

North Yorkshire West Federation WI - Speakers List - updated 31st July 2025																		
TITLE	CONTACT	Animals	Arts & Crafts	Charities	Cooking	Entertainment	Fashion	Fitness Dancing	Gardens,	History &	IT & Cyber	Life	Wills, Trusts,	FACE TO FACE	ZOOM	EMAIL	COST	NOTES
BAKING	Mike Armstrong				Y							Y		Y		bakery11@hotmail.co.uk	£100	Up to 75mins travelling time from Keighley. fee includes travel costs. 75 minute demonstration and recipes sent via email before meeting. Require 2 large tables and an oven Does different themes Christmas, Afternoon Treats etc. Please ask. Includes 6 bakes and fun fact history.
BACKSTAGE AND BEYOND	Zoe Phillips											Y		Y		bydeckleandhyde@gmail.com	£65	Plus travel at 45ppm. Will travel 50-60 mins from Wetherby. Requires internet access projector and screen with sound Working for 12 years at the Royal Opera House looking after their Armoury needs. Including gun safety and making all accoutrements. Her clients now include the Royal armouries, opera North and Hamilton the Musical. She shares her skills and tutors at Henshaw's art and crafts centre working with adults with additional needs.
BEHIND THE MORTUARY DOOR	Will Adams											Y		Y		shelaghgarside516@gmail.com	£120 including transport and expenses	Covers North Yorkshire & North East but will travel further. No equipment or min/max numbers. Will is a Trade Embalmer and travels to a number of different Funeral Homes in the Yorkshire area. He has been in the Funeral Business for over 30 years caring for over 25000 of peoples loved ones who have passed away and is an expert in his field.Will gives is a short history of embalming, how and why he became an Embalmer. An insight into what happens to loved ones when they pass away is explained with respect and caring and why they may be embalmed. Will takes questions during his talk and answers the difficult questions people would like to know and are sometimes unsure of asking at the time a funeral is arranged. The talk can last for around 2 hours dependant on how many questions are asked and is given with professional and expert knowledge but with touches of humour.
CHOICE OF THREE: 1. SCALPEL TO SPADE. 2. NATURE FOR GOOD HEALTH. 3. ENCOURAGING NATURE INTO YOUR GARDEN	Helen Neave								Y			Y		Y		helen@makeitwild.co.uk	£60	Talk 1. This recalls a drastic career change; the others are self explanatory. Helen requires a table and a slide projector and a suitable wall, or screen. Area covered includes, Harrogate, Northallerton, York, Richmond and Darlington. There may be travel charges.
LIFE OF A TV/FILM EXTRA	David Grant											y		Y		davidh.grant@icloud.com	£50	Plus 25ppm travel. David will travel 70 miles radius of Northallerton He would welcome any questions he currently covers All Creatures Great and Small Choral, Victorian Gentleman Jack, Crown, Peaky Blinders etc. He will show you shots of screened filming . About 1 hour.
MAD ENGLISH WOMAN ETC.	Ginny Davis											y		Y	Y	ginnydavis2860@gmail.com	£100	per group £200 for groups. Ginny lives in Warwickshire so it will be predominantly via zoom but you can ask if she will consider face to face. A former criminal barrister and actress,. Ginny has 4 talks to choose from. 1.To the fringe and beyond, comedic plays, court and the Edinburgh Fringe. 2.From Pillory to the Prison Cell short history of criminal punishment. 3.What Lies beneath the surface High court judges, kc's and actors and a death in a canal. 4.Mad English Woman, Three Dogs and the midday sun. The history of man's relationship with dogs and the tale with a twist, of a British tourist's effort to rehome three barrel dogs from Crete

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MY CANAL MANIA	Geoff Lambert											Y			Y	geoff.lambert2@ntlworld.com	£50	A visual jaunt through the canals of Britain from someone who has walked every canal, 2400 miles. How he did it and the beauty of it. ZOOM ONLY A retired gentleman who is now partway through the coast of England.
MY STORY -THE CREATION OF A CHARITY IN KENYA												Y		Y		ashley.peatfield@outlook.com	£55	Follow Ashley's journey to a remote island in Kenya facing armed gunmen to save sick the lives of children, provide thousands of meals each week to malnourished children and see youngsters from mud huts attend University.
NORTH POLE EXPEDITION	Misba Khan											Y			Y	kmisba@yahoo.co.uk	£50	
RIDING FOR THE DISABLED	Jacque Warner											Y		Y		jacque.warner@btinternet.com	Donation	Will come and explain everything they do which includes developing activities to support those on a waiting list.
SHOUT IT OUT FROM THE ROOFTOPS -A TERMINAL CANCER HEALING!	Lizzie Emery											Y		Y		clemary@btinternet.com	No fee	Lizzie talks about her recovery from 'terminal' pancreatic cancer. She has written a book to help other cancer or serious illness sufferers, their families, friends and medical careers. She will travel 1hours drive from Richmond N Yorks.
SURVIVOR OF A TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY	Rob Duckworth											Y		Y		robduckworthuk@aol.com	£200	Rob covers North and West Yorkshire, no min/max people.
THE CURSE OF THE STICKY TOFFEE PUDDING	Malcolm Warne											Y		Y		malcolm.warne@btinternet.com	£50	Based in the Darlington area and covers N. Yorks His talk covers his recollections and anecdotes about 25 years writing dining out reviews for The Darlington and Stockton Times and The Northern Echo.
THE CUSTOMER IS ALWAYS RIGHT	Janet Wright											Y		Y		wrightjanet@hotmail.co.uk	£55	Will travel within a 30 mile radius of Ripon. Travel expenses art WI rates anywhere outside Ripon. Requires a screen. Follow Janet's light-hearted story after she changed her career in teaching to hotel management. She trained the staff but NOT the customers!
