty – Circling the Square Presentations & Tours Annabel Brash Joanna Bristow-Watkins Louise Camby Michelle Ernout Grace Evans Ruth Fogg Alison Hoyland Jane Muddle Belinda Knox-Spinks Louise Ryrrie Clare Smythson Hanah Tat Samia Tossio Holly Whelan Dr <i>New from April 26 Auditions</i>
4. General Interest	David Allen Chris and Denise Arthey David Bickerton Tony Birtley <i>New from April 26 Auditions</i> Joanna Bogle Louise Bradley Roy Buchanan Joanna Bristow-Watkins Louise Camby David Chave Errol Clayton Jody Cooksley Ian Currie Alistair Daniel Marion Dante English Shuffleboard Company – Adrian Williams Elitta Fell <i>New from April 26 Auditions</i> Ruth Fogg Mary Forlenza Gordon Gillett Hanah Tat Nicholas Henderson , Rev'd Dr Rosemary Horton Susan Howe Belinda Knox Spinks John Lane Glenda Law April Lewis Amanda Littlecott Ann Lovelace Mark Lucas <i>New from April 26 Auditions</i>

	<p> Gary Miles Morrish Louise Jenny Nockolds Lynsey Jane Nowick <i>New from November 25 Auditions</i> Peter Popham Louise Ryrrie Geoff Saunders Hayley Scott <i>New from November 25 Auditions</i> Roger Sherburn-Hall Bob Sinfield Sarah Slater Peter Smith Clare Smythson <i>New from November 25 Auditions</i> Andy Thomas Jessica Thurtell Samia Tossio Holly Whelan Dr <i>New from April 26 Auditions</i> Paul Whittle Adrian Williams Ian Worley <i>New from April 26 Auditions</i> Jay Woogara </p>
<p>5. History and Archaeology including General History and Archaeology Social History Cultural History</p>	<p> David Allen Lucy Allen Peter Batty – Circling the Square Presentations & Tours David Bickerton Tony Birtley <i>New from April 26 Auditions</i> Joanna Bristow-Watkins Roy Buchanan David Chave Errol Clayton Jody Cooksley Ian Currie Alistair Daniel Grace Evans Joanna Fogg Michael A Gilbert Gordon Gillett Nicholas Henderson, Rev'd Dr Judith Hill Susan Howe Christopher John Hutchinson Belinda Knox-Spinks April Lewis Mark Lucas <i>New from April 26 Auditions</i> Geoffrey Mead Gary Miles Lynsey Jane Nowick <i>New from November 25 Auditions</i> Peter Popham Cherrill Sands Roger Sherburn-Hall Mary Smith Sarah Slater David Standing Andy Thomas Jessica Thurtell Paul Whittle </p>

	Antony Wood Ian Worley <i>New from April 26 Auditions</i> Jay Woogara Angela Young
6. Cookery, including Cookery and Wine – talks Cookery demonstrations	Louise Camby Rosemary Horton
7. Crafts	Elitta Fell <i>New from April 26 Auditions</i> John Lane
8. Workshops and Classes	David Allen Annabel Brash Elitta Fell <i>New from April 26 Auditions</i> Lynsey Jane Nowick <i>New from November 25 Auditions</i> Hayley Scott <i>New from November 25 Auditions</i> Samia Tossio
9. Gardens and Floral Art	Peter Batty – Circling the Square Presentations & Tours Ian Currie Michelle Ernout Judith Hill Sarah Oldridge Cherrill Sands Lynn Sleet David Standing Paul Whittle
10. Language, Literature and Journalism	David Allen Roy Buchanan Errol Clayton Alistair Daniel Susan Howe Ann Lovelace Louise Morrish <i>New from November 25 Auditions</i> Susan Purcell Cherrill Sands Rowan Suart
11. Music, Speech and Drama, Entertainment	David Allen Joanna Bogle Louise Camby Errol Clayton Alistair Daniel Driscoll, Rob Victoria Frances Guildford Barber Shop Harmony Club (<i>Previously Surrey Fringe</i>) Judith Hill Paul Hudson Ann Lovelace Lesley North Sue Parker-Nutley Bob Sinfield Rowan Suart The Swinging Sixtys Margaret Watson

12. Radio, TV, Film and Theatre	David Allen Lucy Allen Ann Lovelace Gary Miles Jackie Simmonds Bob Sinfield
13. Natural History and the Countryside	Louise Camby Chris Churchman <i>New from November 25 Auditions</i> Belinda Knox-Spinks John Lane Glenda Law John Lawrence Gillian Lloyd Geoffrey Mead Peter Smith Colin Summerhayes
14. Surrey	Belinda Knox-Spinks Cherrill Sands
15. Great Britain	Louise Bradley Susan Howe Christopher John Hutchinson Glenda Law Geoffrey Mead Geoff Saunders Andy Thomas Paul Whittle
16. Travel in Other Countries	Roy Buchanan Rosemary Horton Christopher John Hutchinson John Lane Gillian Lloyd Jane Muddle Jenny Nockolds Ian Parsons Cherrill Sands Geoff Saunders Paul Whittle

SPEAKERS LIST

Speakers are reminded that they should be prepared to provide all the equipment necessary to give their talk, demonstration or entertainment. It is not the responsibility of the WIs.

ALLEN, David Brighton, BN2 Website: www.davidallenpublicspeaker.co.uk <i>*Please note that it's an underscore and not a dash in the email address</i>		£115.00 + .45ppm SN, Zoom fee £TBA
4	‘The Weird and Wonderful World of The Law’ Dotty judges, naughty jurors, and bizarre cases - based on 25 years working as a locum solicitor travelling around the country!	
5	‘Blood, Guts and Gore – Murder in Victorian England’ History and storytelling rolled into one! The true story of a young servant who murders her cantankerous mistress. Meticulously researched. Gripping stuff!	
5	‘The Lady Poisoners of Victorian England’. Meet the wicked ladies who bought deadly poisons to bump off their husbands and lovers. True tales of three poisoners with only one thing on their mind... Murder!	
5	‘Manners Please, Dearest!’ Welcome to your first day at the Victorian Finishing School. Discover the Do’s and Don’ts of Victorian etiquette, courtship, calling cards, tea with the mother-in-law and the secret language of the fan! Tremendous fun!	
10,11	‘The Amazing Mr Dickens!’ An exciting, fast paced journey through the author’s ‘rags to riches’ life story, including his scandalous love affairs, his Great Tours of America and daring escape from a train, with dramatic readings from his work.	
10, 11	‘The Life of Dame Agatha Christie:’ From her young day’s roller skating on Torquay Pier to her mysterious disappearance and glittering career. With wonderful photographs of Agatha, her family, her books, and the actors who played her most famous characters, Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple. (Di)	
12	The Making of Casablanca. Step behind the scenes into the making of this all-time classic romance and tearjerker, starring Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman. This PowerPoint presentation includes several clips from his wonderful film and many wonderful photos. (Di)	
12	The Making of The Sound of Music’: Learn about the life of the real Maria, the true story behind the movie fiction, all the backstage secrets, with many film clips and your favourite songs. Heart warming and escapist entertainment! Pure joy! (Di)	
ALLEN, Ms Lucy London, E7 Website: www.talks4groups.uk		£90 + .35ppm SN Zoom with PPT £82
12	‘The Ship of Dreams’ – Tales from Titanic	
12	From Titanic to Wicked – The Highs and Lows of a Stuntwoman’s Life	
5	Suffragette and The Petticoat Rebellion	
5, 12	Black Cats, Broomsticks and Bellatrix – Who were the Witches?	
12	On the Buses – Remembering a Comedy Classic with the Director’s Daughter	
ARTHEY Chris and Denise Godalming, GU8		£100 + M Avail anytime. PPT. <i>They will also want to sell their book</i>
4	“Highway 35-Meeting disaster head-on with hope”. Whatever struggles you’re facing, this account of a disabling road accident and remarkable recovery will be an encouragement.	

