

Augustinians Programme 2019 – 2020

7<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Speaker: Sub Prior Bro John Walker

Talk: “The Rudston Constable’s Book”

About the talk: A glimpse into the complicated task of a Village Constable in the 1850’s at Rudston

About the speaker – *to follow*

21<sup>st</sup> October 2019

Speaker: Jenny Ashby

Talk: "The Anglo-Saxons and their legacy".

About the talk: I will discuss the origins of the Anglo-Saxon peoples and why they came to Britain then will explore the ways they influenced - and are still influencing - Britain today. Illustrated throughout, my talk will include several Yorkshire photos towards the end.

About the speaker: I'm a member of the Witan, which is the governing body of the English Companions, a history society which is interested in the history and culture of Anglo-Saxon England. I am co-editor of their quarterly magazine. I'm particularly interested in the art and architecture of the Anglo-Saxon period as well as the historical events and kingdoms of the times. I'm also the secretary of the Battle of Stamford Bridge Heritage Society.

28<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Speaker: Delia Smith

Talk: “ Childhood Memories of Wartime Bridlington”

About the talk: The talk will be illustrated with photos and resources from the library archives

About the speaker: I was born in Bridlington in 1935, the seventh child. A week before my first birthday mother died, leaving Dad to bring up seven children aged between 15 and 1.

My sisters looked after me, that’s how I visited the bomb sites from early 1940 through 41. I witnessed first hand the devastation inflicted upon the town. It wasn’t reported, the news was censored. I also witnessed the build up of whole regiments in Bridlington and the surrounding areas.

4<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Speaker: Michelle Stephens

Talk title: "The Odd Side of the High Street"

About the talk: Take a walk along the High Street, looking at the history of the buildings and their occupants, using censuses and directories.

About the speaker: When Michelle and Frederick married 5 years ago, they could not decide where to set up home together, and Michelle said to Frederick, who lived off Pinfold Lane, "If I move to Bridlington, it will only be to the Old Town!" So 3 years ago they moved to the High Street and she joined the Augustinians, and is eager to learn more of the area, and share her enthusiasm.

November 18<sup>th</sup>

Speaker: Chris Gatenby

Talk: Titanic – the links to Bridlington and area

About the talk: What links a First world war submarine wreck off of Flamborough; the 1913 Derby; a violinist in the Bridlington Municipal Orchestra of the early 1900's? They are all connected to the Titanic story

About the speaker: Chris is originally from down south, but has now lived in Rudston for over 40 years. Her history interests include Bridlington Old Town, the Titanic and the family history of her own family and that of the Gatenbys.

November 25<sup>th</sup>

Speaker: Bro Fred Walkington MBE

Talk "Spurn Point"

About the talk: The talk is a new look at the history of Spurn point the changes and the uses it has been put to over the years through the people who lived on the point, and how recent changes have impacted on the area.

About the speaker: Fred Walkington was born in Bridlington where he lives with his wife Carol.

His family have lived in Bridlington and Flamborough since 1720.

They have been connected with the Lifeboat since 1871 that can be traced.

Fred joined the Bridlington lifeboat crew in 1965 at the age of 19 after being part of the launching crew for 3 years.

In 1975 he became the youngest RNLI volunteer Coxswain in the country.

He held the position as Coxswain for 25 years, until he had to stand down on reaching the RNLI'S age limit of 55 for lifeboat crew members.

In 48 years connected with the RNLI he went on 427 service launches as a volunteer lifeboat man.

He was awarded 2 RNLI bronze medals, 5 RNLI Thanks on Vellum certificates and several RNLI letters of thanks in recognition of outstanding lifesaving rescues.

In 200 years of its existence there have been 6 Bridlington lifeboat service launches to which RNLI medals have been awarded, Fred has been on 5 of these launches, 3 as a crew member, 2 as Coxswain. An unparalleled feat at Bridlington.

During the time he served on the lifeboat, it was officially credited by the RNLI with saving 420 lives.

His youngest son Grant has been a lifeboat crew member since the age of 17, now holding the position of coxswain and continues the long family tradition with the Bridlington Lifeboat.

The first Walkington was recorded as being a crew member of one the two lifeboats that took part in rescues during the great gale of the 10<sup>th</sup> February 1871.

In the Queen's 2001 New Years honours list, Fred was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire, MBE. For his contribution to Maritime Safety.

In 2005 Fred published a book detailing the history of the Bridlington Lifeboats since its founding in 1805, 19 years before the Royal National Institution for the Preservation of Life from Shipwrecks forerunner of the RNLI was formed.

All the money from the sale of these books Fred and his wife Carol have donated to the RNLI.

Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>

Christmas Evening

6<sup>th</sup> January

Speaker: Mr Richard Myerscough. BA.,Cert.Ed.,Cert.Arch.,ADES.,QTS.,FMF.

