

Huntingdon & Peterborough FWI



# SPEAKERS YEARBOOK 2026



theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN

# Charity Number: 1178059

Affiliated to NFWI

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Huntingdon and Peterborough Federation of WIs

## Office Hours:

Tuesday – Wednesday – Thursday - 9am – 1pm

# Speakers Yearbook 2026

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## PROGRAMME PLANNING

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WIs are encouraged to plan a varied and enjoyable programme for their members. This works best when members are asked what they would like to see at monthly meetings. Ideas can be gathered in different ways, helping committees to put together a programme that reflects a wide range of interests. The aims and objects of the WI can be used as a helpful guide when planning meetings to ensure a good balance of topics. Alongside regular meetings, most WIs offer additional activities for members to enjoy, and there are also opportunities to take part in Federation and National events. All speakers listed in the Yearbook have been approved through the Federation's audition process and offer a broad range of subjects.

Don't be afraid of trying something new & remember, a WI with a dull programme cannot expect to gain new members or even keep their present ones!

## THE SPEAKER

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### Booking the Speaker:

After initial contact (by phone, email or post) it is a good idea to confirm in writing (email or letter) the exact details of the booking and the meeting they are to attend. This should include time, place, fee and add that they should bring whatever equipment they need to give their talk, demonstration or entertainment. If you are able to provide any amenities i.e. stage, screen, extension cable, blank wall, table/chair, make sure the speaker is aware of this on the form and ask for confirmation of what they would like provided. Speaker's fees and mileage are correct for the year in which the Yearbook is produced.

Please remember that all bookings made by telephone should be confirmed in writing.

Speakers Booking Template available to download via <https://hpfwi.org.uk/downloads/>

Speakers fees and travel expenses should be agreed beforehand and the length of the talk. Speakers fees and expenses should always be paid at the meeting either by bank transfer or cheque – payable to them personally and NOT a national charity.

Where possible, please use local talent – especially during winter months. Keep a look out in the local press for ideas.

### Before the Meeting:

Remember to confirm in the month before your meeting that the speaker is coming, and all the necessary arrangements are in place. Check again that they will be bringing all the equipment they need to give their talk, demonstration or entertainment as per your booking form. Provide directions to the Speaker and a postcode of the venue for SatNav. It is often difficult to find the way to a hall on dark winters evenings – a clear map is very useful.

### Looking after the Speaker:

Please factor this into your meeting planning. Check requirements such as parking/ public transport/ timings/ payment etc. and ensure a member is assigned to look after the speaker for the entire time they are at your meeting. Do not keep the Speaker waiting, if they arrive promptly. If necessary, the remainder of the business could be postponed until the end of the talk.

Please ensure that adequate table space and any requested equipment is made available before the start of the meeting.

### After the Meeting:

The only way we can monitor the quality of our speakers is by WIs submitting a confidential report about the speaker after their meeting. These can be posted or emailed and are available from the SFWI office or the website to download, Document Library | Surrey Federation of Women's Institutes

### GDPR:

The Federation has agreed with these Speakers that the information contained in the Speakers Handbook is for the use of Huntingdon &

Peterborough FWI, please do not pass the information onto anyone else. In accordance with GDPR, please ensure all earlier editions are destroyed.

### Forms for booking/invoicing Speaker:

These are all available on the HPFWI website for you to use/edit as required.

### Other Programme ideas:

Don't stick to the same routine - change things around from time to time. Do encourage new members to help plan the programme. Be inventive and use your members' talents and skills. Encourage members to participate in Group, Federation and National events by including details on your printed programme. Try to arrange events between the meetings, like rambles, games evenings, theatre and cinema outings, discussion groups etc., and include them all on your programme.

### Zoom Meetings:

Zoom is a video conferencing platform, which enables you to video call people as well as join and take part in meetings in small or large groups, all from the comfort of your own home. The software can be used on your laptop, iPad or phone and is safe and secure to use. If you would like more information or help on how to use Zoom, please contact the office via email [info@surreyfedwi.org.uk](mailto:info@surreyfedwi.org.uk) who can provide you with guidance.

### REMEMBER:

Your programme is your calling card and should advertise all the events that you are able to offer members.

## CATEGORIES

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1	<a href="#">AUTHOR / LITERATURE</a>	<a href="#">Elizabeth Dive</a> / <a href="#">Patrick MacDonald</a> / <a href="#">Malcolm Busby</a> / <a href="#">Gill Perry</a> / <a href="#">Roger Leivers</a> / <a href="#">Mike Heath</a>
2	<a href="#">CHARITY / FUNDRAISING / VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION</a>	<a href="#">Angels Foundation</a> <a href="#">Dementia Friends</a> / <a href="#">Magpas</a> <a href="#">Mary's Meals</a> / <a href="#">RNLI</a> / <a href="#">Lourdes Pilgrimage</a> / <a href="#">Sue Ryder</a> / <a href="#">Kids in Kenya</a>
3	<a href="#">CRAFTS</a>	<a href="#">Origami</a> <a href="#">Christmas Dabble Evening</a> <a href="#">Rip &amp; Burn Fabric</a> <a href="#">Bees to Candles</a> / <a href="#">Pat King</a>
4	<a href="#">CRIME, LAW &amp; FINANCIAL</a>	<a href="#">Neal Thomas</a> / <a href="#">Dorset &amp; White</a> / <a href="#">Silvertime Legal</a>
5	<a href="#">ENTERTAINMENT</a>	<a href="#">David Bale</a> / <a href="#">Neal Thomas</a> / <a href="#">Stephen Brown</a> / <a href="#">Gill Perry</a> / <a href="#">Fun Quiz</a>
6	<a href="#">FASHION</a>	<a href="#">Jackie Allen</a> / <a href="#">Gill Perry</a>
7	<a href="#">GARDENING</a>	<a href="#">Neil Callan</a> / <a href="#">Joseph Bagley</a>
8	<a href="#">GENERAL INTEREST</a>	<a href="#">Silver Talks</a> / <a href="#">The Home Sorter</a>
9	<a href="#">HEALTH &amp; FITNESS</a>	<a href="#">Circles of Sound</a> <a href="#">Accentuate Solutions</a> / <a href="#">Hypnotherapy</a>
10	<a href="#">HISTORY &amp; ARCHEOLOGY</a>	<a href="#">Family Connections</a> / <a href="#">Don Chiswell</a> / <a href="#">Nicola Sandall</a> / <a href="#">Roger Leivers</a>
11	<a href="#">NATURE</a>	<a href="#">Zoonique Adventures</a>
12	<a href="#">RADIO, TV, FILM &amp; THEATRE</a>	<a href="#">Elizabeth Dive</a>
13	<a href="#">SCIENCE</a>	<a href="#">Pat King</a>
14	<a href="#">TRAVEL</a>	<a href="#">Rebecca Treston</a>

## SPEAKERS LIST

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Speakers are reminded that they should be prepared to provide all the equipment necessary to give their talk, demonstration or entertainment. It is not the responsibility of the WIs.