BATTY, Peter - CIRCLING THE SQUARE PRESENTATIONS AND TOURS Kent, ME14		Groups under 40/ £75, over 41/£95 + mileage PPT, Zoom £55 per presentation
5	Band of Sisters: Amazing Women of WW2	
5	How well do you know Christmas? Plants, foods and traditions of Christmas times.	
5	An Armchair Tour of the City of London	
5	How well do you know Easter? Plants, foods and traditions of the Easter Season	
5	Plants and Food that changed History	
5	Changing Rooms – A Look at How Interiors Have Changed Through the Ages	
5	Out of the blue: where did that saying come from?	
9	Fruits Of Our Labour: EMR – The Research Station That Changed History	
	<i>10 Other talks and walking tours available</i>	
BICKERTON, David Waterlooville, Hants, PO8		£45 plus mileage, maximum charge £25. Avail anytime
4,5	'Parents at War' 150 love letters during the war that inspired a book	
5	'The Pursuit and Sinking of Bismarck' the 5-day pursuit and sinking	
5	'Battle of River Plate' followed by pursuit and scuttling of <i>Admiral Graf Spee</i>	
BIRTLEY, Tony (Author) (<i>New from April 26 Auditions</i>) Walton on Thames, KT12		£70 + mileage Available anytime
4, 5	Whose Truth is it Anyway? A former BBC war correspondent, covering some of the biggest conflicts in modern history, asks where you get your news from and why you believe it. Looking at recent and past history, democracy, propoganda and what the result can be from fact or fiction. "Edge of Madness" is his first novel. He may have his book to sell.	
BOGLE, Mrs Joanna New Malden, KT3		£50 + travel, Zoom
4, 11	Britain's Traditional Feasts and Seasons	
4	A forgotten heroine, Caroline Chisholm who helped establish Australia	
4	Courage and Conviction, the Englishwomen who rescued Jews in Italy in WWII	
4	Sue Ryder: a life of courage	
BRADLEY, Louise Warlingham, CR6		£85 + mileage 20ppm, Prefer within a 30-mile radius Available anytime
4,15	Middle Aged and Motorbiking Mad?	
4,15	What you didn't know (or had forgotten) you knew about driving	

BRASH, Annabel Farnborough, Hants Web: bbfitnessanddance.wordpress.com		£45 + mileage 35p Zoom
3, 8	Dance and Fitness – Bollywood, Ballroom and Latin (FitSteps), Burlesque, Musicals, Hoola Hooping, Strength and Balance exercises (Falls Prevention)	
BRISTOW-WATKINS, Joanna Walton on Thames, KT12 Web: www.joannabristow-watkins.com		£100 + M + parking if relevant SN
3	Why Forest Bathing – immerse yourself in the power of nature	
4, 5	The Great Escape 1944; forget the film, what <i>really</i> happened?	
4	Other talks including ‘sacred sites’, ‘Indigenous Egyptology’, ‘Health in Nature Podcast’, Do Past Lives Exist?	
BUCHANAN, Roy Epsom, KT19		£100 + .65ppm, SN Zoom and others
5	The Life and Times of Admiral Nelson	
5	My Time in Blue Uniform – Anecdotes from 34 years as a police officer	
4, 10	Poetically Speaking – learn what inspires the speaker to write poetry	
4, 16	Staying in Empty Hotels-stories from 45 years of continental motor touring	
5	Greek Mythology Today – Words brought into today's language	
CAMBY, Miss Louise Tadworth, KT20 Website: https://www.voice-productions.co.uk/keynote-talks		SN, PPT, AV, Zoom and others See talks for fees
3	Health Benefits of Aloe Vera (produce sampling and opportunity to purchase if desired). <i>Talk can be given without sampling/purchase opportunity</i> (£115 + 45ppm with 10% going to host WI)	
3	Bees and the amazing products from the hive (product sampling and opportunity to purchase if desired). <i>Talk can be given without sampling/purchase opportunity.</i> (£115 + 45ppm with 10% going to host WI)	
3, 4	Legal Cannabis. The health benefits of CBD and Hemp (product sampling and opportunity to purchase if desired). <i>Talk can be given without sampling/purchase opportunity</i> (£115 + 45ppm with 10% going to host WI)	
11	Tracks to my grandfather's success – Johnny Douglas composer of the music to the 1971 film “The Railway Children” with/without CD sales. <i>Talk can be given without sampling/purchase opportunity.</i> (£115 + 45ppm with 10% going to host WI)	
2, 4,	Capturing the curvature of the earth on Concorde. (£115 + 45ppm)	
4	The Hope of Spring – facts and fun information about our season of Spring. (£115 + 45ppm)	
4	The Warmth of Summer - facts and fun information about our season of Summer (£115 + 45ppm)	
4	The Beauty of Autumn - facts and fun information about our season of Autumn. (£115 + 45ppm)	
4	The Wonders of Winter - facts and fun information about our season of Winter (£115 + 45ppm)	
6	Grape Expectations – facts and fun information about wines from around the world with some tasting if interested. (£115 + 45ppm)	

4, 13	Help our Hedgehogs - everything you need to know about this spiky mammal and how we can help them avoid extinction. (£115 + 45ppm)	
	More talks can be found on my website page https://www.voice-productions.co.uk/keynote-talks	
CHAVE, David Sutton, SM2		£70 + .25ppm over 10 miles from home
4	Fighting Monsters – A History of Offending Profiling	
4	Murderous Women	
4	DNA Profiling and Murder	
4 & 5	Dirty Money – A History of Money Laundering	
4	The Murder Detective in Fiction v How It’s Really Done	
CHURCHMAN, Chris (<i>NEW from the November 2025 Auditions</i>) Hampton, Middx, TW12		£60 + mileage £20 max Available anytime
13	Losing England’s Landscape – Apart from climate change, there are other factors involved including development, green energy, infrastructure, taxation, and land ownership to name a few.	
13	Basic understanding of climate change, fact, fiction and consequences	
CLAYTON, Errol Kingston Upon Thames, KT1		£130 + mileage. Available anytime
4,5	Conjuring the Spirits – séance, witchcraft, history	
10, 11	A Dickensian Christmas – How Charles Dickens reinvented Christmas	
COOKSLEY – Jody Cranleigh, Surrey, GU6		£70 + travel Avail anytime + possible books to sell
4, 5,	Julia Margaret Cameron – Pioneer C19th Photographer	
4	Uncle Jim’s Tin – how a tin of memories sparked a novel	
4	The Enduring Appeal of Gothic Literature	
CURRIE, Mr Ian Storrington, West Sussex, RH20		£65 + M, DI, Zoom
4, 5	Frost, Freezes and Fairs – Ice Carnivals on the Frozen Thames	
4, 13	The History of Weather Forecasting from Aristotle to Computers	
13	Weather Lore - Fact or Fiction? A Country Guide to Forecasting	
13	A Guide to the Wonderful World of Clouds	
4	Gales, Greenhouses and Global Warming – is our climate changing?	
4	Storms, Tempests and Hurricanes	
4	Droughts, Deluges and Dust Devils – weather events in the SE since the 1650’s	
4	The Day It Rained Crabs and Frogs – Unusual Weather	
	<i>other talks available</i>	

