

## Invictus - or undefeated - will be the theme explored at this year's Mensa at Cambridge international conference in August.

The conference will look at how some people survive "unconquered" by adversity, highlighted in the famous quote from William Ernest Henley's 1888 poem Invictus. Organiser Gillian Kaile said: "We shall also be considering mental, emotional and physical (mind, spirit, and body) attitudes that allow some people to overcome enormous difficulties. "To do this, we will be covering the advantages of stoicism, the role of the Enlightenment, contingency planning and health issues.

"Considering that many people see this as a perilous time both nationally and internationally, the Invictus quote, to be "the master of my fate; the captain of my soul" is, I believe, a goal to which many of us would aspire."

### Meet the speakers.

#### Chief Inspector Noel McHugh

Noel is passionate about the support and care given to victims of serious crime and his talk will look not just at the issues surrounding serious crime but the development of support and help programmes for crime victims and their families.



#### Mrs Didy Grahame

Didy was Secretary of the Victoria Cross and George Cross Association from 1970- 72 and 1981-2014. She is now a Trustee of the Association. From her experience of knowing these bravest of the brave she has built up a deep understanding of their acts of selfless courage and their character.

#### Air Vice Marshall David Cooper

Daivd joined the Royal Air Force in 1988, flying the Tornado GR1. He has commanded 617 Squadron, Royal Air Force Marham, and the United Kingdom's Joint Force Air Component. His staff appointments include the United Kingdom's Permanent Joint Headquarters, Joint Force Headquarters, the Joint Force Air Component Headquarters



#### Ken Rogers

Ken's talk will address the question of what it takes to be undefeated in today's ever-competitive legal services market? Ken will be sharing various chapters of his professional and personal life experiences and how those have served him in the foundation and development of Invictus Chambers.

#### Rob Paxman

Rob has spent over 20 years working in hostile environments and brings a refreshing approach to dealing with stress and trauma. Rob is going to speak about Stress and Stress Resilience, beginning with normal thought processes and communication methods describing natural reactions to traumatic events.



#### Phil Sleight

Phil is the Deputy Chief Inspector of Air Accidents at the UK's Air Accidents Investigation Branch. He has been an air accident investigator for over 15 years. In that period he has investigated countless aircraft accidents and serious incidents, most notably the Boeing 777 that crashed short of the runway at Heathrow in 2008 and the Nimrod XV230 that crashed in Afghanistan in 2006.

#### Peter Holland CBE

Peter will reveal how commanders and firefighters are selected, trained and developed to respond and deal with major incidents including fires and widespread flooding. He says: "This will be based around my experience of leading two fire and rescue services.



#### David Hill

David Hill is an Honorary Member of The British Titanic Society and is well known in the North West for presenting talks on a variety of subjects. His talk at Cambridge will be titled Titanic: Hubris or Carelessness? He will look at what caused the largest steamship in the world to sink on her maiden voyage to New York with great loss of life.

**THUR  
10**

**08:00**

Breakfast

**FRI  
11**

Breakfast

**SAT  
12**

Breakfast

**SUN  
13**

**09:00**

**10:00**

Registration / House Rules

Morning Coffee Break

**11:00**

**Noel Mchugh  
Talk**

**12:00**

Official Photograph

**13:00**

Lunch

**Peter Holland  
CBE Talk**

Morning Coffee Break

**Didy Grahame  
Talk**

Lunch

**Philip Sleight  
Talk**

Morning Coffee Break

**David Hill  
Talk**

Lunch

Mensa at Cambridge is an annual event organized by a small group of passionate members who all love the theatre of talk and debate this conference thrives on.

Curious? Contact principal organisers for a chat...

**Gillian Kaile**  
Phone: 020 8658 7639  
Email: [gkaile@easynet.co.uk](mailto:gkaile@easynet.co.uk)

**14:00**

Conference Opens

**15:00**

Mensa registration + complimentary Hospitality Room Open

**16:00**

**David Cooper  
Talk**

Afternoon Coffee Break

**17:00**

**Rob Paxman  
Talk**

**18:00**

Supper

Supper

**19:00**

Hospitality Room Open until 11pm

**20:00**

Film 'Invictus'

**Evening**

Hospitality Room Open until 11pm

**Ken Rogers  
Talk**

Afternoon Coffee Break

Free time.  
Explore Cambridge

Mensa Complimentary Hospitality Room Open

Drinks Reception followed by Gala Dinner

Hospitality Room Open until 11pm

Film screening 'Invictus'

Farewells