

WI SPEAKERS LIST

ART & LITERATURE

A Beginner's guide to Art and Art History – Illustrated talks include Love and Romance in Art; Women in Art, A Beginner's guide to Modern Art, Portraits, Historical Eras (Vikings/Tudors/Elizabethans/Victorians)

Grainne Purkiss

Market Harborough, Leics.

01858 419213/07587 052948

£60 plus 40p per mile travel (negotiable for smaller WIs)

grainnepurkiss@hotmail.com

Available evenings and at short notice

Face to Face & Online

Murder and Mayhem - Bestselling local crime novelist talks about the challenges of writing detective fiction in the modern age, including an insight into the research required and the workings of the publishing industry

Jane Isaac

Northamptonshire

07969 065479

£50 + 45p per mile over 10 mile radius from home

janeisaac@live.co.uk

Face to Face & Online

My Life as an Author - A brief description of my career to date, then describing the research needed for my books and including a Q&A session

Margaret Dickinson

Coalville

07990 549203/01530 458675

£70 face to face/£20 online

margaretedickinson@me.com

Also available at short notice

Face to Face & Online

COUNTRYSIDE & NATURE

The Woodland Trust & National Forest

Ian Retson

Ashby de la Zouch, Leics.

01530 415682/07969 191493

Donation to charity

retsonian@gmail.com

Available anytime

Face to Face & Online

CRAFTS & HOBBIES

The Making of Hand-woven Bags from the Philippines - focusing on the harvesting, dyeing and weaving process of the raw materials) * **Philippines: Culturally Quirky**. A humorous talk on everyday lives of ordinary Filipinos which other people might find amusing, strange or even weird! * **Shell Craft from the Philippines**. A talk about the different shells found in the Philippines, and the different products made from them.

Analiza Jones

Stratford upon Avon

01789 565075/07443 565185

£45 plus £25 travel max.

siimpp@yahoo.com

Face to Face & Online

Memory Albums/Scrapbooking and Book Art – bespoke scrapbooks/memory albums, learn how to create something beautiful. I upcycle old, unwanted books to create a work of art – service with a smile!

Sageena Thakur

Leicester

07711 153709

£35 plus travel

sageenathakur@gmail.com

Available at short notice.

majaspapercraft1@gmail.com

Face to Face and Online

View Through the Lens * On My Doorstep * Beautiful Britain * Key Steps to Improving your Pictures * Travel Talks (Australia, New Zealand, Canada, India)

Ian Pettit

Castle Donington, Derby

01332 853505/07908 338592

£40 + 25p per mile over 30 miles

ianpettit77@gmail.com

Availability on application and short notice

Face to Face only

Pyrography (Wood Burning) – Hands-on workshop with around 16 machines and wooden blanks. Traditional craft burning designs onto wood for making your own coaster, key fob or at Christmas, a tree hanging.

Bob Neill

01332 792036

bob.neill1@btinternet.com

www.bobneillpyrography.co.uk

Face to Face only

Aston on Trent, Derby

£70 plus small charge for materials used

Half day or one day workshops

The road to Aluminiumart, from Bugattis to Butterflies – the background to creating unique aluminium sculptures and artwork with the story behind the development of each piece. Demonstration of principles and the development of recycled material range of artwork. Wide range of unique and high quality gifts/products available to purchase on the night.

Matthew Warburton

07733 552888

matthew@aluminiumart.co.uk

Face to Face only

Ashby de la Zouch, Leics.

£70 plus 45p per mile travel

Generally available

#From Fleece to Finish- a talk by a sheep farmer on preparing fleece for handspinning with practical demonstrations of the tools used including carders and combs as well as demonstrations of different types of spinning using a spinning wheel and drop spindle. There is an opportunity to look at different types of wool as well as a chance to buy some of the spun yarns and handmade items. ***One Crafter's Journey-** How a love of knitting and spinning was turned into a small business, includes practical demonstrations including a spinning wheel demonstration. There is an opportunity to buy some of the spun yarns and handmade items

Angela Dewes

barnyarnfarm@gmail.com

Tel: 07745122180

www.barnyarnandfarm.co.uk

Face to Face only

Ashby Magna

Fee £50 + 30p per mile for travel

Availability: All year

FINANCE & LEGAL AFFAIRS

#Wills & Lasting Power of Attorney – how to identify what's important to you. *** Caring for loved ones** – How to get the right plan in place?

Rosie O'Hanlon-Hills

rosie@westcoteswills.co.uk

07920 061946

www.westcoteswills.co.uk

Face to Face & Online

Leicester/Leicestershire

Donation to Hammersley Homes Charity.

Monday/Tuesday/Thursday Evening & Weekdays Mon- Fri.