DANIEL, Dr Alastair New Malden, KT3		£60 + .45ppm Available anytime
10,11	Storytelling – the Social Art of Language	
4,10	Storying place: how stories turn space to place	
4	Elephants to Catch Eels – Smuggling in SE England at the turn of the nineteenth century	
4,5	A brief history of Fairy Tales	
4,5	Folk and Fairy Tale, and the Oral Tradition	
	<i>Other talks available</i>	
DANTE, Marion Camberley, Surrey, GU16		£70 + .40ppm
4	“Dropping the Habit” autobiography of a former Nun	
DRISCOLL, Rob (<i>NEW from the November 2025 Auditions</i>) Portsmouth, Hants, PO6		£80 + mileage/PT Available anytime
11	It’s A Balloon World After All – balloon art demonstrating a variety of techniques and showcasing unique and unusual balloon possibilities.	
11	A flower show with a twist	
11	Magical moments	
ERNOULT, Michelle Mitcham Junction, CR4 Website: www.michelleernoult.co.uk		£75 + .50ppm SN Zoom
3	The Benefits of Honey and Beeswax	
13	Around the Beehive	
13	Bumble Bees, Solitary Bees and Honeybees,	
9,13	Gardening for Bees and Other Pollinators	
9, 13	I Don’t Want That in My Garden	
	<i>(Other talks available)</i>	
EVANS, GRACE (Keeper of Costume, Chertsey Museum) Chertsey, Surrey, KT16 Website: www.chertseymuseum.org		£70 + mileage. <i>Available anytime subject to museum opening times</i>
3,5	A Bride Revisited, exploring an 18 th century wedding ensemble	
3,5	Three Gowns for Three Crowns, exploring three garments with Royal connections	
3,5	Titanic Style – Dress and Fashion on the Voyage	
5	The Olive Matthews Fashion Collection at Chertsey Museum, a history of the collection	
5	High Waists to Romantic Tastes, Regency Fashion, 1800 – 1830s	
FELL, Elitta (<i>New from April 26 Auditions</i>) Westerham, Kent, TN16 Information: “Have a Go” sessions at £3pp, or a tailored workshop from £7pp		£70 + mileage See information. Please ring to discuss

4,7,8	Talk: Silk and Silk Painting. An introduction to silk and its history, continuing with ways it is used as an art medium as well as clothing. Examples to touch and see	
FOGG, Ruth Wraysbury, TW19		£70 + mileage. Available anytime
3,4	Your Health is your First Wealth – mental and physical wellbeing	
4	Deaf, Daft or Just Different – my personal story growing up believing I was deaf and daft	
4	Self Care is a necessity not a luxury	
4	Stressed or Blessed? The choice is yours	
FORLENZA, Mrs Mary Banstead, Surrey, SM7		£ neg + .45ppm Zoom avail
4	Great Lovers – Anecdotes of famous couples	
4	Women – a look at the lives of ladies who have improved the female status	
FRANCES, Victoria Hildenborough, Kent, TN11		£130 + £10 travel
11	'Music and Fun' Violin and Singing, all styles to suit your occasion	
GILBERT, Michael A. London, SW16		£70 + M if over 10 miles SN Di Zoom
5	Exploring the Thames from its source to the seas (series of 9 talks)	
5	'A Tonic to the Nation': London 1951 and the Festival of Britain	
5	History of the Crystal Palace (Series) Example: 1851 and the Great Exhibition	
5	Exploring London Through the 20 th Century (Series) Example: London 1940-1959	
	<i>(Please email me for a full list of 45 Talks and 14 Guided Walks)</i>	
GILLETT, Gordon Chaldon, CR3 <i>*£160,000 raised for cancer charities, of which £120,000 so far for St Catherine's Hospice.</i>		£Donation to St Catherine's Hospice please*
4,5	How Carol saved Tollsworth Manor, Circa 1326, Grade II	
4	How to beat the cost-of-living crisis, without having to cut back	
GUILDFORD BARBERSHOP HARMONY CLUB (SURREY FRINGE CHORUS) Contact: Simon Ward Website: www.surreyfringe.org Please contact for distance R20		£135 weekdays £165 eve/weekend and Christmas, NYE Fee includes expenses. R20
11	Barbershop/Close Harmony Singing by a chorus of 12-20 men (Quartet also possible)	

HENDERSON, The Rev'd. Dr Nicholas London, E14 Website: www.nicholashenderson.org		£90 + PT or 30ppm (neg) Zoom avail on request
5	Ten Tudor Queens – the powers on and behind the throne	
5	Russia History and Provenance	
5	Of Crowns and Coronations through the ages	
5	Learn How To 'Read' The English Country Church	
4	Great Mysteries and Conspiracy Theories	
4	From Ghosts to Visiting Aliens and Much In-between – Explaining the Inexplicable	
4	This England – where did it come from?	
4	The Wonders of the Universe – a guided tour of the Cosmos	
5	From King Arthur to Lady Godiva and many more – myths and legends of English History	
5	England's Ten Worst Monarchs	
5	'What If?' Great near misses in history	
5	The Rise & Fall of the Austro-Hungarian Empire	
5	England's Ten Worst Monarchs	
5	'What if?' Great near misses in history	
5	The Rise & Fall of the Austro-Hungarian Empire	
	<i>(Other talks available)</i>	
HILL, Dr Judith Woking, Surrey, GU22		£90 + .35ppm LTP PPT Zoom for all
5	The British Almshouse: A Perspective on Philanthropy	
5, 9	The history of the Allotment Movement in England	
5	The invention of the Victorian Seaside	
2	Julia Margaret Cameron, A Pre-eminent Victorian Photographer	
5	Bess of Hardwick Hall – Elizabeth Countess of Shrewsbury, A Powerful Woman	
5	Queen Victoria - the "royal disease," how haemophilia passed into the royal houses	
5	Queen Victoria and Prince Albert - Rulers, Partners and Rivals	
5	Marianne North, A Victorian Lady Traveller and her Gallery at Kew Gardens	
5	Victorian Life Upstairs and Downstairs	
5, 9	The Victorian Garden – Great Change and Innovation	
5	The Victorian Pharmacy: Kill or Cure?	
5	Misdoings and Misdemeanours: The Life of the Victorian Servant	
5	Victorian London, a city of dreadful delights – prostitution, scandal and murder	
5	Victorian culinary delights - banquet to poor man's table	
5	Mary Queen of Scots – Heroine or Villain?	
5	The Footsteps of Henry VIII's Wives – their Palaces, Castles and Houses	
5, 9	The Victorian Head Gardeners the "forgotten heroes of horticulture" in the Victorian period	
5	"Dismissed" sacking of three Victorian housekeepers' scandal and shame	
5	Osborne House, "Our dear Osborne which is a little paradise for us" (Queen Victoria)	
5,11	The Victorians and Entertainment – music hall to the seaside entertainment for all	

