

ALSTON PROGRAMME

This varied programme of talks, presentations and special events usually starts with a three-course dinner at 6.30pm. We hope you will be able to join us!

The Alston Programme up to the end of April 2009 is detailed in our Autumn/Winter brochure.

HISTORIC WESTERN CYPRUS

Sunday 3rd May

8JXNP2A203 Fee £18.50

Join **Malcolm Tranter** to explore and learn about the complex history of the western areas of the beautiful island of Cyprus with its many historic sites and colourful, fascinating monasteries. Drive up into the Troodos Mountains, see the fine coastal areas, view the outstanding mosaics of Paphos, the 'Tombs of the Kings', the world famous Kykkos Monastery with its outstanding frescoes and mosaics and much more. Several sequences will have a musical soundtrack.

WAYNE'S TOUR DE FORCE

Sunday 10th May 10am – 4pm

8JYNP2A200 Fee £18.50

Wayne Howard, a retired Lancashire Police Officer, gives his fascinating, moving and entertaining account of how, in aid of a local cancer charity, he rode solo around the 2,256 miles of the toughest bike race in the world – The Tour de France. His wife said he was mad to attempt it – she was right!

SUPPER WITH VERA WATERS

Thursday 14th May

Starts at 5.00pm with presentation followed by dinner

8JYNP2A202 Fee £18.50

My talk centres on humour and its importance in our everyday lives and is entitled "Oops - the joys and otherwise of public speaking!" Join me as I revisit those comical instances, those places and people who have brought a smile to my face and now hopefully to yours and then lets enjoy a meal together... whilst the laughter is still in the air! I look forward to your company.

40 YEARS IN RADIO

Sunday 31st May

8JYNP2A201 Fee £18.50

Gerald Jackson is someone who needs no introduction to Radio Lancashire listeners. Join him for an evening of reflection and reminiscences as he celebrates 40 years in radio.



THE MAGIC OF OPERA – ENCORE OPERA

Sunday 7th June

8JTNP2A202

Fee £23

Let the music of Mozart, Verdi, Bizet and Puccini take you into a world of romance, intrigue and passion. Encore Opera directed by David Chapman has a fine reputation for operatic performances in the north west. Come and enjoy an evening of music which brings to you the beauty and grandeur of the popular operatic repertoire.



'LIFE AFTER PETER RABBIT' - BEATRIX POTTER'S LAKELAND LIFE AND LEGACY

Sunday 14th June

8JXNP2A202

Fee £18.50

Following a brief resume of Beatrix Potter's early life, this illustrated talk by **Margaret Curry** follows the second stage of her life - her marriage, life in the Lake District as a solicitor's wife, farmer and sheep breeder, landowner, conservationist and supporter of the National Trust, culminating in her legacy to the Trust.



SPECIAL MID-SUMMER EVENT WITH 'TROUBLE AT MILL' – in Alston's Walled Garden

Sunday 21st June

6pm

8JTNP2A200

Fee £10 per person

**(concert only – no refreshments included
– tickets must be purchased in advance)**

Join us for this special outdoor event with **Graham and Bernadette Dixon, Denis Wane** and **John Cruickshank** who make up the established Lancashire Group – **'Trouble at Mill'**. Admission to the walled garden will be from 5.00pm – concert from 6.00pm. Bring along your own picnic or pre-order from the college. Additional drinks and snacks will be available to purchase on the night. Bring your own seating and wet weather protection!

UNKNOWN TUSCANY: THE HISTORY AND LANDSCAPES OF THE GARFAGNANA

Sunday 28th June

8JXNP2A201

Fee £18.50

Tuscany is a favourite holiday destination, but the valleys and mountains on its northern borders are surprisingly little known. This area, the Garfagnana, has beautiful scenery and a rich and fascinating history. Find out about it and enjoy the lovely landscapes in this illustrated talk by **Alan Crosby** one of our most popular lecturers.

ANDREW WILDE SUMMER RECITAL

Sunday 19th July

8JTNP2A201

Fee £28

Fresh from concerts in the US, **Andrew Wilde** returns to Alston Hall, one of his favourite venues, to play a programme of Beethoven and Chopin.



'The Alston Hall audience are always so focussed which is something I appreciate very much and, in turn, this helps to ignite my passion for the music' – Andrew Wilde.

