

Leigh Estuary U3A - Previous Speakers 2017

7.12.17	<p>Great Group Christmas Bake Off 20 members will be providing cakes to represent their groups in a fun competition with a Christmas theme. The cakes will be judged by our panel of invited guests as well as the members.</p>
16.11.17	<p>Alison Charles – Diva on a Harley Alison will be speaking to us about her life in providing motivational speeches for big organisations and her desire to get that Harley Davison motorbike one day.</p>
19.10.17	<p>John Simmons – Southend John will be talking about the ‘Love Southend’ campaign and the winter night shelters.</p>
21.9.17	<p>Jackie Tevin – Joyce Grenfell Jackie will be giving us a humorous talk on Joyce Grenfell, who was a British singer, comedian and actress, best known for her monologues and roles in the St. Trinian’s films. In her time, she was one of the country’s best loved entertainers.</p>
17.8.17	<p>Denis Eraut – Practical Action Charity Dennis will be talking to us about the Practical Action Charity, an international non-governmental organisation (NGO) that uses technology to challenge poverty in developing countries.</p>
20.7.17	<p>Steve Scruton – BBC Essex Steve Scruton is a professional broadcaster and a familiar voice to many as the afternoon presenter on BBC Essex, in fact Steve has been involved with BBC Essex for many years and is the creator of the hugely popular Pirate BBC Essex project.</p>
15.6.17	<p>Brad Ashton Brad has recently retired as an international TV comedy writer and during his career wrote series for Tommy Cooper, Dick Emery, Les Dawson, Bruce Forsyth, Frankie Howerd, Bob Monkhouse and David Frost, among others. He talks about the stars he has worked with and how comedy is created. He has had three very successful books published on comedy writing and he has just completed a new gag book containing over 4,000 gags.</p>
18.5.17	<p>Danielle A Barnett She is currently the lead singer for the Urban Cookie Collective who had a big hit with The Key The Secret in 1993. She has fronted the act for 15 years. She has toured the world doing this and loves her job! She is also a songwriter with 20 ‘Top 40’ hits under her belt and 3 publishing deals. A singer herself, she has had several successful record deals (one with Mr Simon Cowell himself! so she knows some secrets!). She is also a vocal coach to Molly Rainford who came 3rd in the final of Britain’s Got Talent and who is also a West End child star currently performing as Violet in Charlie and The Chocolate Factory.</p>

20.4.17	<p>Charlie Haylock – The History of Spoken English This is not a talk on split infinitives, and what the differences are between the past participle and the past tense. Definitely not! Charlie will show us how the seeds of spoken English were first set. He will also show us how each invading force affected the English language, and the different sounds they brought; from the Angles and Saxons to the Vikings and Normans. How Shakespeare was really spoken, the effect of the Renaissance; the religious input; and how England, by being a trading nation creating an Empire, adopted words from across the globe into the English language. Charlie will include a dialect tour of the British Isles and further afield, and demonstrate the different facial expressions of each dialect..... and how a deaf person he knows can tell what dialect a person has..... just by lip reading. Very informative and highly entertaining.</p>
16.3.17	<p>Tom Corby - Behind the scenes at Buckingham Palace Tom Corby, veteran Fleet Street journalist and former Southend Standard junior, was Press Association Court Correspondent from 1985 to 1992. He has served as Public Relations adviser for the Prince's Trust, and is now a Public Relations adviser specializing in royal matters, as well as a freelance journalist and author.</p>
16.2.17	<p>Martyn Harrison - The return of this popular entertainer Martyn worked as a professional opera singer whose career has now diversified, with time, into several associated areas of the performing arts as stage director, guest speaker and vocal coach. As a tenor he has worked with our major opera companies and has appeared in London musicals including Phantom of the Opera, Sweeney Todd & Bernadette. He tours extensively as a guest speaker on music theatre, operetta & opera in the UK, Germany & Australia.</p>
19.1.17	<p>Jonny Benjamin - Living with mental illness Jonny began making films about mental health in 2010, initially by vlogging (making videos to view online) on his YouTube channel, before creating and presenting a BBC Three documentary in 2013 for their mental health season, It's A Mad World. In 2015 he became a producer at Postcard Productions and helped to make the acclaimed Channel 4 documentary The Stranger On The Bridge which is available to watch online.</p>