

# Monthly Meetings in the Plaza for members and visitors



Doors open at 10 am.

Updated 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024

The meeting will open at 10.30 am

Entrance Fees:      Members £1      Visitors £3

2024	Third Friday of the Month
<p data-bbox="268 757 427 824"><b>15<sup>th</sup> March 2024</b></p> <p data-bbox="260 869 435 902"><b>Helen Frost</b></p> 	<p data-bbox="517 775 1350 808"><b>Keeping Faith at The Front during the First World War.</b></p> <p data-bbox="517 831 1374 1025">Some people had a faith and some did not - so how did the men and women who served in the Great War cope with the constant mental and physical strain that years of war perpetuated?</p> <p data-bbox="517 1106 1378 1140">This illustrated talk focuses mainly on two particular aspects:</p> <p data-bbox="517 1218 1410 1576">Firstly, the extraordinary and unusual true stories and accounts of the unarmed Chaplains and how they not only took and delivered Ministry and faith to the soldiers and nurses at the front lines during the Great War but also how many went far beyond their calling to deliver kindness, reassurance and care during their service. Many were awarded medals for their bravery.</p> <p data-bbox="517 1657 1410 2016">Secondly, there are also true stories and first-hand accounts told by the people that served their country and kept faith, (in a non-religious sense) who trusted in each other during these terrible years of war. Stories of simple, heart-warming acts of kindness given during times of immense stress. Acts that eased the suffering and nerves shattered by the horrors of war.</p>

**19th April  
2024**

**Paul Barwick**



**Eddie Chapman - WW2 Double Agent -The Life and Crimes of Agent Zigzag**

Arnold 'Edward' Chapman was one of the most remarkable men ever employed by the Secret Service Mi5, not least because at the same time he was also a German trained secret agent parachuted in wartime Britain to commit sabotage and spy on his own countrymen. But Eddie Chapman always had a plan. His incredible story, immortalised in the film Triple Cross is a tale of an adventurer, rogue and criminal for who life was an opportunity.

Paul Barwick, who after a career of 34 years in police service has now retired and set up his own walking tour business in London, focused on real Life International espionage.

**17th May  
2024**

**David Duker**



**AGM**

**Followed by**

**The Remarkable story of Battle of Britain pilot Squadron Leader Victor Ekins MBE DFC**

This is the enthralling story of a young man who found himself at the epicentre of one of the biggest turning points in recent history- The Battle of Britain. Guided by the diaries that he meticulously kept throughout his wartime experience and that lay unread for over 80 years, Victor Howard Ekins' story is one of duty, loss, friendship and love. He would meet his wife Kim, a 'plotter' serving at RAF Kenley, during the intensity of the Battle of Britain and their relationship would go on to flourish against all odds. He also rose through the ranks to become a Squadron Leader who was admired and respected by those who served with him.

<p><b>21st June 2024 Alex Leger</b></p> 	<p><b>Alex Leger - Cameraman /Television Producer/Director</b></p> <p><b>Life on the Licence Fee - challenges and change at the BBC</b></p> <p>Luck played its part a when Alex joined the Blue Peter programme in 1975. The presenters were John Noakes, Peter Purves and Lesley Judd. He describes pivotal events in broadcasting and memorable encounters with an erupting volcano, gorillas in Uganda and a life-threatening storm at sea. These and other events like John Noakes climbing Nelson's Column secured his position as a producer for 36 years. Others caused a stir like LuLu the baby elephant who ran amok and created probably the funniest moment in Blue Peter history.</p>
<p><b>19th July 2024 Paul Ollett</b></p>	<p><b>An Australian Tour</b></p>
<p><b>16<sup>th</sup> August 2024</b></p>	<p><b>Summer Event</b></p>
<p><b>20<sup>th</sup> September 2024 Graham Short</b></p>	<p><b>My Life as a Micro-Artist</b></p>
<p><b>18<sup>th</sup> October 2024 Bozena Kuncewicz</b></p>	<p><b>Polish Resettlement Camp Husband Bosworth/Sulby 1948 - 1958</b></p>