

# 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, Portraits, Historical Eras (Vikings/Tudors/Elizabethans/Victorians); A Beginner's guide to Modern Art

Grainne Purkiss  
01858 419213/07587 052948  
grainnepurkiss@hotmail.com

Market Harborough, Leics.  
£60 plus 40p per mile travel (negotiable for smaller WIs)  
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  
07969 065479  
janeisaac@live.co.uk

Northamptonshire  
£40 + 45p per mile over 10 mile radius from home  
\*All cheques made payable to Jane Lobb

**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  
07990 549203/01530 458675  
margaretedickinson@me.com

Coalville  
£70 face to face/£20 online  
Also available at short notice

**Face to Face & Online**

**#The Life and Loves of the Taxi Driver Poet** - a Poet and an entertainer, a wit and raconteur; an observer of life. I entertain with original poems written by me, interwoven with a narrative on my life and the circumstances that inspired or provoked my poems.

James Haddow  
taxidriverpoet@btinternet.com  
07815 819854  
www.taxidriverpoet.com

£75

**Online only**

## CRAFTS & HOBBIES

**Creating a Woman's Collective in Uganda to Produce Recycled Paper Jewellery** - A lively and informative talk about the positives and challenges \* **Creating Beautiful Jewellery from Rolled Recycled Paper** - Hands-on making session suitable for all abilities during which all ladies create a bracelet

Alison Rockett  
01858 468115/07941 484213  
acholibeadcraft@yahoo.co.uk

Market Harborough, Leics.  
No fee for talk only. 30p per mile travel.  
10% donation of sales to WI. Hands-on session charges vary depending on number in attendance (approx. £25 'start from scratch' or approx. £35 if paper prepared in advance).  
Available at short notice.

**Face to Face only**

**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  
07711 153709  
sageenathakur@gmail.com  
majaspapercraft1@gmail.com

Leicester  
£35 plus travel  
Available at short notice.

**Face to Face and Online**

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

Ian Pettit

01332 853505/07908 338592

ianpettit77@gmail.com

Castle Donington, Derby

£40 + 25p per mile over 30 miles

Availability on application and short notice

**Face to Face only**

**#From Bus Pass to Student Card:** A light hearted talk with slides of my experience as a 62-year-old university student. **\*At the Drop of a Hat:** A talk with slides and videos explaining how to make a hat suitable for Ascot or a wedding. **\*It Started with a Stitch:** My journey in Creative Embroidery with slides showing pieces of my work which I did for the City & Guilds Embroidery course. **\*Creative Gardens:** A presentation in the form of slides showing how to create both a formal and informal garden design using the same plants and garden features.

Dorothy Wood

07419 327729

dorothy.dewdrop@gmail.com

Lincolnshire

£45

Available daytime, evening & at short notice

**Online only**

**#\*From stories to stitch \*Creating a personal narrative in art and stitch (family history) \*Mending the maker, therapy through creativity.**

Ailish Henderson

£60

www.ailishhenderson.com

flounderingfish@googlemail.com

**Online only**

**FINANCE & LEGAL AFFAIRS**

**Will writing & Inheritance planning: Keeping your family money 'in the family'**

Rob Abell

0800 083 1374/07796 937150

rob.abell@willplanningsolutions.co.uk

Will Planning Solutions Ltd.

Dellwood, Abergavenny, NP7 7NA

Donation for nominated charity. Call for availability.

