



Film and History Break with Ian Garden 'Framing Freedom'

Occupation, resistance and the stories we tell

From Monday the 1st of March until the morning of Friday the 5th of March 2027



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‘Framing Freedom’

Occupation, resistance and the stories we tell

From revolution in America to life under Nazi occupation and right through to the fight for the Falkland Islands, the 2027 Film and History Break will take you on a vast journey of discovery where we’ll talk about freedom, borders, propaganda, resistance and the people caught up in history — and enjoy some wonderful cinema at the same time.

Each day mixes short talks and documentaries with a feature film, giving you both the background and the drama behind some of the most fascinating conflicts of the last few centuries.

The opening day explores how struggles for independence help define nations and identities. In the morning, we examine the American War of Independence through short documentary films, tracing the political ideas, personalities, and conflicts that shaped a new country. In the afternoon, the screening of the Oscar-winning film, ***49th Parallel*** (1941) shifts the focus to Canada, using WW2 drama to explore borders, loyalty, and freedom. Though set in different centuries, both sessions ask similar questions about belonging, resistance, and the meaning of liberty.

Day two looks at what happens when war comes home. In the morning, we explore Nazi occupation in Europe, with special attention to the Channel Islands and daily life under control. Rather than big battles, we focus on ordinary people and small acts of defiance. In the afternoon, ***Appointment with Venus*** (1951) brings that world to life through a charming and gently comedic wartime tale that uses the rescue of a prized cow to highlight the absurdity of conflict and the quiet resilience of ordinary people.

Our final day moves into a more modern conflict with the Falklands War. The morning explores why the war happened, how it was fought, and how it was explained to the public at the time. We consider how war is shaped not just by soldiers, but by governments and media narratives. In the afternoon, the exciting 1940 Hitchcock spy thriller, ***Foreign Correspondent*** (1940) places a journalist at the very heart of international tension as he tries to expose enemy spies in the prelude to WW2. The film shows how information, propaganda, and courage collide.

This will be the ninth Film and History Break which Ian will have run at Green Park. Much of the content reflects feedback from previous courses and draws on his detailed research into various war topics. History provides the facts, cinema provides the emotional landscape and Ian is confident that you will find this latest programme informative and thought-provoking.

'Framing Freedom'

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Monday the 1st of March

So as to make the most of your day, feel free to arrive any time from mid-morning onwards. Complimentary tea, coffee, and biscuits will be available in the main lounges.

6.00pm

The first organised activity will be a sherry reception to be held in the **lounge bar near reception**. This will give you the chance to meet your hosts from the Green Park, your tutor Ian Garden, as well as your fellow guests.

6.30pm - 8.00pm

A four course dinner will be served in the dining-room, followed by coffee, tea, and shortbread in the lounges.

Tuesday the 2nd of March

8.00am - 9.45am.

A full Scottish breakfast will be served in the dining room.

From 10.00am - morning session

A Film and History Session with Ian.

An illustrated talk which will include an examination of key aspects of the American War of Independence and explore the role of the famous Scottish sailor, John Paul Jones.

Break for a buffet lunch in the dining room 12.30 - 1.30pm.

From 2.00pm - afternoon session

A Film and History Session with Ian.

***49th Parallel*—Screening of this influential 1941 WW2 propaganda epic starring Leslie Howard and Laurence Olivier. The plot centres on a stranded U-Boat crew's desperate attempts to cross Canada and reach then neutral USA**

From 6.00pm.

A pre-dinner Sherry reception in the main lounge.

From 6.00pm - 8.00pm.

A four course dinner will be served in the dining room, followed by coffee and shortbread in the main lounge.

Wednesday the 3rd of March

8.00am - 9.45am.

A full Scottish breakfast will be served in the dining-room.

From 10.00am - morning session

A Film and History Session with Ian.

An illustrated talk about occupation and resistance to the Germans during WW2 with a special focus on the Channel Islands.

Break for a buffet lunch in the dining room 12.30 - 1.30pm.

From 2.00pm - afternoon session

A Film and History Session with Ian.