5	Gertrude Jekyll artist gardener and craftswoman – An amazing legacy who created nearly 400 gardens	
5	The partnership of Edwins Lutyens and Gertrude Jekyll Bumps and Ned – a story that must be told	
5	Thomas Holloway built a patent medicine empire much criticised but now remembered as a great benefactor	
5	The Gilded Age - marriage of American Heiress to British Men	
HORTON, Mrs Rosemary Dorking, Surrey, RH4		£50 + .40ppm SN Zoom
6	Cheese Please	
16	New Zealand on Impulse	
SFWI	This is me and the Climate, in my role as Climate Advocate (<i>Just Mileage</i>)	
	<i>(Other talks available)</i>	
HOWE, Mrs Susan Petersfield, Hants, GU31 Web: www.selectideas.co.uk/susanhowe		£95 depending on group size + WI rate mileage. Will negotiate. SN. Zoom
4	Lighthearted look at running 'Fawlty Towers' and Cooking for the Rich and Famous	
4,5,15	All Things British – Eccentrics, Heroes and Tea	
4,10	Knowing Two Eccentrics: Fun Anecdotes About John Betjeman and 'Siegfried' - James Herriot's Partner	
4,5	History Minus the Boring Bits – Amusing Historical Stories, Teacher Didn't Tell You	
5	Animals and Their Famous Owners: Florence Nightingale's Owl to Oscar Wilde's Lobster	
4	Indiscreet Revelations of a Tour Guide: dealing with difficult clients; avoiding being eaten by tigers	
4	Entertaining Episodes in an Eventful Life - dancing with the future King, being abandoned in the desert, causing a stir in Harrods	
HOYLAND, Miss Alison Godalming, Surrey, GU7		£80 +35p mileage
3	Never Judge a Book by Its Cover – wear your best colours and styles	
3	The Power of Style – the secret language of clothes	
3	The Magic of Makeup (Makeup demonstration for ladies of an "interesting" age) 1 volunteer required	
HUDSON, Paul Farnham, Surrey, GU9 Website: www.soundsofsinatra.co.uk		£95 plus mileage at 40ppm. Available anytime
11	The Sounds of Sinatra: A musical tribute to Frank Sinatra and friends from the Rat Pack Era	
HUTCHINSON, Christopher John Yateley, Hants, GU46 "yateleyart" on Flickr		£50 + .45ppm SN Di Zoom
5	In Memoriam – A Light-hearted look at some unusual memorials	
15	Britishness – A Look at Some British Traditions, how they started and have changed	
16	A Mountaineer's View of Scenery and Culture of Places Like the Alps, Scandinavia and Surrey	

	(Other talks available)	
KNOX SPINKS, Mrs Belinda Dorking, Surrey, RH9		£ 95 + .45ppm PPT Zoom
14	Top Ten of my famous trees in Surrey	
14	The idiosyncrasies of the North Downs Way in Surrey	
3, 4	The Miracle of KONMARI professional home organising – decluttering made easy	
4,5	The history of the Teddy Bear	
5	Was Harold killed by an arrow? The story of the Bayeux Tapestry	
14	Stories from the South Downs Way	
LANE, John Battersea, London, SW11 Web: www.johnlanebooks.com <i>NB responses by email will have the name of "Ned Brooking" and not John Lane.</i>		PT Travel + £90 Zoom
4, 7	Embroideries of the World	
4	The Endangered Amazon Rainforest	
4	The Magic and Mysteries of the Peruvian Andes, (parts I and II)	
4	Service in HM Yacht Britannia	
4	Humanitarian & Disaster Reponses Worldwide	
LAW, Miss Glenda Lingfield, RH7		£36-£58 + M, SN
4	Street Furniture (S)	
13 & 15	Scotland the Beautiful (S)	
13	Wildlife of Eastern Australia (Di)	
13	Wildlife of Botswana (Di)	
13	Wildlife of Madagascar (Di)	
	<i>Other talks available</i>	
LAWRENCE, John Coulsdon, CR5		£60 + M + parking SN PPT Zoom £50
13	Garden Birds – An Introduction by Sight and Sound	
13	Gardens 4 Birds – How to Make Your Garden More Wildlife Friendly	
13	Visiting Birds – Recognise Our Winter and Summer Migrants by Sight and Sound	
13	Voyage to Antarctica – Wildlife of the Peninsula, the Falklands and South Georgia	
13	Crossing the Pantanal – A Search for the Elusive Jaguar	
13	Footloose in Namibia – Wildlife of the Namib Desert and Etosha National Park	
13	Birding Ecuador – In Search of Antpittas and Hummingbirds	
13	Kiwi experience, the wonderful wildlife of New Zealand	
13	Cruising the Hebrides, including St Kilda – island visits, seabird colonies, cetaceans and other wildlife seen	
13	Highlights of Colombia – gold, endemic birds and animals and culture	
	<i>Other talks available</i>	

LEWIS, April Redhill, RH1		£70 plus PT. Available evenings, other times by arrangement.
4,5	Crime and Punishment, the evolution of. Journey through the evolution of crime and punishment, from early medieval through to modern day.	
5	Lighting the Pyre: Exploring key witch trials in history from North Berwick to Bideford	
4	Haunted Britain: Exploring ghost stories of Great Britain and ghost hunting	
4	Medieval Medicine- Exploring the crazy and sometime scary world of medieval medicine.	
4	Pendle Witch Trial- An in depth look into England's famous witch trial	
LITTLECOTT, Amanda Twickenham, TW1 <i>A certified photo organiser with a passion for helping overwhelmed memory lovers who want all their photos and videos safe and sound in one place to share and enjoy</i>		£50 + Mileage. Avail anytime
4	Photo Mess to Success: Bringing Order to Your Printed and Digital Memories	
LLOYD, Mrs Gillian Eridge Green, West Sussex, TN3 Web: www.gillianlloydphotography.co.uk		£85 + 50ppm SN Di
13 & 16	Walking with Polar Bears – A Photographic Journey to the Arctic	
13 & 16	Surprises of Uganda (In Search of Mountain Gorillas)	
13 & 16	Seasons of Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem	
13 & 16	An African Dream – Beauty, Behaviour and Beyond	
LOVELACE, Mrs Ann MBE Sanderstead, CR2		£75 + 40ppm SN S Zoom
4	The Orpheus Centre – Sir Richard Stilgoe's Inspiring Centre for Young Disabled Adults	
10, 11	'It Could Be Verse' – Performance of Own Reflective and Humorous Poems	
4, 11, 12	Writing Plays and Lyrics for Young People	
LUCAS, Mark (<i>New from April 26 Auditions</i>) Richmond, TW10 Mark is a local Richmond author		£100 + M PPT SN Available anytime
4,5,14	The Rise and Fall of Richmond Palace: An entertaining and highly visual presentation including a magic Tudor brick, scurrilous "Goings-on" and a ghost story.	
4,5,14	Amazing Richmond Bridge: An entertaining and highly visual presentation including talking portraits arguing with the presenter and a Tontine (an investment and a lottery)	
4	AI fun and the Historian: An entertaining and highly visual presentation showing how Artificial Intelligence explodes fast and furious into the once slow world of the Historian.	
MEAD, Dr Geoffrey Brighton, BN1		£100 + 35ppm SN PPT
1, 5	Hearth and Home: Vernacular Building Materials of the Southeast	
5, 13	Resorting to the Coast: A History of Seaside Holidays	
13 & 15	Landscapes of S. E. England	
13 & 15	Coasting Along Sussex: A Pictorial Journey - Chichester to Rye	

