

2026

13th October 2026 – Kate Orvis – Genomics

Genomics is the study of our genes and DNA. It is transforming medicine, from how diseases are diagnosed to how treatments are chosen. During COVID, we became familiar with genomics without realising it. Kate explores genomics in practice, and why ensuring its benefits are shared fairly matters to us all.

27th October 2026 – Peter Jones – Skiddaw Forest – Restoring the nature of a mountain.

Discover the Cumbria Wildlife Trust's Skiddaw Forest Project on England's highest nature reserve – a hundred-year vision, recreating missing woodlands and restoring upland peat bogs, to put nature back on the map in this iconic landscape.

10th November 2026 – Norman Harris – USA Coast to Coast to Coast by Harley-Davidson

After attending Harley-Davidson's 100th fantastic anniversary celebration with his friends and thousands of other riders Norman took a solo trip across the USA seeing parts of the USA that most people will never see!

24th November 2026 – Jenny Fenwick – From Loft to Oz: Adventures of a Mary Quant Dress

It's the Swinging 60s brought to life! Jenny describes the journey that her 1964 Mary Quant dress embarked upon after being found in her loft. From the 2019 London V&A Mary Quant Exhibition to touring venues around the world and appearing in a BBC Documentary.

8th December 2026 – Janet Hargreaves – Bugs, Babies & Bed Baths: Home Nursing in Westmorland before the NHS

Before 1948, home nursing was funded through a patchwork of philanthropy and subscription. Creating services in remote communities was challenging and each nurse required great skill and ingenuity. This talk will use county-wide archives and a study of one village nurse, Mary Kerr, to illustrate Westmorland's remarkable achievement.

2027

19th January 2027 – Mark Hill – Regency Revelations: The Private Journal of a Regency Dandy

Discovered on eBay, the lost 1831–1833 journals of John Margesson reveal the private life of a 'spiteful' Regency gentleman. We piece together his mysterious exile, sexuality, and daily musings. Using his own words and period illustrations, we explore the scandals and finances of a wealthy, opinionated man of means.

2nd February 2027 – John Sexton – Racing Round the World

Award-winning horse racing journalist reflects on a career which took him from Haydock Park to every racecourse in Britain, to Ireland, France and Belgium, across the USA, to Japan, Hong Kong and Melbourne before he became the voice of Cartmel Races.

16th February 2027 – Stan Abbott – Tradition, innovation... and geopolitics: life and times in the Faroe Islands.

Stan Abbott is a journalist, writing for The New World and other publications. He is the author of narrative travel books, including Faroese Days, a personal account of more than 20 years visiting the remote Faroe Islands, which are a North Atlantic Danish protectorate.

2nd March 2027 – Colin Speakman – John Phillips: Yorkshire's Traveller Through Time

York based John Phillips pioneered the geology of the Dales & Yorkshire coast, was a keen walker, astronomer, palaeontologist of world importance, founder of the Yorkshire Museum and the British Association for the Advancement of Science, teacher and travel writer (producing the first railway guide book).

16th March 2027 – Joanne Aston – The Mitford Men

We know of the Mitford sisters. Their mother once sighed "Whenever I see a headline beginning 'Peer's Daughter' I just know one of you children has been in trouble." The various men in their lives were equally interesting. Will the talk be scurrilous? Absolutely!

**GRANGE LECTURE SOCIETY
APPLICATION FORM 2026/27 SEASON**

Name:
Address:
Telephone no:
Email:
Number of Season tickets 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 11th 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 6th September 2026**

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

Enclose a cheque payable to Grange Lecture Society with your application by **6th September 2026**.

Tickets will be issued after **29th September 2026**

GRANGE LECTURE SOCIETY – TRUSTEES

President	Peter Ratcliffe	07973 122017
Treasurer	Steve Skelton	
Secretary	Vacant	
Membership	Vacant	
Programme	Richard Hinchcliffe	01539 756825
Programme	Philip Helliwell	
Website	Nicky Wood	
Publicity	Vacant	

President's Message

Another Autumn and another season for Grange Lecture Society and our TEN TALKS programme. As in recent years we are beginning with two FREE promotional evenings. The first is on Tuesday, August 11th. Everyone is welcome; drinks and nibbles will be provided. Programme Secretary Dr Richard Hinchcliffe kicks us off with a talk about the **Beach Boys** – expect music! We will also have another **FREE** preliminary evening in combination with the Friends of the Kents Bank Station Library on Tuesday, September 22nd. We believe it is a good thing for us to promote the work and membership of other societies and to help Victoria Hall continue with its great work. If you are a member of another society, please think of approaching us for next year's collaboration.

Then our TEN TALKS programme begins on Tuesday 13th of October. Richard and Philip have put together an interesting programme with appeal to everyone in the Grange community. We always try to have a good mix and this year serendipitous speaker availability has gifted us with a range of subjects from nature conservation to 1960s fashion and from motor cycling across America to the regency dandy John Margesson.

Diligence from our treasurer Steve Skelton has increased the financial reserves to comply with the Charities Commission. Thus, we hold our membership fee at £46 or £10 on the night for another 12 months.

As ever we support our lovely Victoria Hall. Our goal is that membership will come back to pre-covid levels, so do come along and bring friends with you. Grange societies need new blood and people with ideas and energy. So, if you have some spare time please join us as an extra pair of hands. Looking forward to another new and interesting year for Grange Lecture Society!

Peter Ratcliffe

FREE Taster Evenings – Both at Victoria Hall Dr Richard Hinchcliffe: The Life and Times of the Beach Boys.

The Beach Boys were the only American band to rival the Beatles in the 60s. This is the story of their beginnings and psychedelic rites of passage, and the story of how pop music lost its innocence.

Tuesday 11 August – 7.00 for 7.15

FREE TALK – Prof. Paul Salveson – The Community Rail Story: A Very British Revolution Tuesday 22 September – 7.00 for 7.15

In association with Kents Bank Railway Library The idea of Community Rail emerged in the 1990s when rural railways faced uncertainty. 'Community rail partnerships' were innovative yet practical ways of making local railways relevant. Paul explores how it began, the results and its future.

GENERAL INFORMATION

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

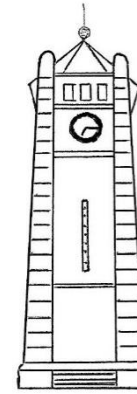
Season tickets: £46

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 Gedye & Sons**, Chancery House, Kents Bank Road, Grange-over-Sands LA11 7HD or, c/o **Daisyroots Books**, Main Street, Grange-over-Sands LA11 6DP by **6th September 2026**.

Tickets will not be issued before **29th September 2026**.

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
2026-2027**

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