General History Group 2026 programme at 27 Sept 2025 – part 4

Mon 12 October 2026 from 2.15 pm to 3.45pm Old London Bridge a presentation by **Alan Hill**

It was the gateway to the City of London, was the longest inhabited bridge ever constructed. It would also be the only bridge to cross the Thames into the City until 1750. In constant use for 622 years, it was finally dismantled and replaced by John Rennie's bridge in 1832. On a human level this was the most successful bridge ever built over the Thames, with a long and interesting history. spans the period from the Roman invasion through the medieval era, the Tudors.....the Georgians, up to present day. Thirty kings and queens have passed during its lifetime, yet the bridge lives on today in the guise of the work carried out by the Bridge House Estates.
Followed by refreshments. **Open to all u3a members £3 each**

Mon 9 Nov 2026 from 2.30pm to 3.45pm A talk from **Max Keen** a new presentation **King Richard III: The Mystery of The Princes in The Tower** a fascinating, animated talk. Did Richard III kill his nephews in 1438? This is still a hotly debated episode of history and Max Keen will cover the historical truth behind the deaths of Richard III's young nephews, the princes Edward and Richard.
Followed by refreshments. **Open to all u3a members £3 each**



The two princes were the sons of King Edward IV – the elder, Edward, aged 12 in 1483, and the younger, Richard, aged 9.



Mon 14 December 2026 2.15 pm to 3.45pm
Tbc - At present this is provisional due to ill health and may change

Life within a Medieval Castle – guest speaker Paul Harding Discover History Join Paul Harding as he talks about life within a castle. From how they helped with both attack and defence as well as how people lived within the walls. Find out more about the jobs and people involved in keeping a castle and its inhabitants safe.
Followed by seasonal refreshments **Open to all u3a members £3 each**