	<i>Other talks available</i>	
MILES, Gary Carshalton, SM5		Donation to the Macular Society LTP, Zoom
4, 12	History of Punch and Judy	
4	Life as a Cruise Lecturer	
4, 12	"Oh No It Isn't" History of Pantomime	
5	History of Town Crier	
5	History of Isle of Wight	
4	Secrets of an Autograph Hunter	
4, 12	Brush Up your shakespeare	
	<i>Other talks available</i>	
MORRISH, Louise (<i>NEW from the November 2025 Auditions</i>) Alton, Hants, GU34		£70 + mileage Available anytime
4, 10	"Secret Women" the female Secret Agents of the SOE (Special Operations Executive) Author, she may wish to sell her books	
4, 10	Women of War –Dorothy Lawrence, Dr Louisa Garrett Anderson and Dr Flora Murray – Author, she may wish to sell her books	
MUDDLE, Mrs Jane Five Ash Down, East Sussex, TN22		£70 + £15 SN
3	The Story Behind the Bags and Hats from Madagascar – Madagascar Island, How the Bags and Hats are Made – audience modelling	
16	The Secrets of Madagascar – My adventures around this large, beautiful island so rarely visited	
NOCKOLDS, Jenny Guildford, GU2		£70 + M SN Di S
16	Volunteering in the Rainforest in Ecuador (2009)	
16	A Sponsored Climb of Mount Kilimanjaro (2010)	
16	Ethiopia, Amazing History, Beautiful Land (2017)	
16	Walking the Inca Trail to Macchu Pichu (2011)	
16	Trekking to Everest Base Camp (2012)	
16	Bhutan, The Land of Gross National Happiness (2014)	
16	Volunteering With Elephants in Thailand (2015)	
4	Volunteering with Guildford Street Angels (2010-2023)	
NORTH, Mrs Lesley Esher, KT10		£80 R20 Zoom
11	Swimming in Suburbia – Lighthearted Poetry and Prose celebrating women in Suburbia	
NOWIK, Lynsey Jane (<i>NEW from the November 2025 Auditions</i>) Fleet, Hants, GU52		£45 + mileage Available anytime
4, 5, 8	Life in Danelaw – Daily Life for Viking and Saxon women in England and Scandinavia during the Viking age, with replica artefacts and period dress.	

	<i>Craft Activity (if desired) – finger loop braiding- an additional £20</i>	
OLDRIDGE, Miss Sarah Ansty, West Sussex, RH17 5AG		£80 inc M SN S PPT Zoom £50
9	From Palace to Pagoda: The Diverse Buildings of Kew Gardens	
2, 9	Marianne North: A Remarkable Victorian Flower Painter	
9	History and Work of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew	
9	Through the Seasons at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew	
PARKER-NUTLEY Sue Westerham, Kent, TN16		£100 + .40ppm If the WI is more than 20 miles from Westerham. Available anytime
11	An Actor's Life for Me	
11	An Actor's Life for Me – Christmas Version	
PARSONS, Jan Hindhead, GU26 Website: www.janparsonstraveltalks.com		£80 + .35ppm SN, PPT, Di, Zoom
16	Byron's Pilgrimage: His Life and Travels	
16	A Baltic Journey: From Stockholm to the Bay of Gdansk	
16	The Mosaic Trail: A Quest through Southern Europe	
16	Jordan: The Desert Highway	
16	Palestine: Beyond the Wall	
16	From Transylvania to Tallin – Travels through Romania and Estonia	
16	Prague and Mozart's Travels	
16	From the North Cape to the Mediterranean	
POPHAM, Peter Kingston Upon Thames, KT1		£100 + mileage or P/T. Available anytime
4,5	Gandhi vs Churchill: Triumph and Disaster at the End of the Raj (Author – he may wish to sell his book)	
PURCELL, Susan Guildford, GU4		£75 + M SN
10	The A to Z of the English Dictionary – Its History and Development	
10	The History of Crosswords and Tricks of the Crossword Compiler's Trade	
RYRIE, Louise Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 Facebook & Instagram @louiseryrie_creativeworld		£95 + travel
3	Introduction to Meditation & a confident new you. Inc Relaxation tips & meditation session.	
3, 4	Confessions of a Ballet Teacher – Humorous insights across an unusual 28-year career	

3, 4	A Year in the Life of a Production Reviewer – The best & worst bits, plus sneaky insights from my West End reviews (Ballet, Musicals & Plays)	
4	Your Pelvic Floor – What, Why and Where! Relaxed, informative, packed with tips	
4	'Inspiring Women': Women past, present, real & fictional – giggles and pulls on the heartstrings!	
SAMIA TOSSIO Sutton, SM2 SILK PAINTING WORKSHOPS by arrangement. <i>Cost dependent on how many participants. Please ring to discuss.</i>		£99 + PT or Zip Car. Ring to discuss. <i>Available anytime</i>
2	Essence of Silk – the therapeutic art of silk painting inspired by the iconic Silk Road	
2	Brutiful Tales - silk murals and stories from Palestine after a transformative visit with Sabeel-Kairos Charity	
SANDS, Cherrill Walton on Thames, KT12		£95+ .45ppm PPT, AV, LTP, SN, Zoom
9, 10	Women Writers and their Gardens – Jane Austen, Agatha Christie and others	
2, 9	The Artist and her Garden, Vanessa Bell, Barbara Hepworth and others	
9, 14	Surrey Gardens	
2, 5, 9, 10	The Remarkable Miss Gertrude Jekyll; craftswoman, author, photographer, designer and gardener	
5, 9	Women Gardeners of the 20 th century	
	<i>Other Talks are available</i>	
SAUNDERS, Geoff Dorking, RH4 Web: www.Geoffsaunders.org		£60 SN Di, Zoom/Skype
4, 16	'All I Ask is a Tallship' – Traditional Sailing Across the South Pacific	
4, 15	'Reports from Coastal Stations' - Journeys Around the Shipping Forecast	
4, 16	'Antarctica' sailing to the Frozen Continent	
	<i>Other talks available</i>	
SCOTT, Hayley (NEW from the November 2025 Auditions) Woodcote, Nr Reading		£95 + mileage Available anytime
4	A Day in the Life of a Metropolitan Police Crime Scene Investigator (CSI) The difference between a CSI and a Forensic Scientist and explaining the actions taken prior and during the examination of a crime scene.	
4, 8	Murder Forensic Experience: Become a CSI and examine the murder scene and catch the killer. Group experience, <i>contact for costs.</i>	
SHERBURN-HALL Roger Headley, GU35		£60 + .40p mileage. Avail anytime.
4,5	Violet, the Canadian Lieutenant's Wife: The poignant story of my grandparents in the early 1900's (<i>May wish to sell his book</i>)	
4	New Zealand Police: A Pom in 1972	
4	A Trooper in 1965 Aden	
4	Old Fashioned Policing	

