

NEWS BULLETIN

Right: The Ring of Brodgar, Orkney. Among stunning places due to be featured by the Travel Experience Group in the year ahead. See Page 6.

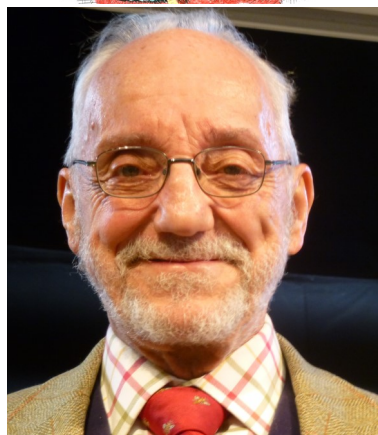


POETRY AND PROSE FOR CHRISTMAS

JONATHAN JONES, former town crier for Farnham Council and veteran of over 1000 one-man presentations, captivated the audience of 100 at the Old Barn Hall with a magical monologue of poetry and prose for Christmas this month.

At a previous appearance for Bookham u3a he presented Dickens's *Christmas Carol* but this time reminded us that Father Christmas was absent from the Scrooge story. This was because the rotund figure in scarlet was actually created by American cartoonist Thomas Nast, based on a traditional German character, Sankt Nikolaus, who brings presents for children via flying reindeer.

The cherry-nosed figure then featured in his first poem, arriving via chimney, wordlessly filling stockings



*Top: Father Christmas as created by Thomas Nast.
Above: Jonathan Jones*

and departing the same way.

John Betjeman's poem *Christmas* came next, both gently mocking British yuletide traditions and celebrating the religious event, to be followed by fine verses from *The Nativity of St Luke*.

We were next reminded of the Queen's annual BBC broadcast at 3pm every year, recorded almost without a break since the first one by her grandfather in 1935. Since 1994 Channel 4 has shown an alternative message and we heard one first inspired by *The Two Ronnies* - an address by the local milkman. Reminiscent perhaps of Benny Hill rather than HMQ.

Christopher Pilling's *The Adoration of the Magi* commented on the arrival of three kings at a scene of childbirth in a stable. Surely

Continued overleaf.

Continued from Page 1

something rather special was happening there.

Jonathan came on to Christmas stockings. He told the tale of St Nikolaus dropping three bags of gold down a chimney. They just happened to land in three stockings left hanging up by three sisters who lacked dowries. Miraculously their marriage prospects improved.

The moral tale of Jabez Dawes came next in Ogden Nash's poem *The Boy Who Laughed at Santa Claus*. The odious Jabez ruined everyone's Christmas until the real Santa Claus arrived to deal with him, turning him into a jack-in-the-box while reindeer "Donner and Blitzen licked off his paint."

A change of mood next with *Christmas 1914* by Rifleman Graham Williams and the time when German and British troops sang each other carols from their respective trenches, culminating in the same one sung by both sides.

In *Give Us Your Money*, the comical poet Pam Ayres wrote of Christmas as a commercial event with empty churches and full pubs.

So to Christmas trees, starting in 1841 when Prince Albert introduced the first one in England at Windsor Castle. Jonathan told of the tree first planted with the building of Rockefeller Plaza in New York in 1931 and repeated ever since.

But talking of New York, it was time to read *The Throwing of the Christmas Trees* from writer Betty Smith's book *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*. This is the story of Francie Nolan whose poor family live in that city. In one chapter Francie and her little brother compete with the local bully to catch a Christmas tree being thrown down at sale time. A moving story of a young girl's determination.

Benjamin Zephaniah's brilliant *Talking Turkeys* poem takes an unusually sympathetic view of the doomed birds who end up on tables at this time of year. It is a light-hearted rhyme with a serious background as the poet is vegan with strong views on the rights of the under privileged.

