Local History Talks – Jean Wickens

• Origins of Guildford Street Names

A comprehensive look at the history of street names in Guildford, including the growth of Guildford and the local people who are remembered in the street names

• The Historical Connection to Guildford, Australia

Did you know that Guildford in Australia was founded by people from the Guildford and Pirbright areas, Admiral Stirling, later the first Governor of Western Australia married Ellen Mangles from Woodbridge House and set up the first settlement on the Swan River Colony – which later became Perth with Guildford as one of its suburbs

General Pitt Rivers

Polymath, General Pitt Rivers lived in Merrow while he commanded the local militia; among many other activities he was a keen archaeologist. He excavated part of Merrow Downs and Whitmore Common finding artefacts, some of which are now in The Pitt Rivers Museum in Oxford.

Local Charities and Benefactors of Guildford

Over the centuries Guildford has been blessed with a large number of benefactors, some unintentionally, some intentionally. Many of the charities they set up still help and support Guildford people today.

• Christmas – Traditions and Food

A look at the development of Christmas traditions from its pagan origins to the way it is celebrated today, with particular reference to Christmas food and Christmas feasts of the past including those held at Guildford Castle.

• C S Lewis in Surrey

This talk tells the story of C S Lewis' early life, and how he came to live in Great Bookham from 1914 to 1917. It gives his pen pictures of Surrey at that time, set against the background of WW1.

- **Two Guildford Brothers in World War One available November 2021** The story of my grandfather who went to France with the local Queens Regiment in 1914, was wounded and survived; and my great uncle who joined the Football Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment, was captured and died in a prisoner of war camp in France.
- The History of Allotments with particular reference to Guildford (working title) available late 2022)