***Does your Will need updating? *How can a trust protect my family's wealth or assets for future generations? *I've heard about LPAs but do I need one? *Should I be considering how I will manage to pay for care home fees?**

Kayleigh Brown, Wilson Browne Solicitors

nedwards@wilsonbrowne.co.uk

0800 088 6004

www.wilsonbrowne.co.uk

Face to Face & Online

Leicestershire

No fee

Two weeks notice required

FOOD & DRINK

Chocolate – talk, demonstration and tasting

Tom Phillips

07879 857703

choc.tom@hotmail.co.uk

Face to Face Only

Quorn Chocolate Academy, The Farriers, Charley Road,

Charley, Loughborough, LE12 9YB

£90 plus mileage

Available February to Easter, October to Christmas

Indian Cooking – talks on spices and herbs used in Indian Cooking *Indian Cookery Demonstrations with tastings

Bhanu Mistry

07816 246103

bhanumystery66@gmail.com

Leicester

Talk only £60 plus travel expenses. £2 per head for food bites

Cookery demonstration, please call for pricing

Face to Face & Online

HEALTH, WELL BEING & FITNESS

Crystal Healing * Stress and Aromatherapy * The Benefits of Aloe Vera

Pamela Lenthall

0116 2108730

pamela.lenthall@ntlworld.com

Wigston, Leics.

£45 + travel

Face to Face only

Benefits of Hypnotherapy – talk on neuroscience of Solution Focused Hypnotherapy and why people suffer from stress, anxiety, depression, and phobias and how to retrain your brain to think confidently and positively

Carmen Harrington

07817 387559

carmen@inspiredtochange.biz

Market Harborough, Leics.

No fee – charity donation

Available most times, except Tuesday and Thursday evening

Face to Face & Online

Tai Chi - Talk, demonstration & some participation

Laraine Tucker

07779 434742

larainetucker@icloud.com

Glen Parva, Leicester

£47 per hour + 47p per mile travel

Available anytime Monday – Friday

Face to Face & Online

Herbal Medicine for the 21st Century * Herbal Health - a traditional approach for a modern world

* **Herbal Health through the Ages** * **Herbal Medicine** – Living with Chronic Conditions

* **New models of Healthcare** – what is good health and how herbs can help

Dr Serene Foster/Ruth Austin

0116 2543178/07769 675301

serene.foster@hydesherbclinic.co.uk

ruth.austin@hydesherbclinic.co.uk

www.hydesherbclinic.co.uk

Hydes Herbal Clinic, 68 London Road, Leicester LE2 0QD

Donations to NSPCC/Macmillan + mileage

Face to Face & Online

Cardiology Research Talks: Is blood transfusion harmful? * Is obesity good for you?

* **Vein grafts disease** * **Ethnicity and access to care in cardiac**

Prof. Gavin Murphy

0116 2563021

sp504@le.ac.uk

Oadby, Leicester

Donation to British Heart Foundation

Face to Face & Online

#Practical Habits Around Nutrition and Exercise for Any Age. *Glow Older –how to preserve and progress your vitality at any age with practical skills and habits. ***How to develop effective nutrition habits without ‘going on a diet’.** ***The benefits of resistance training** – what is it, why it’s important for our wellbeing and how to use body weight and resistance band exercises. ***Mobility flows** – floor based mobility sequences to increase mobility and reduce stiffness (this is a practical participation session).

Kirsty North

Right Time Health Coach Leicester

righttimept@gmail.com

Tel: 07803597157

www.righttimept.co.uk

Leicester

No Fee

Availability Varied with notice

Face to Face & Online

HISTORY & LOCAL INTEREST

Calke Abbey & Stoneywell Cottage National Trust properties

General and specialised talks available for both properties.

Christine Hodgson

National Trust

01530 248040/07791 389372

Donation to National Trust (min. £50 £25 for online)

christine.hodgson@nationaltrust.org.uk

Available daytime & evening

Face to Face & Online

Ghosts and legends Leicestershire * Down the Garden Path – A humorous look at the privies of Leicestershire * **Murder Cases of Leics. /Rutland** – from Earl Ferrers to the first ever use of DNA *

Ladies of Leicestershire – From Lady Jane Grey to Clare Hollingsworth * **A Nostalgic Look at**

Leicestershire in the 1940s & 50s * The Dirty Thirty – Leicestershire's Striking Miners *

Historic and Contemporary Characters of Leicestershire and Rutland * Radicals & Rebels of the East Midlands * Leicestershire Heroes Past and Present * Miners' Memories from the

Leicestershire Coalfields

David Bell

Ashby de la Zouch, Leics.

01530 413371

£30 + travel

belldavid950@outlook.com

Available morning, afternoon & evening

Face to Face only

Stories of Brooksby: Stories of the fascinating families and events in the long history of this Leicestershire estate village*

Stranger than Fiction: Brooksby ghosts, myths and legends*

Brooksby Church and Brooksby Hall Grounds summer walks: £4.00 per head donation to Brooksby Church

Malcolm Britton

Frisby on the Wreake, Leics.

