

## Speakers for Weston Turville u3a General Meetings March to June 2021

**25 March 2021**

### **Tales from a Dairy Farmer's Wife – Jane Barnes**

In the 1940's, great grandfather John Barnes moved with 20 milking cows to Southfields Farm, Somerby. After more than 70 years the original farm buildings and milking parlour for 60 cows were no longer viable. So after much consideration by Mark & Jane, Charlotte & Harry, the current Barnes family, they took the gigantic step and decided to move out of the village. In 2018 they built a brand new modern dairy farm and today they have more than 250 cows in the herd milked twice daily and producing milk for the award-winning Long Clawson Blue Stilton Cheese. (See [www.farmerbarnesdairy.com](http://www.farmerbarnesdairy.com))

This created an opportunity to expand an already successful diversification project. Jane is passionate about sharing her farm life experiences and educating members of the public all about cows!

**22 April 2021**

### **Music in Art – Sophie Matthews**

**Sophie Matthews** explores the links between the visual and the aural in this one-hour presentation. Drawing on the works of great painters such as **Brueghel**, **Hogarth** and **Bosch**, she presents a variety of images of historical woodwind instruments in their original social context. The symbolism of music in mediaeval and Renaissance art is also explored, along with live performances by Sophie of historical music upon authentic instruments.

Sophie is a professional musician working in the early music and folk genres. She tours nationally and throughout Europe with [GreenMatthews](#) and have also played with [The Oxford Waits](#) and respected early music collective [Piva](#).



Sophie plays a variety of early woodwind instruments such as shawm, rauschpfeife and recorder and is one of a handful of British players of the [baroque musette](#), an 18th century French bagpipe similar to the Northumbrian smallpipes.

She also makes instruments (including the baroque oboe which she will play during the Music in Art presentation) and is an accredited lecturer for [The Arts Society](#) and has worked extensively as an historical interpreter and musician for **English Heritage**, **The National Trust** and **The Royal Armouries**.

**27 May 2021**

### **Scam Awareness – Pamela Hayton**

**Pamela Hayton** works for NatWest Bank. She says 'part of my role is to raise awareness of and educate the wider community about fraud and scam prevention. The presentation explains how scammers identify and approach their targets, the social engineering techniques they use and of course how to keep yourself from falling victim to fraud or scams.'

**24 June 2021**

### **Gardens for Us and Them – Dr Ian Bedford**

Despite many worrying facts about Global Warming and Climate Change affecting ecosystems and biodiversity, almost 35% of Britain's land mass is being protected from development within National Parks and Nature Reserves. Many projects are also underway to try and connect these protected areas so that their wildlife doesn't suffer through geographic isolation.

Home gardens can all become valuable stepping stones for our wildlife in the quest to connect the natural reserves. This talk explains some of the very easy things we can all do to help achieve this, for us and the future generations of not only our population but those of Britain's wildlife.

Ian Bedford says:

I have been fascinated by insects and other invertebrates for most of my life.

Starting out as an Amateur Entomologist, studying and conserving butterflies on the South Downs, I went on to pursue a professional career as an entomologist. For over 42 years I undertook plant science research at the John Innes Centre (one of the UK's leading research centres), where I became Head of the Entomology Department. Retiring from my life as a Research Entomologist, I now

continue with my love of entomology through a wide range of public engagement activities.

I'm also often called upon by the media to speak about topical bug issues and have appeared on popular TV shows such as Gardeners' World, Inside Out, Tonight, Horizon, BBC Breakfast, the A to Z of TV Gardening, The Great British Garden Revival and even Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule show on ITV. I've also featured on BBC Gardeners Question Time.