## AUTHOR / LITERATURE

<b>SHAKESPEARE GROUPIE</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Mrs Elizabeth Dive		
<b>Location:</b>	Perry	<b>FEES</b>	£60.00
<b>Tel:</b>	07843 989940	<b>Mileage:</b>	None
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:lizdive@icloud.com">lizdive@icloud.com</a>		
<b>Website:</b>	None		
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>TALK ONE – SHAKESPEARE GROUPIE</b>		
<p>I've seen all of Shakespeare's 37 (or is it 38 or maybe 39 ...) plays over the last 40 years. All on stage and mostly multiple times, with many of the greats from Dench to Walters, Gielgud and Jacobi, Sheen and Tennant and Rylance.</p> <p>Many were fabulous, many were dire, all were memorable.</p> <p>So, I'd love to share some anecdotes about the drying, the corpsing, the mishaps, and the shenanigans - and a few examples of pure genius which I've witnessed in that time.</p> <p>No equipment needed, just a lively talk by a Shakespeare Groupie ... and you don't even have to like him to enjoy it!</p>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>TALK TWO – SHAKESPEARE GROUPIE REVISITED -ENCORE!</b>		
<p>This is the rest of the Groupie talk. If you've had me to be a Groupie, then why not re-invite me for the rest of the stories ...</p>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>TALK THREE – SHAKESPEARE GENIUS ALERT</b>		
<p>The life and theatrical times of the Bard himself - Master William Shakespeare. From his birth in Stratford-upon-Avon up to and including his time as a successful playwright in London.</p> <p>No equipment needed as I'll bring pictures to hand round and a model of an Elizabethan theatre.</p> <p>And if we have time we'll finish off with a lively exchange of Shakespearean insults ... you never know, you might find a few of them quite handy!</p>			

THE CRAFT OF WRITING			
<b>Contact:</b>	Patrick MacDonald		
<b>Location:</b>	Godmanchester	<b>FEES</b>	£40.00
<b>Tel:</b>	07977 229079	<b>Mileage:</b>	Not stated
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:patrickdermotmacdonald@gmail.com">patrickdermotmacdonald@gmail.com</a>		
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.patrickmacdonald.online">www.patrickmacdonald.online</a>		
AVAILABILITY			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	None		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Talk by a local author on the craft of writing</b>		
<p>I live in Godmanchester and have written three novels, the most recent of which is a psychological thriller called <i>The Invitation</i>. Set in and around Cambridge it draws its inspiration from the gravestone of Mary Anne Weems in the graveyard of the local church, St Mary's, in Godmanchester. The main protagonist is a woman, Claire Evans, who is a forensic pathologist. Coming home one night after a tiring day at work she finds a hand delivered card inviting her to her own funeral...</p> <p>I can also talk about my previous novel which is a work of historical fiction and is based on the Irish famine. I have a particular interest in this as both my parents are Irish and my mum grew up on a farm in Cairns, near Sligo. The novel is called <i>Darkness Falling</i> and a brief synopsis is as below:</p> <p><b>‘From 1845-1847 the British government reshaped Irish society, with disastrous results. Ultimately, a million lives would be destroyed, and another million people would flee.</b></p> <p>These are two stories of those lives.</p> <p>A woman cursed by a priest stands alone on a clifftop trying to summon up the courage to jump.</p> <p>Her brother stands accused of murder and rebellion against the state. Accompanied by a troop of soldiers, a landlord destroys the homes of his tenants leaving them to die on the hillsides.’</p> <p>My first novel, <i>The Reckoning</i>, is also a psychological thriller and, if invited to speak, I can say more about this at the particular meetings.</p> <p>I can also talk about the craft of writing itself.</p>			

<b>TALES WITH MALCOLM BUSBY</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Malcolm Busby		
<b>Location:</b>	Cambridge	<b>FEES</b>	£45.00
<b>Tel:</b>	07551 431801	<b>Mileage:</b>	£0.25 pm
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:storyteller@malcolmbusby.co.uk">storyteller@malcolmbusby.co.uk</a>		
<b>Website:</b>			
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	Small screen and small table		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Tales with Malcolm Busby</b>		
<p>I am a storyteller, a teller of stories who has been telling stories to WI's for over 20 years.</p> <p>These days I also include a folk song or two if appropriate to the theme and also have a few simple magic tricks as well.</p> <p>Story themes include Ghostly Stories (none too scary but a variety to show the range of stories) (mind if a group wanted scarier stories it can be done). Folk Tales of the Fenland or Cambridgeshire or East Anglia, and if you have heard a set before and want to rebook I do keep a log of stories told to groups to avoid telling the same again. Willing to adapt to different story themes.</p> <p>Tales of Country Folk / Animal Tales</p>			

<b>THE LIFE AND SURPRISING GLOBAL LEGACY OF ANNE FRANK</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Gillian Perry MBE		
<b>Location:</b>	London	<b>FEES</b>	£150
<b>Tel:</b>	07770 747374	<b>Mileage:</b>	Train fee from London
<b>Email:</b>	gillianwalnesperry@gmail.com		
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.annefranklegacy.com">www.annefranklegacy.com</a>		
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	Projector and screen for slideshow		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Tea Anyone? The Social History of English Afternoon Tea</b>		
<p>Gillian takes the story of Anne’s life through her family background in Frankfurt, the family's desperate flight to Amsterdam, Anne’s emerging personality as a popular and irreverent school girl, her desperation in hiding, Anne's physical and emotional transition into an adolescent and her developing moral framework, which has proved to be an inspiration to millions.</p> <p>Having worked with the story of Anne Frank for more than 30 years as Co-Founder and CEO of the Anne Frank Trust UK, Gillian has a unique insight into Anne's life and times. She has had the great privilege of meeting people who knew Anne Frank and who have shared their personal memories, as well as hundreds of Holocaust survivors who had parallel experiences to those of Anne Frank.</p>			

<b>ROGER LEIVERS</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Roger Leivers		
<b>Location:</b>	Godmanchester	<b>FEES</b>	£50
<b>Tel:</b>	07926 329970	<b>Mileage:</b>	-
<b>Email:</b>	rogerleivers@yahoo.co.uk		
<b>Website:</b>			
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	Projector and Screen		
<b>Title</b>	<b>The Godmanchester Stirling</b>		
<p>The subject of my first book 'Stirling to Essen,' which has now sold over 3,500 copies worldwide and into its third reprint. The true story of a XV Squadron Short Stirling bomber crew out of RAF Alconbury who crashed close to Godmanchester in April 1942. It tells their story, learn about the raids they went on, the crashes and close calls and what became of them. Who did fate save and who did she cast aside.</p>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>House of Spies</b>		
<p>How Farm Hall in Godmanchester became a vital link between SOE/IS HQ in London St James and RAF Tempsford. Who ran it, who passed through it on the way to occupied Europe, a canine warrior, the German Nuclear Scientists incarcerated there and one of the most amazing wartime survival stories, worthy of a film any day. This talk comes from my second book, 'Godmanchester at War.'</p>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Godmanchester at War</b>		
<p>Our towns amazing wartime history outside of the Farm Hall story. Children and evacuee memories, a long lost story, the story of our fallen, tales of the ARP and Dads Army, invasion planning and local politics, a fascinating insight into what life was like in most small towns during the war.</p>			

<b>Title</b>	<b>Searching for Lotte</b>
<p>She made an emotional appearance in my first book, but since then her story, and that of her family, has expanded to become a talk in its own right. The true holocaust story is full of both hope and despair. You will find how she was found and then the twists and turns of life for the family in Theresienstadt, and for some, Auschwitz.</p>	
<b>Title</b>	<b>Father and Son</b>
<p>The life of William Rhodes Moorhouse, the first airman to be awarded the Victoria Cross for bravery during the Great War, and his son, 'Willy,' who flew during the Battle of Britain. Both remarkable men and heroes of the nation, although there are some dark corners in Williams story. Make up your own mind at the end! He divides opinion!</p>	
<b>Title</b>	<b>When Brits go bad</b>
<p>Bull Dog spirit? Not for these scoundrels. Wartime brought out the worst in people. Looting, gangs, prostitution, serial killers, murderers, spies, and traitors. Its all here. Be warned, its not for the faint hearted!</p>	
<b>Title</b>	<b>Dachau, 80 Years on!</b>

<b>MIKE HEATH</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Mike Heath		
<b>Location:</b>	Peterborough	<b>FEES</b>	£40.00
<b>Tel:</b>	01733 705060	<b>Mileage:</b>	-
<b>Email:</b>	mikensas@hotmail.co.uk		
<b>Website:</b>			
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	Projector and Screen for Powerpoint presentation		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Annie Williams: The Last of a Fenland Dynasty</b>		
<p>This talk is based on social history and biography.</p> <p>Annie Williams was the last of a family which dated back to the time of Charles II (over 300 years ago) which oversaw the Borough Fen Decoy which later changed to the Peakirk Wildlife Trust. She lived from 1890 till 1986 and saw many changes in society during her life. She led an extraordinary life for someone who lived virtually in the middle of nowhere.</p> <p>The talk/presentation covers her life on the farm, at the decoy, how the decoy operated, her schooling, as a nurse in World War One. Her wedding and honeymoon, her many visits to London to see plays and films, her meeting with a number of famous people, particularly Sir Peter Scott (son of Scott of the Antarctic) the renowned naturalist and painter who introduced her to painting which she excelled at, her role during World War Two and the Great Floods of 1947, and finally, her life at the Wildfowl Trust at Peakirk.</p> <p>This is based on the book available from Amazon <a href="#">Amazon-LifeTimesAnnieWilliams</a></p> <p>I will have a number of books for sale at a reduced price for anyone wishing to purchase.</p>			