**Online only**

**FOOD & DRINK**

**Smile Please, Say Cheese \* Poultry and Game with Turkey Carvery \* Timeless Entertainment \* Carvery & Timeless Entertainment**

Ian Rogerson

07983 632286/ 0116 3489060

ian\_timeless@icloud.com

90 Barry Drive, Kirby Muxloe, Leicester LE9 2HJ

£60 Smile please, say Cheese, £60 Turkey talk and carvery

£50-£70 for entertainment, Carvery and Timeless please call to

**Face to Face only**

discuss (includes travel). Evenings/some daytime availability

**Interactive Indian Cookery Demonstrations with tastings \* Talks on Spices in Indian Cooking with food bites. \*Indian theme evening. \*Guided Shopping experience on Leicester's Golden Mile \* Online Cooking Demonstration/ Talk.**

Bhanu Mistry

07816 246103

bhanumystery66@gmail.com

Leicester

Talks start from £60 plus mileage

Other activities, please call for pricing

**Face to Face & Online**

**#The Origin of chocolate** - with chocolate demonstration, cake decorating demonstration, gateau demonstration and modelling with icing.

Jan Ramsay

janannramsay@icloud.com

07584123510

75 plus travel cost outside of a 5 mile radius

Available - daytime and evenings upon request.

**Face to Face and Online**

## HEALTH, WELL BEING & FITNESS

### **Tai Chi** - Talk, demonstration & some participation

Laraine Tucker

Glen Parva, Leicester

07779 434742

£45 per hour + 44p per mile travel

larainetucker@icloud.com

Available anytime Monday – Friday

**Face to Face & Online**

### **Herbal Medicine for the 21<sup>st</sup> 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

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

0116 2543178/07769 675301/07917 755741 Donations to NSPCC/Macmillan + mileage

serene.foster@hydesherbalsclinic.co.uk

ruth.austin@hydesherbalsclinic.co.uk

www.hydesherbalsclinic.co.uk

**Face to Face & Online**

**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

Market Harborough, Leics.

07817 387559

No fee – charity donation

carmen@inspiredtochange.biz

Available most times, except Tuesday and Thursday evening

**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

Oadby, Leicester

0116 2563021

Donation to British Heart Foundation

sp504@le.ac.uk

**Face to Face & Online**

## HISTORY & LOCAL INTEREST

**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** (An outline of some of the famous 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, 34 Hall Orchard Lane, Frisby on the Wreake, Melton Mowbray, LE14 2NH

01664 434490

\*£40 donation to Brooksby Church

mrbritton1946@gmail.com

Available almost anytime

**Face to Face & Online**

**Stoneywell Cottage National Trust property \* Conservation at Stoneywell \* Ernest Gimson his life and work \* General talk on Stoneywell \* Stoneywell and the Arts and Crafts furniture of Leicestershire and Stoneywell garden**

Christine Hodgson

National Trust

01530 248040/07791 389372

Donation to National Trust (min. £50)

christine.hodgson@nationaltrust.org.uk

Available daytime & evening

**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**

**Face to Face and Online**

**Face to Face and Online**

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**

**The Story of the French Cancan \* Sophisticated Ladies of the Night: The 19<sup>th</sup> Century Parisian Courtesans \* The Truth behind Les Misérables \* The Life and Art of Toulouse-Lautrec \* Franz Lehár and the Merry Widow**

**Face to Face and Online**

David Price

07528 756124

£80

david@d-price.co.uk

Available daytime and evenings

www.d-price.co.uk

**Online only**

**#'Mystery and History talks'** – all talks use slides and include Q&A after. *Mystery topics:* 'The Crop Circle Mystery' / 'Unexplained Mysteries and Cover-Ups' / 'A Conspiracy History of the World'. *History topics:* 'Christmas – A Festive History' (Nov/Dec only) / 'The Bonfire Night Capital of the World' / 'The Story of English Freedom'. Full details can be found at <https://truthagenda.org/available-lectures>

Andy Thomas

South East England

andy@andythomas.info

£70

07771 712960

Available day or evening and can be at short notice.

**Online only**

**#Sacrifice & Remembrance** – Topics in this theme are: Sacrifice and Remembrance, The Miracle Flower from Flanders to the Tower, Iconic Memorials for the Fallen, For Valour – The Victoria Cross Story, Violette Szabo GC, The Sinking of the Laconia, Bomber Command, 90 Minutes at Entebbe, The Tragedy of War - Vietnam, The Forgotten Heroes of My Lai, The Wall - Vietnam Veterans Memorial, The Steve Biko Story.