SIMMONDS, Jackie (<i>An Original London Palladium Tiller Girl</i>) Hildenborough, Kent, TN11		£120 + £10 travel
12	My Life as A Tiller Girl	
BOB SINFIELD Belmont, SM2		£85 + .40ppm or PT Available anytime
11,12	Misadventures in TV and Radio Comedy	
4, 11	The Great Unwatched (wit and wisdom of the wireless)	
11	Gentleman of Jazz (the life of musician and humourist George Chisholm)	
11,12	Blasts from the past (the art of impersonating real figures in history)	
SLATER, Mrs Sarah Addlestone, KT15		In person: £110 fee negotiable + 45p mileage for travel expenses. Zoom: £70 -£100 negotiable
4, 5	Working with the ghosts of Hampton Court Palace	
4, 5	Secrets, scandal and salacious gossip of the Royal Court, 1660-1830	
4, 5	Kirtles, Corsets and Curtains – historical costuming within heritage	
4, 5	Royal Jubilees – King George III to Queen Elizabeth II	
4, 5	Christmas Traditions	
SLEET, Mrs Lynn Woking, GU24 Website: www.bloominguseful.com		£120 + .65ppm
9	Seasonal Floral Demonstrations – Spring, Summer, Autumn or Winter, depending on time of booking	
9	Seasonal workshops also undertaken- Min 10 People, cost on application	
SMITH, MARY Maidstone, Kent, ME14		£80 + mileage. Available anytime
5	A Schoolgirl's War – two fascinating discoveries found under a school in Kent which gives a rare insight into school life in WWII	
SMITH, Peter Guildford, GU4		£100 plus mileage Available anytime (A taste of Honey is £125)
4, 13	A Taste of Honey – ALL about honey - with lots of tastings	
4, 13	The Secret World of Moths - Exploring the surprising world of our nocturnal pollinators.	
4, 13	Protecting Our Pollinators - Why our pollinators are in decline, and we can do about it.	
4, 13	Bees & Honey: Tradition, Myth and Magic - the folklore of bees/honey (contains adult material!).	
4, 13	The Private Lives of Butterflies – you'll never see a Cabbage White the same way again.	
4, 13	The Plight of the Bumblebee – The amazing world of the bumblebee	
4, 13	The Business of Bees – What can human organisations (from the WI to HM Govt)- learn from the Bee?	
4, 13	What's in a Name? Weeds, Worts, Fairies, Fables. The magical history of our plants/flowers	

4, 13	In Praise of Wasps/Hornets – they're not all bad (except the Asian Hornet – they're REALLY bad)	
4, 13	Sacred Plants of the Celts & Druids. How were they continuing to influence us	
SMYTHSON, Clare (<i>NEW from the November 2025 Auditions</i>) Redhill, RH1		£50 + mileage Available anytime
4	From Puce to Periwinkle: An Interactive History and Celebration of All Things Colour. What colour means for us today as opposed to in the past, plus a quiz on fun facts about different colours	
3,4	The High Cost of Low Prices: Identifying Fast Fashion Pitfalls. WHERE should we be buying our clothes and WHAT should we be looking for on the labels	
3,4	How To Choose and Wear Your Best Hat: Trying out techniques to transform hesitant hat wearers into confident enthusiasts.	
4	Painted Glass Art: Glowing Radiance! The history of glass painting, techniques to make this a fun craft to try at home	
4	Zero Wasting Your Wardrobe. Tips and techniques on how to manage a fun and successfully sustainable daily wardrobe, using and enjoying ALL your clothes	
STANDING, David Liss, Hants, GU23		£75 + .45ppm Zoom £50
5, 9	Gilbert White The Gardener	
9	Cottage Gardening	
9	Old Fashioned Flowers	
9	The Pleasure of Weeding	
	<i>Other talks available</i>	
SUART, Ms Rowan (<i>please note spelling of surname</i>) – Based on Bordon, Hants, GU35 Bordon, Hants, GU35 - Outside of M25, daytimes preferred during winter		£60 + M SN R20
10, 11,12	Something for Everyone – A professional actress's entertaining general interest literary presentation from favourite writers	
10, 11,12	Festive Fare – A professional actress's entertaining literary presentation about Christmas and food from favourite writers	
10, 11,12	Love and Ardour – A professional actress's entertaining literary presentation about love/passion from favourite writers	
SUMMERHAYES, Dr Colin Guildford, GU1		£70 + M SN PPT Di
13	Our Grandchildren will inherit a different planet from ours	
13	Global Boiling – fires, ice melt and rising seas	
13	Climate change and energy use: What Can We Do?	
TAT, Hanh London, SE9		£65 + P/T Available anytime
3,4	Life as a Jigsaw Puzzle (Author – she may wish to sell her book)	
3,4	Holistic Health for Happiness	
3,4	Cultivating a better relationship with ourselves, to improve our relationship with others	