FOLLOWING THE RIVER THAMES ON FOOT!

Sunday 23rd August

9JXNP2A004

Fee £18.50

Steuart and Anita Kellington describe their experiences of walking 184 miles on the Thames Path National Trail along the banks of our greatest river from its bubbling source in the Cotswolds, through tranquil water meadows, past dreaming spires in Oxford and the pageantry of Windsor and Hampton Court to the heart of London and the Docklands finally reaching the Thames Barrier.



AUTUMN GLORY – CONTEMPORARY FLORAL DESIGN DEMONSTRATION

Thursday 10th September 7pm

9JXNP2A003 Fee £23

(includes demonstration, a glass of wine and finger buffet)

Enjoy another evening with **Tom Hodge**, well known NAFAS International Demonstrator. Tom will show you how to create interesting floral designs suitable for your home and for special events, using beautiful autumn plant materials. A selection of designs which will suit everybody from beginners to advanced flower arrangers.



LET THERE BE LIGHT

Sunday 13th September

9JXNP2A200 Fee £18.50

There are three essential elements to every great photographic image – light, colour and composition. However, the most important of these is LIGHT. Moody, atmospheric light can totally transform ordinary subject matter and make it look truly magical, as this presentation by **Gordon Bartley** aims to show. English and Scottish land and seascapes, transport past and present and Mother Nature herself are revealed in a very different light!



AS FAR AS THE EYE CAN SEE!

Sunday 20th September

9JXNP2A006 Fee £23

Laurence Perkins, Principal Bassoon with Manchester Camerata joins us for his solo music and words concert/presentation. A journey through the hills and mountains of Britain and Ireland in unaccompanied melody and classic poetry and prose.



A EUROSTAR EXCURSION

Sunday 27th September

9JXNP2A001 Fee £18.50

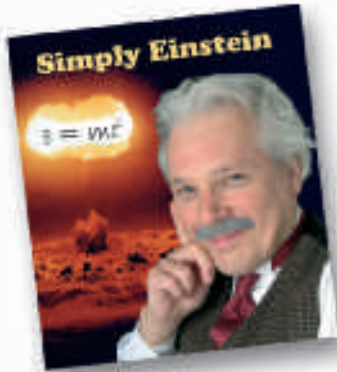
Tonight, **Colin Dickinson** follows Eurostar's journey by examining the history behind its London terminus – St. Pancras with its spectacular station shed and adjoining Grand Hotel. In Paris, the life and work of engineer Gustave Eiffel is brought into focus, whilst our homeward journey takes in the Gothic splendour of the Low Countries, ending an evening of superb photography.



SIMPLY EINSTEIN - A Presentation by Blue Lizard Theatre Company

Sunday 4th October **10am – 4pm**
9JVNP2A000 Fee £23

Albert Einstein is transported from a railway platform to a showbiz netherworld. Here he meets friends, lovers and heroes – and confronts his inner demons. As his life unfolds through 75 years of revelation, struggle, adulation and failure, we are drawn into his public triumphs and private tragedies. Simply Einstein blends humour with insight, the surreal with the factual, as it delves into the life and work of the twentieth century's greatest scientist.



BULGARIA

Sunday 11th October
9JXNP2A002 Fee £18.50

Pam Dowson in this illustrated presentation shares with us her recent visit to Bulgaria – travelling from Sofia to the Black Sea and back seeing many different aspects of this Eastern European Country.

ON FOOT IN THE WESTERN HIGHLANDS

Sunday 18th October
9JXNP2A005 Fee £18.50

A 400 mile journey on foot from Cape Wrath in the far North West of Scotland to Oban in Argyll during one of the finest summer months for decades. **John Shaw's** journey follows a route through Scotland's grandest West Coast scenery including some of the more remote and less frequented areas. Straths, Glens, Lochs and Mountains pass by on this colourful journey.

FROM BROADWAY TO DRURY LANE

Sunday 25th October
9JTNP2A000 Fee £18.50

The **Melody Makers** perform an exciting and enjoyable evening performing songs from musicals of stage and screen, both old and new. All singers are or have been members of Amateur Operatic Societies in the Fylde and Wyre areas and all their proceeds go to charity.



CALL US NOW ON **01772 784661**