## CHARITY / FUNDRAISING / VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION

<b>(THE) ANGELS FOUNDATION UK</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Caroline Deeprise		
<b>Location:</b>	St Ives	<b>FEES</b>	£70.00
<b>Tel:</b>	01480 271771	<b>Mileage:</b>	£0.45 pm
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:support@angelsfoundation.org.uk">support@angelsfoundation.org.uk</a>		
<b>Website:</b>			
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	Screen with HDMI connection if possible		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Supporting Families Who Have Fled Domestic Abuse</b>		
<p>The Angels Foundation UK is a Huntingdonshire-based charity dedicated to supporting survivors of domestic abuse and their families, helping them rebuild their lives both practically and emotionally. Our main activities focus on breaking the cycle of abuse and empowering survivors to live safe, independent lives free from fear.</p> <p>Our flagship ‘Back to Life Support’ project addresses the critical lack of resources faced by survivors transitioning into permanent housing. Many survivors arrive at new homes with nothing, and our packages provide essential items such as furniture, flooring, and white goods. This practical support is vital in creating a safe, comfortable home environment where survivors and their children can begin to heal.</p> <p>Additionally, we offer specialist counselling and therapy services, designed to help survivors process trauma, rebuild self-esteem, and establish healthy relationships. Recognising the impact of abuse on children, we ensure support is available for all family members, helping to break intergenerational cycles of abuse.</p> <p>Engagement with our services varies based on individual needs. Survivors receiving counselling typically access a minimum of 12 sessions, while practical support through the ‘Back to Life’ programme provides immediate relief as they transition into permanent accommodation. Our ongoing activities, such as the Angels Walk and Talks, offer long-term community support and opportunities for survivors to build connections, fostering social inclusion and resilience.</p>			

Each survivor’s journey is unique, and our trauma-informed approach ensures support is tailored to their circumstances. By addressing practical, emotional, and psychological barriers, we empower survivors to overcome the challenges they face. For example, providing basic household items reduces the risk of women returning to abusive relationships due to financial hardship or lack of stability. Counselling services help survivors rebuild confidence and develop coping strategies, while community activities promote integration and reduce isolation.

We are committed to working collaboratively with local organisations to ensure holistic support. Our partnerships enable us to identify survivors at the most vulnerable points of their journey, provide appropriate interventions, and deliver effective follow-up care. Feedback from domestic abuse professionals highlights the value of our services in reducing return rates to perpetrators, preventing furniture poverty, and creating stable home environments.

Since 2020, our ‘Back to Life’ project has supported over 500 survivors and their families, with none returning to their abuser. Our charity is credited with saving lives, fostering independence, and creating opportunities for positive futures.

<b>DEMENTIA FRIENDS INFORMATION SESSION</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Heather Hooper		
<b>Location:</b>	Werrington	<b>FEES</b>	Donation
<b>Tel:</b>	07816 521081	<b>Mileage:</b>	-
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:Heather.Hooper@volunteers-alzheimers.org.uk">Heather.Hooper@volunteers-alzheimers.org.uk</a>		
<b>Website:</b>			
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	Small table to work from		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Dementia Information Session</b>		
<p>The Dementia Friends Information Session is a one hour FREE presentation. Non medical. Raising Awareness of dementia. Through discussion and activities you will learn a little more about dementia, what it may feel like to have dementia and how best we can support those with lived dementia.</p>			
<p>Prefer not to travel outside Peterborough area during dark Winter months</p>			

<b>MAGPAS AIR AMBULANCE</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Mrs Emma Saunders		
<b>Location:</b>	Alconbury Weald	<b>FEES</b>	Donation
<b>Tel:</b>	01480 371060 (Option 1)	<b>Mileage:</b>	None
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:fundraising@magpas.org.uk">fundraising@magpas.org.uk</a>		
<b>Website:</b>			
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Behind the Scenes with the MAPGAS Air Ambulance</b>		
<p>Take a look behind the scenes of Magpas Air Ambulance, a charity delivering critical lifesaving care to the counties of Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire and beyond for over 54 years. Hear what it takes to make an air ambulance available 24/7, the teams behind the operation, the care we provide and how it all comes together with your help.</p>			

<b>MARY'S MEALS</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Jane Wright		
<b>Location:</b>		<b>FEES</b>	FREE / Donation
<b>Tel:</b>	0739 5798196	<b>Mileage:</b>	-
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:jane.wright@marysmeals.org">jane.wright@marysmeals.org</a>		
<b>Website:</b>			
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	Preferably access to a screen / projector / speakers to show presentation. I can provide my own laptop & projector.		
<b>Title</b>	<b>MARY'S MEALS – THE STORY SO FAR</b>		
<p>Mary's Meals was inspired by the words of a child back in 2002. We started by feeding just 200 children in Malawi a daily meal in their place of education, and now we feed over 3 million children in 16 countries.</p> <p>Our story begins in 1992 in the village of Dalmally in Scotland when 2 brothers were having a pint in their local pub. Our global headquarters is still the small shed that was used as storage on their father's farm.</p> <p>This presentation tells you the story of Mary's Meals from its humble beginnings to now being a global charity helping children and their communities build a ladder out of poverty.</p> <p>Our talks have been described as – inspiring, thought-provoking, moving and interesting.</p>			

<b>RNLI</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Katie Hunt		
<b>Location:</b>	Wisbech	<b>FEES</b>	Donation
<b>Tel:</b>	07799 907259	<b>Mileage:</b>	£0.40 pm
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:katie.hunt60@btinternet.com">katie.hunt60@btinternet.com</a>		
<b>Website::</b>	<a href="#">RNLI Peterborough Branch</a>		
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	<del>School Holidays only</del>
<b>Equipment:</b>	Speaker will bring a laptop and projector. If a screen could be provided, it would be helpful.		
<b>Donation. Speaker would like to bring a collection tin for donations on the day</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>The History and Work of the RNLI</b>		
The talk covers some of the history of the RNLI and the work that is currently being undertaken around the country.			

<b>SUE RYDER HOSPICE – Thorpe Hall Hospice</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Morgan Hicks		
<b>Location:</b>	Longthorpe	<b>FEES</b>	£0.00
<b>Tel:</b>	07816 062090	<b>Mileage:</b>	£0.00
<b>Email:</b>	Morgan.hicks@sueryder.org		
<b>Website::</b>			
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	Screen if possible		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Work of Sue Ryder Thorpe Hall Hospice</b>		
<p>Happy to come and talk about the up to date work if Sue Ryder, within local footprint of Thorpe Hall. Can include the history of Lady Ryder and the Building of Thorpe Hall itself, as this is often of interest to local groups.</p> <p>Talk about what happens within a hospice, our capacity, our need for funding and answer any questions people may have.</p> <p>Also cover bereavement support that Sue Ryder offers to anyone on a national scale so people know what services are available to them during death and bereavement.</p>			