01664 434490

£40 donation to Brooksby Church

mrbritton1946@gmail.com

Available almost anytime but preferably not dark evenings

Face to Face & Online

Law & Order Series: Development of the Police * Brandy for the Parson * The Gunpowder Plot 1605 * Felons, Phantoms and Fiends * Bonnie Prince Charlie and the 45 Rebellion * Midlands Murders * Stand & Deliver * Fakes, Forgers and Frauds * Wicked Women * Dastardly Doctors * The Verdict is Yours

Memories of Yesteryear: The Golden Age of Coaching * Man at Play * Inn Signs * Drainpipe Trousers to Rock 'n Roll * Yet More Inn Signs * A Taste of Ale * Grave Tales and Memorials * Curiosities * Cross Your Fingers * Women at Work * North to Alaska * Boyhood Memories * Feisty Females * Curious Clerics * Wish you Were Here * English Eccentrics

Story Telling: All that Glitters (assorted stories) * Chocolate Cake to Die For (crime) * Old Cavendish (ghost stories)

Miscellaneous: Have Bell, will travel * A Mixture of Mysteries * Eleanor's Way * Famous Fictional Detectives * Literary Villains

Fictional Detectives * Literary Villains

Graham Sutherland

Warwick, Warks.

01926 495894/07801 962981

£65 + £5 travel expenses. Available anytime

graham.g.sutherland@btopenworld.com

Some talks are illustrated

www.talksandwalks.co.uk

Face to Face and Online

The History of the High Sheriff of Rutland - a Rutland farmer who spent a year wearing tights for the Queen. An insight into the role and history of the High Sheriff and a look at the future of British agriculture.

Andrew Brown

Rutland

07801 057417

£50

twbfarms@aol.com

Face to Face and Online

Cathedrals, Rooftops and more, Restoration of old Buildings

Dr Jonathan M Castleman DSc (Hons)

Wigston, Leics.

0116 2880311/07801 859842

Donation to charity. No fee or mileage

jcastleman@btinternet.com

Please ring or email for availability

Face to Face Only

The Story of the Music Hall with lots of audience participation * **Life in Edwardian Times** including Edwardian Leicester * **Life in the Fifties** a nostalgic look at the post-war era * **Life on the Home Front during WW2** with particular reference to the role of the WI * **Oh I do like to be beside the seaside** a fun history of the seaside holiday * **Life in Jane Austen's time** a costumed talk on life between 1780 and 1820 * **Those Big Brand Names we grew up** with the stories behind many well-known food brands such as Oxo and Ovaltine * **Life in the Swinging Sixties** with songs of the era * **An entertaining history of Nursery Rhymes, Riddles and Proverbs** * **A century of Children's Costume** using an extensive collection of 20th century children's clothes * **A Wartime and Austerity Christmas** a fascinating look at how people celebrated Christmas during the WW2 and the austerity years despite rationing and hardship * **100 Years of Weddings** a history of wedding fashions in the 20th century, illustrated with clothes and artefacts * **The hosiery industry in Leicester in the 20th Century** a brief history illustrated with many articles of clothing made locally * **Every home should have one** the domestic history of the 20th century told through the development of household equipment that we all now take for granted * **An Old Fashioned Christmas** an atmospheric mix of fact, poems, stories, games and audience participation for November and December only.

Felicity Austin

Syston, Leicester

0116 2692543

£50 + 40p per mile outside 5 mile radius of Syston

felicity1947@live.co.uk

Talks restricted to 15 mile radius of Syston Apr-Oct and

Face to Face & Online

8 mile radius Nov-March evenings Available any day or evening

#35 Signs You're Growing Old * **Being British, Men & Women – Same Species Different Animals** * **'I told you I was ill'** * **The Traditions of Christmas** * **Epic Failures I & II** * **Life in the 1950's (Parts I & II)** * **Life in the 1960's (Parts I & II).**

Jonathan Walker

Birmingham

jwm@post.com

No fee for WIs

07982 234786

Available in person & on Zoom

jonathanwalker.co.uk

Face to Face & Online

#Workhouse Storytellers - using material from the archives, costumed storytellers bring the Victorian workhouse to life. Our performance lasts for just under an hour and includes 4 stories, some humorous, some tragic, all based on research.

Liz Muckle, Volunteer Administrator

Location - up to one hour's travel time from NG25

07810 484717

£50 donation to charity, 30p per mile over 20 miles from NG25

l.muckle@virginmedia.com

Available with reasonable notice

www.workhousetales.org

Face to Face Only

#Richard III – the Bones in the Car Park - a talk which both describes Richard III and his reign as well as telling the whole story of the discovery of his bones and the trials and tribulations surrounding his reburial. **A History of the BBC** - in the centenary year of the BBC this talk will cover a look back over the last 100 years of BBC Radio and later TV.