THE ENGLISH SHUFFLEBOARD COMPANY See: <i>WILLIAMS, Adrian</i>		£4.00 per player – minimum £140
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THE SWINGING SIXTYS Worcester Park, KT4		£100 per hour (one-hour visits) + 45ppm for journeys over 10 miles
11	The Swinging Sixty's	
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THOMAS, Andy Forest Row, East Sussex, RH18		£75 + M (£20-£40 max depending on distance) Zoom/Skype
4	The Crop Circle Mystery	
4	Paranormal Mysteries and Cover-ups	
5	A Conspiracy History of the World	
5	Christmas - A Festive History	
5	The Story of English Freedom	
15	Lewes and Bonfire Night	
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THURTELL, Jessica Dorking, RH4		£70 + mileage. Available anytime
4, 5	Dining with History	
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WATSON, Margaret Horsham, RH13 Website: www.harpmusic.co.uk		£90 + M SN AEO D, Zoom
11	Life on a Harp String – A lively, informative and entertaining look at the harp and how it works. With light anecdotes and lots of harp playing, Margaret shows how surprisingly versatile, fun and modern this ancient instrument can be!	
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WHELAN, Holly Dr (<i>New from April 26 Auditions</i>) London, SW16		£100 + P/T Available anytime
3, 4	Welcome to Younger Living. Discover the habits proven to keep you happier, healthier and years younger for life	
3,4	Vibrant Hearts and Wise Minds	
3, 4	It's all Greek to me! Why living a Mediterranean inspired life will keep you younger	
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WHITTLE, Paul, Major (Retd) TD Woking, GU21 Web: www.travellertales.net		£90 + .30ppm SN PPT Zoom
4, 5, 9	Homes and Gardens – Magnificent Mansions, Glorious Gardens. My “Top 20” favourites!	
4	America’s Historic East – From Atlanta north to Washington DC, New York and ‘Ground Zero’	
16	The Venetian Connection – Venice, its history and scenic splendour and its current environmental challenges	
16	The Andes and the Incas – The Amazonian rain forest, Machu Picchu and much more	
	<i>Other talks available</i>	
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WILLIAMS, Adrian: THE ENGLISH SHUFFLEBOARD COMPANY Hove, BN3 Website: www.englishshuffleboard.co.uk		£4.00 per player – minimum £140
4	English Shuffleboard Play – standing up/sitting down, easy and great fun	
WOOD, Antony Old Windsor, SL4		£90 + M SN Zoom/Skype
5	Colonel Sir Francis Younghusband – the man behind “Jerusalem” – spy, explorer, diplomat, author.	
5	Five characters in search of an audience. A spy, an author, a film star and two amazing women.	
5	Our Lost World – About Growing Up in the second half of the Twentieth Century.	
5	Pamela Digby Heyward Harryman – Socialite or Courtesan? What Was Her Secret Attraction to The Rich?	
5	Never The Same River – Antony Wood’s Memoir is a Social History of England from the 40s Onwards.	
5	Gertrude Bell – the women who founded a country – spy, explorer, climber and linguist.	
5	What amused the Victorians? A look at my great-grandfather’s humour and mine.	
WOOGARA, Jay Guildford, GU2		£100 incl mileage
4,5	The Indian Diaspora and my Personal Experience: From Sugarcane to Surrey	
2	How to write a memoir: Having published my own memoir, “From Sugarcane to Surrey”, I am able to help and guide members	
WORLEY, Ian (<i>New from April 26 Auditions</i>) Godalming, GU7		£85 + 45ppm. Available anytime
4, 5	The Life of Charles Darwin: Ian explores how the quiet son of an autocratic father, lacking in self-confidence, and considered an academic failure, went on to become a towering scientific figure of the Victorian age. Fully illustrated.	
4	An Atlantic Odyssey: In 1968 Ian undertook a voyage across the Atlantic to the Caribbean and back with his family & 6-month-old daughter. They had no mobile phones and no Satnav. Just a sextant and chronometer. They encountered heavy storms, ran into basking whales and had a frightening encounter with an aggressive and hungry shark! Fully illustrated.	
4	Racing through the Southern Ocean: In 1977 Ian joined the 78ft racing yacht Great Britain II for the 1977/78 Whitbread Round the World Race. She raced, via the notorious Cape Horn, often at breakneck speeds of up to 35 knots, amongst icebergs, night and day. Damaged several times, she was badly struck by lightning. A thrilling adventure covering over 27,000 miles of ocean sailing. Fully illustrated.	
4, 5	The Battle of Waterloo: The battle was indeed a “close run thing”. But even Wellington could not have known just how close he came to losing that epic battle, which would have changed the course of European history. Fully illustrated	
YOUNG, Angela London, SW15 Website: www.angela-young.co.uk/talks		£100 inclusive SN LTP PPT Zoom/Skype
So many members have asked if there’s a book of this talk: at last, there is, here: https://thehistorypress.co.uk/publication/the-aristocrat-and-the-able-seaman from April 2026.		
5	The Aristocrat, the Able Seaman and the tragedy of <i>Titanic</i>	

TRUST, CHARITIES AND ORGANISATIONS

Where a charity requests a donation, it is suggested that a minimum donation of £50 be made.

Some speakers ask for the fee to be paid to their named charity. The rules for this have changed and cheques for the speaker fee may be paid to any charity following a talk at a meeting. Please ensure that the words "Speakers Fee" is stated on the cheque stub along with the payee's name. If possible, obtain an invoice from the charity otherwise the receipt signed by the speaker should state that the payment was received 'on behalf of the (named) charity'. All speaker's fees are recorded in the account book under "WI meetings" 'Speakers and other costs'. Do not record the speaker's fee under 'donations'

ADOPT A GRANDPARENT charity registered in England & Wales, charity number: 1208584

We are a socially driven, charitable organisation that is committed to reducing feelings of loneliness and isolation, by pairing volunteers with elderly care home residents.

Using the latest video technology, our aim is to bring people together, enabling them to forge meaningful and lasting relationships.

Charitable Objectives.

- reduce loneliness.
- improve the wellbeing of older individuals.
- promote a society where older people feel valued, respected, and engaged with all generations.

Surrey Contact Details: David Annand, Head of Operations and Fundraising, Adopt a Grandparent, Capital House, 106 Meadrow, Godalming, Surrey GU7 3HY

Mobile: 07398 227893

Phone: 07398 227893

Email: davida@adoptagrandparent.org.uk

Website: www.adoptagrandparent.org.uk

BARNARDO'S: A PERSONAL INSIGHT

You would think that after retiring from Barnardo's as a Community & Fundraising Manager life would calm down but not of bit of it! Paul Beard continues to give talks across the SE to various community groups and small companies for the corporate side of the Community Fundraising Team.

In 2023/24 Barnardo's supported and worked with 373,000 children/young people, parents and carers through 811 services and partnerships across the UK.

Over the years Paul has given talks and presentations to community groups and Barnardo's supporters over 300 times. With his understanding and personal insight of Barnardo's work and his many years fostering. Paul can give talks that are both inspiring and factual. Whilst donations are warmly received, Paul reminds his audience of the importance of Gift in Wills as a major factor in Barnardo's fundraising.

Contact details - Mobile: - 07810 845460, **Email:** paul.beard9@btinternet.com Zoom calls to small groups if required

CASUALTIES UNION (SURREY UNIT)

Founded in 1942, in Leatherhead, Surrey, Casualties Union was created to improve the rescue and casualty care skills for the civil defence teams during World War 2 when buildings were destroyed during air raids and bombings. Fast forward 80 years and we are still helping emergency services, airports, community response teams and companies continuously improve the same skills, through the use of our voluntary make-up, acting and staging!

It's hard to answer the question: "can you give us an example of a day in the life of a volunteer for Casualties Union?" One day we could be rescued out of an overturned vehicle, the next, stretchered away from a smoke-filled room by fire crews.

It's certainly not a film set or a TV drama, nor are we stuntmen or women! Instead, it's a day volunteering as a simulated casualty; assisting emergency services with their training for real-life emergencies that occur all around us every day.

Details for our group: Sarah Martin, Surrey Branch Leader, Casualties Union

surrey@casualtiesunion.org.uk, **Tel:** 07500 271915 (*Please leave a voicemail if I am unable to answer your call*).

The national website is www.casualtiesunion.org.uk.

CATS PROTECTION

This talk is about Cats Protection, the UK's largest cat welfare charity (45 mins approx.). Hear how we help thousands of cats and their owners every year. Detailing our history, current day work and featuring stories of the cats we've helped along the way. **Please note:** In the interest of cat welfare, we do not bring cats to our talks. Enquire with our online booking form: www.cats.org.uk/education

Or contact Jonathan Ramsden: **Tel.** 07585 402881 or 01825 741298. **Email:** jonathan.ramsden@cats.org.uk

LEPROSY MISSION

Every 2 minutes someone new is diagnosed with leprosy however to the majority of people leprosy is thought of as a thing of the past. The Leprosy Mission Great Britain is a global organisation leading the fight against leprosy, seeking to bring about transformation, breaking the chains of leprosy and empowering people to attain healing, dignity and life in all its fullness. With engaging and powerful stories, and interesting films and photographs, this interactive presentation brings true stories of hope and resilience to life.