Jeremy Prescott

No charge, but donations encouraged through Speaker to Combat Stress

jeremy.prescott@ntlworld.com

www.sacrificeandremembrance.com

**Online Only**

**#The Lady Poisoners of Victorian England** Meet two ladies cruelly betrayed by their lovers. What did they do next? Of course, they took a trip to the pharmacy and purchased a packet of deadly poison. Welcome to the true tales of two ladies with one word on the tip of their tongues...Murder! **True Stories of Murder in Victorian England** For those of you who enjoy a more blood curdling tale, we visit the home of a retired teacher who is eccentric, bad tempered and cannot keep her staff. And then one day she hires a servant...who is too good to be true! **The Amazing Mr. Dickens!** Be thrilled by the life of the world's greatest storyteller, from his early childhood working in a factory, to his illustrious life as a writer, journalist, and social reformer. With readings from *Oliver Twist* & *Great Expectations*. **Manners Please, Dearest!** Welcome to the extraordinary world of Victorian etiquette! You are all invited to attend a Victorian Finishing School for Young Ladies where you will 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 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.

David Allen

allen\_david10@hotmail.com

07729 065580

**Online only**

Fee- £55

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

**#Step Back in Time – \*Great British Eccentrics** - a highly amusing talk which looks at some of the World's great Eccentrics & Rogues who just happened to be British! **\*You Stupid Boy!** Were Britain's Home Guard a group of dodderly old men with a few stupid boys thrown in? Or Britain's last line of defence to protect against the German invasion in the summer of 1940? An informative and moving presentation. **\*You've never had it so Good** A nostalgic look back at society, culture, news, and music from the wonderful golden decade that was the 1950's. **\*Jack the Ripper** – Paul returns to the East End of his childhood to talk about the World's greatest "criminal who done it" in history. Painting a vivid and moving picture of the East End of London in the late Summer and Autumn of 1888 Paul reviews the crimes, the main suspects, and offers his own suggestion as to the identity of the Whitechapel murderer AKA Jack the Ripper. **\*The Life and Career of Sir Winston Churchill** Paul charts the long and unique life of the man voted greatest Britain of all time. Was he the saviour of his Country or a Political chancer? A warts and all look at Britain's war time leader. **\*The 60's a decade of change** - Do you remember flower power, the 'I'm Backing Britain' campaign, Emergency ward 10, and dancing to the Beatles or the cold winter of 1962/3? Nostalgia in abundance for those lucky to have lived in Britain during this never to be forgotten decade. **\*East London, the Cockneys and Cockney Rhyming Slang.** A Cockney by birth, Paul tells the story of the East End describes how the East End and the famous events that took place there. The talk includes a lesson in how to understand and speak Cockney Rhyming slang. **\*The English Civil War.** The history of a merciless conflict whose scars and impact can still be seen today, both physically and in the way our society and democracy functions. Paul explores the origins and causes of the conflict that split families and communities.

Paul Robbins

07548 915284

Paul\_J\_Robbins@msn.com

pauljohnrobbins@gmail.com

**Online Only**

£40 (for an additional £10 Paul will set up and manage the call for groups using his Pro account)

All talks last around 40 minutes with time for questions added  
www.stepbackintime.org

## **#Founders of the WI**

Barbara Lawson-Reay

barbreay@hotmail.co.uk

01492582185

**Online only**

North Wales

No charge

Available Day/evening/possibly short notice

## **MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS**

### **An Evening of Scottish Dancing and Singing**

Gill Mouncer

Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

0116 2713717

gillmouncer@hotmail.co.uk

**Face to Face only**

Oadby, Leicester

£45 for 30 mins + travel, £60 for 1 ½ hours + travel

**Tales of a touring opera singer; an aria in your area** – light hearted, witty and informative talk of life on the road as a professional opera singer, how to deal with divas, opera disasters, gossip and a chance to open your voices and sing