Dave Andrews

Leicester

Former BBC Leicester presenter & Deputy Lieutenant of Leics.

daveandrews127@hotmail.com

Fee – Negotiable but generally around £50

Tel No - 07801 935975

Availability - Negotiable

Face to Face & Online

#Leicester's first suburb; story of corporation double dealing, deception and bankruptcy. Local hero who comes to the rescue, and some of the people who lived in the streets.

Thomas Cook, Rags to Riches – founder of the tourist industry and the sorrow behind the façade.

Richard Warren

South Leicestershire

Rjwintheburrow858@gmail.com

Fee £50

07870 8700328

Available most afternoons and evenings

Face to Face Only

MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS

An Evening of Scottish Dancing and Singing

Gill Mouncer Oadby, Leicester
Royal Scottish Country Dance Society £45 for 30 mins + travel, £60 for 1 1/2 hours + travel
0116 2713717 Available weekends, afternoons (except Tues) and evenings
gillmouncer@hotmail.co.uk (except Thurs)
Face to Face only

The Jerusalem Jammers - Demonstration of Ladies' Morris Dancing (including introduction to background of dances)

Sue Crockett (secretary)
01455 458107 £40 +£10 travel (£60 + £10 travel for WI Group meetings)
suecrockett55@gmail.com/ Available evenings and anytime at weekends
jerusalemjammers@hotmail.com Audience participatory dances available on request
Face to Face Only

A Magical History Tour – stage magic through the ages illustrated with Powerpoint and actual magic tricks. Member of the Magic Circle. Other talks: Illusion, Delusion and Disillusion; The Golden Tapestry, The Father of Modern Magic and more

Bishop Peter Fox Castle Donington
01332 811534 £50
peterandangiefox@yahoo.co.uk
Face to Face only

After Eight Quartet – four experienced singers present light hearted songs in glorious four-part harmony - with a sense of humour!

Peter & Iris Sayer Newtown Linford, Leicester
01530 243822 / 07857 505283 £75 inclusive
sayerpeter8@gmail.com Available for morning, afternoon & evening bookings
Extracts from recordings of the quartet can be heard at <https://soundcloud.com/user-340700642>
Face to Face only

Discovering South American Music - Los Amigos, on Guitar, Clarinet and percussion, taking you on a foot tapping, scintillating and enlightening musical journey through the music of South America

Neville Cooper/Harry Heppingstall, Verity Fielding Hinckley, Leics
07968 279675/07528 182287 £70 plus £10 travel
neville.cooper@btinternet.com
hheppingstall@yahoo.com
Face to Face Only

New: Edward Elgar: The Man and his Music. Elgar was something of an enigma even to those who knew him well. This talk captures the essence of the great man; with plenty of illustrations and musical examples, * **Sir Malcolm Sargent, Local Hero** - An illustrated talk charting the fascinating rise of the superstar musician from the back streets of Stamford to worldwide fame. With plenty of original illustrations and musical examples. * **Malcolm Sargent's Stamford , A one hour town tour** - Remarkable events in the life of the young Malcolm Sargent, entertainingly told in the places they happened, reveal all the signs of future greatness

Sam Dobson Birstall, Leicester
0116 2677372 £45 donated to LSO (Charity no.1078708)
samdobson69@gmail.com Available morning, afternoon and evenings
Face to Face & Online

Hula Hooping – Talk of the Hula Hoop's history & demonstration plus some audience participation * **Juggling and other Circus skills** –History of Circus talk, demonstrations & audience participation * **Balloon modelling** – Talk, demonstration and audience participation.

John Parnell Nuneaton, Warks.
07946 413452 £60 including travel
john@hoopguy.co.uk Available daytime or evening & maybe at short notice if required.
www.hoopguy.com
Face to Face Only

#Film Shows – a wide range of films brought to you!

Alan Baker Films

Leicester

Glyn Bray

£20

07964 310673

Available anytime with notice

Face to Face Only

OTHERS

25 years of Leicester Comedy Festival - entertaining talk about the history of the festival, featuring stories and anecdotes

Geoff Rowe

Big Difference Company, LCB Depot, Leicester

0116 2616812

£85 donated to Big Difference Company (registered charity

geoff@bigdifferencecompany.co.uk 1135167)

Face to Face Only

Anytime except February

Costumed Talk Titles – Between stairs - The life of a Lady's Maid * Top to Toe - The price of Vanity * True Tales of a Tour Guide * 'A Design for Life' The Laura Ashley Story * Christmas - True Victorian Style * The Time Travelling Tourist * Ghosts in Grandeur

Jo Golby

Ludlow, Shropshire

07867 893110

£40.00 plus 45p per mile travel from Barrow on Soar, Leics.

