

STOW & DISTRICT CIVIC SOCIETY

PROGRAMME 2015 – 2016

Friday, 2nd October 2015 – Open Talk, St. Edward's Hall

'Magna Carta: villainy, treachery and liberty' – Derek Taylor

To mark the 800th anniversary of the Great Charter, we're delighted to welcome local historian, journalist and Civic Society committee member, Derek Taylor, whose book "Magna Carta in 20 Places" was this year published by The History Press. Derek will explain who were the true heroes and who the real villains in the long and bloody struggle for freedom and justice inspired by Magna Carta – and how this most English of treasures was almost lost to us forever.

Wednesday 4th November 2015 – Theatre trip, Malvern - King Charles III

Wednesday, 25th November 2015 – Autumn Lunch - Kingham, Edward Gillespie, OBE – 'Cheltenham – Festival Town'

Friday, 4th December 2015– Open Talk, St. Edward's Hall

'Do you remember Adlestrop? Stories and histories from Gloucestershire's railways' – Tony Conder

Did you know there have been up to 150 railway stations in Gloucestershire over the years? This is the story of some of them from their conception, their glory days and how so many faded away. Stow-on-the-Wold itself is a prime example! Our speaker, Tony Conder, came to Gloucestershire to open the National Waterways museum in Gloucester docks and, now retired, is a civic trust guide in Gloucester.

Friday, 5th February 2016– Open Talk, St. Edward's Hall

'Oliver Cromwell and our Parliamentary Democracy' – Howard Robinson

How did he rise to power? How did he change democracy and the balance of power during his lifetime? What was his lasting effect on democracy in this country? Whilst he might be somewhat biased in his appraisal of this great man (he is, after all, Oliver Cromwell's 9 x great grandson!) we welcome back our speaker Howard Robinson who will attempt to present a balanced view, even in a Royalist stronghold such as Stow-on-the-Wold! You might be surprised how much of a monarchist Cromwell was, even right up to the moment of Charles I's execution.

Friday, 1st April 2016 – Open Talk, St. Edward's Hall

'Gloucester Services – a roadside oxymoron' – Mark Gale, Nicky Wildin & Danny Martin

Have you discovered the new service station on the M5 yet? Not always a burning topic of conversation perhaps – but this is something with a real difference! Its roots lie 200 miles north in the uplands of Cumbria where a local farming family set up Tebay Services, the first and still the only family-run motorway services station on the UK road network. Now this family has created a 'sister' service area on the outskirts of Gloucester. Danny Martin from the Westmorland Family will explain the family's values, architectural and planning issues faced by them, the importance of the 130 local suppliers and producers who underpin the enterprise and their unique partnership with the Gloucestershire Gateway Trust.

Wednesday 13th April 2015 – Theatre trip, Malvern - Shadowlands

Friday 15th April 2015 – Spring Quiz – St. Edward's Hall

Friday, 3rd June 2016 – Open Talk and AGM, St. Edward's Hall

'Bees and Beekeeping' – Keren Green

Keren is a local Bee Farmer who manages 60-80 colonies of bees spread throughout 3 counties and the Cotswolds including 12 hives on the Croome Court estate where honey she harvests is sold for the National Trust. She is also a Seasonal Bee Inspector for DEFRA. Her illustrated talk and equipment covers all aspects of beekeeping. Come along and gain an insight into this fascinating world!

Saturday, 4th June 2016 – Organised Visit – Hook Norton Brewery

Wednesday 29th June 2015 – Theatre trip, Malvern - King Lear

Wednesday, 13th July 2016 – Organised Visit – Croome Court, Worcestershire

Saturday, 20th August 2016 – Pop up museum event in St. Edward's Hall

'Wool, War and Wonders – The story of Stow'