

Tuesday 8th September 2026 at 3.00.pm
15 Wellgarth Road NW11 NW11 7JP courtesy of Gordon and Frances Rustin

Beethoven and his illnesses by Professor Alan Silman



Following the success of last year's teatime talk, your committee has arranged another very special talk with tea and cakes.

This talk will be about Beethoven. His deafness was just a minor part of the physical and psychological problems he suffered from during his life. He communicated his daily struggles in his own voluminous diaries and correspondence. In this talk Professor Silman will consider his declining health and this will be compared with extracts from his most magnificent compositions. How he composed these masterpieces despite these adversities remains a mystery but also a sign of true genius.

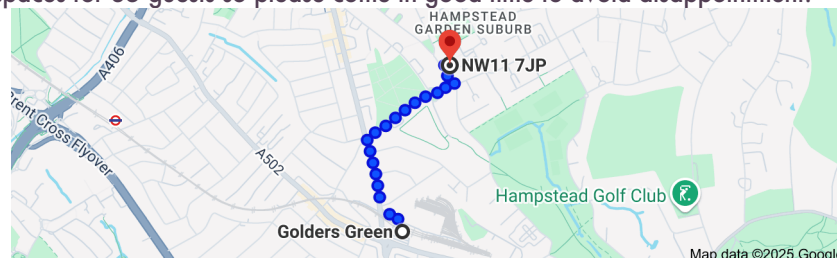
The talk is given by Professor Alan Silman. Alan is currently a Professor of Medicine at Oxford University and Senior Research Fellow at Green Templeton College Oxford. Prior to this for 8 years he was Medical Director of the charity Arthritis Research UK (ARUK - now called Versus Arthritis). He is an epidemiologist with a particular interest in diseases of bones, muscles and joints. He has authored over 700 research publications and a number of textbooks. He is amongst the top 100 published scientists across all disciplines in UK universities.

Alan is passionate about the arts and has researched intensively the medical history of well-known individuals. From these researches, he has developed a series of lectures addressing how the lives of such individuals were affected by their health. These talks have been given widely to a number of audiences across the UK to U3A, Probus and other community and professional groups. He is an accredited Arts Society Lecturer. Alan is a lover of theatre and an amateur drama enthusiast, and he directed his first play in 2024!

Gordon and Frances Rustin have again kindly offered to host the talk at their home at 15 Wellgarth Road NW11 7JP and tea and cakes are offered. Please come and join us on 8th September 2026 at 3.00 pm for the lecture by Professor Alan Silman

We will be making a charge of £25 (£30 for non-members if there is space), and this will include tea and delicious cakes

There are only spaces for 35 guests so please come in good time to avoid disappointment.



15 Wellgarth Road is a 10 minute walk from Golders Green. The 268 and H2 bus serves it as well and there is a stop near the end of Wellgarth Road

The cost for this event is **£25.00 per person** (non-refundable). If you can, please pay by making a bank transfer to the TASHH bank account, Sort Code: **20-36-16**, Account number: **40475416**, giving as reference **Silman** and telling either Tamara or our treasurer Simon on tashhtreasurer@gmail.com that you have done so. If you wish to pay by cheque payable to TASHH please send it to Simon Raperport at 45 Arden Road N3 3AD.