timetravellersuk@msn.com

Available: mornings, afternoons and evenings

Face to Face only

Funny Bones & Wisdom Teeth – retired doctor, dentist and academic (and former comedy scriptwriter) looks at the funny side of his career

Dr. Ray Lowry

£40 plus travel

07921 140778/01912 960699

r.lowry@sky.com

Face to Face only

103 The Eye – Community Radio Station for Melton Mowbray & The Vale of Belvoir

Christine Slomkowska

103 The Eye, PO Box 103, Melton Mowbray, Leics. LE13 9AW

01664 565315

Donation to radio station funds

business@103theeye.co.uk

Availability: various times, day and evening

Face to Face & Online

Real CSI (Crime Scene Investigation) - Funny and interesting stories from my work as Head of a Police CSI Unit, stories of silly criminals and clever ones. Ask about your favourite police TV show and I'll tell you about the ones I have worked on. This is mainly a light-hearted talk, entertaining with lots of laughs. **TV Drama insights** – more funny and enlightening stories and TV drama insights as they are not always as they appear.

Paul Taberner

Nuneaton, Warks.

02476 383772

£40 plus £5 travel

paultabs@hotmail.co.uk

Available daytime and evenings

Face to Face only

Dads Army – the nation's favourite comedy * From Vicar's Son to BBC Producer * Television Comedy: How a TV sitcom is created, script to screen * Writing for TV and Stage – how to start, where to send it

Charles Garland

Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk

01359 232199/07785 752080

£80 plus 35p per mile travel

charles.garland@talk21.com

Face to Face & Online

All about Playing Cards – a look at the history, mystery and some myths and facts associated with playing cards, with maybe the odd trick, if time permits * **More about Playing Cards** – a follow up from the first talk with more facts and stories related to Playing Cards

Mike Lister

Loughborough, Leics.

01509 557350/07881 404408

£40 including travel

mikelister49@gmail.com

Available lunch time, afternoons and evenings

Face to Face only

How to live in peace with your cat * How to become a professional Gatecrasher * My Extraordinarily Ordinary Life * The Magistracy, what it means to be a Magistrate

Suzi Felstead
07775 735464
sdf.dragonlady@btinternet.com
Glen Parva, Leicester
£50 including travel
Availability: daytime and evenings

Face to Face only

A Toastmaster's Tale * Folklore, Folk Tales & Funny Folk * The London no-one tells you about * The Great British Eccentric

Geoff Harris
01664 434565
enquiries@classinacoat.co.uk
Frisby on the Wreake, Leics.
£65 + travel if further than 15 miles from base
Available afternoons & evenings

Face to Face & Online

The Hoarder next door * Buying and selling at auction (stories from the auction room) * Browsing antique shops * Buying and selling at boot fairs * Identification /valuation and investment in Antique silver

Steven B Bruce
01926 641402/01926 641548
07778 595952
sbbrucesales@aol.com
www.auctionswarwickshire.co.uk
Norton Grange, Warks. CV35 0OP
£85.00
Members are encouraged to bring items for valuation and discussion.
Available anytime and short notice

Face to Face & Online

The Olympic Torch * Journey of a Letter * Funny Stories from the Post * Life of Running * Oban * The Torch and the Exhibition

John Noble
0116 2774495
Johntherunnernoble@gmail.com
Leicester
Where applicable, fee and travel expenses negotiable, please call to confirm. Available afternoons and evenings

Face to Face only

'You cannot be Serious' - tales of a Wimbledon Umpire 1988-2012

Alan Gray
01780 766102/07950 067055
alangray23@hotmail.com
Wothorpe, Lincs.
£70 plus travel
Available day, evening and short notice

Face to Face Only

Motor-home Meanderings – audio visual presentation from around England, Ireland, Scotland and parts of Europe * **The Kegworth Air Crash** – The management of and the Ambulance Service response * **33 years in the Ambulance Service** - highs and lows of my journey from Ambulance man to Chief Executive

Alan Parker
0116 2596312/07788 416109
aglp@btinternet.com
Billesdon, Leicester
£40 donation to charity and 40p per mile travel
Available afternoons and evenings

Face to Face & Online

Printing takes Flight - former partner in Minuteman Press, Printers reflects on experiences of flying light aircraft * **Twice as fast and three times as big** – the life and work of Isambard Kingdom Brunel * **The Settle and Carlisle Railway** – a tale of Victorian railway skulduggery and the present day line

Colin Ellis
01530 272592
colinellis1950@gmail.com
Measham
£50 plus 25p per mile travel
Anytime

Face to Face Only

Confessions of Game Show Junkies - An amusing jaunt through TV game show history from the experience of two contestants covering the secrets of well-known and more obscure programmes. All finished off with a quiz comprising of question, picture and music rounds

Stephanie & Trevor Mee
07593 998377
prune2011@hotmail.co.uk
Castle Donington, Derbys.
£55
Available daytime and evening

Face to Face Only

An introduction to British Sign Language

Daisy Edwards

Free

Learning development and delivery
coordinator for BSL for LCC
daisy.edwards@leics.gov.uk

Usual availability is Monday, Tuesday and Friday daytime,
most evenings.

