Olicana Historical Society

The Great Escape: from Tsingtao to Skipton

Thursday 21st March 2024 at 19:30





The Clarke Foley Centre Cunliffe Road ,Ilkley Visitors charge £3 (includes coffee and biscuits)

About the talk: Anne recounts the little-known story of two German naval officers who escaped from the POW in Fukuoka, Japan, in November 1915, and spent a year on the run, almost circumnavigating the globe, before being recaptured by the Royal Navy and spending final part of the war in Skipton. A detailed diary of the journey has recently been found by the family of one of the men, providing a fascinating insight into the experiences of German officers in Japanese captivity during the First World War and into life in China a century ago.

About the speaker: Anne is an Associate Professor in German and Translation Studies at the University of Leeds, and a resident of Skipton. Her research focuses on the experiences of German prisoners of war in the UK during the First World War and the legacy of their captivity. Her book *German Prisoners of the Great War. Life in a Yorkshire Camp* was published in February 2021. It contains the translation of a book entitled *Kriegsgefangen in Skipton*, written by a group of German POWs, and an extensive introduction based on her research into the camp and the prisoners. She also co-translated Holger Afflerbach's book 'On a Knife Edge: How Germany Lost the First World War'.