

Subscriptions for this season -

Season Ticket (eleven talks) _____ **£25**
January to March (six talks) _____ **£14**
Visitor's Fee (per talk) _____ **£6**

If you would like your membership card sent to you **BEFORE** the first meeting, then please include a stamped, addressed envelope (9" x 4"). Otherwise, your card will be held until the first meeting that you attend.

To encourage wider membership, members are urged to invite a friend to use their ticket if they are unable to attend a talk themselves.

The Committee

Chairman: Richard Walker
3, Vincent Road,
Coulsdon. CR5 3DH
Tel: 01737 552 654

Secretary: Georgina Inwards

Treasurer: Bob Cherry
Tel: 07746 680 883

Membership Secretary: Yvonne Walker
Tel: 01737 552 654

Programme Secretary: Richard Walker

Committee Members: Sarah Thomas,
Dawn Gibbons
Karl Harbour,
Dave Murray.

Very rarely, a talk has to be changed or cancelled for some reason. Please check on our website for any last-minute changes to the advertised programme.

PurleyLit.org.uk

On our website, as well as details about the Society, the 'Links' page contains pointers to other organisations, many of whom have supported us in the past – usually by providing speakers.

Other literary societies and local museums are also included.

Members and visitors alike are encouraged to visit these websites to find out more about the speakers (and their 'parent' organisations).

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

When joining the Society, we ask for your name and contact details. Any such data that you provide is kept on a small database, and is held by the Membership Secretary.

We do not pass this data to third parties, and use it solely for contacting you at renewal time, and where we hold an email address, for sending out reminders a few days before each meeting.

You have the right at any time to ask to have your details removed from the database.

Anyone who fails to attend or respond to us for three years will have their details erased.

Purley Lit

2025/2026

**Purley Literary Society presents its
112th Programme**

- **Eleven stimulating talks to entertain you from Autumn to Spring**
- **Close to the station and bus stops.**
- **8 pm start except for the AGM meeting, which starts at 7:30 pm.**

**Meetings: alternate Thursdays,
from October to March**

**The Hebron Hall
Christ Church,
Adjacent to 861 Brighton Road,
Purley,
CR8 2BN.**

Contacts
info@purleylit.org.uk

website: PurleyLit.org.uk

9 October Roger Packham
The Bourne Society and Bourne Villages

Chairman Roger Packham will tell us about the Society, which takes its name from the intermittent streams that run along the A22 and A23 valleys. The Society aims to extend the knowledge of local history in Purley, Coulsdon and many other nearby settlements, and to conserve records and objects of historical interest.

23 October Adam West
CZWG Architectural Practice

The architectural practice CZWG was co-founded in 1975 by Nicholas Campbell, Roger Zogolovich, Rex Wilkinson and Piers Gough. CZWG brings originality, innovation and flair to its designs. Director Adam West will tell us about their latest projects.

6 November Nikolaus Muldal
Research at the Crick

The Francis Crick Institute researches the biology underlying human health. It is based in a large new building behind the British Library, at St Pancras. Nikolaus joined the Crick in 2022, and is a specialist at communicating the impact of research. He will take us through some of the science underlying current (and future?) medical treatments.

20 November John Sheridan
The Surrey Iron Railway

John is a volunteer at the Wandle Industrial Museum and at the Merton Priory Chapter House Museum. He will tell us about the first public railway in the world, opened in 1803.

4 December Michael Withers
Medieval and renaissance musical instruments

Multi-instrumentalist and experienced conductor/arranger Michael will talk about the development of the string and woodwind instruments, with demonstrations on his own impressive collection.

Followed by some Christmas Fare
----- 2026 -----

15 January Amy Moffat
From Bedlam to Bethlem,
778 years of Bethlem Royal Hospital

Bethlem Royal Hospital is one of the oldest mental health institutions in the world and is still running as part of the NHS in Beckenham. Hear about the history of the hospital and of mental health treatment, and what you can expect to find on display in Bethlem Museum of the Mind today.

29 January Sue Henning
Tibet, Roof of the World

Since the Chinese invasion of Tibet in 1950, it is occupied and militarily controlled – but the culture and spirit of the Tibetan people lives on. Sue's trip took in the history and culture, as well as the unique birds and animals of the area, including the giant panda. Sue's main passion is travelling, and she has visited over 100 countries.

12 February Maureen Stiller
Introducing Jane Austen:
The Woman and the Writer

In 1940, the Jane Austen Society was formed with the aim of buying the house in which Jane had lived for the last 8 years of her life. Having bought the house, the Society's aims became to foster interest in the life of Jane, her family and her novels. The talk follows her whole life and literary works.

26 February Linda Duffield
WAAFs, War Brides, and Widows

For nearly ten years, Linda and a team of volunteers have been uncovering the rich history of RAF Kenley—Surrey's renowned Battle of Britain Fighter Station. Linda will share the remarkable stories of the women linked to the airfield, exploring their lives, their resilience, and the unique challenges they faced during wartime.

12 March Sam Thomas
Why is re-wilding so controversial?

From beavers to wolves, white-tailed eagles to bears, Sam will traverse the complexities of reintroducing keystone species and highlight the policies needed to make these projects a success. At PricewaterhouseCoopers, Sam is a sustainability consultant; he helps governments and businesses in the field of nature and biodiversity.

26 March AGM at 7:30 followed by
David Allen

The Weird and Wonderful World of the Law
An enjoyable romp through the legal world, drawing on over 25 years as a locum solicitor, travelling around the country, encountering raging judges, dotty clients, and weird cases. Join David on a sideways journey through bizarre true-life oddities, daft old laws still in place, and political correctness gone raving mad!

Followed by Refreshments