

# FRIENDS LECTURE PROGRAMME 2026 - 2027

All our meetings begin at 7.30 pm

16-Sep-26     **The Land of Iron**

Iron Mining on the North Yorkshire Moors. 150 years ago the area supplied a third of the country's iron and steel.

Speaker Geoff Taylor

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21-Oct-26     **Florence Nightingale**

Florence Nightingale chose to be unmarried and devote her life to the care of others. She served in the Crimea, established a school of nursing and campaigned for improvements for the rest of her life.

Speaker Jo Bonham

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18-Nov-26     **Royal Heraldry**

Covering 17 monarchs, this talk on Britain's changing royal arms since the 12th century offers a lot of history and colourful heraldry – including even the crown of Charlemagne.

Speaker Rev'd David Haddon-Reece MPhil FRS

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20-Jan-27     **Henry VIII on Tour: the Royal Progresses of Henry VIII**

A lecture sharing some of the findings from the University of York's recent project exploring the Summer Progresses of Henry VIII in partnership with Historic Royal Palaces.

Speaker Professor Kate Giles

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17-Feb-27     **Horsepower in Malton & Norton (provisional)**

This talk celebrates the vital role that horses have played in Malton, Norton and the surrounding area over thousands of years.

Speaker Andy Harvey

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17-Mar-27     **The Battle of Flamborough Head**

was a naval battle that took place on 23 September 1779 in the North Sea off the coast of Yorkshire between a combined Franco-American squadron, led by Continental Navy officer John Paul Jones. It became one of the most celebrated naval actions of the war in America, despite its relatively small size and a considerable dispute over what had actually occurred.

Speakers Margaret and John Clarke

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21-Apr-27     **The Lunatic Express**

How the British built a Railway from Mombasa to Lake Victoria - without a map! Engineers, soldiers and poorly-equipped labourers together overcame drought, tsetse flies, malarial swamps, disgruntled local tribes and man-eating lions to construct a line that defined a nation.

Speaker Ron Pickering

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19-May-27     **AGM**