TOY TOWN TO BUCKINGHAM PALACE	John Stirling											Y		Y		johnsterling3@outlook.com	£75	John tells how he and Judi Dench built the Actor's Donkey Sanctuary 30 years ago. John was the first child chosen by Enid Blyton to play the part of Noddy in the West End. Hence, the reference to Toytown. After many TV shows, 12 plays and 3 movies John gave up acting aged 17. He then went into directing producing such shows as The Royal Variety and Coronation Street. He has covered many things including the Royal Donkeys and Morecombe and Wise and has many funny tales to tell. He is well known in the WI and has presented to 517 WI's so far. His journey started with Mrs Kearns at Alma House. John will travel anywhere so there will be petrol added to his fee. He is looking forward to meeting you all.
WEDDING IN ISTANBUL	Sally Mabey											Y			Y	sally.maybe@ntlworld.com	£30	ZOOM ONLY Contact for further info.
WOMEN AND EMPOWERMENT PRE MID LIFE AND POST MIDLIFE	Lisa Moore											Y		Y		moorelife10@yahoo.com	£150 to speak, offers books to sell - % back to the organiser	Covers North West mainly but will travel. Fee includes expenses and costs - if over 15 miles there is a charge of mileage. Lisa can speak to an audience of 35-40. Lisa has written a book of spoken word poetry covering many areas of women's lives - it is about embracing changes eg menopause/ageing/caring/grieving/love & loss.

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A VARIETY OF WORKSHOPS	Rachel Hutton		y											y		rayepoole@yahoo.co.uk	£200+	
FINE ART, MIXED MEDIA AND TEXTILES	Ailish Henderson		y												Y	flounderingfish@googlemail.com	£95	How to take you individual stories and use them creatively. A book has just been issued.
HAWLEY'S AUCTIONEERS	Caroline Hawley		Y											Y		info@hawley's.info	£250	Several talks covering a wide range of subjects and takes of TV.A screen is helpful but can bring one if needed. No area limit so 45p p er mile for fuel on top of cost.
HAWLEY'S AUCTIONEERS	Caroline Hawley		Y											Y		info@hawley's.info		Caroline has been around salerooms since childhood. She was trained in London in drama but prefers to concentrate on antiques. Learning on the job and studying everything she could, she opened her first shop at 20 years old. She travels around antique fairs and also teaches as well as being a TV expert on antiques.
MAKING LAVENDER WANDS	Fergus Corrigan		y											Y		fergus.corrigan@northernlavender.co.uk	Free	No charge for talks. Situated between Thirsk and Ripon Will be open for visits 2025 and have a café etc. by then
MY LIFE AS AN ILLUSTRATOR	Allison Gardiner		y												Y	alison@alisongardiner.co.uk	£30	Email speaker for info.
PATCHWORK	Liza Jones		y												Y	info@abucon.co.uk	£60	Minimum donation for East Anglian Air Ambulance. A talk with a whole suitcase full of patchwork examples. The talks are zoom only. Can include technical workshop
THE HISTORY OF BUTTONS	Michelle Horton		Y				Y							Y		michellehorton@live.com	£40-£55	Michelle is a WI member and only travels the local Harrogate area; she will travel slightly further if asked. The cost depends on the size of the group attending. She will step in at the last minute for local WI's if needed. She delivers 2 talks; Part 1 is the history of buttons up until the 19th century and she brings many historical buttons to show how they have evolved.. Part 2 brings it up to the present date also with many exhibits. A very unusual and interesting story.
WHAT INSPIRES ART?	Kevin Byron		y											Y		kcbyron2@gmail.com	Travel expenses	Presentation exploring the creative process, creative ideas and how the awareness of creative patterns can enhance our own creativity. Secondly capturing from over 100 artists, sculptors and photographers for inspiration. Has had me any endorsements as being a really interesting subject.
WILLOW WEAVING	Christine Burdin		y											Y		christineburdin@art-room.co.uk	£75	A talk on Willow weaving. If an item is made the cost is £15-£20 per person plus travel expenses. All equipment is provided. You can do some weaving if desired.
A BIT OF A BREAK	Paula Hunt			Y										Y		paula@abitofabreak.com	No fee	A charity set up by a lady who passed away from ovarian cancer at age 50. It sources and gifts holidays to families living with terminal illness. They share the joys of some incredible holidays organised from 2016. Based in Ilkley and cover a 50 mile radius to give talks. Require screen and projector.
CREATIVE FABRIC UPCYLCING	Glynis Learmonth			Y										Y		glynislearmonth@yahoo.co.uk	£30+trav	
HARROGATE FAIR TRADE SHOP	Diane Maguire			y										Y		outreach@harrogatefairtrade.org.uk	Donation + travel for 2	Range of fairtrade topics linked to products available in their shop. Including climate change and the environment AV link and Wi-Fi if possible and will present from 8 to 80

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HERRIOT HOSPICE HOMECARE. JUST B AND ST MICHAEL'S HOSPICE,	Lucy Turner			Y										Y		Lucy.Turner@heriothh.org.uk	Donation	A talk from Lucy about care at all three of these institutions. She covers all of N Yorks. Screen required for this presentation.
HOMELESSNESS - HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT	Marian Farrar			Y										Y		marian@hhphostel.org	£50 single donation per session. Travel 45p per mile if outside Harrogate	Interactive workshop for 12 people and over, suggest a minimum of 10. This talk would require a screen and projector and attendees to sit at tables of 4-6 people. If you have a smart monitor a HDMI lead can be provided if notified. The talk aims to increase understanding of homelessness and how you can support as a volunteer or fundraiser.
JENNYRUTH WORKSHOPS	Nicky Newell			y										Y		CEO@jennyruth.co.uk	see notes	The production of wooden items by adults with learning disabilities. They will travel within a 25 mile radius of Ripon. No fee for talks but £10 per head for a Painting workshop I'm sure a donation for talks would be welcome. Jennyruth's workers gain confidence independence and life skills. Making a range of hand made and bespoke goods. And training in numeracy, literacy, computers etc.
LEPROSY MISSION GB	Kit Owen-Smith - Community Partnerships Manager, NE England			Y										Y		Kitos@lm.org.uk	£70 transport & expenses extra	A talk for at least 10 people. A laptop, projector, screen and speakers can be provided. Aim is to bring leprosy to the attention of the public - it is still a significant disease across the world - and dispel some myths. People are invited to become part of the mission.
