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

Colin Lomas
The Impressionists versus the Pre-Raphaelites Charles Rennie Mackintosh - the fallen genius other titles available
07909 896541 colinlomas83@gmail.com 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 Member of Bromley U3A

BUSINESS, LAW & CRIME

Russell Bowes
Say it with Poison
0208 850 2395 russbowes@supanet.com

Peter Cox*
The John Lewis Partnership story. How to create an ethical business.
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**  
[thegigglypigco@btinternet.com](mailto:thegigglypigco@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)  
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**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  
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**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

Jo_Livingston@hotmail.com  
London U3A Speakers List  
2020
**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  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  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  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  No fee in London

**Michael Gilbert**

Range of talks, mainly history, places of interest

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  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

shirleyglevy@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  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
Other titles available
01622 718289
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
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 254213
George Apartments, Church Road, Farnborough, Kent BR6 7DB
Fee £80

Rosemary Swinfield
The Fashionable Face of the Restoration
www.rosemarieswinfield.com

Richard Thomas
The Gunpowder Plot
01992 466180

Kathleen Tyson
1066; the Norman Conquest
carmenandconquest@gmail.com
Fee £50

Bob Wells
Thames History - Artefacts from the Thames. Displays some of his finds.
allthewells@tiscali.co.uk
Fee £50
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Martin Gurdon
Confessions of a motoring journalist
Sex, Death and Chickens
wing.wang2@btinternet.com
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

Peter Jones
How to do Everything and be Happy
How I Met Kylie Minogue
01702 478281
peter@peterjonesauthor.com
Fee £100 + travel
**Romy McCabe**
I Married the Vicar – very entertaining talk, other titles available
01323 643731 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 www.trouser-press.biz
PO Box 139 Aldershot Hants GU12 5XR Fee £100 including travel
*NB retiring 31.12.21*

**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 Fee negotiable

**Jeanne Fullerton**
Historical Novelist An extremely able speaker about all aspects of her work.
jean@jeanfullerton.com 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 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 Member of SE London U3A Free talk
**SCIENCE & NATURE**

**Mike Black**
Life Sciences in London  
Getting to Grips with Genetic Modification  
The Seedy Side of Life  
Three Men and their Microscopes  
A Natural History of Food  
Science and our Food Sources  
020 8997 5503  
msblack@waitrose.com  
Member of Ealing U3A

**Petra Cox**
Crossness Engines Trust – the story of Bazalgette’s sewers  
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 19th century  
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**
Beekeeping  
paulflister@hotmail.com  
Member of Hackney U3A

**John Naylor**
The Shock of the New; the electrification of light  
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  
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**
Meteorites  
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 Fee £60-£80

Camilla Nichol
Antarctic Heritage Trust Camilla@ukaht.org www.ukaht.org

Richard Thomas
Waterways and Canals
01992 466180 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.
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Paul Whittle
Traveller Tales - wide variety of talks, see website for details
01932 346549 paul.whittle@tinyworld.co.uk www.travellertales.net
8 Broadwater Close, Woking, Surrey Fee negotiable but min £70 plus mileage
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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 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
He is based in Essex and doesn’t charge a fee.

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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 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  
https://www.guidelondon.org.uk/guides/annamariadallanese/

Patricia Gentry - Registered Blue Badge Guide UK  Talks on Kew Gardens and other subjects  patricia@officiallondonguides.com  07909 717259

Jo Livingston – see above under Health and History

Jenny Mallin  A Grandmother’s Legacy  Email jennymallin@yahoo.com  for details

Sophie Matthews  Music in Art  Email sophiebagpipes@gmail.com  for details

Roger Mead – see above under Photography