Contact: Gabby North: **Tel:** 07842 231596, **Email:** gabbyn@lm.org.uk

MISSION AVIATION FELLOWSHIP

M.A.F. Is the world's largest humanitarian air operator. We are a charity that has been in existence for over 75 years. We have been flying light aircraft (now 116) over mountains, jungles, swamps and deserts where journeys can take days/weeks by road but only minutes/hours by plane. In 2023 we flew over 135,000 passengers and 6.3 Kg of freight to more than 1,000 destination delivering aid, medical care, emergency relief, water, food as well materials for long-term development projects to remote communities. Our planes are used by more than 1,500 aid and missionary organisations. We save lives every day by transporting people to medical centres for treatment.

Contact: Mr Clive Bailey: **Tel:** 07917 726117, **Email:** clive.bailey@maf-uk.org or clive.bailey86@gmail.com

RAINBOW TRUST CHILDREN'S CHARITY

Rainbow Trust Children's Charity provides emotional and practical support to families who have a child with a life-threatening or terminal illness. Their headquarters are in Leatherhead, Surrey. <https://rainbowtrust.org.uk/>

Speaker/Ambassador contact: Prof. Colin P. Hales

Tel: 01483 504194 or 07751 456285 or **email:** c.p.hales@talk21.com. Talks can be given via Zoom

RASASC Guildford Limited supports survivors of sexual harm, of all genders, aged 13+ living in Surrey. WE do this through three core services; one to one and group counselling for adults, young people and families of survivors, Independent Sexual Violence Advisors, who offer practical and emotional support for as long as a client needs and education, training and awareness raising in the community. Our services are free, confidential and person focused, and survivors are at the heart of what we do.

Talks and events are vital in reaching those who may need us and raising awareness of sexual violence and its impact. We can provide an introductory powerpoint presentation which tells you more about who we are, what we do and who we support, the wider UK issues, the challenges we face, how we address them so that we can continue to reach as many survivors as possible. This is delivered by the Fundraising Manager and a member of either the ISVA or counselling team. We also have several survivors who are happy to share their story with groups such as yours. This really brings home the true impact of sexual violence and also highlights the positive life changing effect of the support we provide. We are also very happy to tailor our presentation to each group and always bring service leaflets and information about our services to events for people to take away.

Contact: Helen Stanley, **Tel:** 01483 568000, **Email:** helen.fundraising@rasasc-guildford.org

RNLI - ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTION

Talks on the work of the Royal National Lifeboats Institution: The RNLI 'It's Not All at Sea' (a fast and inspiring talk on the current RNLI operations and how it continues to provide the world's best sea rescue service supported entirely by donation.) The RNLI "innovation and imagination" (explores sea safety innovations new and old. A follow-on talk or for groups with a more practical bias). Audio visual presentation. All AV equipment provided if necessary. Can do short notice. RNLI branded souvenirs, seaside shop, Christmas cards, if requested.

If you watch "saving lives at sea" on BBC members will really enjoy this totally different look at the RNLI. *More information at* www.sites.google.com/site/rnlicolin

Contact: Colin W Brown

Tel: 07547 444742

Email: colin.rnli@gmail.com

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

“Britain’s Best Kept Secret”

Generations of remarkable women raising vital funds for armed forces children since 1921, making a powerful difference to their lives. You may know them better as ‘The RBL Women’s Section’

Contact: Laura Hayworth

Tel: 07813 208977

Email: lhayworth1@britishlegion.org.uk

SENSORY SERVICES BY SIGHT FOR SURREY

This is a charity dedicated to enabling and empowering people who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Blind, Partially Sighted and Deafblind. Our talk will offer you an overview of the help and support we offer over 8,500 people in Surrey of all ages and provide you with some tips and ideas of how to help your friends and family. If you are interested in knowing more, please contact via one of the following methods.

Email: communityengagement@sightforsurrey.org.uk **Tel:** 01372 377701

THE AIR AMBULANCE KENT SURREY SUSSEX

Contact: Community Team, Air Ambulance Kent Surrey Sussex, Rochester City Airport, Maidstone Road, Chatham, Kent ME5 9SD. If your group is meeting virtually, we’d love to join you! We are able to offer talks on any platform. Please contact us for more information

Tel: 01634 471900

Email: talks@aakss.org.uk or visit www.aakss.org.uk

THE CHILDREN’S TRUST

The Children’s Trust is the UK’s leading charity for children with brain injury and neurodisability. At our national specialist centre in Tadworth, Surrey, we provide education, rehabilitation and community services. We would be delighted to share some of our amazing stories with you. Our speakers may be a parent, physio, music therapist or other professional working with the children and young people we support. They will bring stories of resilience, hope and of course fun, all while offering a small glimpse into the life of a child with a brain injury.

Contact: Beverley Worsley. The Children’s Trust, Tadworth, Surrey, KT20 5RU

Tel: 01737 365000

Email: getinvolved@thechildrenstrust.org.uk

Website: thechildrenstrust.org.uk.

THE COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES COMMISSION

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission is a global leader in commemoration. Founded by Royal Charter in 1917, we work on behalf of the Governments of Australia, Canada, India, New Zealand, South Africa and the United Kingdom to commemorate the 1.7 million men and women from the Commonwealth who lost their lives in the two World Wars. We believe that remembering individuals who have died in conflicts is of universal, perpetual relevance, and that reflecting on their deaths is of continuing and paramount importance for us all. The cemeteries, memorials, graves, landscapes, and records in our care will be found at 23,000 locations and in more than 150 countries and territories. They are both the practical means of our commemoration of the fallen and vehicles for discovery, inspiration, and engagement. We believe that each one of those we commemorate were people like us, with their own ambitions, hopes, and dreams. It is our duty and privilege to care for their graves and memorials and through our charitable Foundation, keep their stories alive.

Our Homepage: The Commonwealth War Graves Commission | CWGC

Talk Booking page: Book a Talk: Commonwealth War Stories | CWGC

Contact information: If organisers wish to contact us directly with a query regarding a talk, they can send an email to Public.engagement@cwgc.org

They can also contact us via the following page on our website: Contact us at the Commonwealth War Graves Commission | CWGC

TRINITY HOUSE YOUNGER BROTHER AMBASADORS’ GROUP

The Trinity House Story. Have you ever wondered who looks after the major lighthouses around England, Wales and the Channel Islands? Trinity House is a charity dedicated to safeguarding shipping and seafarers with a statutory duty to deliver reliable and cost-effective aids to navigation for the benefit of all at sea. Incorporated by Royal Charter in

1514 by Henry VIII, it has a fascinating heritage, with HRH The Princess Royal currently its Master. Talks available via Zoom or in person. **Contact:** ambassadors@trinityhouse.co.uk