MARTIN HOUSE CHILDREN'S HOSPICE	Rebecca Taylor			y										Y		getinvolved@martinhouse.org.uk	Donation	Based in Boston Spa Martin House cares for children with life limiting conditions and support families.. The talk will focus on enhancing quality of life and the creation of memory making moments. Screen & projector beneficial but not necessary.
MEDICAL DETECTION DOGS		Y		y														See Animals tab
OSCAR'S BRAIN TUMOUR	Rachel James			y										Y		rachel@oscarspbtc.org		Set up after the death of Oscar Hughes the charity gives support and care for children with brain tumours and their families.
SASH, SAFE AND SOUND HOMES	Aimee Harding			y										Y	Y	fundraising@sash-uk.org.uk	Donation	SASH works to prevent homelessness for people aged 16-25. Using Homes of Hosts providing a stable home environment. Combined with support and education.
TRADESCANTS	Lesley Newnam			Y						Y				Y		l.newnam45@gmail.com		An extraordinary story of a humble father and son who were skilled at gardening, planting and collecting and searching the known world for curiosities. They served the highest in the land in the 16th and 17th centuries and amassed a private collection which became the basis for the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford. Lesley is from Wetherby and has several other talks. Please email her for information.
YORKSHIRE AIR AMBULANCE	Clare Deacon			Y										Y		C.Deacon@yaa.org.uk	Donation	YAA is a life saving charity flying 2 helicopters to around 5 incidents daily which costs £19,000 per day.
AFTERNOON TEA ETIQUETTE BARONESS BOLSOVER	Linda Jane Holmes				y									Y	Y	LindaJaneHolmes@hotmail.co.uk	£90+Travel	The do's and don'ts of afternoon tea etiquette. Bring along a napkin, teaspoon, cup, and saucer and learn the afternoon tea experience in the reign of Queen Victoria

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DAYTONES BARBERSHOP HARMONY CLUB	Joe Dod				y									Y		jl.dod@btinternet.com	£160	4 part male close harmony in the Barbershop style. Harrogate, Wetherby, York, Knaresborough area. 15 to 25 members will come to sing. They would prefer audience of 40 or more and encourage you to join in. Includes demonstrations and lasts 60 mins.
NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR	Graham Taylor				Y									Y		gptaylorbooks@gmail.com	no fee, will sell books to cover travel	I am a New York Times best selling author who has written 20 books and 2 films, is a regular guest on TV and radio and wrote a column for the Yorkshire Post for 15 years. He would love to talk to your groups about my time when I served as a police officer and a priest at the same time in rural Yorkshire. It is a sort of James Herriot meets father Brown set in Heartbeat country. I can talk about creative writing and how to do it and how to get published. He also talk about his time when he was a copper and a vicar at the same time. He can include a true ghost story if needed. My most recent book just out is Pig in the Pulpit. There is no minimum number of people required
ORIGINAL POETRY ABOUT TAN HILL/DEMISE OF STEAM/INDUSTRY IN THE NORTH	Peter Richardson				Y									Y		rantin2014@gmail.com	fee negotiable depending on event	No specific equipment required unless over 100 people. Original poetry
POETRY & MUSIC	James Baravore				Y									Y		jimfarrell300@gmail.com	£50 + 45p per mile, selling books	PA required for larger rooms. He is a poet, musician and singer. His book of Poems, prose and song, “Second Generation” relates to being the son of Irish immigrants. The talk contains narrative, poetry, tunes (penny whistle) and ‘a capella’ verse.The subject matter varies from comical to tragic. Subjects covered; displacement, isolation, loss of direction, life and death, social equality, success and failure, sadness and happiness. Is happy to take questions. Website james-baravore.com
RYTHMIC RHYMING ENTERTAINMENT	Mike Smith				y									Y		mikesmith@mypostoffice.co.uk	£1 pp min £40	Mike will travel up to 60 miles from Howden East Yorkshire; but ask & he might go further. There will be transport costs on top of the fee.
TALKS BY HOWARD SLATER	Howard Slater				y										Y	howardslater@rocketmail.com	£75	Howard has 18 talks to choose from Charlie Chaplin, Bob Hope, East End of London, Audrey Hepburn, Glen Miller, Sammy Davis Jr, History of Rock and Roll, Frank Sinatra, History of Photography and early cinema films, Christmas with the Rat Pack, Richard Rogers, The good old days, Andre Rieu, Neil Diamond, Antiques The Real Deal, Old Musicals, lucrative stolen inventions. Recommend contact to discuss
ALL STEPS FIRST DANCE LTD	Kiri Cullen						Y							Y		info@allstepsfirstdance.co.uk	1hr - £190, 1.5 hrs £260	Yorkshire covered. Has provided dance classes to a few of the WI groups across the country as a team building/get together/celebration, regular or one off. Classes are run by qualified, insured and DBS checked teachers and we can offer a range of styles and levels of abilities. Chosen styles include Bollywood, Salsa and ABBA themed. Discount if more than one class is booked/scheduled.
DANCING FOR WELL-BEING	Jackie Norton						y							Y		Jackie.Norton@dancing for wellbeing.org	£50 donation	£40 Donation for small groups. Movement to music that could be done seated or standing. Covering Harrogate, Knaresborough, Ripon, Nidderdale, Boroughbridge area. Best with people & chairs in a semi circle. This would be a 45-60 minute taster session You will be given details of 12 week groups running in your area that you can join.

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CHOCOLATIER	Jane Napper				y										Y	simplychocolatewhitstable@gmail.com	£45	60 min zoom talk and demo of chocolate work
EAST MEETS WEST	Perveen Ahmad				y										Y	perveen.ahmad786@googlemail.com	£35	Talk regarding S Asian culture and food suggest contact
SAFFRON	Liza Jones				y										Y	Info@abucon.co.uk	£60	minimum donation for East Anglian Air Ambulance The most expensive spice, held in high esteem by royalty aristocracy, from Ancient Egypt to Modern times
SAVVY SHOPPING	Liza Jones				y										Y	info@abucon.co.uk	£60	Minimum Donation for East Anglia Air Ambulance unearthing the marketeers ways of getting us to part with our hard earned money. Why is thick bubble bath no better than thin, what is brand stretch etc.
