

**Grange Lecture Society  
Programme 2018/19**

9 Oct 2018

Stefa McManners

**KYNREN**

KYNREN is the UK'S most spectacular open-air live show, a tale of the history of England over the past 2000 years. Set in the fields below Bishop Auckland Castle (once the home of Bishops of Durham) with a cast of 1500 volunteers playing to audiences of 8000. Stefa has been associated with the event since it started and will tell us how it was conceived, developed and delivered.

23 Oct 2018

Martin Withers

**The Vulcan Bomber raid on the Falklands**

Martin was the pilot who led the famous raid on Port Stanley's runway. He will describe the remarkable 8,000 mile mission by a solo Vulcan, supported by 11 Victor tankers, that began the liberation of the Islands almost 36 years ago. He also piloted the Vulcan on its last flight on 28 October 2015.

6 Nov 2018

John MacFarlane

***The 1868 Abyssinian Military Expedition***

2018 was the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the British **1868 Expedition to Abyssinia** to rescue the British Consul from an 'impregnable' 10,000 foot mountain fortress at Magdala. It involved a march of 400 miles south across unknown trackless mountainous terrain.

In 2011, John and Rosamund Macfarlane and two companions followed the route from northern Ethiopia to the Aroji battlefield and the Magdala massif. The remoteness of the area and the friendliness of the people, allowed a privileged glimpse of their hard rural way of life.

20 Nov 2018

Tricia Stewart

**A Calendar Girls Story**

This is the story of the famous calendar and how and why a group of ladies decided in April 1999 to bare all for their local hospital. Tricia was the instigator of the Alternative WI Calendar; the effect was expected to last 3 weeks but 18 years later it is still going strong with a film, a stage play and now a musical. The Calendar Girls have raised over £4,000,000 for Leukaemia Research.

4 Dec 2018

Paul Ross

**Climbing Adventures**

Nevile Burwell Memorial Lecture

Paul is started climbing in 1953 and soon became one of the leading climbers of the 1950s and 60s.. In the 1960s he left the Lake District to live in the USA where he found lots of new rock faces to test his talents. Now back in the Lake District he is still climbing and on his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday climbed Little Chamonix on Shepherds Crag in Borrowdale. His talk will include alpine expeditions with Chris Bonnington and Don Whillans.

8 Jan 2019

Dickie Arbiter

### **The British Monarchy Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow**

The best known of all HM The Queen's former press secretaries, Dickie Arbiter is the man the world's press always call when the Royals are in the news. An exceptionally talented speaker Dickie has over 50 years of experience covering royalty, heads of state, and other globally recognised personalities. He will dip into the history of the monarchy from the Hanoverian Georges to the present day Elizabethan age and beyond.

22 Jan 2019

Sue Hickson-Marsay

### **Storm Tossed Lady**

After 20 years in the job, Sue remains the only woman pilot launch coxswain. Her job is to operate a 50ft high-powered launch, braving the volatile waters off Spurn Point to take the Humber pilots out to the ships they guide into port. She goes up to 20 miles out to sea in all weather conditions. It can certainly be daunting and it's not for the faint-hearted.

5 Feb 2019

Jim Williams

### **The Life and Times of Casanova**

Giacomo Casanova is the great lover and adventurer, whose wit, intelligence and daring made him famous in 18<sup>th</sup> century Europe. This lecture follows his extraordinary career and describes the world in which he lived. It is populated by outrageous characters including a lecherous cardinal, a cross-dressing French diplomat and a remarkable Count who was believed to be immortal.

12 Feb 2019

John Beatty

### **More Adventures in the Wild**

We welcome back John to give us another of his excellent talks. He is one of the world's leading nature and adventure photographers whose assignments have taken him to remote and exiting places all over the world. He is thrilling speaker who leaves audiences spellbound.

5 March 2019

Russell Bowes

### **Capability Brown**

**The Capable Mr. Brown** - we all know his name, but what do you know about him, the people he worked for and what else was happening in England at the time? This talk takes a look at the life and career of Lancelot "Capability" Brown - a man who changed the face of England for ever. Born into poverty and obscurity, he became renowned across the world as the father of the English landscape garden movement. But who was he?