GSIA Winter Lectures 2026-2027

Date		Venue	Topic	Speaker	Description
Tuesday 29 September 2026	**7.30pm**	Archives	Stroud Gas Works Tramway	Mike Smith	Mike Smith has previously spoken to GSIA on Railway subjects and in this talk Mike will explain the history of the Stroud Gas Works Tramway which connected from the Dudbridge to Stroud branch of the Nailsworth Midland Railway line
Tuesday 27 October 2026	**7.30pm**	Archives	400th Anniversary of Vermuyden Draining Isle of Axholme Lincolnshire	Angus Townley	The Isle of Axholme, a unique region in Lincolnshire, was once a vast, watery expanse. This talk delves into the fascinating history of drainage engineering in the region. We'll explore how, particularly during the 17th century under the guidance of Dutch engineer Cornelius Vermuyden, significant strides were made to drain the marshland. The legacy of Vermuyden and subsequent engineering giants like Smeaton and Rennie will be examined, highlighting their innovative approaches to further develop and refine the drainage system.
Saturday 21 November 2026	**2pm**	Archives	AGM and Members short presentations William Sisson and Co Limited To be confirmed To be confirmed	 Stuart and Ann Smith To Be Confirmed To be confirmed	The AGM will include 3 member talks about current research projects
Tuesday 29 December 2026	**7.30pm**	Zoom	Ferro-Concrete Vessels built at Hempsted	Paul Barnett	Ferro-concrete ships were developed during World War I as an emergency solution to critical steel shortages for shipbuilding. One of the companies to produce these vessels was based at Hempsted and in this talk Paul Barnett will discuss the company and the six ships known to have been produced in Gloucester
Tuesday 26 January 2027	**7.30pm**	Zoom	Ten Transport Pioneers Who Changed the Wo	Anthony Burton	Stroud based historian Anthony Burton talks about his latest book which explores ten defining moments in the history of transport, spanning five centuries – from the age of sailing ships to the dawn of the modern jetliner. Its cast of innovators range from Cornish mining pioneer Richard Trevithick to the French nobleman Marquis Jouffroy d'Abbans and also Sir Frank Whittle, who each played a part in reshaping how we travel.
Tuesday 23 February 2027	**7.30pm**	Archives	The history of chocolate in the UK and locally	Dr Phil Bischler	A short history of how chocolate arrived in the UK, a brief history of the Cadbury company and details of Cadbury's Frampton factory once. Different choclate samples will be available to try.
Tuesday 23 March 2027	**7.30pm**	Archives	The Magic of Glass, from Developing Concorde	Dr Bob King	"The illustrated talk covers Bobs time as a Project Manager on Concorde and includes a 7 minute video crossing the Atlantic as seen from the Pilots seat Then successfull mplementation of the Technolgy on Boeing aircraft and ultimately Flat Screen TV development.
Tuesday 27 April 2027	**7.30pm**	Archives	Stone Quarries in the Stroud Area	Arthur Price	Arthur Price, a farmer and building stone archaeologist is a leading authority on the history of Cotswold stone mines and quarries and will talk about the industry in the Stroud Valleys