3. MENSTRUATION	Liza Jones									y					Y	info@abucon.co.uk	£60	Minimum donation for East Anglian Air Ambulance 3. A frank talk through the ages & brining it up to date
4. THE PAINTED FACE	Liza Jones									y					Y	info@abucon.co.uk	£60	Minimum donation to the East Anglian Air Ambulance 4. Hope in a jar. From ancient Egypt to modern day.
5. ORANGES AND LEMONS	Liza Jones									y					Y	info@abucon.co.uk	£60	Minimum donation for East Anglian Air Ambulance 5. Citrus fruit are far more than just food. How Paris was saved by lemonade & much more.
1. KNICKERS	Liza Jones									y					Y	info@abucon.co.uk	£60	Minimum donation for East Anglian Air Ambulance. These talks are zoom only 1. The History of underwear. With examples . Most popular and entertaining.
1. THE GREAT THORPE RAILWAY DISASTER	Phyllida Scrivens									y					Y	phyllida.scrivens@icloud.com	£60	For a 1 hour ZOOM ONLY Biographer, writer and Public Speaker Phyllida gives an interesting exploration of this railway disaster near Norwich. The court of enquiry and the people with a story to tell. One of four Talks available.
1. THE WOODLAND TRUST & HACKFALL 2. THE WOODLAND TRUST AT SNAIZEHOLME 3. THE WOODLAND TRUST IN GENERAL TERMS	David Mason								y					Y		hackfalltalks@btinternet.com	Donation	Min £50 to the woodlands Trust, David will cover the whole of the North Yorkshire West Area. David is a volunteer for the Woodlands Trust and lives near Hackfall. He has been delivering his talks to encourage awareness for over 10 years. https://petermathers.weebly.com
2. BEHIND THE BATHROOM DOOR	Liza Jones									y					Y	info@abucon.co.uk	£60	Minimum Donation for East Anglian Air Ambulance these talks are zoom only 2. A look at how we've kept clean..or not; plus the possible demise of the modern toilet.
2. WHEN THE MEDICS CAME TO NORWICH	Phyllida Scrivens									y					Y	phyllida.scrivens@icloud.com	£60	Prequel to the railway disaster, explained by the attendance at a grand dinner with notable guests and their tales.
20th CENTURY HISTORY and the BBC	Colin Philpott									Y				Y	Y	colinmphilpott@yahoo.co.uk	£75 +travel	Colin gives several talks via Zoom or in person about WW2 and other historical facts during his time with the BBC. He covers all of the Federation area at 50p per mile; places within half hour travel of his home are not charged mileage. Requires a screen and projector with HDMI lead. Website: www.colinphilpottmedia.co.uk
3.LADY LORD MAYORS OF NORWICH 1923-2017	Phyllida Scrivens									y					Y	phyllida.scrivens@icloud.com	£60	A group biography of 17 Lady Lord Mayors. Their tales.
4. ESCAPING HITLER	Phyllida Scrivens									y					Y	phyllida.scrivens@icloud.com	£60	A Jewish boys quest. Joe Stirling. Who became Sheriff of Norwich.

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A WALK ROUND FOUNTAINS ABBEY, A WALK ROUND STUDLEY ROYAL 18C WATER GARDENS, A WALK ROUND STUDLEY ROYAL DEER PARK.	Mike Bevington							y						Y		thebevsm29c17@btinternet.com	see notes	A choice of three. Mike prefers daytime during the winter months. 10 -15 miles radius of Harrogate Why, when and how was Fountains Abbey established. Water Gardens Includes the history of the Aislabie family who designed the gardens and the Vyners who owned the estate. The Deer Park includes St Mary's church, deer park Glacial Valley , Ice Houses etc.
CHOICE OF 2 TALKS- TULIPS & NOT SO FAMOUS WOMEN GARDENERS	Geraldine Primarolo							y						Y		garaldinesgardens@yahoo.co.uk	see notes	Tulips history, development cultivation & work and contribution of some not so famous women gardeners. Willing to travel anywhere please contact for one off fee as it will include travel. Geraldine has 35 years of experience and still advises on 11 gardens in North Wales. A digital projector and screen or wall is needed.
CO-OP ESTATE PLANNING	Jane Hudson												Y	Y		jane.hudson@coop.co.uk	FREE	Entertaining and informative talk of approx. 45mins Titled Tax Care & ToyBoys covering protecting your home and savings, Inheritance Tax. Re-marriage and blended families &Lasting Powers of Attorney. More than 10 people They cover quite a large area contact for more info.
CYBER CRIME ETC	NYP Crime unit										Y			Y		cybercrimeunit@northyorkshire.police.uk	FREE	A wall, screen or large TV would be required for them to project their images. They provide advice on how to stay safe online i.e.from being hacked or infected with viruses. Either by presentation or a cyber escape room activity.
ESTATE PLANNING	Jane Mumford												Y	Y		jane.mumford1@btopenworld.com	Free	Provides a free talk on later life planning between 30 minutes to 1 hour as required, to middle aged/retired groups of people on Legal and Financial Issues for the Retired. I have attached Testimonials from other groups I have spoken to. This is an extremely important talk for your members to attend, as it will eventually affect every member. Includes wills, trusts, Care Act 2005, Power of Attorney.
GARDENING	Kitty Chew								Y					Y		kittychewgardens@gmail.com	£30-£50 plus materials & travel	She covers any gardening topic, within reason! She is RHS trained (Harlow Carr) gardener for 6 years now, 2 of which were spent at Harlow Carr, and 4 of which have been running her own gardening business in North Yorkshire. Subjects - plant options for seasons and styles of garden, how to do container displays, how to choose plants for the right spot, how to identify plants, how to propagate plants, how to prune, and talk about the garden restorations she has done too. Kitty has a Fine Art degree from the University of Oxford, and won a gold medal at BBC Gardeners World Live for her designs. Harrogate, Skipton & surrounding areas. Has handouts, no technical equipment needed, no minimum numbers.
