

FRINTON, WALTON & DISTRICT u3a

AGM – October 2024

SPEAKER REPORT

2023

OCTOBER. Pauline Pattison provided an entertaining conclusion to the AGM. Her dialogues of Pam Ayres and others were well applauded by the members.

NOVEMBER. Passports, Assassins, Traitors and Spies by Martin Lloyd. Once again he gave an excellent talk on the development of the Blue British Passport, the unmasking of a spy and how, for one man, the passport itself turned into a killer.

DECEMBER. Greg Chapman amazed our members with his unusual take on a magic show even revealing how a card trick was accomplished. His witty banter and involvement with audience resulted in a very enjoyable Xmas meeting, all organised by Karen Riley, the Social team and the Committee.

2024

JANUARY. A PowerPoint presentation by Phil Lyons about Buffalo Bill who came to the UK in the 19th Century, where he arranged spectacular Wild West shows. We saw photos and pictures of William Cody, Chief Sitting Bull, cowboys, rodeos, rope tricks and shooting skills by Annie Oakley. Colchester was chosen as one of the towns to show their skills.

FEBRUARY. Graham and Mary Bryce are photographers and conservationists who gave an illustrated talk about the wild life of Zambia. Their photographs of the animals including Zebra, African Elephants, Painted dog and Giraffes together with many birds were superb. How many members went on to book a safari holiday after this wonderful meeting?

MARCH. A return visit from Lindsay Whitehouse with his talk entitled Prison - Line of Duty. This interactive talk challenged the audience to be detectives. The key was to gather intelligence in order to identify the corrupt officer who had 'gone over to the dark side!'

APRIL. Peggy Griffin Twiddle explained the origins of some chosen Nursery Rhymes. Who knew that Ring a Ring a Roses may have been linked to the Norse Goddess Freya, many centuries prior to the usual explanation for the Plague in the Middle Ages. Humpty Dumpty wasn't an egg but turned out to be a cannon in Colchester during the English civil war!

MAY. An excellent talk by police officer Tammy Blest ~ Personal Crimes, Scams and More. She spoke clearly, engaging with the members for the whole session. She brought a wide selection of leaflets etc. for the audience to take away, hopefully aiding us 'all to keep safe' and avoid the upset of personal crime.

JUNE. Roger Hance kept the members entranced with his talk~ Nature through the Seasons (Spring and Summer) He was informative, providing his own super photographs of birds, flowers, insects, pond life and mammals. His talk was excellent with occasional 'saucy comments' involving frogs!

JULY. Roy Tyzack presented a detailed and enthralling talk about how murders in Essex were investigated by a large team of police officers including Roy himself. He did describe the gruesome crimes in graphic detail and the intricate, painstakingly tasks carried out to bring the perpetrators to court, some of the guilty being only young teenagers.

New technology such as CCTV and access to mobile devices were most important to provide evidence for successful prosecutions.

Karen Woolley
Speaker Secretary FWD u3a.
1/8/2024