

TALKS & PRESENTATIONS 2011/ 2012

All meetings are held in the Verona Suite at the **Falcon Hotel**, Chapel Street, Stratford-upon-Avon. Guests pay £5 to attend the talk (refundable if taking out membership). Afterwards there is an opportunity to meet the speaker and enjoy a free glass of wine.

Monday, 19 September 2011 at 6.15pm
Putting the heart back into the Town Centre. Gordon Reid, Oxford City Centre Manager, will talk about what constitutes good town centre management and how it can contribute to a strong and commercially successful retail sector. He will draw on examples from Oxford and other locations. Gordon is a member of the ATCM National Advisory Panel, a pioneer of the UK town centre management movement and a government advisor on town centre management.

Monday, 17 October 2011 at 6.15pm
Better by Design – how High Street and Bridge Street could be improved. Colin Davis, one of the country's leading urban designers, prepared Stratford's Streetscape project in 2005. The Society's highly regarded Historic Spine project is based on his recommendations. He is returning to review progress and to put forward some new ideas on possible ways of improving Bridge Street.

Monday, 21 November 2011 at 6.15pm
Learning by Example – how have other historic towns overcome the problems that now beset Stratford? Chris Winter will look back at the lessons learned during her 13 years as Director of the Historic Towns Forum and talk about the interventions that worked well – and those that did not – and most importantly, what lessons can we learn to guide future actions?

Monday, 20 February 2012 at 7.30pm
Tourists – love them, hate them, they are Stratford's lifeblood. Tony Merrygold, Managing Director of Shakespeare Country, will show how tourism drives the town centre economy. He will

discuss changing patterns of tourism in the UK – more visitors from Asia and fewer from North America - and look at future prospects. He will also reflect on how the town might respond to make best use of its visitor assets.

Monday, 5 March 2012 at 7.00pm
Annual General Meeting

Following the AGM, Peter Jefferson, who is often dubbed the 'Voice of the Shipping Forecast'. Peter will talk about his 40 year career with the BBC and his book 'And now the Shipping Forecast'.

Monday, 16 April 2012 at 7.30pm

Re-inventing the Birthplace. Dr Diana Owen, Director of the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, will talk about the origins of the Trust and the challenge it faces. The Trust is a private charity and has to keep up with changing technology to sustain its income. Applications for hand-held ipads and other communication devices are already widely used and members will be introduced to the Trust's new 'app' which uses material from the archives and virtual reality to guide visitors round the Trust's properties and the town.

SOCIAL EVENTS AND VISITS

Thursday, 29 September 2011 at 2.30pm
Guided tour of St Mary's Church, Warwick including the Beauchamp Chantry, 'the finest medieval chapel in England'
No charge. Further details to follow.

Wednesday, 12 October 2011 at 2.30pm
Private visit to the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust Archives. (15 people). This is a unique opportunity to view rare items relating to local and Shakespearean history. Not normally available to the public, these items will be removed from the vaults and placed in the Boardroom for our exclusive enjoyment. Library and Archive staff will explain the significance and history of the items and answer any questions.
Tickets £8 each

Friday, 2 December 2011 at 7.30pm
Christmas Party – Stratford-upon-Avon Town Hall. An evening of music, mulled wine and mince pies. The Warwickshire County Boys' choir, runners up in the 2010 BBC Choir of the Year, will entertain us together with Jeffery Dench who makes a welcome return.
Tickets £10 each. Further details to follow.

Thursday, 8 March 2012 at 10.30am
Guided tour of the Gurdwara Sahib (Sikh Temple), Leamington Spa.
Maximum 30 people
No charge. Further details to follow

Spring 2012
Visit to 13C Astley Castle, nr Nuneaton. The Landmark Trust has invited Society members to pay a return visit to Astley Castle. Before opening to the public, members will be able to view the conversion from a derelict castle into one of their prestigious holiday homes.
Further details to follow.

Wednesday, 16 May 2012 at 2.30pm
Private visit to Honington Hall, nr Shipston-on-Stour (20 people). Benjamin Wiggin will give members a private tour of this wonderful 17th century manor house & gardens which are not normally open to the public.
Tickets £8 each.
Further details to follow

Wednesday, 13 June 2012 at 2pm
Private visit to Stanway House and gardens, nr Cheltenham. An outstandingly beautiful Jacobean manor house. Stanway House is also home to the Stanway Fountain, the tallest in Britain.
Tickets £10 each to include tea and cakes.
Further details to follow

Friday, 6th July 2012 at 7.30pm
Chairman's Summer Party.
An evening garden party at Charlecote Park.
Further details to follow.

ABOUT THE STRATFORD SOCIETY

We were established as a civic society in 1966 to help maintain the character and appearance of this world famous market town. We are a registered charity and an active member of the Historic Towns Forum.

We are frequently involved in discussions with all three local councils on matters affecting the town's heritage and built environment. We are also often invited to chair important working groups and we work closely with all the major organisations in the town to safeguard our heritage.

Our programme of meetings and presentations is designed to focus attention on important local conservation and historical issues. We investigate emerging "good practice" and stimulate debate about matters affecting the quality and attractiveness of the town. We also organise seminars and study tours to enable us to learn from the experience of other historic towns.

Our innovative projects include a long-term plan to upgrade the Historic Spine – the route from the Birthplace to Holy Trinity. This project includes the improvement of shop fronts to complement the distinguished buildings along the route and the removal of unnecessary signage to allow a better view of the town's historic heritage. We also liaise with local schools on projects to encourage architectural and historical appreciation of the major assets of the town.

If you wish to join the Stratford Society, please contact the Membership Secretary, Ian Fradgley, 01789 266369

Subscriptions

Individual	£17.50
Joint Household	£23.00
Corporate	£35.00

VICE PRESIDENTS

Elizabeth Creak, Ian Heggie, Geoffrey Lees,
Patricia McFarland, Roger Pringle

GENERAL COMMITTEE

Chairman

Kevin Bond – 07767 616616

Vice Chairman

Ian Prosser – 01789 740072

Secretary

Wendy Temple – 01608 661698

Treasurer

Bertie Tuckey – 01789 204547

Membership Secretary

Ian Fradgley – 01789 266369

Photographer

Dick Prior – 01789 842103

Programme Secretary

Jean Clymer – 01789 269183

Other General Committee Members

Peter Burgess, Paul Burley,
Roger Davis, Beryl Downing,
Roger Pringle, Brian Wright
Will Hawkes (affiliated member)

PROGRAMME CARD 2011/12



PRESIDENT
Sir Brian Follett

Website: www.stratfordsociety.co.uk
Email: info@stratfordsociety.co.uk

Charity Registration
The Stratford upon Avon Society No. 251182