<b>MY EXPERIENCE AS A VOLUNTEER NURSE IN LOURDES</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Diane Manian		
<b>Location:</b>	Cambridge	<b>FEES</b>	£40-50
<b>Tel:</b>	07903 293112	<b>Mileage:</b>	Non stated
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:diane.manian2@gmail.com">diane.manian2@gmail.com</a>		
<b>Website:</b>			
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	Projector with HDMI connection and screen		
<b>Title</b>	<b>My experience as a volunteer nurse in Lourdes with Raphael Pilgrimage</b>		
<p>As a volunteer registered Nurse with the Raphael Pilgrimage to Lourdes we undertake Nursing care to the sick pilgrims who require help with any aspect of care. Sometimes it all nursing care, feeding tubes and medication, sometimes it's a hand to hold and give reassurance.</p> <p>The 7 days are long and varied, my role starts when we get to the airport ready to fly and finishes when all the sick pilgrims are safely on their onward journey home. With everything in between!</p> <p>It is a pilgrimage / holiday for the sick who would not be able to travel without our care and spiritual support.</p> <p>The sick often seek healing and upliftment, friendship in with our 'Raphael family'</p> <p>I am a small cog in the wheel of other volunteers of Doctor, Nurses, health carers, Clergy, wheelchair pushers (Brancardiers) and youth who work as a team to enable to pilgrim to receive comfort and support. The time is fun with in-house entertainment as well as the spiritual aspect of being in Lourdes.</p> <p><b>Travel expenses: Depends on distance. Tea and cake would be appreciated!</b></p>			

<b>EMPOWERING KIDS IN KENYA</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Sally Searle		
<b>Location:</b>	Cople, Bedford	<b>FEES</b>	Donation
<b>Tel:</b>	07851 711622	<b>Mileage:</b>	Donation
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:Morgan.hicks@sueryder.org">Morgan.hicks@sueryder.org</a>		
<b>Website::</b>	<a href="http://www.empoweringkidsinkeny.org">www.empoweringkidsinkeny.org</a>		
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	All equipment provided		
<b>Title</b>	<b>The Joys (and headaches) of running a free school for kids in Kenya</b>		
<p>Empowering Kids in Kenya wholly owns The Bombolulu Educational Centre in Mombasa, Kenya.</p> <p>It is a secondary school exclusively for the benefit of children from the most extreme poverty and it is completely free – teachers, books, uniforms, food and everything else that is needed. Not a single child would be able to attend a government school as they charge fees that these families simply cannot afford.</p> <p>In Kenya, girls are considered secondary citizens to boys. This school sets out to give female pupils exactly the same opportunities and its male pupils. Most of our girls have been exposed to gender-based violence, either to themselves directly or to female members of their family or community. We opened a safehouse for our most abused or at-risk girls. Currently there are 9 in this special family unit. Here, they are loved and feel safe. They have a great housemother and a new family of girls from similar backgrounds. Against all the odds, these girls are now thriving and academic performance has improved markedly.</p> <p>Children are accepted into the school based on poverty, not religion, tribe or academic ability.</p> <p>The talk follows the history of the school, where it is now, what it offers these massively disadvantaged children and what future development might entail.</p> <p>An entertaining talk, focussing on the plight of girls and women in the slum regions of Mombasa and Africa.</p> <p>It is a story of success, joy and empowerment of girls and women.</p>			

## CRAFTS

MAKING AN ORIGAMI CRANE			
<b>Contact:</b>	Mrs Elizabeth Dive		
<b>Location:</b>	Perry	<b>FEES</b>	£60.00
<b>Tel:</b>	07843 989940	<b>Mileage:</b>	None
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:lizdive@icloud.com">lizdive@icloud.com</a>		
<b>Website:</b>	None		
AVAILABILITY			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	Cup of black tea and a biscuit, preferably chocolate		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Making an Origami Crane</b>		
<p>Have a laugh over 45-60 minutes while I demonstrate how to make an origami crane. We'll take it step by step and we'll all end up with our own crane to take home... whatever they look like! You'll be surprised how many of us can't follow instructions but it's fun anyway! I'll bring all the stuff that we need, and those who want to can go on to make another crane with posh origami paper</p>			

<b>CHRISTMAS DABBLE EVENING</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Mrs Elizabeth Dive		
<b>Location:</b>	Perry	<b>FEES</b>	£90 - up to 30 / £100 over 30
<b>Tel:</b>	07843 989940	<b>Mileage:</b>	None
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:lizdive@icloud.com">lizdive@icloud.com</a>		
<b>Website:</b>	None		
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	Cup of black tea and a biscuit, preferably chocolate		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Christmas Dabble Evening</b>		
<p>Make a Christmas tag and up to three Christmas cards. I'll bring all the instructions and resources (except felt tipped pens or coloured pencils as everyone seems to have some of those!). I will lead one table - how to make a 3D Christmas tree - and we'll have a holly-jolly evening. £90 for up to 30 members and £100 for over 30</p>			

<b>RIP AND BURN LAYERED FABRIC TEXTILE PICTURES</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Mrs Lee Harris		
<b>Location:</b>	Bury	<b>FEES</b>	£55.00
<b>Tel:</b>	07990 523144	<b>Mileage:</b>	£10.00
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:LeeSews@outlook.com">LeeSews@outlook.com</a>		
<b>Website:</b>			
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	1-2 tables. Access to an electrical plug		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Rip and Burn Layered Fabric Textile Pictures</b>		
<p>Learn how to make textile layered pictures using fabric and a soldering iron!</p>			

I will explain how I discovered the technique, the procedure and allow members to have a try with a soldering iron. All materials will be supplied.

I am passionate about using pre-loved and vintage fabrics so each picture is truly unique and the possibilities are endless.

Examples of my work will be on display.

I look forward to having the opportunity to share my “Rip and Burn” technique with you.

<b>BEES TO CANDLES</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Carolyn Knightley		
<b>Location:</b>	Ramsey	<b>FEES</b>	£45.00 plus £1.50 pm
<b>Tel:</b>	0797 3559248	<b>Mileage:</b>	Depends on location
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:caroline.knightley29@gmail.com">caroline.knightley29@gmail.com</a>		
<b>Website:</b>			
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	1 – 2 Tables		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Bees to Candles</b>		
<p>I have been a beekeeper for over 15 years and that lead me to utilising beeswax to make candles which is a hobby I have been enjoying alongside it.</p> <p>As a WI member myself, I have created a talk and crafting session which will give an insight into the fascinating world of the honeybee, the beeswax creation process and ending with a hands-on crafting session where members can create their own rolled beeswax candles to take home.</p> <p>£1.50 per member for crafting materials.</p>			

<b>PAT KING</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Pat King		
<b>Location:</b>	Buckden	<b>FEES</b>	£70.00
<b>Tel:</b>	07981 727603	<b>Mileage:</b>	£5
<b>Email:</b>	patking@write.me.com		
www.			
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
Morning	Afternoon	Evening	
Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only	
<b>Equipment:</b>	None		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Make a Clock</b>		
Use an artboard to create your own designer clock			
£5 per person for each kit			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Felt Flowers</b>		
Make a brooch or a handbag adornment using felt			
£2 per person per kit.			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Macrame Bracelets</b>		
Easy to make, beautiful to wear			
£2 per person per kit.			

## CRIME, LAW & FINANCIAL

LET'S TALK ABOUT DEATH			
<b>Contact</b>	Neal Thomas		
<b>Location:</b>	Brampton	<b>FEES</b>	£45.00
<b>Tel:</b>	07887845703	<b>Mileage:</b>	-
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:neal@bowtiecelebrant.co.uk">neal@bowtiecelebrant.co.uk</a>		
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.bowtiecelebrant.co.uk">www.bowtiecelebrant.co.uk</a>		
AVAILABILITY			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	None		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Let's Talk about Death</b>		
<p>Death and taxes, as the saying goes, are the only two certainties that every single one of us will experience. Taxes are boring, but death and planning what happens is NOT!</p> <p>But it IS something we never talk about - so let's change that.</p> <p>I can bring you an interactive session where we discuss options available, there are now more choices than.</p> <p>I promise an entertaining, uplifting discussion about the subject which should not be taboo and should be uplifting - shouldn't all our lives be celebrated?</p> <p>Also, the average funeral in the UK costs £4,500 - where does that go and does it have to cost so much, what is direct cremation and how does that work? We can discuss all of this and more without getting miserable about it!</p> <p>I am an independent funeral celebrant and can talk you through the confusing and changing world of funerals in an upbeat way that won't leave you depressed.</p> <p>Thinking of Direct Cremation? Let me talk you through that and what it means for you and your loved ones!</p> <p>In short, let's spend some time talking about death, but not in a depressing way.</p>			