Talk and screening of *Appointment with Venus* starring David Niven and Glynis Johns. Based on a true story, this romantic wartime comedy is about a British officer sent to the Nazi-occupied Channel Islands to rescue a prized cow before the Germans can seize her.

From 6.00pm.

A pre-dinner sherry reception will be held in the main lounge.

From 6.00pm - 8.00pm.

A four course dinner will be served in the dining room, followed by coffee and shortbread in the main lounge.

Thursday the 4th of March

8.00am - 9.45am.

A full Scottish breakfast will be served in the dining-room.

From 10.00am - morning session

A Film and History Session with Ian.

An illustrated talk about the Falklands War, the difficulties of providing accurate media coverage of such a geographically remote conflict and how it was reported by both sides.

Break for a buffet lunch in the dining room 12.30 - 1.30pm.

From 2.00pm - afternoon session

A Film and History Session with Ian.

Talk and Screening of the exciting Hitchcock thriller *Foreign Correspondent*. Starring Joel McCrea, Laraine Day and George Sanders, the question is whether a couple of journalists will be able to expose the spies and alert the world to the dangers of the Nazis.

Thursday the 4th of March (continued)

6.00pm

An informal bucks-fizz reception will be hosted by Ian in the **lounge bar near reception**. Everyone will have downed tools by now, and this is an excellent opportunity to unwind and enjoy the company of Ian and your compatriots.

From 6.30pm - 8.00pm.

A four course dinner will be served in the dining room, followed by coffee and shortbread in the main lounge.

Friday the 5th of March

8.00am - 10.00am.

A full Scottish breakfast will be served in the dining room.

The McMenemie family and everyone at the Green Park hope that you will have enjoyed your stay with us, and that you have a safe journey home.



Film and History Break with Ian Garden

Ian Garden – Background note

Born in Muir of Ord and brought up in Linlithgow and Edinburgh, Ian has been running Film and History Breaks at Green Park for a number of years.

Ian is a French and German Honours graduate from the University of St Andrews who spent much of his life working in International and Corporate Banking, firstly for the Bank of Scotland and then HBOS.



He opened the Bank's first office in Germany in 1993 and it was during his three year posting to Frankfurt that he really had an opportunity to indulge his interest in WW2 film propaganda.

On retiring from the Bank in 2008, Ian researched and wrote a book called ***The Third Reich's Celluloid War*** which was published by the History Press in 2012, and raised considerable interest from the press and the radio both in this country and abroad. In 2016, Ian launched his second book - ***Battling with the Truth***- which explores which side was more truthful in their newsreel and press coverage of key events in WW2 and it reveals a number of surprising findings.

Ian is now a recognised authority on war film propaganda and gives regular talks to universities, Rotary, Probus and other private clubs around the UK, and he has also given a number of lectures in the United States. His sessions at the Edinburgh International Book Festival in 2012 and 2016 were sold out on the first day that tickets went on sale. He also writes magazine articles and is currently working on a number of projects involving adding English sub-titles to foreign films.

As a result of the success of his books, since 2013 Ian has been running film courses in Edinburgh over 6 weeks each spring – currently held at the Dominion Cinema.

More information about Ian and his interests can be found on his web-site iangarden.co.uk.

Please tick which of the Film and History dates you are interested in attending

Friday the 19th of February until the morning of Tuesday the 23rd of February 2027

From Monday the 1st of March until the morning of Friday the 5th of March 2027

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

POSTCODE _____

TEL. NUMBER _____

TYPE OF ROOM / ROOMS REQUIRED

TWIN _____ DOUBLE _____ SINGLE _____

Please reserve the above accommodation in my name.

Signed _____ -date _____

The cost of the 2026 Four Night Film and History Break is £644.00 per person.

This amount includes the entire package as described in this programme, and there is no supplementary charge for single accommodation.

If you wish to travel to Pitlochry by coach or rail, we will arrange for complimentary transport between Pitlochry Station and the Green Park, for both your day of arrival and your day of departure.

Guests wanting to stay any extra nights before or after the Film and History Break would be charged at our low season rate of £150.00, per person per night for dinner bed and breakfast.