Talk: "The History of Queensgate Allotments"

About the talk: The talk is on the on going investigations into the history of Queensgate Allotments and is presented in two halves (you will have to invite me back next year if you want part two!) with evidence stretching back some 150,000 years and artefacts stretching back some 10,000 years when our hunter gatherer

ancestors wandered Doggerland. As well as flint tools from various ages we also find pottery from the Roman Period (suggesting the presence of a cemetery?) and the Medieval Period.

About the speaker: I am a retired teacher and part time tutor for University of Hull and Open University as well as a former tutor for WEA and Bishop Burton College teaching Archaeology, Geology, Geography, Environmental Studies, Student Welfare, Church Building Stones and Landscape Studies.

I am a Fellow of PLACE and presently chair the Queensgate Allotment Society and the UNESCO Geoparks Project for East Yorkshire.

### 20<sup>th</sup> January

Talk: "Roman York"

Speaker: Mr. Len Collins

About the talk: A look at the Roman occupation of York, how the city developed, with details of the life of the inhabitants, the history of that period, what can be seen today of the old city. Also a look at how York featured in the wider history of the Empire at that time and what happened after the Romans left.

About the speaker: I have spent most of my working life in teaching science or working in the pharmaceutical business. I moved to the Bridlington area in 2008, after early retirement.

### 27<sup>th</sup> January

Speaker: Bro Rick Hudson

Talk: "Hard Times 1850 to 1950"

About the talk: This talk takes a look at the lives of the poorer section of society in the 1850 to 1950 period with a necessarily superficial look at the many influences involved. The story is brought to life using the records of local people and also examples from Rick's own family history

About the speaker: Rick was born in Hull but has lived in Bridlington with his wife Ann for over 50 years. He worked as an engineering manager in a number of operational and construction roles in the process industries before retiring 20 years ago. Since then local history has been one of his main interests.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> February

Speaker: Bro Martin Wallace

The Talk: “The Alex – Murders, Mysteries and Merry-Making”

About the talk: In the colourful history of the majestic ALEXANDRA HOTEL, which stood on North Beach for over a century, we meet the acid bath murderer, pop stars and their groupies, nobility, an inventor and a novelist, the naughty Prince of Wales and badly behaved staff all mixed with heart-wrenching and heart-warming anecdotes of both fun-loving guests and hard-working owners. All this is set in the context of the varying fortunes of England, its seaside resorts and Bridlington in particular. Martin Wallace’s book THE ALEX was published in 2019.

About the speaker: Martin made a definite decision to move to Bridlington once he retired as Bishop of Selby some years ago, a decision he has never once regretted. Having lived in eighteen addresses through his life, local history has always intrigued him, wanting to know what makes people and places the way they are. So now, living on the site of the old Alexandra Hotel, the urge to research the human drama behind the hotel’s story was too great to resist. After ten years of collecting material, he decided there was enough material for a book: THE ALEX was published in 2019.

10<sup>th</sup> February

Refection

17<sup>th</sup> February

Speaker: Mr Roger Stanley

Talk: “Bridlington: The Railway 1846 to 1946”

About the talk: Bridlington railway station and yards have had an interesting history over the first 100 years of their existence. The talk investigates this history, which covers the establishment of a significant infrastructure, which is no longer to be seen, and the people who were involved.

About the speaker: Roger is a Chartered Engineer who has spent a large part of his working career designing and developing gas turbines and turbochargers. He has a keen interest in engineering history, in particular the period of the industrial revolution, and since moving to Bridlington, a fascination in what was an extensive rail infrastructure in the town.

24<sup>th</sup> February

Members’ Evening

2<sup>nd</sup> March

Speaker: Dr David Neave

Talk: 'East Riding Revisited – Fifty years research on the history and architecture of East Yorkshire'

About the talk: An illustrated lecture exploring aspects of the history of towns and villages of the East Riding, focussing on the lives of some of the lesser known 'celebrities' who once lived here. New facts about some of the regions 'legends', including the story of the Stricklands of Boynton and the turkey, will be revealed

About the speaker: Dr Neave has been researching writing and talking on the history of East Yorkshire for over 50 years, and has written numerous books and articles on the subject, many with his wife Susan., including two on Bridlington for the Lords Feoffees. He was formerly Senior Lecturer in Regional and Local History at the University of Hull. Dr Neave has spoken to the Augustinians many times; the first time was over 40 years ago in the Bayle when the projector bulb exploded.

16<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – this meeting was postponed due to Covid 19 pandemic restrictions

Speaker: Bro Robin Sharpe MA

Talk: "Marina or Mirage"

About the talk: 'Marina or Mirage' sets out to examine the various proposals that there have been to develop a Marina at Wiltsthorpe, Bridlington and Flamborough from 1969 onwards. There have been numerous discussions with individual developers, the Bridlington Harbour Commissioners and the various Local Authorities that have come and gone. Throughout all the negotiations that there have been we are left with two questions - What has it all cost? and Has anything been achieved?

About the speaker: 2020 marks 40 years since I became involved with the Bayle Museum. I have been a member of the Augustinian Society since 1981 and an Honorary Member since 2013. Bro. John Walker read my first Members' Evening paper for me in March 1985 - he and other members of the Society have read papers for me almost every year since then.