



**Autumn Talks  
September - December 2021  
on Zoom**

**These talks are the remainder from the postponed 2020 Summer School programme**

**To register please click on the links for the talks that you are interested in below**

After registration you will automatically receive a Booking Confirmation email.

Please retain this as a reminder of your booking details.

One application only per person per talk.

Two days before the event you will be sent an email with the Zoom joining instructions.

**NB:** If you think you have not received either the confirmation email or Zoom meeting link, please check your spam/junk folder before emailing the contact below.

Further information: [Talks.lru3a@gmail.com](mailto:Talks.lru3a@gmail.com)

<p><b>September</b> <b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup></b> 17.30-18.30 Log on from 17.00</p>	<p><b>Tom Harris: Irish Troubles</b> By the 1920s the British Empire had reached its zenith in terms of area and population. But it also saw the loss of one of its most significant possessions: Ireland. From 1921 onwards, Britain acquired no more colonies and within a few years was granting nominal independence to other countries. How did this come about and what were the consequences? <a href="#">Click here</a> to register</p>
<p><b>September</b> <b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup></b> 17.30-18.30 Log on from 17.00</p>	<p><b>Alan Freeland: Marconi – The Man who Shrank the World</b> We will explore the life and times of Sir Guglielmo Marconi (1874 to 1937) recognised as the man who brought radio to the world. He was the first truly global figure in modern communications. He was as famous in his time as Bill Gates or Mark Zuckerberg. Many of the issues we see today, with internet and social media innovation, and the relationship between private enterprise and government regulation first occurred with Marconi. <a href="#">Click here</a> to register</p>
<p><b>October</b> <b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup></b> 17.30-18.30 Log on from 17.00</p>	<p><b>Jo Livingston: In for a Penny, In for a Pound</b> Do you still think in £ s d? – do you remember when postage was cheap and ‘phone calls expensive? A light-hearted look at the changes in both coinage and prices over the last seventy years. <a href="#">Click here</a> to register</p>

<p><b>October</b>  <b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup></b>                  17.30-18.30                  Log on from 17.00</p>	<p><b>Terry Lloyd: Sleepwalking into the Abyss</b>                  This presentation looks at six weeks in the summer of 1914 when the complacency and misjudgements of Europe’s leaders saw them stumble into a war which would spread across the globe. It was a war which unleashed carnage on a scale hitherto unknown and led to unimagined horrors. Its consequences scarred the rest of the 20th century and are with us in the 21st. If we look around at our current decade it is painfully clear how little has been learned (or perhaps how much has been forgotten) since the summer of 1914.  <a href="#">Click here</a> to register</p>
<p><b>November</b>  <b>Monday 1st</b>                  17.30-18.30                  Log on from 17.00</p>	<p><b>Andrew Hanson: Top 10 Odd Things to Measure, PLUS the Measurement of Colour</b>                  The National Physical Laboratory (NPL) is involved in ensuring that all manner of walks of life function smoothly through use of the National Measurement System. Andrew will briefly discuss what he feels are the top 10 strangest things NPL has been involved in, that he is allowed to talk about. He will then elaborate on his own area of work – colour measurement. Colour informs, influences consumer choices, warns us and comforts us. As with every aspect of life, it needs to be measured to ensure confidence in manufacturing processes for a diverse range of goods from pills to paints. The challenge is enormous and human colour perception science is still a lively topic today.  <a href="#">Click here</a> to register</p>
<p><b>November</b>  <b>Monday 22nd</b>                  17.30-18.30                  Log on from 17.00</p>	<p><b>James Morton: London's Gangland from the Sabinis to the Krays</b>                  The talk will begin with the Sabini family after they had seen off the so-called Peaky Blinders, then their feuds with the Cortesis, their fights with the Jewish gangs and the Whites, and their break-up during World War 2. It will include the rise of robbers Billy Hill and Jack Spot; also the white slavers, the Messina brothers who turned prostitution in London into a real business from the '30-'60s; and the expansion abroad e.g. Hill's cigarette smuggling racket at the end of the war; then onto the Twins. It will look also at more shadowy people such as Abe Kosky and George Walker, and their relations with the 'straight' world such as George Dawson and Sir Eric Miller (married to Kosky's daughter).  <a href="#">Click here</a> to register</p>
<p><b>December</b>  <b>Monday 6th</b>                  17.30-18.30                  Log on from 17.00</p>	<p><b>Linda Shannon: Boys Will Be Girls ... ‘those squeaking Cleopatras’</b>                  Why did Shakespeare use boys to play female roles? Why did females in his plays need to dress as boys? Who were the boys? These, and other questions, will be addressed when we look at four of Shakespeare’s plays: Two Gentlemen of Verona, The Merchant of Venice, Cymbeline and Twelfth Night.  <a href="#">Click here</a> to register</p>

## SPEAKERS

**Alan Freeland:** Alan has retired from a career in the IT Industry where he specialised in communicating the business benefits of complex IT technologies to Business Managers. Since retirement he has become enthused by history and is an active member of the Farnham u3a History Group. He also runs the Farnham U3A Silk Roads Group.

**Andrew Hanson:** Andrew first worked at the National Institute of Agricultural Botany measuring physical botanical characteristics, then at the National Physical Laboratory measuring colour and light. He built several machines to sense light the way humans do, including colour, with his most newsworthy contraption evaluating the shininess of cats. Twelve years ago, Andrew jumped from 'doing' science to talking about it to many audiences. In this time he has managed NPL's Outreach programme comprising over 3000 activities involving hundreds of NPL staff meeting about half a million members of the public. He loves delivering these activities personally and it was for services to Education in Science, Technology Engineering and Maths that he received an MBE in 2019.

**Tom Harris:** As a member of the diplomatic service, Sir Thomas had overseas postings in Tokyo, Washington, Lagos, New York and Seoul where he served as British Ambassador to Korea. He then moved into the private sector and spent 10 years as Vice Chairman of Standard Chartered Bank. Member of u3a in London (Belsize Park).

**Jo Livingston:** In an earlier life I was a librarian and later taught very basic IT skills to adults who'd missed out on it at work, none of which has much to do with the content of this talk. I am a member of Bexley u3a and u3a national Subject Adviser for Living History. I also give talks to U3As and other groups on a variety of subjects, including prosopagnosia (never heard of it? – you need the talk!)

**Terry Lloyd:** Terry was a career Civil Servant but was able, alongside this, to indulge his enthusiasm for history by gaining a teaching qualification for adult education. He taught evening classes for Westminster Adult Education Service for over 25 years and, on retirement from the Civil Service, taught for 5 years at the Workers' Educational Association branch in Enfield. In addition, he has also given a number of history lectures for organisations such as the Holiday Fellowship and the City Lit. He is a member of the British Museum, the Current Archaeology and the Roman Society.

**James Morton:** James was for 30 years a solicitor primarily concerned in defending in criminal cases. He holds a Master's degree in Criminology at the University of Hull. For ten years he was the editor of the New Law Journal. Since then he has written over 40 books mainly on organised crime, but which include the well-received biographies of the 19th century courtesan Lola Montez and the French criminal turned detective Francois Vidocq.

**Linda Shannon:** Linda is a retired drama teacher and has been a coordinator of the Shakespeare Study group at U3A in London (Belsize Park) for a number of years now. She has been a steward at Shakespeare's Globe for 25 years and is also a Volunteer at The Rose Playhouse, just round the corner. Shakespeare put on two plays at The Rose, which was the first theatre on Bankside in 1587, before he moved to The Globe in 1599.