

## LIST OF RECOMMENDED SPEAKERS AVAILABLE IN THE LONDON AREA

Compiled for the use of the U3A London Region

### **PLEASE PASS THIS LIST ON TO YOUR SPEAKERS' SECRETARY**

*There are contact details of some kind for all the speakers in this list,  
along with any other information that has been passed to me.*

*If the information, such as cost, isn't there, I haven't got it –  
you'll have to investigate it yourself – and it may have gone up since the item was added.  
This list is intended as a starting point, not a complete service! JL*

**Please Note that that 'Free' means the talk is free – there will often be expenses eg travel, handouts, to be paid. This applies to all speakers, including U3A members.**

**Starred names\* are U3A members      List at end for those known to use Zoom**

### **ART & ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN**

#### **Sylvia Keith**

**Copped Hall near Epping**- a talk about its history, how it burnt out in the 1920s and how a charitable trust has been formed to restore it to its former glory.

01992 815 840

The Willows, Sidney Rd, Theydon Bois, Essex CM16 7DT

**NB** Sylvia only speaks in the daytime and will only travel 30 miles from home

#### **Mark Lewis**

**The Colourful History of Watercolour Painting** - An appraisal of a painting tradition that spans the chronicles of history, from the work of the Chinese masters to the 'Golden Age' of watercolour landscapes during mid-18th to the mid-19th Century.

**Some Notable Watercolourists of the Twentieth Century** - Follows on from above

020 8504 5840

[www.talksfirst.info](http://www.talksfirst.info)

#### **Colin Lomas**

**The Impressionists versus the Pre-Raphaelites**

**Charles Rennie Mackintosh - the fallen genius**      other titles available

07909 896541

[colinlomas83@gmail.com](mailto:colinlomas83@gmail.com)

[colin.lomas@wlc.ac.uk](mailto:colin.lomas@wlc.ac.uk)

(think these are the same person? but different email addresses supplied)

**Fee £100**

#### **Graham Taylor\***

**London's Finest Painters**

**Art Transformed;** from elite patronage to public participation

[taylor447@btinternet.com](mailto:taylor447@btinternet.com)

Member of Bromley U3A

### **BUSINESS, LAW & CRIME**

#### **Russell Bowes**

**Say it with Poison**

0208 850 2395

[russbowes@supanet.com](mailto:russbowes@supanet.com)

#### **Peter Cox\***

**The John Lewis Partnership story.** How to create an ethical business.

[coxpetern@gmail.com](mailto:coxpetern@gmail.com)

Member of N.London U3A

see also under Music

### Chris Dingley

#### Tax, Care and Toyboys

Director of Collective Legal Solutions

[enquiries5@collectivelegalsolutions.co.uk](mailto:enquiries5@collectivelegalsolutions.co.uk)

### Chris Lowe

#### After the BBC - Magistrate

07974 916733

No fee or expenses

### Tracy Mackness

#### From Crime to Success

[thegiggypigco@btinternet.com](mailto:thegiggypigco@btinternet.com) [No reply to email at last check, Jan 20]

### Pauline Martindale, ex-prison officer

0208 531 6784 07888 533240

### Steve Roberts, ex-detective

01883 723229

### Chris Truran

#### Forensics

0208 888 9696

[chris.truran@virgin.net](mailto:chris.truran@virgin.net)

Fee £70

## **HEALTH, MEDICAL and FOOD**

### Mercy Ships [no name supplied]

01438 727800 12 Meadway Court, Stevenage, Herts, SG1 2EF

### Jill Barrett

#### Macular Society

Volunteer Speaker [jill.barrett@btinternet.com](mailto:jill.barrett@btinternet.com) [No reply to email at last check, Jan 20]

### Jo Livingston\*

#### Facing the World (living with Face Blindness, aka prosopagnosia)

01322 440539

[Jo\\_Livingston@hotmail.com](mailto:Jo_Livingston@hotmail.com)

Member of Bexley U3A

Free to U3As (expenses only), £40 other groups

Other titles available, see **HISTORY**

### John Pearson

#### Blessed are the Cheese Makers An excellent and very funny talk on an unusual subject

01895 676594 / 07770 834836

[john.pearson2@sky.com](mailto:john.pearson2@sky.com)

15 Rectory Lane, Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB10 8BS

Fee £80

### Bob Pedley\*

#### Medecins sans Frontieres

Speaker on behalf of the charity

[bobped@gmail.com](mailto:bobped@gmail.com)

Member of Slough U3A

Free talk

[No reply to email at last check, Jan 20]

### Rachael Stevens

#### Fighting the Most Common Cause of Blindness - Retinitis Pigmentosa

07769 878722

[rachaellouisestevens@gmail.com](mailto:rachaellouisestevens@gmail.com)

Based at Brixton, uses public transport

No fee but donation requested for RP charity

### Malcolm Wells

#### Dogs for the disabled

08456 580480

Canine Partners, Mill Lane, Heyshott, West Sussex GU29 0ED

## **HISTORY**

### **David Allen**

**Jack - A Ripping Yarn** The chilling story of Jack the Ripper with photos and archives  
**Blood, Guts and Gore** - Murder in Victorian England

David gives quite a few other talks on different subjects and is an excellent speaker.