<b>DOREST &amp; WHITE</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Lee Skilton		
<b>Location:</b>	Dorset	<b>FEES</b>	FREE
<b>Tel:</b>	01908 421600	<b>Mileage:</b>	-
<b>Email:</b>	Lee@dorestandwight.co.uk		
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.dorestandwight.co.uk">www.dorestandwight.co.uk</a>		
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	Screen if available but not essential.		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Estate Planning</b>		
<p>Protect Your Assets • Plan Your Legacy • Stay in Control</p> <p>Join us for an informative and easy-to-understand session on Estate Planning, designed to help you protect what you've worked hard for and ensure your wishes are respected.</p> <p>What We'll Cover</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asset Protection: How to safeguard your home, savings, and investments from future risks.</li> <li>• Succession Planning: Steps to make sure your estate is passed on smoothly to the people you choose.</li> <li>• Maintaining Control: Tools and strategies—such as wills, trusts, and powers of attorney—that help you stay in control of your affairs at every stage of life.</li> <li>• Common Pitfalls to Avoid: Mistakes that can cost families time, money, and stress.</li> <li>• Q&amp;A Session: Get clear answers to your estate-planning questions.</li> </ul> <p>Who Should Attend?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individuals or families wanting to protect their assets</li> <li>• Business owners planning for long-term continuity</li> <li>• Anyone looking to understand wills, trusts, or future planning</li> <li>• Those wanting peace of mind for themselves and their loved ones</li> </ul> <p>Why Attend?</p> <p>Estate planning isn't just for the wealthy—it's for anyone who wants certainty, control, and protection. This free talk offers practical guidance in a friendly and approachable format.</p> <p>Free consultations</p>			

**SILVERTIME LEGAL**

<b>Contact:</b>	Ria Hambridge / Bruce Wakeling		
<b>Location:</b>		<b>FEES</b>	Free
<b>Tel:</b>	07796 962405	<b>Mileage:</b>	-
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:ria@silvertimelegal.co.uk">ria@silvertimelegal.co.uk</a>		
<b>Website:</b>			

**AVAILABILITY**

Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only

<b>Equipment:</b>	No electronic equipment, unless you would like our speaker to wear a microphone then this will need to be supplied
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<b>Title</b>	<b>Estate Planning: Tax, Care 7 The New Guy</b>
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Our talks are designed to make important topics like these both informative and enjoyable:

- **Wills:** Exploring why they matter and the different types available.
- **Trusts:** Protecting your assets for the future.
- **Lasting Powers of Attorney:** How they can be invaluable.
- **Sideways Disinheritance:** Addressing the challenges of remarriage.

**Inheritance Tax:** Simplifying what can seem like a complex subject. We've had the pleasure of delivering these talks to groups such as U3As, Women's Institutes, Men's Sheds, Rotary Clubs, and many others. The feedback is always positive—people appreciate the light-hearted, interactive approach we take to what can often feel like heavy subjects.

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE\*\*** The speakers name is Bruce Wakeling, who lives in the local area, but his diary is managed by Ria Hambridge, when calling the mobile number or sending an email you will need to talk to Ria.

## ENTERTAINMENT

WITHOUT FANTASY, A LIFE IS NOT A LIFE			
<b>Contact:</b>	David Bale		
<b>Location:</b>	Cambridge	<b>FEES</b>	£80.00
<b>Tel:</b>	07593 586263	<b>Mileage:</b>	TBA when booking
<b>Email:</b>	Davidbale1944@gmail.com		
<b>Website:</b>			
AVAILABILITY			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	None		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Without Fantasy, A Life is not a Life</b>		
<p>Do you want something different? This is it! Brighten your morning, afternoon or evening by watching completely unexplainable things magically happen right in front of your eyes ! See what your mind can do: its wonders, glories- and peculiarities. (and f we've already met - it's a whole new show for this year)</p> <p>My website: <a href="http://www.davidbale.co.uk">www.davidbale.co.uk</a> Have a look !</p> <p>Magic shows of between 45 minutes to one hour (or time can be adjusted to suit). Emphasis is on your fun and enjoyment with effects of regular and mental magic.</p> <p>Now also offering strolling and table magic.</p> <p>I have worked in theatre for many years and can offer talks on life in theatre, history of theatre and history of magic.</p> <p>Thank you soooo much for such a wonderfully entertaining evening - everyone loved it!! ' ( Linda Nightingale, Bourne Worth WI).</p>			

<b>LET'S TALK ABOUT DEATH</b>			
<b>Contact</b>	Neal Thomas		
<b>Location:</b>	Brampton	<b>FEES</b>	£45.00
<b>Tel:</b>	07887845703	<b>Mileage:</b>	-
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:neal@bowtiecelebrant.co.uk">neal@bowtiecelebrant.co.uk</a>		
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.bowtiecelebrant.co.uk">www.bowtiecelebrant.co.uk</a>		
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	None		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Let's Talk about Death</b>		
<p>Death and taxes, as the saying goes, are the only two certainties that every single one of us will experience. Taxes are boring, but death and planning what happens is NOT!</p> <p>But it IS something we never talk about - so let's change that.</p> <p>I can bring you an interactive session where we discuss options available, there are now more choices than.</p> <p>I promise an entertaining, uplifting discussion about the subject which should not be taboo and should be uplifting - shouldn't all our lives be celebrated?</p> <p>Also, the average funeral in the UK costs £4,500 - where does that go and does it have to cost so much, what is direct cremation and how does that work? We can discuss all of this and more without getting miserable about it!</p> <p>I am an independent funeral celebrant and can talk you through the confusing and changing world of funerals in an upbeat way that won't leave you depressed.</p> <p>Thinking of Direct Cremation? Let me talk you through that and what it means for you and your loved ones!</p> <p>In short, let's spend some time talking about death, but not in a depressing way.</p>			

<b>TALES WITH MALCOLM BUSBY</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Malcolm Busby		
<b>Location:</b>	Cambridge	<b>FEES</b>	£45.00
<b>Tel:</b>	07551 431801	<b>Mileage:</b>	£0.25 pm
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:storyteller@malcolmbusby.co.uk">storyteller@malcolmbusby.co.uk</a>		
<b>Website:</b>			
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	Small screen and small table		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Tales with Malcolm Busby</b>		
<p>I am a storyteller, a teller of stories who has been telling stories to WI's for over 20 years.</p> <p>These days I also include a folk song or two if appropriate to the theme and also have a few simple magic tricks as well.</p> <p>Story themes include Ghostly Stories (none too scary but a variety to show the range of stories) (mind if a group wanted scarier stories it can be done). Folk Tales of the Fenland or Cambridgeshire or East Anglia, and if you have heard a set before and want to rebook I do keep a log of stories told to groups to avoid telling the same again. Willing to adapt to different story themes.</p> <p>Tales of Country Folk / Animal Tales</p>			

<b>IT'S HELL ON WHEELS being a Driving Instructor</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Stephen Brown		
<b>Location:</b>	Lincs	<b>FEES</b>	£80.00
<b>Tel:</b>	07702 064409	<b>Mileage:</b>	£10.00
<b>Email:</b>	Stephen.speaker@hotmail.com		
<b>Website:</b>			
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	Small table for props, two normal audience chairs, access to mains plug socket for own mic and speaker system.		
<b>Title</b>	<b>It's Hell on Wheels being a Driving Instructor</b>		
<p>Stephen has been a Driving Instructor for over 41 years – and is still alive!</p> <p>Find out what the current Driving Test is like. It has changed a lot since we all took our driving tests!</p> <p>Hear the hilarious questions his Learners have asked and said during their driving lessons.</p> <p>What the 'new' Driving Theory test is like.</p> <p>Experience a funny mock driving lesson courtesy of an (un)willing volunteer from your audience.</p> <p>Duration: One hour. I can easily break this talk into two separate sessions if time is an issue.</p>			
<b>Quiz</b>	<b>It'll Drive You Crazy – An 'L' of a Quiz!</b>		
<p>Fun quiz, not to be taken seriously.</p> <p>Four rounds of seven questions each. A multiple-choice answer sheet is given out, so rest assured the answer is on the sheet somewhere!</p> <p>Funny comments made by Learners and weird facts about driving.</p> <p>Experience a funny mock driving lesson courtesy of an (un)willing volunteer from your audience.</p>			

