

REVIEW of LAST SEASON'S PROGRAMME

2017

10th October

The Good the Bad and the Ugly

The amusing story of Kentish Public Libraries

Christoph Bull MA Hons, MCLIP, ALA described the surprising diversity of providers of the county's libraries; the buildings that vary from the quite magnificent (when funded by Andrew Carnegie) down to the very modest and even the mobile library.

24th October

Lola Montez.... a 19th Century Adventuress

Dr Ann Kneif told us the intriguing story of Irish-born Lola who turned to dancing for a living after her marriage failed. After successful performances at Her Majesty's Theatre she toured Europe and her affair with the king of Bavaria was the scandal of the century.

14th November

Writing the Story of Kent

Anne Petrie is a member of our committee and an enthusiastic member of the history group. She has written and published 'The Story of Kent' and she described the difficulties she faced deciding what to include in her bookand what to leave out.

28th November

Carve Her Name with Pride

The story of female secret agents in WWII.

Dr Juliette Pattinson has researched the lives of these remarkable ladies and has interviewed many of those surviving. She described the amazing story of their recruitment, training and operational missions.

12th December

What is Christmas?

Geoff Hutchinson entertained us at our Christmas social evening with a very light hearted and amusing look at Christmas traditions and Folklore in verse and song.

2018

9th January

Lost Empires: The Last Days of Music Hall and Variety

Wilf Lower gave us a light hearted look at the theatres and performers both in front of and behind the curtains. From pubs to palaces, music hall provided

entertainment for all. It survived cinema and radio but television proved too much and it died.

23rd January

Skyways at Lympne

Betty Black worked at Lympne in the 60's and 70's. She told the story of post-war passenger aviation at this historic airfield ...the busy heydays, the decline and fall, accidents and incidents and some of the amazing characters it was her privilege to work with.

13th February

**Outsiders:
Outlaws, Poachers, Smugglers and Highwaymen**

Dr Geoff Doel, an expert on the folklore of Kent explored for us the life of some of Kent's outsiders using readings, visual images and songs that have survived.

27th February

The Cathers

This talk by Imogen Corrigan FRSA was cancelled due to severe weather but has been re-scheduled for next season.

13th March

**Dr Jimmy Carter
Mapping the Moon and UK Space Science**

This talk described some of the highlights of the last few years of planetary exploration and examined the UK's contribution to contemporary space science. It also told the story of perhaps the most unlucky PhD student in the country and his bumbling quest to produce new elemental maps of the moon.

27th March

The Medieval Housewife

Mrs Toni Mount MA gave us an insight into the life of ordinary folk in the middle ages with anecdotes about cooking, child care, food and fashion ... including the instructions given by an elderly husband to his new young wife.

10th April

Brian Freeland: Women of the Raj

For 120 yrs there were only British men in India; the arrival of British women changed the relationship between the races to the extent that one Indian wrote 'I don't think they realise what a menace they are. There might never have been a mutiny if they had stayed in Britain'.

24th April

Shipwrecks around the English Coast and other areas

Maureen Clayton described the history of some significant shipwrecks, explaining why they happened and how some changed the course of history and others led to improvements in navigation aids and the seaworthiness of vessels.