GARDENS (NOT GARDENING)	Peter Mathers								y					Y		peter.mathers.speaker@gmail.com	Variable	Peter will travel anywhere. He is based in the York area and fee and travel costs will be negotiated There will be different prices for different group sizes; preferably between 10 and 80. Best to speak direct for more info. You can see what he does at https://petermathers.weebly.com
GOLDEN AGE MYSTERY AND HISTORICAL CRIME FICTION	Tom Mead									Y				Y		tomtommead@aol.co.uk	£75+£20	Tom Mead covers the Golden Age Mystery era (Agatha Christie etc) and is a historical crime writer with several awards to his name. He also has been nominated for best crime writer by The Telegraph. He's willing to travel anywhere and will be also selling his signed books post talk.

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HAMPTON COURT PALACE	Sara Slater									Y					Y	sara.m.slater@btinternet.com	£70-£100	Contact via email to choose from several topics about the history of Hampton Court Palace. Fee £70 if under 70 participants.Website:www.the history guides.com/guides/
HEDGEHOG RESCUE	Jacqui Morrell	y												Y		morrelljac@aol.com	£40	Talks on Hedgehog Rescue.
HEDGEHOG RESCUE	Paula Baker	y													Y	suffolkprickleshedgehogrescue@gmail.com	£50	Choice of 4 Talks. (1) Saving Hedgehogs-the work of the rescue, problems faced by hedgehogs and how to help. (2) Gardening for Hedghogs- how to make your garden more Hedgehog friendly. (3) History of Hedgehogs- the history of Hedgehogs and the different species. (4) Hogging in Hedgerows - the importance of a Hedgerow for Hedgehogs and other wildlife.
LEGACY FORTRESS FOR GENERATIONS BY SILVERTIME LEGAL	Catherine												Y	Y		cath@silvertimelegal.co.uk	FREE	Wills, Trusts, Lasting Powers of Attorney, Managing Care Fees and sideways Disinheritance. Will provide a Speaker any where it is required.
NORTH POLE EXPEDITION	Misba Khan														Y	kmisba@yahoo.co.uk	£50	Talk lasts 30-40 mins. Ordinary mum and grandmother who worked for the NHS were recruited online for people with no experience to ski in the North Pole. Their training led by polar explorer Felicity Aston enabled them to become the first Muslim women to take this journey.
PLANTS GARDENS AND TOUR GUIDING	Sarah Hopps								Y					Y		sarahhopps17@gmail.com	£90+trav	Sarah ran her own nursery and has presented on BBC radio. She also hosts luxury coach tours and has appeared on stage at the Harrogate flower show. She will travel up to 120 miles from her base in Thirsk.
PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF WILLS & ESTATE PLANNING	Marcos Kallou												Y	Y		marcoskallou@priorknowledge.co.uk	FREE	The Importance of having a trust in your will. Marcos will travel anywhere west of the A1 The office is based in Skipton
RIGBY & PELLER	Donna Rose						y							Y		donna.rose@rigbyandpeller.com	FREE	The Heritage of Rigby & Peller Luxury Lingerie boutique Body Confidence and are you in the correct Bra? Donna covers local to Harrogate. They can hold events with fizz and nibbles between 6pm and 8pm at their boutique in Harrogate. But are also willing to come to you.
SWAN RESCUE	Dan Sidley	y												Y		info@ysrh.org.uk	Donation	Talks on the rescue, treatment, rehabilitation and release of injured Swans and wild animals across Yorkshire and the North. Require a blank wall or screen.
THE ART OF MILLINERY	Sherry Richardson						y							Y		sherry@hatsbysherry.co.uk	£80	Plus 50ppm subject to fluctuation. Covers Yorkshire and some Northern parts of Derbyshire Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire. Maximum of 60 people. Contact directly to discuss if more. Requires 2 tables & a standing mirror; please advise if not possible.
THE DOG IN MY MEDICINE CABINET	Geoff Lambert	y													Y	geoff.lambert2@ntworld.com	£50	How medical dogs support people with health conditions and how they detect disease. An active retired Gentleman who raises funds for Medical Detection dogs.
WOMEN IN WARFARE	Lesley Newnam									Y				Y		l.newnam45@gmail.com		Women play some unexpected roles. Home Sweet Home- the way we have lived.
YORKSHIRE EDIBLE FLOWERS	Martin Lamb								Y					Y		martin@yorkshiredibleflowers.com	£80+£40	Edible flowers are grown and sold to professional bakers. He will travel an hour's distance between Doncaster and Selby. The fee includes tasting and is offered from April to October. Mileage is not included. Talks can also be given subsequently about growing flowers and running a sustainable business. Two tables will be needed.
CANCER TALK	Jacquie Warner											Y		Y		jacquie.warner@btinternet.com		It is the biggest cancer killer in people under 40. A chance to learn signs and symptoms. Requires a screen for PowerPoint.

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ROWING ACROSS THE ATLANTIC FOR 78 DAYS/CARDIAC CHARITY	Andrew Osborne			Y								Y				andrew@rowforamy.com		Andrew recently rowed 3,000 miles solo and unsupported across the Atlantic Ocean following the tragic loss of his 25yr old daughter to an-undiagnosed heart condition. He raised around £200,000 for the fund Cardiac Risk in the Young. No equipment needed. Website: https://www.rowforamy.com/ Fee dependent on number of people, no travel expenses included
STRAY FERRETT	Tamsin O'Brien, Director of The Stray Ferrett				Y											roseanna@thestrayerferret.co.uk	no fee	The talk reflects on the dramatic technological changes she has witnessed during her career — from the days of reel-to-reel recordings to the rise of AI and digital media — and explores how these shifts are affecting journalism, democracy, and our collective understanding of truth. She has previously spoken at community groups, which has received a great response, and is happy to volunteer her time. Minimum 20 people, would need a microphone for large groups and projector. CoversHarrogate, Knaresborough, Ripon, Pateley Bridge, Boroughbridge, Masham.