By contrast Marriott Edgar's *Sam's Christmas Pudding* was read in the monologue style of Stanley Holloway. It is the ingenious tale of a soldier in the Peninsular War of Napoleonic times who unintentionally loads his

Christmas pudding into a cannon and blows up an enemy position to the delight of the Duke of Wellington.

An inspired demonstration of seasonal whisky testing was followed by recital of *Babushka, The Russian Legend* by Edith Thomas, a curious poem about an elderly Russian woman visited by the Magi and thence forever presenting gifts to children in hope of reaching Jesus.

Edward Guest, known as "the People's Poet", wrote over 11,000 poems. Among them was one applauding Christmas as representing the very best of Man.

This was followed by the hilarious *Twelve Days of Christmas, A Correspondence* by John Julius Norwich when ever increasing daily gifts of birds-a-flocking, maids-a-dancing and so on destroy a once loving relationship.

Jonathan concluded with Thomas Hardy's *The Oxen* in which the animals kneel as in the Christmas stable but Hardy's scepticism allows no link with the seasonal story. One to think about.

Try taking to the water in 2022

Do you love the Thames? We have had an invitation for Bookham u3a members to join a partnership with Hampton Court Paddle Sports to enjoy lessons, tours and hires using paddle boards, kayaks and canoes.

The river at Molesey is non-tidal with islands and beaches to explore and properties to admire while learning new skills. Age is no barrier since many participants are over 60.

If you fancy trying your hand with a paddle, just call Andrew Wyborn on 07730898802 or email him on andrew@hamptoncourtpaddlesports.com.

**AMY JOHNSON
A TALE OF
DETERMINATION,
FAME, FRAGILITY,
MISFORTUNE
by FRANK WALL
CMG
Fleet & District u3a**

At the monthly Zoom presentation on 14 December, our guest speaker from Fleet u3a, Frank Wall, gave an illustrated talk on the pioneering English pilot, Amy Johnson.

Unlucky in love and following her sister's suicide, Amy Johnson gained both her initial pilot's and ground engineering licences with the support of a family keen to distract her from her woes.

In aviation she would experience resistance from many in the primarily male flying community of her time. But she would "show them".

In 1930, despite extremely limited flying experience and with few - essential - sponsors, she completed the first solo flight by a woman between England and Australia.

Her epic flight included misadventures but was a truly remarkable personal achievement. Few believed she could have done it and she was duly honoured and feted deservedly.

Amy had previously faltered under personal strain. She did so again under pressure



Above: Amy Johnson in Australia in 1930.

Below: Amy's aircraft known as Jason. This is displayed at the Science Museum in Kensington, London.



of the repeated public appearances demanded by the national newspaper which sponsored, indeed effectively owned, her after her Australian flight.

She terminated her contract with the newspaper and so gained an unfortunate reputation for seeking fame and then failing to live with it.

She formed a lasting friendship with Amelia Earhart, her US counterpart. She also completed several further record-breaking

Flights, and after a short engagement married a fellow pilot called Jim Mollison. The couple tended to eclipse each other in their flying achievements and disputed command on their joint flights.

Jim's eyes wandered and they would divorce after a six years of marriage. Once again Amy had not been lucky in love.

Public and press interest in record-breaking solo flights waned and Amy Johnson



Left: Amy Johnson and Amelia Earhart together in the USA in 1933.

One day in January 1941, the weather conditions were really deteriorating. Pilots were grounded. But Amy left Blackpool flying solo in a twin-engine aircraft heading for Kidlington, near Oxford. It was a 90-minute flight undertaken in silent radio wartime conditions.

fragility. Yet she had flown for days in her aircraft *Jason's* open cockpit, manually pumping fuel between tanks.

A compass was her only navigational aid. She sat on her parachute, carrying a revolver and with a spare propeller strapped to the side of her engine. She also serviced the engine every night herself.

Against all the odds, and despite startling inexperience, she had reached Australia a decade earlier. Whatever had gone before and would come after, that achievement alone deserves our respect and our honour.

