## THE OXFORDSHIRE LOCAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION (OLHA) - DIRECTORY OF SPEAKERS AND GUIDES

MIKE HURST	Address: 6 Nun's Acre, Goring, Reading RG8 9BETel: 01491 871022E-mail: mhurst@w-mark.myzen.co.uk	
Talks	Duration: 1 hour	Titles available:
	<b>Cost</b> : £70	Old Time Christmas
	<b>Plus expenses</b> : Travel from and to Goring if long distance.	• Saunders of the River - Sam E Saunders, boat builder of Goring, Streatley and founder of the Aviation Company Saunders Roe
		• <u>G</u> oring's <u>W</u> onderful <u>R</u> ailway
	Available daytime and weekends. Own data projector and laptop.	An Illustrated History of Transport in the Goring Gap
	r r	Edwardians on the Move
		Tracks to the Trenches
		Getting Around in the 1960s
		Flower Pots: A Torquay Pottery Flora
		Further details on all talks below.

# Old Time Christmas

A light hearted review of the social history of Christmas followed by a nostalgic look at the minutia of Christmas at home in Britain in the mid 20th century. 'We had one of those' comments' distinctly possible.

# Saunders of the River: Sam E Saunders, boat builder of Goring, Streatley and founder of the Aviation Company Saunders Roe

Sam Saunders was born at the Swan in Streatley. Like his father and grandfather before him he built boats, but he was innovative and took full advantage of the Victorian boating boom on The Thames. This talk traces his meteoric progress in Goring and Streatley and follows him to the Isle of Wight where he formed Saunders Roe, made flying boats and became an intimate of royalty. His company still exists as GKN Aerospace. Not bad for the pub landlord's son!

### '<u>G</u>oring's <u>W</u>onderful <u>R</u>ailway'

A comprehensively illustrated history of the GWR line between Pangbourne and Cholsey - from Brunel to the traumas of present day electrification.

Continued overleaf...

### An Illustrated History of Transport in the Goring Gap

The story of our trackways, roads, river, railways and aviation from the earliest times, including carts, stagecoaches, cars, lorries, bus services, garages, barges, leisure boating, Brunel and the GWR to date, balloon races, gyrocopters and even locally built planes.

### Edwardians on the Move

A colourful account of how the Edwardians got around in those halcyon days before World War. Illustrated in colour from old postcards, GWR posters and paintings ranging from transatlantic travel to commuting, pleasure jaunts and vacations.

### Tracks to the Trenches

An affecting account of railway activities in the South of England and in France during the Great War. This will include the transport and care of the wounded back to Blighty with some focus on South Oxfordshire and West Berkshire. Railways permitted the mass movements of munitions, equipment and men – and the harrowing resulting casualties, many of whom were taken through the Thames Valley. The GWR pioneered ambulance trains.

#### Getting Around in the 1960s

An entertaining illustrated talk about how we were on the move in the 'Swinging' Sixties. Covering cars (often second hand), motorbikes, scooters, buses, air travel, a railway system in apparently terminal decline, the first motorways, the rise of lorries and car ownership, inclusive tours abroad and the switch of ocean liners to cruising. A decade of amazing change and already history! Prepared for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Goring Gap Local History Society.

#### Flower Pots: A Torquay Pottery Flora

Several potteries in the Torquay area, including Watcombe, Longpark, Babbacombe and Dartmouth, produced both art pottery and simple holiday souvenirs (including mottoware, cottages and seagulls) from the local clays. Their heyday was from the 1890s to the 1960s. Torquayware is highly collectable. This talk, prepared for the Torquay Pottery Collectors Society, is illustrated with flower decorated pots from 'The Hurst Collection.'