

**THURSDAY JANUARY 18 – Jennifer Harrison**

**LIFE IN LEDBURY 1914 - 1919**

What was happening here in Ledbury during the years of the First World War when the men from Ledbury were 'over there' ?

**THURSDAY FEBRUARY 15 – David Lovelace**

**THE HISTORY OF THE LANDSCAPE OF LEDBURY TOWN AND ITS SURROUNDING AREA FROM THE MEDIAEVAL PERIOD TO 2021**

The research which David will describe has used archive information including transcriptions of medieval Latin documents, aerial laser radar scanning that has identified archaeological features, aerial photography from mid-20th century onward, and maps from 1800 to 2021. The data was integrated using digital methods, with the key tool being geographic information software (GIS)

**THURSDAY MARCH 21 - Peter Gill**

**SATIRE IN THE 20th CENTURY**

In this talk Peter explores the evolution of the comedy song in the 20th Century – from the songs sung in the trenches of the First World War to the genius of Cole Porter, Noel Coward and Tom Lehrer and on to the hilarity of Monty Python, Billy Connolly and Victoria Wood. The skill of the satirical lyricist will be identified and a choice selection of the songs performed. A 50 minute presentation with live music.

**THURSDAY APRIL 18 – Ian Boskett**

**THE GREAT TRAIN ROBBERY 1963**

Ian will be bringing some actual 1960s railway signalling equipment to demonstrate just how the gang brought the mail train, travelling at 95 mph, to a stop.

**THURSDAY MAY 16 – Mike Townsend**

**TWENTY YEARS TO SIBERIA**

After providing an overview of the geography and history of Siberia and a consideration of how far it lives up to popular Western conceptions of it, Mike will explain how he came to have such an intimate professional and personal relationship with one of its cities and people in particular over the 20-year period from 1990-2010. He will look at what was achieved in that time - and what has happened since - and provide reflections and several anecdotes on many aspects of life there e.g. customs, daily life, authority, gender relations, religion, means of travel (Aeroflot...!) , the "banya", dachas, food and drink etc.

**THURSDAY JUNE 20 – John Butterworth**

**How the stagecoach transformed our area**

John will talk about how the stagecoach led to an economic boom in Ledbury at the end of the 18th century, the eccentric drivers, the characters and the many famous people who used this mode of transport

**THURSDAY JULY 18– Chris Hucker**

**SPECIAL OPERATIONS EXECUTIVE**

Who, When, Why, and How? How it was formed, who formed it – other than Churchill – and its success or otherwise in the theatres of World War II

**THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 19**

**OPEN ENROLMENT MEETING**

Come and see what all our Groups offer.

**THURSDAY OCTOBER 17 – Marylin McCarthy**

**MEET THE SWANS**

A talk to help you get to know swans as they really are, and sort out myth from reality. There will be an opportunity to ask your questions, if you do not find them answered in the course of the talk. There'll be artefacts to look at, and handy bags of swan food to buy for your local swans.

**THURSDAY NOVEMBER 21**  
**AGM & QUIZ**

**THURSDAY DECEMBER 19**  
**CHRISTMAS MEETING**

Come and join us for an afternoon of mulled wine, seasonable nibbles and excellent entertainment by our members.