07730582874

Face to Face and Online

#A colourful new you * A Stylish Spring * A Stylish Autumn

Philippa Guy

Melton Mowbray and surrounding areas

p.guy222@btinternet.com

£60

07810 766640

Available - weekday evenings and Thursday daytime

PhilippaGuyCoaching.co.uk

Face to Face & Online

TRAVEL & THE WORLD

Illustrated Talks: Images of Japan: Traditional and Modern * Role of Nature in Japanese Life: Japanese Gardens * Why are the Japanese so Healthy? A Look at Japanese Food * What's Behind a Nursery Rhyme? Origins explained * Plants in Literature: Origins and Anecdotes

Patricia Rayner

Kneeton, Notts.

01949 829167/07710 423317

£40 + 40p per mile travel

rayner167@btinternet.com

Available anytime. No equipment needed

www.japantalks.com

Face to Face and Online

Milk, Muck and Magnificent Mangoes – the work of charity 'Send A Cow' * **Kilimanjaro to Kathmandu** – joys and tribulations of walking and mountaineering * **Life in Maasai Villages** – customs and culture of these fascinating people * **Northern Uganda – Boy Soldiers, Child Mothers, Mud Furniture** – how families and young people previously abducted and otherwise affected by the Lords Resistance Army in Northern Uganda are building a new life with the help of Send a Cow * **Ethiopia, the Roof of Africa** – history, landscapes, people along the Rift Valley * **Feed the Soil and the Soil Will Feed You** – techniques used to combat problems of poor soil and climate change * **Rwanda, Beyond the Genocide** – the history and people * **A Walking Safari in South Africa** – from Prospectors' Trail to the Drakensberg ladders * **Gorillas and Tree Climbing Lions** – see fascinating wildlife of Uganda, then trek through the rainforest to find a family of gorillas * **Lesotho, Kingdom in the Sky** - see how Send a Cow is helping farmers combat the current two year drought in this high, inhospitable country * **Mountains and Midges – Walking the West Highland Way** – a 98 mile trek through some of the most beautiful scenery in the UK * **South Africa – Trails of the Garden Route** – walk the coastal trails and forest, climb up Skeleton Gorge, visit Robben Island and the Simonstown penguin colony * **Adventures in Asia** – Travel through Borneo's rainforest, rivers and the biggest caves in the world, then in complete contrast, sample iconic rooftop views of Singapore, Little India, Chinatown and the Singapore River * **Zambia** - Find out about Send a Cow projects to combat gender imbalance and climate change in this huge African country * **Jordan Highlights** – Visit the Dead Sea, Kerak Crusader Castle, Petra with its stunning Nabatean carvings, then camp under the stars in Wadi Rum * **Deltas and Deserts** - Travel in canoes through Okavango Delta, camp on the islands, then on to Namibia, travel through the desert, see the Skeleton Coast, learn about the fascinating San Bushmen. * **South Island New Zealand by Camper Van** – Christchurch, Arthur's Pass, The Antarctic Centre, whales, penguins, glaciers, and a helicopter trip over Mount Cook. * **Barnard Castle to Berwick** – cross Teesdale, Weardale and Tyneside to Hexham. Explore Rothbury, Alnwick, the Farne Islands and Holy Island. See the Chillingham herd, the only truly wild cattle in the world.

Wendy Martin

Hinckley, Leics

01455 613348

£40 minimum + 30p mileage

wtmartin@live.co.uk

Available anytime

wendytmartin@tiscali.co.uk

Face to Face & Online

The Agony & Ecstasy of a Canal Hotel Boater * Our Canal Heritage * The Life of a Wife and Family of a Canal Boatman * Holidays on our Waterways * My Life Story

Barry Watson
01788 824473/07966 156473
barrywatson209@yahoo.co.uk
www.barrywatson.com
Yelvertoft, Northants.
£40 plus 30p per mile travel
Availability: daytime and evening

Face to Face only

#Life Onboard the Royal Yacht Britannia – To give a glimpse of life during the royal tour. The fun, the laughter and the ceremonial.

Bill Haley BEM
bhaley788@gmail.com
Earl Shilton, Leics
Free

Face to Face only

#WOMEN in SPACE: The trailblazers, the space race tried to forget. ***WOMEN'S OLYMPIC ORDEAL:** In the beginning – never really wanted. The story of women's fight for their rightful place on the world's greatest sporting stage. ***SOUTH EAST ASIA:** Join me on a journey through the mega cities of SE Asia – as they co-exist alongside the region's rich and varied culture and history. ***INDIA:** Believe me, the sights, sounds, culture and history of this quite wonderful country – will live in the memory – long after you have left its shores. ***CHINA:** Despite witnessing the modern developments seeming to overwhelm the country – places such as the Forbidden City and the Great Wall remind you of China's almost unrivalled cultural heritage.