LIVING WELL SMOKE FREE	Carolyn Lobb											Y					no fee, would prefer a larger group if have to travel large distances	A stop smoking talk. Carolyn works within a Smoking Cessation team at North Yorkshire Council and her job is to promote their services out in the community. They are also on the look out for volunteer Remote Mentors who can support, over the telephone, North Yorkshire residents who attend their clinics across North Yorkshire in the fight to give up smoking. They also have some other roles too that are face to face roles. Needs a table & chair. Covers all of North Yorkshire
CRIMESTOPPERS NORTH YORKSHIRE	Andy Fox											Y				andy.Fox@crimestoppers-uk.org	£50 donation to Crimestoppers North Yorkshire	Andy Fox is a retired Police Inspector but has spent the last ten years since leaving Cleveland Police, working in Economic Crime. The last three years have been working in the Yorkshire & Humber Regional Organised Crime Unit (YHROCU). Fraud is the single biggest crime category account of nearly half of all recorded crime. Each day we are subject to scam phone calls, emails, text messages and social media scams. How do you tell which are genuine and which are fake? This presentation will explain how fraud works, how to spot a scam, how to safeguard yourself and more importantly what you should do if you become a victim of fraud. The presentation will last for approx 45 mins with an additional 15 mins for questions. Projector & screen preferred. Andy prefers to speak to a larger group of people. Covers North Yorkshire area.
SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING	Betty Hagart							Y									£25 to cover travel expenses	A group who enjoy <u>Scottish Country Dancing</u> . Our mantra is Fun, Friendship and Fitness , not perfection! We could provide a short demonstration of a few dances, combined with a little bit of info about Scottish Country dancing locally, nationally and globally (currently there are two groups in Harrogate, two groups in York and a large group in Leeds) and then do a few simple dances encouraging members who would like to participate, to join in. Our contribution to the evening could be tailored to meet the wishes of any group who might be interested. They cover Harrogate, Ripon, Knaresborough, Wetherby. 3. minimum of twelve people required. 4. Access to a socket to plug in our laptop and speaker for our music. A carpeted floor is not suitable for the dancing

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WOMEN IN BUSINESS	Patricia Porter											Y				pcpcreations@myndtime.co.uk	£30 to £60, open to offers	She was recently on BBC 1 on Sara Davies' new show ‘The Big Idea Works’ Still can be found on bbc iplayer. Episode 1 so she can talk about women in business and the challenges including imposter syndrome and offer tips to help manage that. Covers Harrogate/Craven area, no mimimum number, no equipment. www.pattheinventor.co.uk
CRIME FICTION AND BECOMING A WRITER DURING COVID	Christine Yates				Y											cayates55@gmail.com	no fee but would bring books to sell	She is a retired teacher & now a published writer of fiction. Although she fits in the crime/ thriller genre her trilogy also focuses on the power & longevity of female friendships too. She does not charge a fee but would bring copies of her books to hopefully sell. However, if the venue requires an overnight stay I would ask for the cost of one night in your nearest Premier Inn. The sale of 4 books would cover petrol. She also speaks about becoming a writer during COVID & what her writing deals with. Also how hard it is to get published but worth pursuing. She would do readings & invite audience participation .
CREATIVE WELLBEING WORKSHOPS	Louise Bloomfield						Y									info@louisebloomfield.co.uk	free but time limited	Bloom Creative Wellbeing CIC is a new non-profit company based in Pateley Bridge. We are dedicated to improving mental health and wellbeing through creative practices such as drama, music, art, crafts, dance, writing, poetry, and spoken word. We offer a range of creative wellbeing opportunities for people of all ages, through accessible and inclusive workshops, events, groups, and one-to-one sessions. Our mission is to champion creativity as an essential part of health and wellbeing and to create opportunities for people to bloom through creativity. www.bloomcreativewellbeing.co.uk . No minimum number, no equipment. Nidderdale area.
USING DNA TESTS TO TRACE LONG LOST FAMILY MEMBERS	Ann Yates								Y				Y			ann.yates01@gmail.com	no fee, travel expenses 45p per mile	Ann, who was adopted as a baby, discovered the identity of her unknown birth father via a commercial DNA test five years ago and now volunteers as a DNA detective, helping people in similar situations learn more about their biological roots. TV programmes like DNA Family Secrets and Long Lost Family use DNA researchers but their work is often hidden behind the scenes. Just how do they identify unknown fathers and even, with foundlings, both unknown parents? Ann’s talk will shed light on the process of using the results of readily available DNA tests to identify, trace and contact long lost family members. Available with or without technology. To avoid hitches, I send my PowerPoint in advance to be uploaded to your system. Alternatively, a tech-free talk is available with a small charge to cover printing. Covers North Yorkshire area,
NATURAL MAKE UP	Victoria Edwards					Y										victoriaedwardsmakeup@gmail.com	£250 only charges travel outside 20 miles from Harrogate	She has been a Freelance Makeup Artist for 15 years, since training at the Jemma Kidd Academy in Knightsbridge. She loves to empower women by creating natural makeup that brings out their best features. She does make up for all occasions and uses the best products. Telephone 07796 010755. Requires table and electrical socket if no light. She tends to do the event as a group lesson, where I do makeup on a model, and take questions from the attendees. I can always chat to them about the contents of their own makeup bags too. I can do seasonal makeup lessons, and/or how to transition from day to evening makeup for example - whatever’s required really (I’m happy to determine the format or take requests in advance).

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BECOMING A HUMANIST FUNERAL CELEBRANT	Rachel Mears											Y				rachel.mears@humanistceremonies.org.uk	£40 to include all costs	My role as a celebrant is to ease that challenge and ensure that the ceremony is conducted with dignity and meaning. In this talk I will briefly explain the nature of Humanist funeral ceremonies and memorial events. I will also reflect on how the conversations that I have with bereaved families draw on my experiences and expertise in coaching but become opportunities for deep compassion. These conversations are the foundation of ceremonies and tributes that are authentic and appreciative, and adopt a careful balance between celebrating lives and acknowledging the grief of loss. No equipment, no minimum number. Covers Harrogate, Knaresborough, Ripon, Otley, Wetherby, Thirsk, York and towns and villages nearby.