Martin McEvoy  
01536 770330/07899 903977  
martin@londoncityopera.co.uk

Gretton, Northants  
£100

**Face to Face & Online**

**Edward Elgar: The Man and his Music.** Elgar was something of an enigma even by those who knew him well. This illustrated talk attempts to capture the essence of the great man \* **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 \* **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 \* **An Illustrated History of Leicester Symphony Orchestra** - Lots of great stories about the people and events around the orchestra including their superstar founder Malcolm Sargent \*

Sam Dobson  
0116 2677372  
samdobson69@gmail.com

Birstall, Leicester  
£40 donated to LSO (Charity no.1078708)  
Available morning, afternoon and evenings

**Face to Face & Online**

**Myths of Middle Eastern Dance (Belly Dance)** – talk plus dance demonstration \* **Amusing Anecdotes from the life of a snake charmer/fire eater** – informative and amusing talk plus demonstration of Arabic dance (this talk does not involve naked flame or snake!)

Roxanne Dinsdale  
0116 2874517 (answer machine)  
aysherox49@btinternet.com

Groby, Leicester  
Talks £55 plus 35p per mile travel

**Face to Face & Online**

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

Peter & Iris Sayer  
01530 243822  
sayerpeter8@gmail.com

Newtown Linford, Leicester  
£75 inclusive  
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**

**#Nostalgic Singing Act** – spanning 5 decades of music from the First war (Downton Abbey), 1920s/30s (Gatsby), 1940s (Second War/Swing), 1950s (Rock and Roll to 1960s (Swinging 60s)

Lynda Styan  
0208 3494916 / 07763 466863  
lynstyan@yahoo.com  
www.lyndastyan.com

£50 upwards

**Face to Face & Online**

**#Musical entertainment - Milton Keynes to Mississippi** - A lively and entertaining show with classical, Spanish and Mississippi Blues guitar music along with my own songs. Brief history of the guitar and anecdotes and stories from a career in music. **When Birds Sing** -\_A digitally illustrated talk with my own recordings of Bird Songs and Calls, photos and new music. Why, How and When do birds sing? Tips on how to identify birdsong in your garden and parks....be prepared to be amazed!

Saffron Summerfield  
07941 932543  
www.motherearthmusic.co.uk  
saffronsummerfield@icloud.com

NorthNorfolk/EastMidlands  
£50

**Face to Face & Online**

**#Virtually Impossible** – An online show featuring incredible tricks and intriguing illusions that will have your members talking for weeks!

Steve Price

£100

07986 219997

Available anytime and short notice

info@stevepriceillusions.co.uk

**Online only**

**#Life is a Cabaret** - It's the 20's – again! And along with the glorious age of jazz, the 1920's brought us the heyday of cabaret, captured perhaps most notably in the 1972 Liza Minnelli movie by Bob Fosse. 100 years on, Paulus invites you to join him in a celebration of this much misunderstood art-form, which has been pivotal to the inclusion in the arts of some of our most vibrant, colourful and outlandish artistes. So, dust off your feather boas and top hats, and pop some prosecco as we explore the wonderful world of cabaret! 30 mins talk includes singing, ukulele playing, full makeup and glittery costume as standard.

Extra 15mins Q&A time if desired.

paulus@thecabaretgeek.com

£78.50 fee, payable in advance.

www.thecabaretgeek.com

Available for morning, afternoon, evening talks

07905 259 060

Happy to be contacted at short notice.