<b>SOCIAL HISTORY OF ENGLISH AFTERNOON TEA</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Gillian Perry MBE		
<b>Location:</b>	London	<b>FEES</b>	£150
<b>Tel:</b>	07770 747374	<b>Mileage:</b>	Train fee from London
<b>Email:</b>	gillianwalnesperry@gmail.com		
<b>Website:</b>			
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	Projector and screen for slideshow		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Tea Anyone? The Social History of English Afternoon Tea</b>		
<p>Tea Anyone? The Social History of Afternoon Tea</p> <p>How tea drinking was first introduced into society, and how afternoon tea was popularised and became the social institution of England as well as many other countries of the world.</p> <p>This surprisingly wide-ranging lecture includes the customs and etiquette surrounding afternoon tea; examples of the finest silver and porcelain tea ware, and covers the rise of public tea rooms, tea dances and tea attire.</p> <p>Gillian has written and broadcasted regularly on this topic. Her book 'Please the Scones, A Social History of English Afternoon Tea' was published in 2022.</p> <p>See: <a href="http://www.worldofafternoontea.com">www.worldofafternoontea.com</a></p> <p>There are further Food and Drink related lectures featured on the website under Other Talks section.</p>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>A Day at the Palace and a Night at the Oscars</b>		
<p>In 2010, Gillian received the honour of membership of the Order of the British Empire from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth. She describes the inside story of a very special day at Buckingham Palace and shares the</p>			

fascinating history of the British honours, knighthoods and peerages system.

She then takes the audience behind the scenes at Hollywood's annual academy awards ceremony, which she attended in 1996 to witness her own initiated project win an Oscar. A brief history of standout Oscars moments is included.

<b>FUN QUIZ</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Pat King		
<b>Location:</b>	Buckden	<b>FEES</b>	£70.00
<b>Tel:</b>	07981 727603	<b>Mileage:</b>	£5
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:patking@write.me">patking@write.me.com</a>		
<b>Website:</b>			
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	None		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Fun Quiz</b>		
A quiz where you will know the answers!			

## FASHION

FASHION SHOW / STYLING NIGHTS / CAPSULE SUITCASE			
<b>Contact:</b>	Mrs Jackie Allen		
<b>Location:</b>	Milton Keynes	<b>FEES</b>	£60.00
<b>Tel:</b>	07766 61420	<b>Mileage:</b>	Contribution
<b>Email:</b>	jackie.m.allen@gmail.com		
<b>Website:</b>			
AVAILABILITY			
Morning	Afternoon	Evening	
Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only	
<b>Equipment:</b>	Two tables to display handbags and accessories		
<b>Talk 1</b>	<b>Full Fashion Show</b>		
<p>Full fashion shows are perfect for groups of 30 and over and your WI members will be the stars of the show as we create a fashion show for the season.</p>			
<b>Talk 2</b>	<b>Styling Nights</b>		
<p>These are a mini show—suited to smaller groups of up to around 30 members. We will organise a mini catwalk and talk all things styling too!</p>			
<b>Talk 3</b>	<b>Ultimate Capsule Suitcase</b>		
<p>How to pack a suitcase full of style for holidays, staycations, and vacations too!</p>			

<b>WHY ARE YOU WEARING THAT?</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Gillian Perry MBE		
<b>Location:</b>	London	<b>FEES</b>	£150
<b>Tel:</b>	07770 747374	<b>Mileage:</b>	Train fee from London
<b>Email:</b>	gillianwalnesperry@gmail.com		
<b>Website:</b>			
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	<del>School Holidays only</del>
<b>Equipment:</b>	Projector and screen for slideshow		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Why are you wearing that? The surprising history of leisure, sport and travel wear</b>		
<p>This lecture covers the rise of leisure time and travel and the restrictions of 19th century leisure, and sportswear; and shows how more practical and comfortable clothing came about and evolved throughout the 20th century. It looks at the courageous innovators of daring new ideas, such as trousers for women.</p> <p>Gillian's degree was in History of Fashion, which continues to be an interest.</p>			

## GARDENING / FLOWERS

NEIL CALLAN			
<b>Contact:</b>	Neil Callan		
<b>Location:</b>		<b>FEES</b>	£65.00
<b>Tel:</b>	07801 968184	<b>Mileage:</b>	£0.40 pm
<b>Email:</b>	nccallan@yahoo.co.uk		
<b>Website:</b>			
AVAILABILITY			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	A table for all talks, power source and screen (if available).		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Garden Talks</b>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) “From Crowbar to Crocosmia” The Making of a Fenland Garden. An illustrated talk describing how an NGS garden was created from a Fenland wilderness.</li> <li>2) “A Year in the Garden at Horseshoe Farm”- fully illustrated.</li> <li>3) “The People, Places and Plants of Paradise” - The Caribbean Island of Antigua -fully illustrated.</li> </ol>			

THE HOUSEPLANT DOCTOR			
<b>Contact:</b>	Joe Bagley		
<b>Location:</b>	Hathern	<b>FEES</b>	£95
<b>Tel:</b>	0788 0926554	<b>Mileage:</b>	£0.45 pm
<b>Email:</b>	ukhouseplants@gmail.com		
<b>Website:</b>			
AVAILABILITY			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	Table, projector (if available)		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Houseplant SOS: The Ultimate Do's &amp; Do Not's of Houseplant Care</b>		
<p>This talk is fantastic for those who are looking to 'dip their feet' into the world of houseplants. Packed with fascinating tips on plant behaviour &amp; horticultural history, real-world tips and no-nonsense information, session guests will have an entirely new viewpoint in growing indoor plants. Feel free to encourage your guests to take photos of their poorly/healthy houseplants beforehand so he can give the once over or diagnose any issues &amp; remedies. Topics that will be mentioned in this talk include:</p> <p><b>Watering</b> - When to water, how much &amp; what type of water is best. (Tap-water, rain, etc.)  Locating Your Houseplants - Reading into the plant's leaf shape, colour &amp; flexibility &amp; how this tells us a lot about suitable locations for light.</p> <p><b>Feeding</b> - Includes nutrient deficiency symptoms, brand recommendations and extra tips on elongating flowers on Orchids, Peace Lilies &amp; more.</p> <p><b>Repotting</b> - How often to transplant &amp; which soil is best. Joe also owns a successful repotting business, so he can supply small batches of soil to the show, too, at your request).</p> <p><b>Pests &amp; Diseases</b> - Straight-to-the-point information on eradicating pests &amp; diseases (leaf-spot disease or root rot) without the use of chemicals.</p>			

**Joe's Top Ten Recommended Plants** - Air purification, easy-care/ beginner plants, pet/child-friendly, plants with unusual leaves/colours/ flowers & plants for certain rooms.

Joe will either bring a range of houseplants for the presentation, and/or if there is a projector, he will bring a slide show, too. He will also sell his recently published book, 'How to Make Your Houseplants Love You', which can be signed with a personal message to anyone who would like a copy.

