



Meetings are held

*At The White Hart Barn (Godstone Village Hall)
Godstone Surrey RH9 8DU at 7.30 p.m. for 8 p.m.*

**INSIDE THIS
ISSUE**

**NEXT MEETING
8TH JANUARY**

FOR SALE

**2026
MEMBERSHIP**

www.slbhi.co.uk

**"You know you're getting old when
Santa starts looking younger."
Robert Paul**



**SEASONS GREETINGS
FROM THE COMMITTEE AT
SOUTH LONDON BHI.**

Next Month's Meeting
8th January 2026.
7:30 pm for an 8oclock start.

Tim Weeks.

“Gramophone Guru”.



Tim Weeks many of you will recognise as the gramophone expert from the Repair Shop.

Tim on his website describes the introduction to his trade. His grandfather gave him his first gramophone, purchased from a jumble sale. He was shown how to take it apart and put it together again. Like many of us growing up in the 50s and 60s learning how to use your hands and making something work again gave him tremendous euphoria.

Repairing them wasn't something that provided him with pocket money but encouraged him to collect the machines, and the 78 rpm records that went with them. They were fairly inexpensive, but before the 1980s many were regarding these machines as junk. Increasingly nobody knew how to fix them. Tim was about the only person under 80 who knew how to repair them, this thankfully was largely due to his grandfather who had a shed full of tools, tobacco tins full of ball bearings and screws etc.

Dealers and traders realised a working machine was more valuable which helped Tim decide to start his own shop at Alfie's Antique Market in London under the name "The Gramophone and Wireless Shop". In the 80s it was a golden age for buying, restoring and selling mechanical antiques and by 1992 Machines began to be more difficult to find in auction rooms. The Internet has enabled many collectors, as in the clock world, to bid directly for their treasured items. Like many

Branch Membership Fees for 2026

In an effort to keep the cost of membership at the current price of fifteen pounds per year it has been decided that members that wish to receive a paper copy of the newsletter posted to their home address will be charged an extra surcharge of fifteen pounds per year. I will list the options below:

1/ SLBBHI membership with electronic (email) copy of the newsletter £15.00 Pa.

2/ SLBBHI membership with paper posted copy £30.00 Pa.

For those members that cannot receive email, a number of freely available printed copies will be provided at the check in desk at our regular monthly meetings.

Please complete the attached membership form and send to the address on the form with your cheque. If you pay by bank transfer could you please complete a form for our records.

****IMPORTANT** - CHANGE OF DATE**

**January Branch Meeting 2026–
Moved to 8^h January 2026**

The date of the meeting will be moving from the usual first Thursday to 8th January 2026 to avoid close proximity to New Years Day.

December Meeting

The report on the December meeting will follow in the February newsletter. Along with a report on the Thwaites and Reed clock

FREE ADVERTISING FOR BRANCH MEMBERS.

Contact Bill 01543506195 or electricwilliam@gmail.com

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continued

in the antiques world, today antique dealers have had to close the shop and like Tim, work from home. Tim can be found in the village of East Dean under the South Downs near Chichester. He will bring as many machines as constraints allow, to display on tables prior to the talk, so that everyone can get some idea of the sheer range of different styles and sound qualities that were produced in the first half of the 20th Century.

Duncan Greig.

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FOR SALE



**DETAILS ON
NEXT PAGE**

continued

FOR SALE

WABECO TYPE CC-F1210E

CNC MILLING MACHINE

£3,800

Contact Barnaby Smith for information:

barnaby.smi3th@gmail.com

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