07729 065580      [allen\\_david10@hotmail.com](mailto:allen_david10@hotmail.com)      Fee £140 + travel

### **Thomas Arms**

**The views of a long term American observer of things British.**

**Adventures as a diplomatic correspondent and foreign editor.**

**All about Trump! Where is he from? How did he get elected?**

[Tom.arms@lookaheadtv.com](mailto:Tom.arms@lookaheadtv.com)      Fee £100

### **David Burnell\***

**Smoke , Soot and Steam;** building & travelling on the world's first underground railway

**The Medici of the Underground;** commercial & industrial design by London Transport

[davidburnell031@hotmail.com](mailto:davidburnell031@hotmail.com)      Donation

### **Imogen Corrigan**

**Mediaeval History**

01303 240026      8 Claremont Road, Folkestone, Kent. CT20 1DQ

### **David Evans**

**London in the First World War** – effect of air raids, food shortages and the war effort.

**Fair Shares for All** - Rationing in Britain during and after the Second World War.

**When Fashion was on Ration.** Clothes rationing in Britain 1941 - 1949:

**Plus Full Supporting Programme** - the Heyday of Cinema going in Britain 1940s-50s

[evansdavid562@gmail.com](mailto:evansdavid562@gmail.com)      No fee in London

### **Michael Gilbert**

**Range of talks, mainly history, places of interest**

[magilbert@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:magilbert@blueyonder.co.uk)      0208 764 2995.      Fee negotiable

### **Ian Keable**

**The Vanishing Maid Servant** (the Elizabeth Canning story)      Other titles available

0207 263 0261      [ian@iankeable.co.uk](mailto:ian@iankeable.co.uk)      Fee negotiable

Very professional – really complicated graphics – and they worked every time!

### **Shirley Levy\***

**Dick Whittington's London;** life in the fourteenth century

**Bayeux Tapestry**      Other titles available

[shirleylevy@googlemail.com](mailto:shirleylevy@googlemail.com)      Member of U3A in London

London only, if near tube station

### **Jo Livingston\***

**Odd Corners of London**

**Do You Want to Write Your Life Story?**

**The Volunteer Fire Brigade**

**In for a Penny, In for a Pound**

Other titles available

01322 440539

[Jo\\_Livingston@hotmail.com](mailto:Jo_Livingston@hotmail.com)

Member of Bexley U3A

### **Martin Lloyd**

**Passports, Assassins, Traitors and Spies**

01227 454952      148 New Dover Road. Canterbury, Kent CT1 3EJ

### **Ian Porter**

#### **The Tudors and Shakespeare's London**

01622 718289

Other titles available

3 Medway Court, Aylesford, Kent, ME20 7QN

### **Mrs Louise Reed**

#### **"Meeting in person" famous women**

- extremely able and entertaining speaker – she 'meets' Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, Emmeline Pankhurst etc. which she does in costume with great humour.

01920 821401

Green End House, Braughing, Herts. SGH2PE.

Fee negotiable

### **Prof. Nigel Saul**

#### **Magna Carta**

Other historical talks available

[N.Saul@rhul.ac.uk](mailto:N.Saul@rhul.ac.uk)

No information given on fees

Recommended by Bury St Edmunds U3A

### **Richard Skelton**

#### **Principal Door Keeper of the House of Lords**

01737 353083 / 07724 608404

81 Upland Way, Epsom Downs, Surrey KT18 5SN

### **Barbara Stevens**

#### **Meet Charles & Emma Darwin & other Downe dwellers**

01959 533913 / 07811 2542413

George Apartments, Church Road, Farnborough, Kent BR6 7DB

Fee £80

### **Rosemary Swinfield**

#### **The Fashionable Face of the Restoration**

[www.rosemarieswinfield.com](http://www.rosemarieswinfield.com)

### **Richard Thomas**

#### **The Gunpowder Plot**

01992 466180

### **Kathleen Tyson**

#### **1066; the Norman Conquest**

[carmenandconquest@gmail.com](mailto:carmenandconquest@gmail.com)

Fee £50

### **Bob Wells**

**Thames History** - Artefacts from the Thames. Displays some of his finds.

[allthewells@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:allthewells@tiscali.co.uk)

Fee £50

[No reply to email at last check, Jan 20]

## **HUMOUR**

### **Martin Gurdon**

#### **Confessions of a motoring journalist**

[wing.wang2@btinternet.com](mailto:wing.wang2@btinternet.com)

#### **Sex, Death and Chickens**

Ashford, Kent

Fee £80

For a sample of the chickens, look at this link to YouTube and judge for yourself

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=XzmtALVTg0M](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XzmtALVTg0M)

### **Peter Jones**

#### **How to do Everything and be Happy**

01702 478281

[peter@peterjonesauthor.com](mailto:peter@peterjonesauthor.com)

#### **How I Met Kylie Minogue**

Fee £100 + travel

## Romy McCabe

**I Married the Vicar** – very entertaining talk, other titles available

01323 643731

[Romy@talktalk.net](mailto:Romy@talktalk.net)

94 Baldwin Ave, Eastbourne BN21 1UP

**NB** Only available in South London due to distance

Fee £100

## Mel Rees

**Various talks**, all very funny and very politically incorrect.

01252 314585

[mel.trouserpress@gmail.com](mailto:mel.trouserpress@gmail.com)

[www.trouser-press.biz](http://www.trouser-press.biz)

PO Box 139 Aldershot Hants GU12 5XR

Fee £100 including travel

**NB** retiring 31.12.21

## LITERATURE

### Bobbie Darbyshire

**Where do Novelists get their ideas from?** Wandsworth U3A member and prize winning author reveals how this happens from initial spark to realisation on the page.

[darbob8@gmail.com](mailto:darbob8@gmail.com)

Fee negotiable

### Jeanne Fullerton

**Historical Novelist**

An extremely able speaker about all aspects of her work.

[jean@jeanfullerton.com](mailto:jean@jeanfullerton.com)

[www.jeanfullerton.com](http://www.jeanfullerton.com)

£110 + travel at 35p/mile (from Bedford)

## MUSIC

### Peter Cox\*

**The Radio Ballads 1958-64** - the series that changed Radio.

Member of North London U3A. Spent career with John Lewis Partnership and has written books on the subjects of his talks. See *also* Business, Sport

[coxpetern@gmail.com](mailto:coxpetern@gmail.com) or through Gilbert & Sullivan Society website.

### Bernard Lockett

**The Musical Theatre of Gilbert & Sullivan**

author, speaker and broadcaster, and Trustee of international Gilbert & Sullivan Society.

Contact through the Gilbert & Sullivan Society website

01303 226050 / 07776 174295 10 Trinity Crescent, Folkestone, Kent CT30 2ET

### Derek Scott\*

**Various talks on Popular Culture, illustrated with music.**

Other titles, **Irving Berlin, Viennese Opera, the Enlightenment, Victorian Music Hall.**

020 7624 7494

Member of U3A in London

Free talk

## PHOTOGRAPHY

### Roger Mead\*

**Pioneers of Photography**, an illustrated talk on the people involved in the development of early photography. Designed to be of general interest as well as those who are interested in photography.

0208 852 1512

[rma@rogermeadassociates.co.uk](mailto:rma@rogermeadassociates.co.uk)

Member of SE London U3A Free talk

## **SCIENCE & NATURE**

### **Mike Black\***

**Life Sciences in London**  
The Seedy Side of Life  
A Natural History of Food  
020 8997 5503     [msblack@waitrose.com](mailto:msblack@waitrose.com)

**Getting to Grips with Genetic Modification**  
**Three Men and their Microscopes**  
**Science and our Food Sources**  
Member of Ealing U3A

### **Petra Cox**

**Crossness Engines Trust** – the story of Bazalgette's sewers  
[Petra.Cox@crossness.org.uk](mailto:Petra.Cox@crossness.org.uk)

£60 plus travel

### **Barbara Dalby**

**Beekeeping**  
01992 622645

### **Tony Dayan\***

**Filthy Food**; the early history of food adulteration  
**Wealth versus Health by Stealth**; public health in 19<sup>th</sup> century  
[a.dayan@toxic.u-net.com](mailto:a.dayan@toxic.u-net.com)     U3A member

### **Dr Celia Fisher**

**Tulipomania**     **Kew Gardens**  
020 8940 2194

### **Georgina Green**

**Plants in the Past**  
0208 500 6045

### **Paul Lister\***

**Butterflies**  
[paulflister@hotmail.com](mailto:paulflister@hotmail.com)     Member of Hackney U3A

### **John Naylor\***

**The Shock of the New**; the electrification of light  
[jcnaylor@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:jcnaylor@blueyonder.co.uk)     Member of Merton U3A  
[No reply to email at last check, Jan 20]

### **Lucas Rudge**

#### **Reptile Event**

[reptile.events@gmail.com](mailto:reptile.events@gmail.com)     [www.reptile-events.co.uk](http://www.reptile-events.co.uk)

He brings various specimens – maybe not everyone's taste but a very good speaker  
Based in Bromley – approx £70 south of river, £80 north, plus travel

**Caroline Smith**     (Natural History Museum)

#### **Meteorites**

[caroline.smith@nhm.ac.uk](mailto:caroline.smith@nhm.ac.uk)     Free – I think?

[No reply to email at last check, Jan 20]

**Barry Kaufmann Wright** ex Essex Police Wild Life Officer

#### **Various talks on wildlife**

01371 830836

£35 + expenses

'Pandemonium' Causeway End, Thaxted Road Wimbish, Saffron Walden, Essex CB10 2XP

## **TRAVEL & TRANSPORT**

### **Veronica Cecil**

**Experiences in the Congo**

[veronica.cecil@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:veronica.cecil@yahoo.co.uk)

Fee £60-£80

### **Camilla Nichol**

Antarctic Heritage Trust [Camilla@ukaht.org](mailto:Camilla@ukaht.org)

[www.ukaht.org](http://www.ukaht.org)

### **Richard Thomas**

**Waterways and Canals**

01992 466180

[thrifthouse@ntlworld.com](mailto:thrifthouse@ntlworld.com)

Will send a brochure.

Thrift House, 42 Admirals Walk, Hoddesdon, Herts. EN11 8AG.

£71 including expenses for the U3A he attended, might be different for elsewhere.

[No reply to email at last check, Jan 20]

### **Paul Whittle**

**Traveller Tales** - wide variety of talks, see website for details

01932 346549

[paul.whittle@tinyworld.co.uk](mailto:paul.whittle@tinyworld.co.uk)

[www.travellertales.net](http://www.travellertales.net)

8 Broadwater Close, Woking, Surrey

Fee negotiable but min £70 plus mileage

[No reply to email at last check, Jan 20]

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **Helen Costin**

**Wedding Customs**

0208 550 1692

### **J.W.Friend**

**Mystery of Playing Cards**

01923 227093

### **Antony Marr**

**Hatch, Match and Dispatch – a few lessons from Civil Registration**

07913 913047

[info@chalfontresearch.co.uk](mailto:info@chalfontresearch.co.uk)

[www.chalfontresearch.co.uk](http://www.chalfontresearch.co.uk)

Very entertaining talk – heard by U3A members at FFHS event

Fee negotiable

-----  
**Dr.Lee** is offering a wide variety of talks but has not so far been recommended by a U3A – if you can update this please contact me. For a list of his talks, contact him direct.

**Dr.Charles Lee** 07952 683682 [charlesleephotos@outlook.com](mailto:charlesleephotos@outlook.com)

He is based in Essex and **doesn't charge a fee.**

## **NOTES**

=====

*We've had an offer from the University of East London for their research students to come to U3As to give a talk. The format might be three speakers instead of one in the normal time slot and the subjects would be quite varied, based on a discussion as to what research was being carried out at the time. This may also appeal to interest groups, such as science.*

*If you'd like to know more, contact Tom Rusbridge at [t.rusbridge@uel.ac.uk](mailto:t.rusbridge@uel.ac.uk) or 020 8223 7955*

## Talks Online, using ZOOM

These are speakers who are willing to do talks on Zoom. They are not necessarily in the list above or recommended by a U3A. If they're not already on the above list, try googling them for more information.

**Annamaria Dall'Anese** Webinars by Blue Badge Guide [londonbbg@yahoo.com](mailto:londonbbg@yahoo.com)  
<https://www.guidelondon.org.uk/guides/annamariadallanese/>

**Patricia Gentry** - Registered Blue Badge Guide UK      Talks on Kew Gardens and other subjects  
[patricia@officiallondonguides.com](mailto:patricia@officiallondonguides.com)      07909 717259

**Jo Livingston** – see above under Health and History

**Jenny Mallin** A Grandmother's Legacy Email [jennymallin@yahoo.com](mailto:jennymallin@yahoo.com) for details

**Sophie Matthews** Music in Art Email [sophiebagpipes@gmail.com](mailto:sophiebagpipes@gmail.com) for details

**Roger Mead** – see above under Photography