



Bournemouth and District

CSPA HQ

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Notice of AGM Tuesday March 24th 2026 - details back page

Yet another year has passed and all the members of the Bournemouth Committee would like to invite you to this year's AGM. For our AGM in March CSPA's former Chair and current member of the Executive Council, Linda Ridgers-Waite will be coming to speak to us, so please come along if you can. Agenda for AGM on the back page.

(No charge for AGM but we do ask for £4 at all other meetings to help pay for the room, speaker and refreshments)



Inside this newsletter are details of our talks. We have quite a variety of topics booked for the spring and summer so hopefully there will be something there to interest you and for you to enjoy.

Our monthly meetings are continuing at 10.45 am on the fourth Tuesday of the month (this is not always the last) on the ground floor in the newer part of the building at:

St Mark's Church Hall, Wallisdown Road, Talbot Village, Bournemouth, BH10 4HY

Bus stop: St Mark's Church. As well as any normal public bus you can catch any UNI bus: they are not just for students. <https://www.unibuses.co.uk/services>

Plenty of parking at the church, at the back as well as the front of the building.

A very big, **“Thank You”**

We are extremely grateful for the generosity of members after our appeal in the last newsletter. We have received £300 in donations, some from named members and also some anonymous. This means our account remains in the black and we can continue to have our meetings on a monthly basis. We have to pay for speakers and hall hire and - since October - bank charges. In spite of members paying an entrance fee we have sometimes only just been able to break even.

We are the last Dorset group still functioning and thanks to you, our members, we shall be able to continue.



Bournemouth Programme January 2026 to August 2026

27th January 2026 - Mike Davies

"Women Not Allowed" The history of working men's clubs which originated in the 19th century, primarily in industrial areas of Britain, to provide recreation and education for working-class men and their families.



24th February 2026 – Kevin Patience

"Shout at the Devil" - The Destruction of the German cruiser KONIGSBERG -1915 : A unique piece of First World War naval history about the German warship Konigsberg blockaded and destroyed by the Royal Navy and the Royal Naval Air Service in an East African river in 1914/15. The first time aircraft were used to help sink a warship.



24th March 2026

Bournemouth and District AGM

Speaker – Linda Ridgers-Waite – Member of CSPA Executive Council

28th April 2026 - Richard Hutley

"Bigfoot - Fact or Fiction?"

Bigfoot (otherwise known as Sasquatch) is a cryptic large half man, half ape creature reportedly roaming the forests, mountains and uninhabited wilderness of North America.

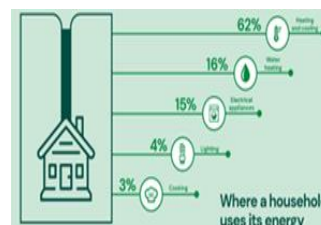
Evidence suggests that these creatures exist, supported by Native American folklore stretching back long before the arrival of Europeans in the Americas. Denied by science, but witnessed by countless people, video footage, DNA and other supporting evidence. Make your mind up.



26th May 2026 - Carla Ellery

"Citizens Advice Energy Team in Dorset/BCP"

An Energy Advisor talk giving lighter touch energy advice, explaining gas and electricity statements, helping residents to sign up for the Priority Service Register for extra support if there is an issue with power or water, giving carbon monoxide awareness and offering free CO monitors. (If required, a more in-depth energy phone advice appointment can be given by their Dorset Energy Advice Team.)



23rd June 2026 - Jo Amey

"The Servant Question"

This looks at the changes in domestic service, especially the introduction of labour saving equipment, in the first half of the twentieth century.



28th July 2026 – Paula Harmon

"Research Rabbit Holes and Warrens"

Paula has written several mysteries, most of them historical. Come and hear about her books and what she has discovered when lost in research rabbit-holes. From the real purpose of Girl Guides via a surprise in her family history to how you could (but perhaps shouldn't) dye your hair or treat your poorly children, Paula will share some of the fascinating, and occasionally bizarre, facts she's uncovered for her books, including several she's had to leave out of her books because no one would believe them.