## GENERAL INTEREST

NEIL CALLAN			
<b>Contact:</b>	Neil Callan		
<b>Location:</b>		<b>FEES</b>	£65.00
<b>Tel:</b>	07801 968184	<b>Mileage:</b>	£0.40 pm
<b>Email:</b>	nccallan@yahoo.co.uk		
<b>Website:</b>			
AVAILABILITY			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	A table for all talks, power source and screen (if available).		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Silver Talks</b>		
<p>1) The Development of the English Silver Spoon. (How and why spoons have changed through the ages)</p> <p>2) British Silver Hallmarks. (de-mystifying the Hallmark system)</p>			

<b>THE HOME SORTER</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Liz Cox		
<b>Location:</b>	Catworth	<b>FEES</b>	£20.00
<b>Tel:</b>	07535 143497	<b>Mileage:</b>	£0.45 pm
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:liz@thehomesorter.co.uk">liz@thehomesorter.co.uk</a>		
<b>Website:</b>			
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>The Home Sorter</b>		
<p>Talks can be on any one or a combination of these:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. General decluttering and organising around the home</li> <li>2. Paperwork and digital management – what needs to be kept, for how long, and what to dispose of. How to manage files and easily find important documents. Email management.</li> <li>3. Digital Legacy - assess digital presence and plan to manage digital legacy. Protect personal information, so your assets are accessible in the future to those you trust – including financial documents, policies, accounts, email, photos, and passwords.</li> <li>4. Moving House or Downsizing – how to declutter and decide what to take when you move, or when clearing a home following bereavement</li> <li>5. Home Staging – bringing out the best in every home. How to stage a home to sell quickly</li> </ol>			

## HEALTH & FITNESS

CIRCLES OF SOUND			
<b>Contact:</b>	Mrs Paula Hutchison		
<b>Location:</b>	Papworth Everard	<b>FEES</b>	£70.00
<b>Tel:</b>	07740 319169	<b>Mileage:</b>	£0.40 pm
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:circlesofsounduk@gmail.com">circlesofsounduk@gmail.com</a>		
<b>Website:</b>			
AVAILABILITY			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	None		
<b>Title</b>	<b>What is a Sound Bath?</b>		
<p>An introduction to start, the sort of things we offer and where they are offered.</p> <p>This talk will explain Sound Therapy and what a Sound Bath is all about!</p> <p>The Health Benefits to be gained and why they are so beneficial. Some science behind it and what instruments generally used to create the Frequencies.</p> <p>Talking about Frequencies and how they make a difference to parts of the body.</p> <p>Talking about the instruments in more detail and an opportunity to hear them. A small demonstration.</p> <p>Ending with an opportunity to play some instruments yourself!</p>			

<b>ACCENTUATE SOLUTIONS</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Steve Iddon		
<b>Location:</b>	Offord Darcy	<b>FEES</b>	£60.00
<b>Tel:</b>	07756 463147	<b>Mileage:</b>	£0.45 pm
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:steve@accentuatesolutions.com">steve@accentuatesolutions.com</a>		
<b>Website:</b>	none		
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	None		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Mindfulness and Mindful Movement</b>		
<p>We spend so much of our lives either in autopilot or caught up in our thoughts, spending little time appreciating what we have right here and now, leading to increased stress levels and a disconnection from ourselves.</p> <p>In this session we will explore mindfulness (reconnecting to ourselves) in a fun and interactive way, through a mixture of a short talk and practical guided activities.</p> <p>Session outline</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brief introduction to mindfulness and breathwork <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Including benefits of mindfulness for health and wellbeing</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Practical Activity – Connecting our mind and body through simple guided breathwork.</li> <li>• Practical Activity – Connecting our mind and body through simple guided mindful movement.</li> <li>• Q&amp;A</li> </ul> <p>Notes: Accessible to all, including attendees with limited mobility.</p>			

<b>HYPNOTHERAPY</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Dianne Gross		
<b>Location:</b>	Orton Longeville	<b>FEES</b>	FOC
<b>Tel:</b>	0770 2499250	<b>Mileage:</b>	Depending on location
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:degcoaching@outlook.com">degcoaching@outlook.com</a>		
www.			
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	Screen for presentation useful		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Hypnotherapy</b>		
<p>Informal and friendly talk around what is hypnotherapy.            What is the benefit?            How is it useful to help support various conditions.            Demonstration with suggested take away exercises to be used at home.</p>			

<b>MIND, BODY AND SOUL</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Pat King		
<b>Location:</b>	Buckden	<b>FEES</b>	£70.00
<b>Tel:</b>	07981 727603	<b>Mileage:</b>	£5
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:patking@writeme.com">patking@writeme.com</a>		
www.			
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	None		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Exercises for the Mind, Body and Soul</b>		
<p>Exercise for the Mind, Body and Soul            A fun session of chair-based exercise putting FUN into exercise.</p>			

## HISTORY & ARCHEOLOGY

TRACING YOUR FAMILY TREE			
<b>Contact:</b>	Peter Gout		
<b>Location:</b>	Thrapston	<b>FEES</b>	£35.00
<b>Tel:</b>	01832 734436	<b>Mileage:</b>	£0.20 pm
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:familyconnections@btinternet.com">familyconnections@btinternet.com</a>		
www.			
AVAILABILITY			
Morning	Afternoon	Evening	
Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only	
<b>Equipment:</b>	Screen		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Tracing your Family Tree</b>		
<p>The means of researching your family tree is described with reference to census records and birth, marriage and death records. Case studies are given of unexpected results of research and the use of old newspapers is referenced.</p>			

<b>DON CHISWELL</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Don Chiswell		
<b>Location:</b>		<b>FEES</b>	£75.00
<b>Tel:</b>	01733 569951	<b>Mileage:</b>	£0.30 pm
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:donchis@gmail.com">donchis@gmail.com</a>		
www.			
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	Stand/Table screen/wall suitable for projection		
<b>Title</b>	<b>History Talks</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boudicca</li> <li>• The Danelaw</li> <li>• Hereward The Exile</li> <li>• Knights Templar</li> <li>• Robin Hood Myth And Reality</li> <li>• Longthorpe Tower</li> <li>• Inside The Medieval Mind</li> <li>• Katherine Of Aragon</li> <li>• The Pilgrimage Of Grace And The Lincolnshire Rising</li> <li>• Mary Queen Of Scots</li> <li>• The Gunpowder Plot</li> <li>• Burke And Hare And The Body Snatchers</li> <li>• The Railway Manias</li> <li>• Charles Dickens</li> <li>• William Morris And The Arts And Crafts Movement</li> <li>• The Suffragettes</li> <li>• Lawrence Of Arabia</li> <li>• King Arthur</li> <li>• Macbeth</li> <li>• Eleanor Of Aquitaine</li> <li>• Magna Carta</li> <li>• Leonardo Da Vinci</li> <li>• William Shakespeare</li> <li>• Josiah Wedgwood</li> <li>• The Great Stink</li> <li>• The Body Snatchers</li> <li>• Edith Cavell</li> <li>• Al Capone And Prohibition</li> </ul>		

<b>HISTORIC TALKS</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Nicola Sandall		
<b>Location:</b>	Stamford	<b>FEES</b>	£60.00
<b>Tel:</b>	07909 696612	<b>Mileage:</b>	£5
	Mileage chargeable if over 20 miles from location		
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:nicolasandall@aol.co.uk">nicolasandall@aol.co.uk</a>		
www.			
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	Projector & Screen (if available)		
<b>Title</b>	A Snippet of Stamford		
	All things Stamford – Our town’s buildings: now and then, local tales and stories of Stamford and her residents.		
<b>Title</b>	A Rutland Ramble		
	Buildings, personalities and history of Oakham and Rutland; The smallest county.		
<b>Title</b>	M’Lords, Ladies and Locals		
	Personalities, visitors and Lincolnshire folks that have left their mark.		
<b>Title</b>	Ye Olde Crime and Criminals		
	Looking back at Crime, local infamous criminals and punishments from throughout history and notable in our area.		
<b>Title</b>	A Tour around Lincolnshire		
	A Lincolnshire tour of its famous landmarks, towns and what makes the Country special.		
<b>Title</b>	Reflections of Lincolnshire and Rutland around the end of WWII		
	Commemorating VE Day and 80 years with how Lincolnshire and Rutland and it’s residents played their role in WWI		