FUNERAL PLANNING	Victoria Wells											Y				victoria@farewellsfunerals.co.uk	No fee	Funeral Planning - the importance of jotting down your funeral wishes to ensure you have the funeral you want. Also, the many options available when arranging a funeral and how to keep it cost effective. Covers Knaresborough, Harrogate, Boroughbridge and Ripon. No minimum/maximum number. Will require a screen projector.
HOW THE CISTERCIANS REBUILT YORKSHIRE AFTER THE HARRYING OF THE NORTH AND OTHER HISTORICAL TALKS	Peter Lewis									Y						peteredwardlewis@aol.com	£60 including travel expenses	It examines the devastation caused by the Harrying, the impact as measured by Domesday, why it took so long for Yorkshire to recover and the part played by the Cistercian Order in assisting Yorkshire's economic recovery. From the new Norman aristocracy their eight Yorkshire monasteries received huge amounts of land, much of it depopulated which suited the Cistercians' desire for soliturd. They were able to transform the economy through sheep farming and mining lead/iron. They introduced cheese making to Wensleydale. Table & chair and projector required. Covers the whole of North Yorkshire.
TALKS ABOUT HIS LIFE IN SHOWBUSINESS	Joey Howard						y									joeyhoward84@gmail.com	£120/£150	His talk is about my varied career in showbiz and music as a comedy entertainer, performing on Cruise Ships.Cabaret/Clubs/Variety Shows/Summer Seasons/Panto & Television. Covers Yorkshire/lancashire/North East/Humberside/Lincolnshire. Minimum 20 people, no equipment.
WRITING & PUBLISHING A NOVEL	Olivia Rytwinski					Y										livvyrytwinski@gmail.com	£25 plus mileage costs at your rate	She is a full time writer of five published psychological thriller novels set in Northern Britain. She talks about her passion for writing and her writing journey, and how she approached writing her first novel and publication. She then allows some time to answer any questions. She will bring signed copies of my books for members to purchase. No minimum/maximum numbers. Is happy to use a microphone. Covers Yorkshire.
NOVEL - WHERE IS ALL THE GRASS GOING?	Deborah Fox					Y										debmac730@gmail.com	No fee	I read the first two chapters of my award winning book Where is all the grass going? Then open the room for any questions anyone may have about the writing process, publishing and marketing. I also bring copies of my book for anyone to purchase and I'll happy to sign them. It is a Young Adult novel, a crime mystery where dogs rule, anything can go wrong and probably will. No maximum/minimum. Covers the Yorkshire area, no equipment required.
HARROGATE NEIGHBOURS/MEALS ON WHEELS VOLUNTEERING	Jamie Nicholson-Ruther											Y				jamie.nicholson-ruth@hnha.co.uk	No fee but a donation to Starbeck Hub would be welcome	Getting older is something that we don't really like thinking about, but knowledge is power, and when you know what sort of support is available, it can help reassure you and help to make good decisions about your future. Harrogate Neighbours is an elderly care service that has been in operation for over 50 years, fulfilling a variety of roles in the care industry such as meals on wheels delivery, home care and residential care. Will also speak about volunteering. Covers mainly Harrogate & Knaresborough, but also Ripon & Boroughbridge. A screen would be helpful. No mimimum/maximum numbers.

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EYEWITNESS STORIES FROM PALESTINE	Neil Irving											Y				neilirving2024@outlook.com	£50 including travel to be donated to human rights work in Palestine	Eyewitness stories from Palestine - hear first-hand from Neil Irving, recently returned from the West Bank. He was a human rights monitor with the World Council of Churches based in the Jordan Valley and witnessed many violations of human rights. He will talk about and show pictures of the ordinary lives of Palestine families living under military occupation. The talk is 30 minutes long. Requires digital projector with HDMI or VGA input. no minimum/maximum number.
LIVING AND WORKING AT WINDSOR CASTLE	Steve Caldwell				Y											s.caldwell224@btinternet.com	£50 donation plus he will bring tin for collection for Martin House Children's Hospice	Between 1991 and 2003 Steve worked for the Royal Household as a Senior Property Officer at Windsor Castle. Steve and his wife lived in the grounds of the castle. His talk is Living and Working at Windsor Castle. His phone number is 07766938703.
WINDSOR CASTLE AFTER THE FIRE	Steve Caldwell				Y											s.caldwell224@btinternet.com	£50 donation plus he will bring tin for collection for Martin House Children's Hospice	A 55 minute film produced by Prince Edward and is the story of the fire and the amazing work to restore it to its former glory. His phone number is 07766938703.
MY LIFE AS A MARRIAGE REGISTRAR	Anita Armitage-Joyce				Y											anita.ajoyce@gmail.com	£80 plus mileage 45p per mile	Subject: Marriage.....my life as a Marriage Registrar (19 years over 4,000 ceremonies). A build up talk on the origin of marriage in the UK....customs, laws, the requirements of a civil ceremony, venues. Her experience as a Registrar, quirky days, sad and unusual days, both venues and Bride & Grooms (no names!) then an open question time. No equipment except a small podium or table for Anita's notes. Harrogate, Ripon, Knaresborough, Wetherby and Skipton and would also travel further to Thirsk and Bedale. Available day or evening with a week or two's notice.
PROFESSIONAL SINGER	Tom Powell				Y											tom.powell@hotmail.com	£100 per hour, variable fee outside of 20 miles of TS17 5EP	Tom is a professional singer based in the North East, offering uplifting daytime entertainment for community groups, including care homes, clubs, and Women’s Institutes. His themed sets include golden oldies from the 50s–70s, swing and jazz, musical theatre favourites, and interactive acoustic sessions where the audience picks the songs. With experience performing worldwide – from Alnwick to Antigua – and alongside stars like Olly Murs and Robson Green, he brings not only great music but a few stories too! Fully self-contained with his own PA, insured, and DBS-checked, he offers 30–60 minute sets with flexible weekday availability. Would ideally like a power socket, but he does have a battery PA he can bring.
