

2025

October 14th - Dr Stuart McLanaghan - All sounds a bit fishy!
Seafood feeds a rising global population and tackles food insecurity. How can we ensure it for generations to come? Fish and chips are an undisputed national dish, with over one hundred fish species found in our waters, yet we import the majority of fish we eat. These and other topics, along with fishy tales, will be addressed.

28th October - Stuart Bowie – A History of Magic
Stuart traces the magician’s art through the centuries showing how magic has adapted to a changing world and new technologies, moving from the streets to the parlours of the rich before becoming established in theatres, on television, and now the Internet. The talk is illustrated with contemporary pictures, records and live magic!

November 11th – Paul Hindle – Roads Around the Sands
The talk describes the changing routes across and around the sands of Morecambe Bay from Lancaster to the Furness Peninsula. The first turnpike via Kendal was opened in 1763 followed by the 1818 turnpike which is now largely followed by the A590.

November 25th – Christopher Donaldson - The Influence of the Ordnance Survey on the Lake District’s ‘Name-scape’
Chrisopher explores the Ordnance Survey’s Original Object Name Books. These books played a critical role in the OS’s first major Lake District survey and offer extraordinary insights into the social life and landscapes of Cumbria some 160 years ago.

December 9th – Richard Kay – Christmas Carols, Crooners and Customs
A whistlestop tour of Christmas. Richard will perform carols and songs interspersed with poems, stories and information about the traditions we take for granted. From Silent Night to White Christmas, crackers to mince pies and everything in between, plus the chance for us all to get into the festive spirit.

2026

20th January – Richard Wrigley - Cumbria, Grange-over-Sands: a Journey Through Time
Cumbria is England’s most geologically diverse county, famous for the spectacular scenery of the Lake District National Park and surrounding areas. We will travel back 480 million years and examine geological events and processes that have shaped Cumbria, including Grange-over-Sands, over time.

February 3rd – Emma Baylin – The Inspiration of Choirs
Singing in the community has many documented positive impacts. Emma will share her experiences of using creativity and singing to form communities, bring people together behind a shared cause, support each other through adversity, improve health and wellbeing, challenge stigma and most importantly to find joy.

February 17th – Susan Major – Women Railway Workers in World War II
This talk draws upon interviews with wartime women railway workers, using the National Archive of Railway Oral History. Women talk about working with men for the first time, doing men’s work, problems of workplaces not designed for women, the dangers of bombing raids and how they dealt with tricky situations.

March 3rd – Marie Conte-Helm – Japanese Gardens
Historical developments and religious and philosophical influences have informed the Japanese approach to the visual arts. This talk will also draw upon wider examples to illustrate the distinctive qualities that the Japanese have brought to garden design, an approach that has been successfully adapted to modern domestic settings and to Japanese gardens abroad.

March 17th – Andrew Green – A History of Walking
The simple act of walking touches many aspects of human lives. Andrew Green, author of *Voices on the Path: a history of walking in Wales* (2024), explores its rich history, including pilgrimage, droving, tramping, social protest, rambling, environmentalism, walking to and within work, and walking as artistic inspiration.

**GRANGE LECTURE SOCIETY
APPLICATION FORM 2025/26 SEASON**

Name:
Address:
Telephone no:
Email:
Number of season tickets required at £46

I consent to my membership details being held by the Society in accordance with the Data Protection Act.

Please complete this form and bring it to the **Taster Evening on Tuesday 19th August** or, return it to:
Grange Lecture Society, c/o Messrs Gedye & Sons
Chancery House, Kents Bank Road,
Grange-over-Sands LA11 7HD
OR,
c/o Daisyroots Books, Main Street
Grange-over-Sands LA11 6DP
Please submit completed form no later than 7th September 2025.
Where possible please pay by bank transfer to:
Grange Lecture Society
Sort code: 20 45 28
Account no: 63398110. Please use your name as a reference.
OR
Please enclose a cheque payable to Grange Lecture Society with your application by 7th September 2025.
Tickets will be issued after 29th September 2025

President's Message

Welcome to a new year of Grange Lecture Society. Our new Ten Talks programme for 2025-2026 has a range of different subject areas and, we feel, a good appeal to a wide audience of all ages.

We have recruited a magician, a geologist, an ichthyologist (fish expert), a geographer, and an historian of the far east who will talk on Japanese gardens. Other speakers will tell of women's WWII railway work, another will sing and tell us the story of Christmas traditions, one will explain the history of walking and another will describe the inspiring social achievements created by choir singing. We also have the history of local roads and the tale of how the first Ordnance Survey named places in Cumbria 160 years ago.

Once again, we will offer two free talks this year. The free open introductory talk is on Tuesday the 19th of August at 7pm for 7.15pm and is given by our own Prof. Philip Helliwell: All You Wanted to Know About Arthritis. It is followed by drinks and nibbles allowing the audience time to meet the committee, sign up (card machine or cash/cheques) and meet old friends. On Tuesday 23rd September there is a FREE TALK by Stephen Trotter, in association with the excellent Grange Natural History Society. Our Ten Talks programme will then begin on Tuesday 14th of October.

Our fee remains £46 (otherwise £10 per talk at the door). At £4.60 per talk, that's less than a glass of wine for highly informative entertainment. Why not ask friends or a new neighbour to come along, perhaps to the FREE TALK, or maybe treat someone to membership for their birthday? Introducing friends helps boost our numbers and so protects our society for all the community to enjoy. If you would like to get involved, we welcome anyone who can pitch in. The society has remained relevant for over 117 years through volunteers inputting fresh ideas. It's important for Grange and Victoria Hall that we keep it up. Please seek any of us out for a chat. My phone number is 07973 122017. I look forward to seeing you all very soon.

Peter Ratcliffe

GRANGE LECTURE SOCIETY – TRUSTEES

President	Peter Ratcliffe	07973 122017
Treasurer	Steve Skelton	
Secretary	Vacant	
Membership	Vacant	
Programme	Richard Hinchcliffe	07970 247370
Website	Nicky Wood	
Publicity	Vacant	
Programme	Philip Helliwell	

FREE Taster Evening

**Prof. Philip Helliwell: All You ever Wanted to know
About Arthritis**

Tuesday 19th August - 7.00 for 7.15
At the Victoria Hall

**FREE TALK – Stephen Trotter – Grange Natural
History Society - Changing wildlife and
environment of Grange-over-Sands over the last
70 years**

Tuesday 23rd September - 7.00 for 7.15
At the Victoria Hall

In association with Grange Natural History Society

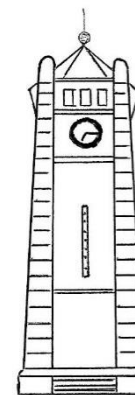
GENERAL INFORMATION

Lectures are held in the Victoria Hall starting at 7.15pm.

Season tickets: £46 Single Lectures: £10

Season tickets for the Ten Talks programme with a reserved seat can be purchased in advance by returning a completed application to Grange Lecture Society, c/o **Messrs Gedy & Sons**, Chancery House, Kents Bank Road, Grange-over-Sands LA11 7HD or c/o **Daisyroots Books**, Main Street, Grange-over-Sands LA11 6DP by 7th September 2025.

Tickets will not be issued before 29th September 2025. Single lecture tickets are only available at the door on the night of the relevant lecture.



GRANGE LECTURE SOCIETY

Founded 1908
Registered Charity No
702671

**TEN
TALKS
2025-2026**

TUESDAYS at 7pm for 7.15pm
In the
VICTORIA HALL
GRANGE OVER SANDS
LA11 6DP