Ken Kelly
ken904@btinternet.com
Tel: 07958703928
Leamington Spa
Fee £45 (inclusive of travel)
Available weekdays

Face to Face only

CHARITIES

Illustrated Wainwright's Coast-to-Coast Walk for LOROS, Also available – Hadrian's Wall, Pembrokeshire Coastal Path, West Highland Way, Cotswold Way, Cleveland Way, Leics & Rutland Rounds, Ivanhoe Way or a combination of walks.

Adrian Walker
07446 082910
walk77a@yahoo.com
LOROS Fundraising, Groby Road, Leicester, LE3 9QE
Donation to charity
Available anytime

Face to Face & Online

Inter Care – local charity sending vital medical aid to around 130 health units within 6 sub-Saharan African countries

Alison Briggs
0116 2350345
alisonj.briggs@ntlworld.com
Cropston, Leicester
Donation to charity
Available daytime and evening

Face to Face & Online

Rainbows Hospice for Children & Young People

Gary Farnfield
Community Fundraiser
01509 283952/07815 520465
gary.farnfield@rainbows.co.uk
Loughborough, Leics.
Fee at WI's discretion donated to Rainbows
Enquire for availability

Face to Face & Online

Dog's Trust

Ella Tonge
01509 882966/07833 050868
ella.tonge@dogstrust.org.uk
Based in Wymeswold, Loughborough
No fee – donation to the charity
Available morning, afternoon and evening.

Face to Face & Online

Leicestershire Children & Families Wellbeing Service Youth & Justice

Julian Robertson Rutland Building, County Hall, Glenfield, Leicester LE3 8RA
0116 3050030/07725 204082 Donations to LOROS or Rainbows
julian.robertson@leics.gov.uk Available anytime

Face to Face & Online

Peter Le Marchant Trust – Waterways trips and holidays for the disabled and seriously ill

Tim Marren Canalside Moorings, Beeches Road, Loughborough, Leics. LE11 2NS
01509 265590/07375 667487 Donation to charity Available anytime
timmarren@peterlemarchanttrust.co.uk

Face to Face & Online

Mercy Ships - delivering specialised health care and community development in some of the world's poorest countries

Alison Briggs Cropston, Leicester
0116 2350345 Donation to charity
alisonj.briggs@ntlworld.com Available daytime and evening

Face to Face & Online

Cancer Research UK - Audio visual legacy talk which includes information about Cancer Research UK and our work, a little science to join in with, a personal cancer journey and unusual bequests

Terri Mclean-Bowman
Community Legacy Manager Discretionary donation to Cancer Research UK
01536 233266 Available Monday – Friday, daytime and evenings
Terri.mclean-bowman@cancer.org.uk

Face to Face & Online

When You Wish Upon a Star – East Midlands Children's Wish Charity

Contact Head Office Futurist House, Valley Road, Notts. NG5 1JE
0115 9791720 Donation to charity
alexa.wigfield@whenyouwish.org.uk
www.whenyouwishuponastar.org.uk

Face to Face & Online

Canine Partners - a UK charity transforming the lives of people living with disabilities through our amazing assistance dogs

Talks Administrator Loughborough
01730 716000 £50 donation for face-to-face talks, £30 for online talks
talks@caninepartners.org.uk

Face to Face & Online

Samaritans – The Emotional Support Charity

Samaritans No fee, donation appreciated
0116 270 5500 Available anytime
leicester@samaritans.org

Face to Face Only

Traveleyes: their world through your eyes - a holiday guide for the visually impaired

Eileen Smith Botcheston, Leicester
01455 824423/07717 104017 £40 donation to Sightsavers
eilrex45@gmail.com Available anytime and short notice

Face to Face Only

#Bringing education to some of the poorest people of Sierra Leone - from Extra Mile charity.

Mike Fielding Rugby, Warwickshire
07771 874128 Donations welcome
mike@extra-mile.org Available at short notice

Face to Face & Online

#LOROS Hospice – sharing my experience working as a nurse at LOROS for 31 years, my memories of exceptional patients and families as well as talking about the clinical services we offer and how we have adapted during the pandemic.

Jacky McBlain
Community Engagement Lead
07340 937691
jackymcblain@loros.co.uk

LOROS , Groby Road, Leicester, LE3 9QE
Donation to LOROS
Available anytime

Face to Face & Online

#Dogs for Good - a national charity that makes life-changing differences for people with disabilities through the power of expertly trained dogs. Our dogs bring independence to people by taking on many practical tasks, such as retrieving items, helping them get dressed and opening doors.

www.dogsforgood.org/about-us/book-a-talk/

£35 Donation to charity

Face to Face & Online

Available anytime and at short notice

#Modern Slavery - a talk by Unseen charity about modern slavery in the UK and around the world. Unseen run safehouses and a modern slavery helpline to support victims of the fastest growing form of organised crime. This presentation looks at how we can help to identify and remove slavery from our personal and business lives.

