

## **HISTORICAL LECTURE COURSE by Anne Kershen**

**London the Promised Land and How We Arrived at the State We Are In Now! November 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> – Thursday afternoons 1.30-3.30, in the Guide Hall at the Woodland Centre**

**Rustington.** Don't worry, these three sessions will **not** be looking at the contemporary political scene, particularly as the first session will begin only a week after we are due to leave the EU! Rather the sessions will explore the influence of London, particularly East London, on the politics and society of Britain. We will examine the roots of the Welfare State in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century including old age pensions, free school meals, wage control and sickness pay. We will then journey through the varying stages of immigration control over the past 114 years, from the first immigration act in 1905 – which had its roots in the East End – up until recent legislation, with all its complexities and failures. If we have time we will venture into the 'City of Darkest Night' or the London's criminal world in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and first half of the 20th century. If we don't get through to this subject in November it will be the first topic of my 2020 sessions.

I will talk for **at most** 1hr 15mins and then open up for discussion and questions.