



Online Talks January- March 2024

17.30-18.30 (Log on from 17.00)

on Zoom

To register please click on the links for the talks that you are interested in below One application only per person per talk.

After registration you will automatically receive a Booking Confirmation email.

Please retain this as a reminder of your booking details.

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 booking confirmation or Zoom meeting link, please check your spam/junk folder before emailing the contact below.

Further information: Bookings.lru3a@gmail.com

January Monday 8th 17.30-18.30

17.30-18.30 Log on from 17.00

Neville Lyons: Food for Thought

The Lyons Teashops, the Corner House Restaurants and, of course, the Nippy waitresses have become part of social history. But this is only part of the story.....

The presentation, with archival photos, stretches from 1887 to 1990's. Members of two immigrant families from Northern Europe, the Salmons and Glucksteins, together with Joseph Lyons, co-founded a company to sort out the indifferent catering at national exhibition halls of the late Victorian era. All were without previous catering experience, but the company was to progress into catering for the general public and to become the first 'food empire' in the world.

We shall hear about all the main activities throughout the history of the company, including those that are not so well known, such as catering for the 1901 Cup Final at Crystal Palace, the largest banquet for 8,000 Freemasons at Olympia, for 15,000 guests at Royal Garden Parties and the exploitation of their management skills by control of a wartime bomb-making factory!

The talk includes amusing anecdotes and many surprises along the way, including development and manufacture of LEO, the world's first business computer

There is a family relationship: Neville's grandfather and Sir Joseph Lyons (knighted in 1911) were first cousins. Although Neville was not personally involved with the company business, this relationship was a driving force towards the research that led to his talks.

Register here

February Monday 5th

17.30-18.30 Log on from 17.00

Herbie Goldberg: Louis Moreau Gottschalk (1829–1869)

Born in New Orleans, Gottschalk was a composer and pianist. His music foreshadows that of Scott Joplin and even Leonard Bernstein! He was sent as a young boy to the Paris Conservatoire to study music but was rejected because 'you are an American, you should be building railway engines'! However, he remained in Paris, making a fortune. On return to the USA, he spent the rest of his short life travelling and giving concerts. He toured around Latin America and the Caribbean and was a sensation wherever he went. He was even engaged by P. T. Barnum and his troupe to give monster concerts with up to 20 pianists all playing at the same time!

Herbie's career has been in technology, having worked for IBM for 24 years as an engineer, instructor and technical author; he then became an independent IT consultant. He has a passion for classical music -- especially exploring lesser-known composers and works -- and gives monthly music appreciation talks at Kenton U3A. He is a regular guest speaker at the London Summer School and at various social groups.

Register here

March Monday 4th

17.30-18.30 Log on from 17.00

Terry Lloyd: The Shaping of Eastern Europe

The eastern fringes of Europe (roughly, the satellites of the former Soviet Union and western Russia) continue to create flashpoints for political tensions. The presentation looks in outline at how geography, ethnicity and dynastic and imperial ambitions collided to create this situation.

Terry was a career Civil Servant but was able, to indulge his enthusiasm for history by gaining a teaching qualification in adult education. He taught evening classes at Westminster Adult Education Service for over 25 years and after retirement, taught at Enfield Workers' Educational Association for 5 years. He has given talks at the City Lit, as well as for Holiday Fellowship and historical societies. His lifelong interest in politics, particularly international relations, continues. He is the co-author of "Worlds of Arthur" which looks at the figure of Arthurian legend in history, folklore & literature.

Register here