



Guildford Travel Club

50 years of travel for travel's sake

We look forward to welcoming

Chris Beynon



21st February Jordan—On Foot and by Bicycle

We visit biblical and Roman sites, Crusader castles, Petra, the Dead Sea and Wadi Rum in a country suffering from the war in neighbouring Syria

Jamie Maddison



7th March One Steppe Ahead Adventures in Asia

A 750 mile horse ride across Kazakhstan followed by a 100 mile camel-supported run across the Red Sands Desert in Uzbekistan

Chris Bradley



21st March Walking the Longest Wadi In Arabia

Chris was the first westerner in modern times to walk the entire 500 km length of Wadi Hadramaut, solo and unsupported

From the Chairman

We certainly ended 2016 on a high note with our final speakers giving some wonderful talks and you can see the feedback scores on page 2. Judging by the photographs we have some excellent talks to take us up to Easter starting here with details of Chris Beynon's journeys across Jordan. January and early February talks are detailed in the previous Newsletter.

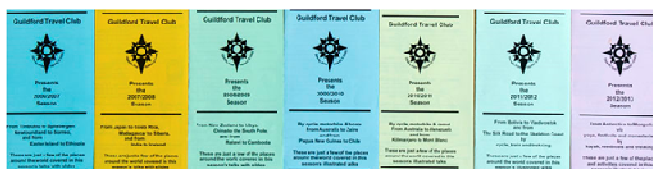
Do please come along to the **AGM on 25th April**. This will be a little different this year and I'm very pleased that Jenny Allan will be chairing the evening as I will be talking about Secret Serbia following the AGM.

Next season's programme is now complete up to Christmas and we can promise a return visit from at least four of our most popular speakers in 2017/18. More news at the AGM!

Thank you all for your ongoing support of the Club.

Janet Parsons

Read about Carol Busby's travels on Page 2 Next Newsletter — Tom Garside



50 years of Guildford Travel Club

Do have a look at the website for full reports of the early days of the Club

<http://www.guildfordtravelclub.org.uk/more/Overview.html>

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Refreshments

Chairs

Welcome Desk

Members Evenings



Please sign the lists at the back of the hall or speak to **Julia Hilton**, our Volunteer Manager

Thank you to those who have signed up in recent weeks

Please **turn over** for more news of GTC

News of GTC Speakers

John Pilkington our Vice-President is planning his next presentation

'The Abyssinian Difficulty': A Victorian Expedition

In 1868 the British government mounted an extraordinary task force to rescue European hostages in the Ethiopian highlands. 150 years later, John will follow in their footsteps and look at the changes that have swept through Eritrea and Ethiopia in the intervening years.

Watch this space!

Felicity Aston spoke to us in 2015 on Alone in Antarctica to great acclaim. Since then many of you will have enjoyed the BBC series 'Operation Gold Rush' where Felicity joined up with Dan Snow and Dr Kevin Fong on an epic journey across the Canadian wilderness, following in the footsteps of the 19th century Kondike Gold Rush.

Felicity will be returning to Guildford Travel Club



GTC Raffle

Please remember the raffle on 21st February at Chris Beynon's talk

Contributions of prizes will be very welcome
Please bring these along on the evening

More talks to enjoy in 2017

John Harrison



**4th April
Patagonia**

The Last Place Man Came

John explores the region of Tierra del Fuego and meets the last survivors of the tribes who lived a hunter-gatherer existence into the 20th century

Janet Parsons



25th April

AGM & Secret Serbia

Janet travelled through this little visited country last year to many of the Orthodox monasteries set in remote locations as well as its capital, Belgrade and historic towns, particularly Novi Pazar where minarets pierce the skyline.

GTC Feedback Survey

The chart below shows Feedback scores for the remainder of 2016. This will be updated at the AGM. Thank you all for an excellent response to the online surveys and do please keep filling in the questionnaires.

Percentage of 'Excellent' or 'Very Good' ratings		Topic	Photos	Speaker
Tragedy of Pompeii	David Edwards	96%	96%	100%
Memories – A Life of Travel	Audrey Olley	84%	93%	87%
Wildlife Exposed	Paul Goldstein	100%	100%	98%

Royal Geographical Society
with IBG

Advancing geography and geographical learning

Discovering People

Each year the RGS invites well-known figures who have interesting views on society, the environment and the world in general to share their thoughts and experiences.

Wednesday 1 March 7.00–8.15 Shappi Khorsandi

Comedian, broadcaster & author explores how geography has shaped her thoughts and influenced her life. Book online. Tickets £10 Members £7 RGS, Exhibition Road, London www.rgs.org/WhatsOn

Past speakers have been interviewed by Libby Purves, Martine Croxall & others

Carol Busby A profile of our new Programme Secretary

My interest in travel began as a child; my dad was a teacher so each summer we spent the six-week school holiday touring Western Europe, firstly with a tent and then a caravan. Until my nephews were born I travelled with my sister: we drove around California, Nevada and Arizona, camped in Norway and Iceland, visited the Far East and Brazil and survived a hurricane in the Caribbean! I worked in Bermuda for a

while, then helped set up a publishing company, including a magazine on conferences and incentive travel. Now I produce one publication on dog and cat care. Wild places, mountains and the natural world are my main interests. I have climbed Kilimanjaro, Kinabalu in Borneo and Mount Toubkal, North Africa's highest peak, and seen endemic and endangered wildlife in the Galapagos and Madagascar. I have tracked

gorillas in Uganda, seen tigers in India, spotted polar bears in the Arctic and visited many of Africa's game reserves, but I have yet to see a leopard! Recent trips include walking the coastal path of Gozo, hiking Iceland's Laugavegur Trail, trekking the Great Wall of China (pictured), reaching the highest peak on Cuba and making return visits to Bermuda and the Isles of Scilly.

Guildford Travel Club Committee

Chairman
Vice Chair/Membership Secretary
Treasurer
Programme Secretary
Assistant Programme Secretary
Hall Manager & Website
Assistant Hall Manager
IT Support & Design
Volunteer Manager
Publicity Secretary
Minutes Secretary

Janet Parsons
Jenny Allan
Colin Rumary
Carol Busby
Paul Gillingham
Andrew Luyten
Tom Garside
Chris Beynon
Julia Hilton
Rosie Spalding
Gillian Appleton



Carol Busby



Do come along to the AGM on 25th April and contribute your ideas in our Members' Forum. A preview of next season's Programme will be on display with an exciting speaker to open the season