Steve Williams talks:

My talks are aimed at mixed audiences of all ages and focus heavily on people, places and social history. They are highly illustrated using PowerPoint and last between 50 minutes to an hour.

Talks can be arranged for lunchtime, weekday afternoons or to suit education timetables. I have no objection to giving talks in the evening or weekends, nor to travelling outside the North West of England (see 'travel expenses').

Charges:

Groups, Clubs and local Societies - £35
Historical Societies and Libraries - £45
Government, Education and Museums - £60
Other / commercial organisations - £75

Talk & workshop - £90
Conference / Day rate - £190

Workshop and educational material - by arrangement.

Travel expenses:

These are included to venues in Central Lancashire. For travel outside this area I seek and agree a contribution towards my petrol / travel costs.

Talks to Government, education, museums and similar / commercial organisations - 33p per mile or standard class railfare + taxi and subsistence (as appropriate).

Equipment:

I bring my own equipment, if required, such as Laptop, projector and screen.
To groups of 30 or more, I prefer to use a microphone if one is available.

Books, Trips & other Services:

Author of two WW1 books - "Brindle & Hoghton Pals" and "Chorley Pals".
Bespoke **battlefields tours** to The Western Front (planning & guide) - trips from Lancashire to the Somme in May 2011 and Normandy in late June 2011.
Research service for WW1 soldier's details and / or records (fee charged).
Marketing & fundraising (consultancy or talk available to groups & charities).

Website: www.stevewilliamstalks.co.uk

Contact details:

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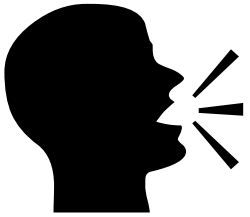
Up-dated 4.8.2010. I reserve the right to withdraw or amend talks at any time. © Steve Williams 2010



Looking for a Speaker?

Illustrated **talks** on…

World War One

Local / Social history

Football

Travel

CHORLEY

Railways

£

Fundraising & Marketing

Steve Williams

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World War One

‘In the trenches, 90 years on’

A talk about visits to **WW1 battlefields** in France, Belgium and Turkey over the years, featuring being on the Somme battlefield - 90 years to the minute when the battle started at 7.30 a.m. on the 1st July 1916.

‘Gallipoli’

A visit to the **Gallipoli** battlefield in Turkey during September 2006 was more of a pilgrimage, searching out the lost graves of three men from my village. The talk covers the research and result, as well as looking at the beaches and battlefield; numerous maps & photographs.

‘The Chorley Pals’

In September 1914 men from every walk of life around Chorley answered Lord Kitchener’s appeal to join up and fight in WW1. The talk looks at the Soldiers of ‘Y’ Company, 11th (Service) Battalion East Lancashire Regiment – the **Chorley Pals**, part of the famous “Accrington Pals”.

‘Footballers in the Trenches’

Combining research into WW1 with my interest in football. Numerous stories of professional and amateur **footballers who fought in the trenches** during the First World War - many with a Lancashire connection.

‘A Mother’s Tears’

A few lines spotted in the ‘In Memoriam’ column of Chorley Guardian, dated 17th June 1917, gave me the idea for this talk. I have put together some very poignant stories from my own research into WW1 over the years. As the title implies, they view **the War through different eyes**.

Football

‘The Ref.!’

Stories from 29 years as a football **Referee**, including 12 years as Linesman on The Football League (1985 - 1996); numerous photographs.

‘The Blue & Whites in Black and White’

As a lifelong **Blackburn Rovers** fan, I illustrate the history of the Rovers from their beginnings in 1875 to 1990, just prior to the Jack Walker era.

‘Blackburn Rovers in the Bryan Douglas era’

A look at the Rovers during the era of one of its most famous players, **Bryan Douglas**. He played for his home-town club from 1950 to 1969.

‘Preston North End in the Tom Finney era’

Mention Preston North End and you have to mention “Sir Tom”. **Sir Tom Finney** was one of North End’s greatest players, playing for his home-town club from 1938 to 1960.

Full details & more on www.stevewilliamstalks.co.uk

BRITISH RAILWAYS

‘The railway from Cherry Tree to Chorley’

In **steam days** Cherry Tree, near Blackburn, was the junction for the railway to Chorley. There are numerous ‘then and now’ photographs of the country stations along the line, as well as Chorley ‘terminus’; the line closed in 1968.

‘Along the line through Brindle and Hoghton’

Opened in 1846, the line from Blackburn to Preston still sees **trains** passing through the two villages. Numerous ‘then and now’ images as well as stories of the people who lived and worked on the line.

‘Lakeland Lines’

Looks at the railways in **the Lake District**, then and now – from the closed lines to Coniston and Keswick, the preserved line to Lakeside, the narrow gauge Ravenglass & Eskdale railway and the single track to Windermere.

‘Rails to the Lancashire Coast’

A look back at journeys to Blackpool, Morecambe and Southport during the hey-day of rail travel, mainly photographed in black and white.

Misc., Travel, Local & Social history

‘Who do you think I am?’

Based on the format of the BBC TV programme *‘Who do you think you are’*, I chronicle **my own family tree** finding Huguenot roots in 18th century France, a Yorkshire wool merchant, a newspaper Editor, a Bolton tram driver and a Lady’s maid who supposedly perished on the Titanic.

‘King and Country’

Covers WW1 & WW2 - a unique and personal talk, linking families (including my own) who fought in both wars. Stories and photographs of the Somme, Ypres, Gallipoli, Dunkirk, Normandy and Burma.

‘Travels in France’

I share some of the places I have visited in **France** over the years – not only on battlefield visits to Dunkirk, Normandy and the Somme but to Corsica, Paris, Bordeaux, St. Malo, Nice, Monte Carlo and Champagne country.

‘Battlefields & Poppy fields’

Covers the many **battlefields** in Northern Europe – from Crecy to Agincourt, from Ypres, Verdun and the Somme to Arnhem, Dunkirk and Normandy.

‘Death of a village - Oradour-sur-Glane, June 1944’

The **French village** of Oradour-sur-Glane was the scene of the worst atrocity by the SS during World War Two; it remains today as they left it in 1944.

‘Brindle & Hoghton - Then and Now’

Looking at **two Lancashire villages** over the years – “then and now”.

A talk on **Marketing and Fundraising** is also available.