**Online Only**

## OTHERS

**The Power of Colour** – Learn how to wear the colours that enhance your complexion and make you look and feel fabulous! \* **Fab at 40 and Beyond** – Top tips to enhance your natural beauty whatever your age \* **Detox & Shop your Wardrobe** – Learn the 4 simple steps to a quick wardrobe detox and see how easy it is to shop your wardrobe \* **Holiday Packing made simple** – Learn some simple techniques to make holiday packing nightmares a thing of the past \* **Your Colour and Style** – Top tips on warning colours and styles that compliment your natural beauty and shape

Katie Crowe

Manton, Rutland

07795 311454/07831 394449

£60 including travel (mileage charges apply for groups outside 15 mile radius). Available weekdays, evening and weekends

info@colourbykatie.co.uk

**Face to Face & Online**

**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

£70 donated to Big Difference Company (registered charity

geoff@bigdifferencecompany.co.uk 1135167)

**Face to Face & Online**

Anytime except February

**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 & 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**

**21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing** – An open and frank view of modern policing and the daily challenges faced by frontline officers

Robert Cross

Hinckley

01455 291748

Donation to WI's chosen charity

robert.cross@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk

**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

Oakham

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

£35 including travel

mikelister49@gmail.com

Available lunch time, afternoons and evenings

**Face to Face only**

**The Humour That Surrounds Us \* My Farcical Career as the Passenger Liaison Officer on the British-India Ship 'Nevasa' \* Strange But True - True Stories of Strange Events \* Lucky Breaks in Show Business - how some stars rocketed to fame \* Curtain Up - an amusing look at Show Business**

Colin Bower

Nottingham

0115 9606638

Fee negotiable

colinbower461@btinternet.com

Available anytime

**Face to Face & Online**

**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 only**

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

Geoff Harris

Frisby on the Wreake, Leics.

01664 434565

£65 + travel if further than 15 miles from base

enquiries@classinacoat.co.uk

Available afternoons & evenings

**Face to Face & Online**

**Scam Awareness 'Think Jessica' \* Dementia Friends \* Live In & Care in your home - Insight & helpful tips - talks sponsored by Home Instead**

Marion Lewis OBE

Stonton Wyville, Leics

01858 540317/07597 800156

Donation to charity plus 25p per mile travel

hello.mh@homeinstead.co.uk

Available: Summer daytime

www.homeinstead.co.uk/mh

**Face to Face & Online**

**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

Billesdon, Leicester

0116 2596312/07788 416109

£40 donation to charity and 40p per mile travel

aglp@btinternet.com

Available afternoons and evenings

**Face to Face & Online**



**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**

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

Donna Price  
British Naturism  
[donna.price@bn.org.uk](mailto:donna.price@bn.org.uk)

Free  
Available anytime

**Online only**

**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  
£45.00 including mileage  
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**

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**

**Recycling With a Difference.** A very interesting and amusing talk – includes a large display of items to make using every day throw away items

Sue Drage  
01788 336565  
susan.drage@ntlworld.com

Bilton, Rugby, Warks.  
£40 and 38p per mile travel (max. travel charge £35)  
Available anytime and at short notice. Travel radius is normally 55 miles but will travel further if travel expenses agreeable

**Face to Face only**

**#Fraud Prevention** – spreading the awareness of the ever-evolving ways used to scam the public and to prevent people becoming victims.

Rebecca Spilane, Fraud Vulnerability Officer, Leicestershire Police  
[rebecca.spilane@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:rebecca.spilane@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk)

No charge  
Availability flexible

**Face to Face & Online**

**#Time Through the Ages.** A journey through time telling over the centuries showing the development and improvement of time telling devices from the sundial through to the atomic clock. Takes the audience through the many formats tried by man to master time telling and how time became more important through the ages. **Extra time.** Forty Thousand people lost their lives in Sri Lanka in the Tsunami of 2004. This story pays tribute to them but covers of how my wife and myself survived, including the escape and what happened next. The latter covers a return to the country, providing employment but also encourage overseas investment in order to help the people. **Come fly with Me.** This is an illustrated talk of places where I have worked over the continents of Africa, America, Asia and Europe. Listeners will learn about Car Parts in New York to Call Centres in New Delhi; Beaches in Sri Lanka to Bungalows in Spain; Bistros in Portugal to Bars in Pittsburgh and Moonlight in Malta to Moonshine in Miami.