All members of Bookham u3a are welcome to join the monthly Zoom meetings as well as attending the in-person talks at the Old Barn Hall. The next Zoom talk is on The History of Motoring Organisations (AA, RAC etc) and will take place at 2:30pm, Tuesday, 11 January.

ceased such flights after Amelia disappeared in the Pacific in 1937. In any case, war was looming with Fascism at the time.

Amy engaged in a number of short-lived commercial flying and gliding activities. She also modelled and endorsed ladies' fashions and accessories, particularly luggage.

On the outbreak of war, the Air Transport Auxiliary (ATA), civilian pilots who flew military aircraft from manufacturers to military operational or training bases, appeared reluctant to accept Amy as a pilot. She nevertheless eventually joined and was soon promoted to First Officer.

The circumstances of her last flight and authorisation for it continue to be disputed. Some four hours after leaving Blackpool, she had well overshot Kidlington and was low in fuel. She bailed out of her aircraft into the Thames Estuary.

Attempts were made to rescue her from the water and the Royal Naval officer who tried to do so also died. Like that of her friend Amelia Earhart earlier in the Pacific, Amy's body was never found. The war simply went on.

Amy Johnson's life clearly demonstrates her sheer determination and personal courage but also an unsettling underlying



Above: Amy's flying bag which was recovered from the Thames Estuary after her death.

WHY NOT USE THE NEWS BULLETIN TO PROMOTE YOUR OWN U3A GROUP?

Has your group done something interesting recently? Would other Bookham u3a members be interested in your news? Or do you have vacancies to fill which would help strengthen your group? If so, you can use this monthly News Bulletin to reach our whole membership and attract the attention you need. Try contacting the editor, Tony Matthews, at newsletter@bookhamu3a.org.uk. The more we all share, the more we get to know about Bookham u3a and its potential for future growth.

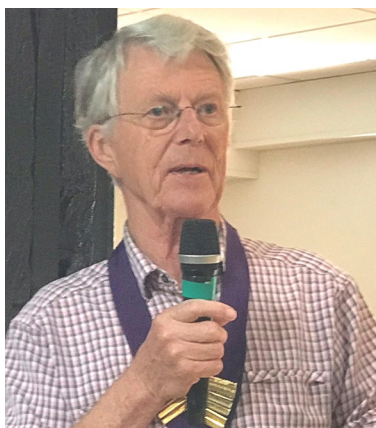
NEW O&B ORGANISER NEEDED FOR BIODIVERSITY GROUP

We lost John Dicker this year, for so long mastermind behind the Ornithology and Botany Group among his many other talents.

Member Tod Wilson has stepped in as caretaker to try to restore the group until a suitable successor to John can be found. To volunteer as the new organiser, please contact Tod at Sci06@bookhamu3a.org.uk

Meanwhile the O&B is to operate as a self help group with some existing members keen to identify wild plants and flowers while others can recognise the sights and sounds of our precious native birds.

Tod hopes to provide a monthly walk from March to September 2022 on the second Tuesday of each month, starting 2:30pm from



Above: John Dicker worked to enhance our understanding, knowledge and love of nature.

the Tunnel car park near Bookham Station. The walk on 8 March would be along the River Mole at Leatherhead.

John led fantastic local walks as well as trips to Warnham Nature Reserve, near Horsham; Brockham Quarry to spot peregrine falcons nesting; and to the
Laleham

Reservoir to see the annual bird ringing process to track migrations across Europe.

SHARE YOUR READING PLEASURE

We all love a good read and discussing it afterwards with others while it is fresh in everyone's memory can only enhance the experience.

Bookham u3a's Book Reading Group 4 meets on the second Tuesday morning of the month at various members' homes and now has three vacancies to fill.

If you enjoy chatting about both fiction and non-fiction, this may be the group for you. Contact Jane Matthews, group administrator, via the website.

COME AND JOIN US, S'IL VOUS PLAÎT

Did you learn French long ago at school but remember enough to have a reasonable chat with a sympathetic French native speaker? It can make a great difference to a holiday visit to France, Belgium or Switzerland.

