



## West Barnes Local History Group

**Would you like to know more about the history of Merton?**

**The first half of our 2023 programme is as follows:**

- 17 January: Sport Along the Wandle.**  
Discover more about the sporting accolades of this area – from cricket and football, to athletics, tennis and speedway.  
Speaker: Mick Taylor, Wandle Industrial Museum
- 21 February: Pictures of Transport Around Merton Park.**  
A nostalgic look at rail, tram, bus and underground services in the Merton, Morden and Wimbledon area.  
Speaker: Bruce Robertson
- 21 March: The Richest of the Rich.**  
This illustrated talk will highlight the life of 19<sup>th</sup> century trader, landowner and philanthropist, Richard Thornton of Cannon Hill – once the richest man in Britain.  
Speaker: Sarah Gould, Merton Heritage Service.
- 18 April: Merton Priory: A New Chapter.**  
Hear more about the fascinating history of Merton's Medieval Priory and how its remains are being made accessible to the public.  
Speaker: John Hawks, Merton Priory Trust
- 16 May: Motspur Park & West Barnes During the Interwar Era**  
Learn how the 1920s and '30s were key to the development of this area – from housing and industry, to education and transport.  
Speaker: Toby Ewin, Friends of West Barnes Library
- 20 June: Morden Park 1945+**  
A look at the post-war history of Morden Park House, the historic park and local sports facilities.  
Speaker: Sarah Gould, Merton Heritage Service

These **FREE** events run from **10.30am to 12 noon** at **West Barnes Library, Station Road, New Malden.**

### **Bookings:**

Please contact **West Barnes Library, Tel. 020 8274 5789**  
or email: [library.westbarnes@merton.gov.uk](mailto:library.westbarnes@merton.gov.uk)