<b>ROGER LEIVERS</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Roger Leivers		
<b>Location:</b>	Godmanchester	<b>FEES</b>	£50
<b>Tel:</b>	07926 329970	<b>Mileage:</b>	-
<b>Email:</b>	rogerleivers@yahoo.co.uk		
<b>Website:</b>			
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	Projector and Screen		
<b>Title</b>	<b>The Godmanchester Stirling</b>		
<p>The subject of my first book 'Stirling to Essen,' which has now sold over 3,500 copies worldwide and into its third reprint. The true story of a XV Squadron Short Stirling bomber crew out of RAF Alconbury who crashed close to Godmanchester in April 1942. It tells their story, learn about the raids they went on, the crashes and close calls and what became of them. Who did fate save and who did she cast aside.</p>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>House of Spies</b>		
<p>How Farm Hall in Godmanchester became a vital link between SOE/IS HQ in London St James and RAF Tempsford. Who ran it, who passed through it on the way to occupied Europe, a canine warrior, the German Nuclear Scientists incarcerated there and one of the most amazing wartime survival stories, worthy of a film any day. This talk comes from my second book, 'Godmanchester at War.'</p>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Godmanchester at War</b>		
<p>Our towns amazing wartime history outside of the Farm Hall story. Children and evacuee memories, a long lost story, the story of our fallen, tales of the ARP and Dads Army, invasion planning and local politics, a fascinating insight into what life was like in most small towns during the war.</p>			

<b>Title</b>	<b>Searching for Lotte</b>
<p>She made an emotional appearance in my first book, but since then her story, and that of her family, has expanded to become a talk in its own right. The true holocaust story is full of both hope and despair. You will find how she was found and then the twists and turns of life for the family in Theresienstadt, and for some, Auschwitz.</p>	
<b>Title</b>	<b>Father and Son</b>
<p>The life of William Rhodes Moorhouse, the first airman to be awarded the Victoria Cross for bravery during the Great War, and his son, 'Willy,' who flew during the Battle of Britain. Both remarkable men and heroes of the nation, although there are some dark corners in Williams story. Make up your own mind at the end! He divides opinion!</p>	
<b>Title</b>	<b>When Brits go bad</b>
<p>Bull Dog spirit? Not for these scoundrels. Wartime brought out the worst in people. Looting, gangs, prostitution, serial killers, murderers, spies, and traitors. Its all here. Be warned, its not for the faint hearted!</p>	
<b>Title</b>	<b>Dachau, 80 Years on!</b>

## NATURE

<b>ZOONIQUE ADVENTURES</b>			
<b>ZOO NIGHTS: 24 HOURS VISITING ZSL LONDON ZOO</b>			
<b>Location:</b>	Alconbury Weston	<b>FEES</b>	£40.00
<b>Tel:</b>	01480 896602 / 07514777929	<b>Mileage:</b>	£0.40 pm
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:Helenfoster1997@yahoo.com">Helenfoster1997@yahoo.com</a>		
<b>Website:</b>	None		
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice (Possibly)	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	Projector and screen. Table. Power socket for laptop		

<b>Title</b>	Tails & Tales: Adventures from the Animal Kingdom
<b>Talk 1</b>	Zoo Nights: 24 Hours Visiting ZSL London Zoo
	Roaring lions at 5am in the middle of a London park? It's not what you'd expect! Hear what it is like to spend the night at ZSL London Zoo, where Asiatic lions, flamingos, and parrots become your noisy neighbours! Listen to stories about their animals and learn how their conservation work is protecting endangered animals world-wide.
<b>Talk 2</b>	Our Wild World
	Step beyond the Zoo Nights spotlight and meet more of the amazing animals that make our world wild! From the quirky to the majestic, discover the wild wonders that roam our planet and hear the tales of their care and conservation. A journey full of surprises awaits!
<b>Talk 3</b>	Underwater Wonders
	Dive beneath the waves and explore the magic of our oceans! From colourful coral reefs to graceful humpback whales, uncover the secrets of life underwater and learn how you can support these watery worlds for generations to come.
<b>Talk 4</b>	Extinction, Extinction, Extinction
	Meet the incredible creatures who once called our planet home, and celebrate the species we've rescued from the brink. This talk is a rollercoaster of curiosity, wonder, and hope for our amazing animal kingdom.

## RADIO, TV, FILM & THEATRE

<b>SHAKESPEARE GROUPIE</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Mrs Elizabeth Dive		
<b>Location:</b>	Perry	<b>FEES</b>	£60.00
<b>Tel:</b>	07843 989940	<b>Mileage:</b>	None
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:lizdive@icloud.com">lizdive@icloud.com</a>		
<b>Website:</b>	None		
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>TALK ONE – SHAKESPEARE GROUPIE</b>		
<p>I've seen all of Shakespeare's 37 (or is it 38 or maybe 39 ...) plays over the last 40 years. All on stage and mostly multiple times, with many of the greats from Dench to Walters, Gielgud and Jacobi, Sheen and Tennant and Rylance.</p> <p>Many were fabulous, many were dire, all were memorable.</p> <p>So, I'd love to share some anecdotes about the drying, the corpsing, the mishaps, and the shenanigans - and a few examples of pure genius which I've witnessed in that time.</p> <p>No equipment needed, just a lively talk by a Shakespeare Groupie ... and you don't even have to like him to enjoy it!</p>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>TALK TWO – SHAKESPEARE GROUPIE REVISITED -ENCORE!</b>		
<p>This is the rest of the Groupie talk. If you've had me to be a Groupie, then why not re-invite me for the rest of the stories ...</p>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>TALK THREE – SHAKESPEARE GENIUS ALERT</b>		
<p>The life and theatrical times of the Bard himself - Master William Shakespeare. From his birth in Stratford-upon-Avon up to and including his time as a successful playwright in London.</p> <p>No equipment needed as I'll bring pictures to hand round and a model of an Elizabethan theatre.</p> <p>And if we have time we'll finish off with a lively exchange of Shakespearean insults ... you never know, you might find a few of them quite handy!</p>			

## SCIENCE

PAT KING			
<b>Contact:</b>	Pat King		
<b>Location:</b>	Buckden	<b>FEES</b>	£70.00
<b>Tel:</b>	07981 727603	<b>Mileage:</b>	£5
<b>Email:</b>	patking@writeme.com		
www.			
AVAILABILITY			
Morning	Afternoon	Evening	
Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only	
<b>Equipment:</b>	None		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Science Fun</b>		
Come and try out a range of experiments.			
Very hands-on – bring an apron.			

## TRAVEL

<b>PEGGY'S PASSENGER SEAT</b>			
<b>Contact:</b>	Rebecca Treston		
<b>Location:</b>	Peterborough	<b>FEES</b>	£40.00
<b>Tel:</b>	07745 609363	<b>Mileage:</b>	
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:peggypassengerseat@gmail.com">peggypassengerseat@gmail.com</a>		
<b>Website:</b>			
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>			
	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
	Anytime	Short Notice	School Holidays only
<b>Equipment:</b>	None		
<b>Talk 1</b>	<b>Automotive Adventurer / Criminologist</b>		
<p>Once described as “The Criminology Lecturer who podcasts from her Morris Minor” by a respected Automotive publisher, my experience and passions might seem quite varied. But regardless of topic, I am keen to engage an audience in discussion, shared experiences, and leave them wanting to hear more. I am happy to be booked for either talk, each booking is for around 60 minutes, though both topics offer enough content for rebooking at a later date.</p>			
<b>Talk 2</b>	<b>Minor Adventures and Major Miles</b>		
<p>In 2020, aged 23, I bought my first car. Having grown up around Classic and Vintage cars, it was never going to be what I was seeing on driveways during my one permitted walk a day during the pandemic. Instead, I brought home Peggy, a 1968 Morris Minor. Since then, we have covered over 40,000 miles, learnt an awful lot more about mechanics, had a full restoration, and made many memories along the way. Being an ex-Girl Guide, soon after getting Peggy, I started a picnic blanket, where I display sew-on patches of the places we've been and the stories we've gathered.</p> <p>During my talk, the audience picks patches that interest them – perhaps a place they've visited themselves, or a place they can't imagine a Morris Minor going. I then share what Peggy and I got up to earn that patch, along with some of the hilarity that comes with driving an over-50-year-old car in the modern world.</p>			

**Talk 3****What your use of Facebook Marketplace might tell us about how you'd commit murder**

Following the completion of my Masters of Criminology in Practice at Leicester University, I spent 5 years lecturing on the practical application of Criminological theory. An area of particular interest has always been the general public's relationship and understanding of the Criminal Justice System. This talk will explore the perception of the value of DNA and Forensic Evidence, Vs Forensic Profiling, and explore what in today's world is more valuable to solving serious crimes.