John Hope  
johnhope436@gmail.com

Online £50 Face to face £65  
Available daytime and evening

**Face to Face & Online**

## # An introduction to British Sign Language

Daisy Edwards

Free

Learning development and delivery  
coordinator for BSL for LCC most evenings.

Usual availability is Monday, Tuesday and Friday daytime,

daisy.edwards@leics.gov.uk

07730582874

**Face to Face and 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 + 35p 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** – Explore Petra, visit Wadi Rum, climb the mountain where Moses viewed the

Promised Land \* **Deltas and Deserts** - Come to Botswana, travel through the Okavango Delta, then

Travel through the desert in Namibia, to see the Skeleton Coast and rock paintings.

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

Yelvertoft, Northants.

01788 824473/07966 156473

£40 plus 30p per mile travel

barrywatson209@yahoo.co.uk

Availability: daytime and evening

www.barrywatson.com

**Face to Face only**

**#Turkish Talks - \*A Turkish Shirley Valentine. \*A Turkish Farmhouse Restoration. \*Running as B & B in rural Turkey. \*Turkish Cuisine. \*Hatching, Matching & Dispatching, Turkish village wedding.** Please see website for additional eight talks

Jenny Gibbs

£50

turkishtalks@live.co.uk

Available at all times

www.turkishtalks.com

**Online 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

Free

bhaley788@gmail.com

**Face to Face only**

## CHARITIES

**The services of LOROS Hospice \*Illustrated Wainwright's Coast-to-Coast Walk for LOROS Also available – Hadrian's Wall, Pembrokeshire Coastal Path, West Highland Way, Cotswold Way, Cleveland Way or a combination of walks.**

Adrian Walker

LOROS Fundraising, Groby Road, Leicester, LE3 9QE

07446 082910

Donation to charity

adrianwalkerroadby@hotmail.com

Available anytime

walk77a@yahoo.com

**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

Cropston, Leicester

0116 2350345

Donation to charity

alisonj.briggs@ntlworld.com

Available daytime and evening

**Face to Face & Online**

**Rainbows Hospice for Children & Young People**

Gary Farnfield

Loughborough, Leics.

Community Fundraiser

Fee at WI's discretion donated to Rainbows

01509 283952/07815 520465

Enquire for availability

gary.farnfield@rainbows.co.uk

**Face to Face & Online**

**Dog's Trust**

Hannah Graham & Ella Tonge

Based in Wymeswold, Loughborough

01509 882966/07833 050868

No fee – donation to the charity

hannah.graham@dogstrust.org.uk

Available morning, afternoon and evening.

Currently talks are offered virtually, this will be reviewed depending on the Covid-19 guidelines at the time.

**Online Only**

**Leicestershire Youth Offending Service**

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**

**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**

**Medical Detection Dogs:** Dogs saving lives every day just by using their noses

Wendy Coley

Hathern, Leics.

01509 843205

Donation to charity

try2climb@yahoo.co.uk

Availability: Flexible

**Face to Face & Online**

**Your local air ambulance** - An insight into the vital and lifesaving work of Your Local Air Ambulance Warwickshire, Northamptonshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire and Rutland. **Children's Air Ambulance** – Learn more about the work of the UK's first and only dedicated inter-hospital transfer service for critically ill babies and children.

Tel: 0300 3045 999

[Fundraising@theairambulanceservice.org.uk](mailto:Fundraising@theairambulanceservice.org.uk)

**Face to Face & Online**

Blue Skies House, Butlers Leap, Rugby, Warks CV21 3RQ

Donations and/or Fundraising activities welcome in support of our life-saving services

Available Mornings, Afternoon and Evenings

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

Contact Head Office

0115 9791720

[alexa.wigfield@whenyouwish.org.uk](mailto:alexa.wigfield@whenyouwish.org.uk)

[www.whenyouwishuponastar.org.uk](http://www.whenyouwishuponastar.org.uk)

