

28 February 2012—8pm
Steve Rider



A Grandstand View

Steve Rider
*Sports Presenter, Broadcaster
and Author*

In the year of the London Olympics, we are happy to be joined by one of the most familiar sports broadcasters of the last thirty years. During this time he has presented the TV coverage of twelve Olympic Games. His career has identified him as one of sport's most versatile presenters, covering seven hundred editions of Grandstand, twelve years as main BBC rugby presenter, fifty major golf championships, including twenty-three years at The Masters. He is closely identified with motor sport and Formula One, working alongside Murray Walker and James Hunt in the BBC days, before moving to present ITV coverage from 2006 until 2008. More recently, he was the main ITV presenter for the 2011 Rugby World Cup.

Steve, who is a multi-award winning broadcaster, is happy to talk of life behind the scenes in sports broadcasting and about the great sports stars and broadcasting personalities he has worked alongside. He is well qualified to discuss how sports broadcasting has progressed through the 'golden years' of the BBC to the multi-choice industry it has become.

His books have included histories of the BBC Sports Personality of the Year, and of European Golf at the US Masters.

Steve, a local resident, appears at the Kenton Lectures on behalf of local charities.

*Steve Rider and fellow
Grandstand presenters.*



THE LECTURES STORY

The Kenton Lectures were created in 2007, aiming to broaden the Theatre's offerings to our audiences. But our roots go back much further: We were inspired by the lively period in the 1960s when the Kenton Theatre Arts Club was a key part of our cultural activities.

Since inception, our lectures have featured a wide range of topics, with speakers including Lords Owen and Heseltine, Dame Stephanie Shirley, Prof Richard Fortey and Colin Dexter, to name but a few. They all have risen to the challenge of our audiences' probing questions in the Q&A sessions which are a great feature of each occasion.

This year again, we offer you a memorable series of stylish and substantial events with our top line speakers, each introduced by a Henley personality.

Theatre Box Office: 01491 575698

**Individual Tickets £10 (28th February £12)
Kenton Friends – £8 (28th February £10)**

A fundraising event for the Kenton Theatre
New Street Henley-on-Thames RG9 2BP
www.kentontheatre.co.uk Reg. Charity 253021

The Kenton Lectures

2011/12 Season

24 October

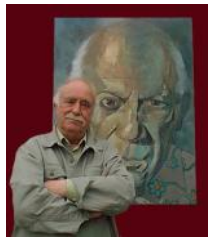
5 December

23 January

28 February

KENTON

24 October 2011—8pm
Ron Freeborn



Pablo and Me

Ron Freeborn
Artist

Ron Freeborn has drawn from a very young age. It has been his 'grounding' throughout his life and it has influenced his other cultural interests such as Theatre, Opera and the general performing arts. Ron, ever the enthusiast, states, “ *I continue to rejoice in making marks in line and colour and creating a pictorial structure from virtually any source that appeals.* ”

After studying Fine Art for four years in the fifties, he served for two years in the Armed Forces (Cyprus). He is a retired Head of the Art Department at Didcot Girls' School, Oxon. His paintings are in private collections in all five continents, and in the British Government Art Collection. For 25 years he has taken artists to Venice annually on residential courses.

'Pablo and Me' is an informal illustrated talk. Ron's own work and teaching is heavily influenced by Picasso. Ron has a sense of fun and his light approach to his subject is refreshing and appealing and has communicated well with audiences of varying generations across the local area. We are in for a treat.

Some examples of Ron Freeborn's work



5 December 2011—8pm
Professor Chris Stringer



The Origin of Our Species

Professor Chris Stringer
Fellow of the Royal Society

Chris Stringer has worked at The Natural History Museum London since 1973, and is now Research Leader in Human Origins and a Fellow of the Royal Society. He is currently leading the Ancient Human Occupation of Britain project. His early research was on the relationship of Neanderthals and early modern humans in Europe, but through his work on the 'Out of Africa' theory of modern human origins, he is attempting to reconstruct the evolution of modern humans globally. He has published over 200 scientific papers, and memorable books.

Human Evolution can be divided into two main phases. A pre-human phase in Africa prior to 2 million years ago, where walking upright had evolved but many other characteristics were still essentially ape-like. And a human phase, with an increase in both brain size and behavioural complexity, and an expansion from Africa. Evidence points strongly to Africa as the major centre for the genetic, physical and behavioural origins of both ancient and modern humans, but new discoveries are prompting a rethink of some aspects of our evolutionary origins, including the likelihood of interbreeding between archaic humans (for example the Neanderthals) and modern humans.

Chris Stringer at work at the Natural History Museum



23 January 2012—8pm
Sue Lawson



What's the point of School?

Sue Lawson
Former Head of Dr Challoner's School

Sue read English Literature at London University. Following this, she was one of the first three women selected for a post graduate management course with the National Coal Board.

Time in Industrial Relations and Staff Training followed and then Sue moved north with her husband and they started their family.

A period running the Adult Literacy scheme for North Northumberland and a YTS scheme led to a teachers' training course. Sue then began her teaching career which included teaching maths to prisoners at Reading gaol; working in a special needs unit; running a TVEI initiative; teaching in large mixed comprehensives and culminating in the headship of Dr. Challoner's High School. In addition Sue was a co-founder of an EU funded European wide initiative which introduced economic awareness to post -16 students.

During her time at DCHS she was, for two years, chairman of the heads' group of Bucks Grammar Schools and joint chairman of the Bucks Secondary Heads' Group. On retirement she became Chairman of Governors of Dr. Challoner's Grammar School and of Amersham and Wycombe F.E. College. Sue is now is a part time educational consultant.

Sue's philosophy is a straight forward one, that it is the role of schools to build and foster the learning power of each individual pupil.

Sue Lawson at work in the classroom