Phil Jesson
phil@business-pulse.com
07774 241207

Market Harborough
£30 donation to Unseen charity helpline

Face to Face & Online

#Marie Curie Cancer Support – an insight into the support Marie Curie gives to families facing terminal illness. An online talk about the services we offer, our history, the current crisis we face and our future ambitions to address this.

Maxine Andrews
Maxine.Andrews@mariecurie.org.uk
07595 087169
Speaker Coordinator
cga@mariecurie.org.uk
07515 134704

Donations welcome.
Flexible around dates and times of your meetings.
www.mariecurie.org.uk
General queries: 0800 716 146

Face to Face & Online

#Dementia Carers Count– Do any of your members support someone with dementia? We offer life changing, professional health and care support that families living with dementia so often find isn't there for them. This presentation is about how we help and support people who are caring for someone with dementia. There will be time for questions and discussion, and information about how WI members can access our free services or get involved with the charity.

Yael Shotts
yael.shotts@dementiacarers.org.uk

Borehamwood, Herts
Free

Face to Face and Online

Very flexible, with some notice.

#Support Dogs – is a registered national charity dedicated to increasing independence and quality of life for people with various medical conditions. We provide, train and support specialist assistance dogs to achieve this. We help children and adults affected by autism, epilepsy, and disability to lead more independent and active lives. From keeping children safe, to alerting their owners prior to an oncoming seizure, from raising the alarm in emergencies to helping with a huge range of day to day tasks. Our support dogs transform the lives of not only the individual but their families too.

Tess Thompson
fundraising@supportdogs.org.uk

Usually £40 donation requested. Online - any donations appreciated.

Face to Face & Online

ONLINE ONLY

HISTORY & LOCAL INTEREST

#The Lady Poisoners of Victorian England History & storytelling rolled into one! Meet the wicked ladies who bought deadly poisons to bump off their husbands & lovers. Meticulously researched from contemporaneous newspapers. Fun and fascinating. **Blood, Guts & Gore: Murder in Victorian England** A blood curdling tale, we visit the home of a bad-tempered widow who cannot keep her staff. One day she hires a servant but is she too good to be true? A true and grizzly delight. **The Amazing Mr. Dickens!** The life of the world's greatest storyteller from early childhood working in a factory, to his illustrious life as a writer, and scandalous affair. With readings from his work. **Manners Please, Dearest!** Welcome to the extraordinary world of Victorian etiquette! You are invited to attend a Victorian Finishing School for Young Ladies where you'll discover the Do's and Don'ts of courtship, calling cards, dinner party etiquette, and the mysterious language of the fan. Great Fun! **The Weird & Wonderful World of The Law** An enjoyable romp through the legal world: drawing on over 25 years work as a locum solicitor travelling around England, meeting raging judges, dotty clients, and daft old laws still in place! **The Making of Casablanca** A behind the scenes look at one of the world's most romantic films. The incredible story of this back-lot B movie which became a Hollywood classic. **The Life of Agatha Christie** Born towards the end of Queen Victoria's reign, this talk explores the incredible life story of the world-famous crime writer. With wonderful photographs of Agatha & family.

David Allen

allen_david10@hotmail.com

07729 065580

www.davidallenpublicspeaker.co.uk

Online Only

Zoom Fee £55

Morning/Afternoon/Evening – I am happy to set up the Zoom meeting & step in at the last minute if a

Speaker cancels

MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS

#Life is a Cabaret It's the 20's – again! And along with the glorious age of jazz, came the heyday of cabaret, as captured in the 1972 Liza Minnelli movie. 100 years on, Paulus celebrates this much maligned art-form, pivotal to the inclusion in the arts of some of our most vibrant and outlandish artistes. Dust off your boas and pop some prosecco as we explore the wonderful world of cabaret! * **Victoria Wood & Me** Paulus has been a super-fan of the much-missed National Treasure since he was ten. Now, he's created a show celebrating her music. Find out why in this fun & informative talk.

Both 30 min talks inc. songs on the ukulele, full makeup & costume as standard. Extra Q&A time if desired.

paulus@thecabaretgeek.com

www.thecabaretgeek.com

07905 259 060

Online Only

£85 fee, payable in advance.

Available for afternoon or evening talks

Happy to be contacted at short notice.

OTHERS

#Introduction to Naturism – particularly women in naturism and naturist families. The presentation is around 30 minutes plus Q&A

Helen Berriman

British Naturism

helen.berriman@bn.org.uk

Online only

Free

Available anytime