



# ***SPOTLIGHT***

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ISSUE: JANUARY 2024

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**TONBRIDGE & TUNBRIDGE WELLS GROUP**

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## THE MAIN MESSAGE

Can it be? It seems 2023 flashed by and here we are in 2024. However sometimes there is a trigger taking us back even further but, on reflection, seeming like only yesterday. So it was, when rummaging through some old (CSMA) papers, I unearthed a 19, year old, T&TW Group, Spotlight (See Page 7 of this issue). It is interesting to compare then and now. Although there have been changes some things stay the same. For example, your truly was and still is, Editor of Spotlight. Then it was paper only. On the activities front, Club-night format was much the same as today with guest speakers followed by refreshments and nattering. As now, pub lunches were also a regular feature as was appeals for lunch hosts. Nothing changes there then! Some activities have however fallen by the wayside. Coach outings and a rambling group are no longer. I guess in part the changes reflect the change from csma to Boundless with its emphasis on Days Out, Short Breaks, Holidays and Discounts. Also 20 years there are many more organisations and activities to attract those of us who are 'Silver members. However, despite these changes, I suspect the Local Group model will continue. If It is to survive though, there will be a need for new ideas driven by new and, dare I say, younger faces.

The Spotlight team wish all readers a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

**WOULD YOU PLEASE CONFIRM THAT YOU WISH TO CONTINUE  
RECEIVING SPOTLIGHT AND OTHER T&TW GROUP  
COMMUNICATIONS BY EMAIL.**

**REPLIES BY NO LATER THAN 31<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2024 PLEASE.**

**Alan Dane**

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SHOULD YOU WISH TO PRINT OUT SPOTLIGHT, TO SAVE COLOURED INK AND RESULTANT EXPENSE, SIMPLY SELECT THE BLACK INK AND DRAFT QUALITY OPTIONS WHEN INVOKING 'PRINT'.

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## **NOTICEBOARD**

***STILL REQUIRED – STILL URGENT***

**SPEAKER PROGRAMME - CO-ORDINATOR**

**THE JOB ENTAILS –**

***CREATION OF A VARIED PROGRAMME OF SPEAKERS***

## **ENGAGING SPEAKERS**

**LIASING WITH CLUBNIGHT VENUE & T&TW SECRETARY**

**HOST SPEAKERS AT EVENT**

**NEEDS COMPUTER & INTERNET ACCESS**

**IT IS VITAL FOR THIS ROLE TO BE FILLED**

**IF CLUBNIGHTS WITH A GUEST SPEAKER ARE TO CONTINUE  
YOUR GROUP NEEDS YOU**



## **CLUBNIGHTS**

**CLUBNIGHTS COMMENCE AT 7.30PM – LOCATION SALOMON'S CENTRE**

**A VARIED PROGRAMME OF INTERESTING AND ENTERTAINING TALKS FOR 2023**

## **SPEAKER PROGRAMME 2024**

### **8<sup>th</sup> January - Antonia Gallop - A Talk on Carriage Driving.**

A lively presentation on Carriage Driving. Antonia is a member of the British Driving Society – she has been around horses all her life, firstly earning a living training and producing for commercial theatre, wedding, TV and film work. Now enjoying showing them with the antique vehicle collection, at National level, Antonia will take us through the vibrant world of Carriage Driving.

### **5<sup>th</sup> February - Bertie Pearce - Wonder Workers and the Art of Illusion**

An illustrated tour of the History of Magic. Beginning in the Temples of Egypt via the Great Fairs of England through to the Victorian Musical. Bertie (a member of the Inner Magic Circle) will be demonstrating illusions during the talk. COME AND BE AMAZED!

### **4<sup>th</sup> March - Ian Everest - the Commonwealth War Graves Commission-**

With the CWGC celebrating over a 100 years of activity and illustrated talk to reflect on its origins and how it manages to inspire a new, younger generation to honour those who fell in service of their country.

### **8<sup>th</sup> April - Melanie Gibson Barton - Three women and One Man**

Glamour Wealth and Heartbreak - A thought provoking talk revealing how the lives of four mystery icons intertwine in their pursuit of wealth, status and power. Can money ever buy love and happiness.

### **13<sup>th</sup> May - Ian Dowding - Banoffee Pie - 07810675061**

Having worked in the restaurant industry all his working life as a chef at the Hungry Monk and later owning Quincey's in Seaford and then work as a freelance. The talk describes his early career and the story of how Banoffee Pie evolved to become world famous. Also the serendipity of how the fame spread and became a Royal Favourite and how the word migrated to the OED.



### **3<sup>rd</sup> Jun - David Barry - Actors Behaving Badly**

Actor and writer David Barry talks about his interesting career from when he toured Europe with Larry and Vivian Leigh, with anecdotes about all the famous people he worked with, and hilarious stories of his time in Plea Sir! And Fenn Street Gang playing Frankie Abbott.

