

**STOUR VALLEY U3A**  
**2020 SPEAKER PROGRAMME**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>SPEAKER</b>
8th January	<b>THE MYSTERIES OF EASTER ISLAND</b> An illustrated talk in which the speaker looks at life on this remote island today & explores its unique history revolving mainly around the famous statues & some of the theories surrounding them.	<b>Chris Parfitt</b> Retired teacher
12th February	<b>THE LIFE &amp; TIMES OF AN ESSEX BAD GIRL From Prison to a Successful Brand!</b> The story of how the speaker managed to change the direction her life into being a pig farmer and successful sausage producer	<b>Tracy Mackness</b> The Giggly Pig Co.
11th March	<b>BEES AND FLOWERS &amp; the contest between them to gain benefits from the relationship</b> The bee-flower relationship is vital to both bees (for food) & to many plants (for pollination). It is important to us, too, as without it one third of our food (most of the interesting things) couldn't set seed.	<b>Jeremy Quinlan</b> Master Beekeeper
8th April	<b>COLCHESTER ROMAN CIRCUS &amp; THE FENWICK TREASURE</b>	<b>Philip Crummy</b> Director & Principal Archaeologist, Colchester Archaeological Trust
13th May	<b>TO THE HAMMER BORN Confessions of an Occasional Auctioneer</b> Auctioneer & online dealer in antiques & collectables, Stephen recounts the history of auctions, where every object tells a story, & shows how the trade is rather different from its portrayal on TV programmes. A fun quiz element invites audience members to identify unusual objects & guess the value of other items.	<b>Stephen Poulter</b> Auctioneer & antique dealer.
10th June	<b>THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION &amp; ASTRONOMY</b> Visit the International Space Station & be back in time for tea! What does happen on board the Space Station? Learn how it is integral to our future. Space & the Solar System are explored. Hear about Tim Peake's experiences.	<b>Deborah Ball</b> CEO, The Kinetic Science Foundation
8th July.	<b>BERLIN : WALKING THROUGH HISTORY</b> An illustrated presentation covering a long period of dramatic modern history from the Treaty of Versailles until present times, including both the Fascist and Communist eras.	<b>Gerald Jenkins</b> Traveller & walker
12th August	<b>TWO KINDS OF TEARDROPS Roy Orbison and Del Shannon</b> A previously untold story spanning 5 decades of some of the most dynamic songs of joy & pain in the history of popular music. Mike's talk, with a digitally displayed presentation, gives a musical narrative from the golden age of the 60's & the legacy left by these two iconic pop artists.	<b>Mike Grillo</b> Songwriter/teacher

9th September

**NEPAL – ITS MOUNTAINS & MEN**

The history of the country and some interesting personalities, including Sir Edmund Hillary & Sherpa Tenzing, with the conquest of Everest, not forgetting the Ghurkas & their role in our history.

**Paula Short**

Writer & journalist

14th October

**‘A CANDLE IN THE DARK’**

The historic facts behind the events of 1645 when Matthew Hopkins brought his accusations against the ‘witches’ of Manningtree.

**Jan Williams**

Historian, author & story teller

11th November

**TRAVELS OF A BOTANICAL ARTIST – RECORDING  
RARE FLOWERS**

**How the Artist Works in Situ**

An illustrated talk by a botanical artist who paints rare flowers in various parts of the world, from Kazakhstan, to Africa, to the Alps. Reinhild’s work includes endangered species in the UK.

**Reinhild Raistrick**

Member of the Society  
of Botanical Artists