TALK #1 @THE LIFE AND TIMES OF A MUMPRENEUR. TALK #2 'MUMPRENEUR, PARENTING, AUTISM AND ME'	Nichola Jones											Y				nj@nicholajones.com	£50 plus fuel allowance (£10 - £20)	Talk #1 -' The Life and Times of a Mumpreneur'. A Journey of my life and times from birth. Growing up on a garden nursery, being a florist, working in the inland revenue, getting married and having children then going to New Zealand for 4 months and finally coming home and setting up my business 10 yrs ago with £250 and getting to a £50k turnover. How did I do it? Talk #2 - 'Mumpreneur, Parenting Autism and Me' A talk about trying to juggle my business and dealing with having 2 teenage children with autism, school refusal and meltdowns. Explaining elements to look for and to provide and explanation about this new 'thing' / 'buzz word' to groups. It is a very insightful, honest and truthful talk. No minimum/maximum numbers. From Northumberland down to Halifax across to York / Leeds

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SPECIALIST MUSCULOSKELETAL PHYSIOTHERAPIST	Esther Dawson										Y			Y		physio4youwithesther@gmail.com	Free of charge	The talk would be interactive, informative, and include tips your members can incorporate into their daily lives. It would also provide an opportunity for your members to ask questions and learn about techniques for staying healthy and pain-free. It would include facts and fiction about osteoarthritis, simple exercise to improve posture and mobility and healthy aging – keeping active and independent. Minimum of 20 people.
MAKE UP EVENTS	Victoria Edwards						Y							y		victoriaedwardsmakeup@gmail.com	£250 only charges travel if outside 20 mile radius of Harrogate	She only requires a table and an electrical socket if the lighting is not bright. She will run the event as a group lesson, does make up on a model and take questions. Can do seasonal make-up lessons or whatever is required. She has been a freelance make-up artist for 15 years and loves to empower women. Insta: victoria_edwards_makeup. She does not require a minimum or maximum number of people.
WRITER OF FICTION THRILLERS	Christine Yates					Y								y		cayates55@gmail.com	no charge will bring books to sell	she is a retired teacher and published writer of thriller/crime fiction but also focuses on female friendships. Would charge for cost of one overnight stay in Premier Inn if it is too far to travel back. Will talk to any number of people.
INSPIRING WOMEN	Patricia Porter											Y		Y		pcpcreations@myndtime.co.uk	covers Craven & Harrogate - charge local to her £30 to £60 including expenses/transport.	Has no minimum requirement for numbers and does not need any specific equipment. She is self employed and an inventor and has 3 products ready for market. Was on Sara Davies' new show "The Big Idea Works" on BBC Iplayer. Will talk about women in business and challenges. www.pattheinventor.co.uk
FUNERAL PLANNING	Victoria Wells											Y		Y		victoria@farewellsfunerals.co.uk	Covers Knaresborough, Harrogate, Boroughbridge, Ripon no fee	No min/max numbers. She will need a screen projector. She will talk about funeral planning and the importance of making your wishes known and the options available.
CREATIVE WELLBEING WORKSHOPS	Louise Bloomfield											Y		Y		info@louisebloomfield.co.uk	Covers Nidderdale area session is fully funded grant is time limited	She is offering 10 creative wellbeing workshops across Nidderdale with community groups and organisations. No max/min number, no specific equipment. Based in Pateley Bridge, workshops on creative wellbeing. www.bloomcreativewellbeing.co.uk
BECOMING A HUMANIST FUNERAL CELEBRANT	Rachel Mears											Y		Y		rachel.mears@humanistceremonies.org.uk	Harrogate, Knaresborough, Ripon, Otley, Wetherby, Thirsk, York and surrounding towns & villages. £40 to include all expenses	My role as a celebrant is to ease that challenge and ensure that the ceremony is conducted with dignity and meaning. In this talk I will briefly explain the nature of Humanist funeral ceremonies and memorial events. I will also reflect on how the conversations that I have with bereaved families draw on my experiences and expertise in coaching but become opportunities for deep compassion. These conversations are the foundation of ceremonies and tributes that are authentic and appreciative, and adopt a careful balance between celebrating lives and acknowledging the grief
AUTHOR	Deborah Fox											Y		Y		debmac730@gmail.com	Yorkshire, no charge	No min/max numbers, she will bring own microphone which is battery powered. She will read the first two chapters of her award winning book Where is all the grass going? Then open the room for any questions anyone may have about the writing process, publishing and marketing. I also bring copies of my book for anyone to purchase and I'll happy to sign them.

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DISCOVERING FAMILY THROUGH DNA	Ann Yates											Y		Y		ann.yates01@gmail.com	No fee but 45p per miles, covers the whole of North Yorkshire West area. Will send Powerpoint in advance. Will need a laptop/projector provided by the venue	Ann, who was adopted as a baby, discovered the identity of her unknown birth father via a commercial DNA test five years ago and now volunteers as a DNA detective, helping people in similar situations learn more about their biological roots. TV programmes like DNA Family Secrets and Long Lost Family use DNA researchers but their work is often hidden behind the scenes. Just how do they identify unknown fathers and even, with foundlings, both unknown parents? Ann’s talk will shed light on the process of using the results of readily available DNA tests to identify, trace and contact long lost family members. Will talk to a minimum of 15.
MENOPAUSE YOGA	Zanna Dent							Y						Y		zanna.dent@gmail.com	Covers Harrogate District £50 per hour	No min/max numbers but will depend on floor space, would like to run a practical yoga session with mats. Could potentially do a seated and standing session for more people with chairs. Participants will need yoga/exercise mat & a blanket or just a chair and loose clothing for seated/standing session. She uses ancient yoga practices combined with up to date research to make the post menopause years positive