### **1<sup>st</sup> July - Mr D J Marsh - The Hawaiian Dream**

His talk gives an overview on how to get there, some details of the history of the islands. He talks of the wonderful people and customs – the tourist attractions, beaches and countryside.

### **5<sup>th</sup> Aug - Alan Cooke - Wireless Technology**

A talk on the Pros and Cons of Wireless Technology

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Sep - Dick Broady - Fire Prevention**

Fire can occur anytime and 100s are injured each year. This talk will make people aware of the causes in their homes and how to take preventative precautions. The talk will promote Home Safety Visits from the F & RS where they visit people at home and give advice on fire safety and test and fit smoke alarms for FREE.

### **7<sup>th</sup> Oct - Pete Allen - Rocking The Silver Screen**

How Cinema learned to Twist and Shout – From Cliff to Elvis, The Beatles and the Spice Girls, posters and the movies have gone hand in hand since Bill Haley first rocked around the clock. But when singers decide to act and actors decide to sing you end up with .....

### **4<sup>th</sup> Nov - Peter Griffiths - Sextant to Sat Nav 45 year in Aviation**

The talks include a rich fund of stories, both humorous and serious about the days of flying before cockpits became so automated and the foibles of the rich and infamous on their private jets.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Dec - Colin Bostock-Smith**

A comedy writer with over a 25, year history for TV radio the stage books and magazines. He is best known for work on BBC and ITV in the 80's, 90's and 00's when he wrote of stars such as Rowan Atkinson, Clive James, The Two Ronnies, Tim Brooke-Taylor etc and many more. His talk will include video clips of them in action.

**PLEASE BE PREPARED TO SHOW YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD AT CLUBNIGHTS.  
MANY THANKS !**

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## **LOCAL EVENTS PROGRAMME**

### **OUR ANNUAL NEW YEAR EVENT - 2024**



## LUNCH AT TUNBRIDGE WELLS MASONIC CENTRE

St John's Rd. Tunbridge Wells. TN4 9UY

12.00 PM FOR 12.30 PM ON SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2024

HOST: Pat Gross - 01892547664

*May – middle house*

*April or June - Woolpack*

**VOLUNTEERS TO HOST LUNCHESES REQUIRED**

**CONTACT T&TW Group events co-ordinator – Brian Dane**

**IT COULD BE YOU !**

**PLENTY OF HELP AND ADVICE IF IT IS YOUR FIRST TIME !**

## BOUNDLESS 2024 MEMBERS DAY EVENT

*Enjoy a family day out as you step back in time and immerse yourself in the captivating history of the Historic Dockyard. Located on the banks of the River Medway in Kent, this is a chance to embark on a voyage through centuries of maritime heritage.'*



***Saturday 16 March 2024***

***Make big savings on this day out - bring your friends and family for just £10 each.\****

***6 Tickets can be obtained from T&TW Secretary Rob Stone, or alternatively from Boundless direct ( See Boundless website.)***

## CLUB-NIGHT RAFFLE ROTA

**2024**

*January - Carol Mowll*

*February - Brenda Hawes*

*March Lorna Bateman*

*April - Christine Gardner  
May - Michelle Prince  
June - Sylvia Walters  
July - Alan Dane  
August - Eleen Sawyer  
September - Dawn Huntley  
October - Cathy Mullen  
November - Rob Stone  
December - Jeff Parkinson*

Raffle Host please note : Spend on Raffle = £20 for 4 Prizes

THANKS TO ALL OUR RAFFLE HOSTS FOR THEIR EFFORTS !



**Boundless TONBRIDGE&TUNBRIDGE WELLS GROUP**

**OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE**

**CHAIRMAN – DAVID WALTER**

**DEPUTY CHAIRMAN – VACANT**

**SECRETARY - ROB STONE**

**TREASURER - ROY HUNTLEY**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

CAROLYN MOWLL

EVENTS CO-ORDINATOR – BRIAN DANE

GUEST SPEAKER PROGRAMME - PAT GROSS,

NEWSLETTER - ALAN DANE

**GROUP ALMONER – LORNA BATEMAN**

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**DATA PROTECTION**

**We respect your privacy and if you would like to stop receiving contact from Tonbridge & Tunbridge Group please let us know by informing the EDITOR – Alan Dane: Email: [alan.dane@ramblerman.plus.com](mailto:alan.dane@ramblerman.plus.com) or, by Letter  
ADDRESS: 15 Foalhurst Close, Tonbridge. TN10 4HA**

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# SPOTLIGHT

NEWSLETTER OF THE TONBRIDGE & TUNBRIDGE WELLS  
LOCAL GROUP.

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JULY 2005

## CSMA



*The Answer to Traffic Jams*

**A BLAST FROM THE PAST**