**Face to Face & Online**

Futurist House, Valley Road, Notts. NG5 1JE

Donation to charity

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

Tim Marren

01509 265590/07375 667487

[timmarren@peterlemarchanttrust.co.uk](mailto:timmarren@peterlemarchanttrust.co.uk)

**Face to Face & Online**

Canalside Moorings, Beeches Road, Loughborough, Leics. LE11 2NS

Donation to charity Available anytime

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

Alison Briggs

0116 2350345

[alisonj.briggs@ntlworld.com](mailto:alisonj.briggs@ntlworld.com)

**Face to Face & Online**

Cropston, Leicester

Donation to charity

Available daytime and evening

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

Nick Sydenham

07711 314294

[nick@osgathorpe.plus.com](mailto:nick@osgathorpe.plus.com)

**Face to Face & Online**

Loughborough

£50 donation for face-to-face talks, £30 for online talks

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

David Gelsthorpe-Hill

07477 800280

[davidgelsthorpe\\_hill@hotmail.com](mailto:davidgelsthorpe_hill@hotmail.com)

**Face to Face & Online**

Rugby, Warwickshire

Donations welcome

Available at short notice

**#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/](http://www.dogsforgood.org/about-us/book-a-talk/)

**Online only**

£35 Donation to charity

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](mailto:phil@business-pulse.com)

07774 241207

**Face to Face & Online**

Market Harborough

£30 donation to Unseen charity helpline

**#Marie Curie** – 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. All of our talks are free.

Claire Korsakovs  
Claire.Korsakovs@mariecurie.org.uk  
07595 087169  
Speaker Coordinator  
cga@mariecurie.org.uk  
07515 134704

Donations welcome.  
Flexible around dates and times of your meetings.

**Face to Face & Online**

**#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  
tess.thompson@supportdogs.org.uk

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

**Face to Face & Online**

**#Veganism – a talk by Animal Aid.** Our remote sessions cover the reasons for people adopting a plant-based diet such as animal welfare, the environment and health. We discuss and answer questions on vegan nutrition, vegan products, meal planning and cooking for vegans.

We also offer remote **Vegan Cookery Demonstrations** and can adapt to your requirements.

diane.smith@animalaid.co.uk

Donations welcome

**Online only**

**#“Wooden Boats And Iron Men” How Tragedy, Bravery and Generosity have shaped the RNLI to what it is today!** An inspirational history of lifesaving at sea and the Royal National Lifeboat Institution from 1790 to the present day and how volunteers have braved all weathers and shown immense courage to save over 142,000 lives. **“True Heroes Of The Sea” Uplifting stories of Lifeboat People, Lifeboats and Rescues At Sea over the last 200 years.** Amazing stories of courage, endurance and bravery highlighting the RNLI volunteers who go to sea to help complete strangers in trouble, often in appalling conditions and when everyone else is running for shelter.

David Hastings

Hon Secretary, Durham Branch RNLI

David@1066.com

Donations to RNLI welcome

Branch Fundraising Page: [www.SavingLivesAtSea.com](http://www.SavingLivesAtSea.com)

**Online Only**

**#Dementia Carers Count**– A presentation to members about our charity, Dementia Carers Count, and how we can help and support members who are caring for someone with dementia. Content will include how our charity came about; what we do; and an insight into some of the stories of the amazing carers we have supported so far. There will be time for questions and discussion, and information about how WI members can access our services or get involved with the charity.

Yael Shotts

yael.shotts@dementiacarers.org.uk

Free

Very flexible, with some notice.

**Face to Face and Online**

**#World Vision UK** – Changing a Life - a talk from the charity devoted to working with the world's most vulnerable children. We can also present on a wide range of our work, from tackling issues such as nutrition, education and empowering women, to community development, crisis response, and climate change.

Nicola Atkin

nicola.ambassadorworldvisionuk@yahoo.com

Free

**Face to Face and Online**