August – no meeting

CSPA AGM 2025

The CSPA AGM 2025 report has now been completed and gives a full record of the decisions taken. The complete report can be viewed/downloaded at:

<https://members.cspa.co.uk/agm-report-now-available/>

Among the motions passed was A17 seconded by Bournemouth, that for a trial period of 2 years, *“The posts of Chair, Vice Chair, and five ordinary members of the Executive Council shall be voted upon prior to an AGM in a ballot of members.”*

The reason for supporting this was that a majority of members do not belong to a group and are therefore disenfranchised. Even if there is a group, such as here in Bournemouth, it covers such a wide area that often members are unable to get to the meetings.

When it comes into being you will be sent details of the voting method and candidates' details.

CSPA Campaigns

Printed copies of the CSPA Group Circulars outlining current CSPA campaigns and news are always available at our meetings but if you cannot attend, they are also available on the website.

The CSPA website says *“Our campaigns change over time as we respond to the changing needs of pensioners and the pressures they face. We encourage members and groups to support these campaigns. This might mean signing a petition, or meeting or writing to your MP to secure their support.”*

If you feel strongly about any of the issues, this is a good way to highlight them. You can find out who your MP is on the UK Parliament website: <https://www.parliament.uk/>
If you don't have a computer, the Electoral Registration Officer at your local council will be able to identify your MP based on your full address. Public libraries often keep a physical copy of the Directory of MPs or can access the information for you, again using your address.

Current CSPA campaigns include those calling for:

TRANSPORT

Investment in local bus and rail services, improved accessibility and assistance for older people on all new bus and railway stock and facilities.

PENSIONS

All political parties to make manifesto commitments to guarantee the State Pension triple lock for at least the duration of the next Parliament.

HOUSING

All new homes to meet the Lifetime Homes standard with a national strategy for more adaptable, accessible homes across all tenures.

COMMISSIONER FOR OLDER PEOPLE

The UK Government to create an Older People and Ageing Commissioner for England and Scotland.

DIGITAL EXCLUSION

Government to combat digital technology's role in social exclusion and access to services.

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

A National Social Care Service integrated with the National Health Service that remains free at the point of delivery.

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CSPA Bournemouth and District Group Secretary

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NOTICE OF BOURNEMOUTH AND DISTRICT GROUP
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THE 71st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of
CSPA Bournemouth and District Group (Our 72nd year) will be held at:
St Mark's Church, Wallisdown Road, Talbot Village, Bournemouth, BH10 4HY
Tuesday March 24th 2026
10.45am refreshments, 11.00am meeting starts

Guest Speaker ~ Linda Ridgers-Waite, Member of CSPA Executive Council

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2025
3. Matters arising
4. Officers' Reports
5. Election of Officers, Committee & Scrutineer
6. Motions
7. Content and format of future meetings
8. Any other business

The AGM is your opportunity to comment on Alliance business at Group or National level. We would like to hear your views. Motions for discussion should be sent to reach the Secretary **by 19th March 2026**.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

The Group Constitution provides for a Group Executive Committee of 15 Officers and Members to be elected at each Annual General Meeting.

We are far fewer than 15. If you wish to make any nominations, please complete the enclosed form and send it to reach the Secretary **by 19th March 2026** or bring to the **AGM on 24th March**. Please obtain the consent of your nominees before submitting their names for election.

Group Executive Committee and Officers 2025-2026
who are available to be on the committee 2026-2027

Chairman:	Ron Manley
Vice-Chairman:	Les Mondry-Flesch
Secretary & Speaker Organiser:	Liz Malin
Treasurer:	David Foster
Deputy Treasurer:	Vacant
Cashier:	Ernest Whatmore
Scrutineer:	Bob Tanner
Newsletter Editor and Raffle:	Marilyn Whatmore
Refreshments:	Diana Parkes
General Committee Members:	Vacancies

WE REALLY DO NEED MORE COMMITTEE MEMBERS to keep the group going. If you feel you could help in any way, however small, please volunteer or speak to one of the current committee members before the AGM.



Please use this form to nominate a committee member.
FORM OF NOMINATION: Bournemouth and District CSPA

NAME:

POSITION:

PROPOSED BY:

NOMINEE'S SIGNED CONSENT: