



## Speaker List 2023/24 Session

Once again, this year we have an interesting and varied programme of speakers for our monthly meetings so hope that there will be something to interest everyone.

All meetings start at 10am for 10.30 on the second Wednesday of the month with refreshments available before the talk starts. So come along early and get a chance to speak to other u3a members. Remember to bring along your cup and £1 for tea or coffee and biscuits. You are welcome to invite your friends and family along to these meetings and please do spread the word about all that we offer here at East Berwickshire u3a.

The talks will also be available through zoom with a link circulated before the meeting.

Oct 11<sup>th</sup> – Mike Keating, Chairman of Till Valley Archaeological Society (TillVAS) – A talk about the society's excavations and investigations into the archaeology of the Till Valley and Borders area. This will include information on the main site of excavation at Mardon, a hill fort between Branxton and Crookham, off the A697 and approximately 5 miles from the Border.

Nov 8<sup>th</sup> – Lella Cherrie BSc (Hons) Fashion Technology MSc Textiles – Lella, an EBU3A member, will talk about her career in costume design for stage and screen. She has a vast collection of materials, trimmings and costumes, with many stories around which to base her fun and interesting presentation.

Dec 13<sup>th</sup> – Lesley Murray, External Affairs Consultant, EDF Renewables / NNG Offshore – Lesley will speak about the history and development of the Neart na Gaoithe offshore wind farm project, which will be located in the outer Firth of Forth: what it means for local communities; for Scotland; and how it will help the Scottish Government meet it's net-zero targets.

Jan 10<sup>th</sup> – Ciaran Hatsell, Head Ranger, St Abbs Head National Nature Reserve – An NTS Value Award winner 2022, Ciaran will talk about the on-going work and management of the NNR, including grey seal conservation and legal protection, monitoring of sea bird populations and public engagement.

Feb 14<sup>th</sup> – Marcus Paine, Managing Director, Hutton Stone - Marcus is the second son of a Purbeck Limestone Quarrier, with the family link to quarrying from County Durham through to Purbeck stretching back five generations. He came to the Scottish Borders where his parents had bought a farm some years earlier and started Hutton Stone Co. Ltd. in 1994, cutting masonry and building stone in a disused barn. He will speak about extraction of Dimension Natural Stone and production of Masonry.

March 13<sup>th</sup> – Maggie Hodgkins, Principal Teacher Partnerships Religion and Ethics at Eyemouth High School – Maggie will talk about her travels and experiences in USA, France, Australia and New Zealand during a recent 2 year career break. The presentation will also link into and explain the High School's involvement with the Community Partnership scheme.

April 10<sup>th</sup> – Sandra Gann, a former lady almoner at St Barts – A presentation on the origins of mediaeval hospitals and their role in healing the sick. Beginning with Barts in the City of London founded in 1123, the oldest hospital still offering free health care on its original site to many local examples. Then looking at the range of options of mediaeval medicine available in the community.