There are currently two vacancies for Bookham u3a's French Back to Basics group which meets at 10am every second and fourth Thursday of the month at the home of group leader Judy Smith.

Members listen to spoken French and exchange news in English as well as French. It is a great way to practise what you know and expand your abilities, loosely following a recommended text book.

Contact Judy via the website.

FACE TO FACE ON CURRENT AFFAIRS

The Current Affairs Group had its first face-to-face session in October and its second in November after more than a year of Zoom meetings, writes EDMUND MORGAN-WARREN.

Members were very glad to meet remotely during the restrictions but our first real meeting on 13 October reminded us that there really was no substitute for personal contact in members' homes, with its capacity for social interaction and discussion. We met for the second time on 10 November.

Current Affairs Group meets on the second Wednesday of each month to talk about matters of current interest, perhaps an item in the latest *News Bulletin* or a longer-standing topic of on-going importance.

We aim to inform ourselves about what is going on and express our opinions, with each member of the group able to introduce a subject for a brief discussion. At our two recent meetings we covered subjects including working from home and its effects on efficiency. Few of us had current first-hand experience but many of our sons or daughters did, with quite mixed opinions.

Supply chain problems caused by Brexit,

Covid, driver shortages and fuel prices were a source of frustration to us all. We asked what was new about the latest in Anglo-French relations involving fishing permits, the Northern Ireland Protocol and migration control. We also discussed relations between Poland and the EU.

COP26 in Glasgow was the hot topic in November. The challenges of climate change appeared finally to be widely recognised yet vested interests continued to loom large.

We considered the eulogising of the NHS. Our ideas varied but while we were all grateful for our healthcare, a critical approach was considered more constructive than just unquestioning praise. We asked whether there were cultural issues behind the refusal of some healthcare workers to accept vaccination against Covid-19. Transgender issues were also discussed and the criteria for gender determination.

Free speech in universities arose as a topic. It was felt important that universities remained open to free expression but abuse of this privilege by extremists and others should not be condoned

TELL US ABOUT YOUR TRAVEL EXPERIENCES

The Travel Experience Group is looking to recruit three or four more people who love to explore new places and are willing to share their experiences, writes JACKIE HULTON.

We meet at 2.30pm on the third Tuesday of each month in each other's homes. Meetings consist of a simple talk or presentation by one member or a group discussion on a pre selected travel theme. This is followed by general chat over a cup of tea.

We aim to inform and educate fellow members as well as providing help and advice on travel. Some members may just be individuals interested in learning about travelling experiences in the UK and further afield.

Past subjects covered have included Ukraine, Taiwan, Northern Australia, Chile and the experiences of a BA flight attendant. We have also covered different tour companies, cruises, travel guidebooks etc.

Covid restrictions meant

that recently we have been reporting places in the British Isles and cities worth visiting. We have also used artefacts gathered on our travels to retell a special holiday memory.

We hope to compile a programme for future meetings at our Christmas social meeting which will then be added to our group page in the New Year.

Talks scheduled for 2022 include Skara Brae and the Ring of Brodgar in the Orkneys. See Page 1.

ARE YOU INSURED FOR ALL U3A ACTIVITIES?

By **CHRIS MIDDLETON**

I have heard the comment: 'Rather than just a group of friends, our next meeting will be a u3a meeting so we will be covered.'

Covered for what? What insurances does the u3a carry? The Third Age Trust as the national umbrella organisation for individual u3as like Bookham, holds the following two insurances on our behalf: Aviva Commercial Combined and AIG Public Liability Excess Layer.

There are also policies to cover organisation and management risks but only the two policies above should be of interest to most Bookham u3a members.

Aviva covers public and product liability up to £5 million for any one claim, while the AIG policy tops up this figure by £15 million to a total of £20 million.

The top up is required to cover the possibility of a u3a being held liable for a road traffic accident involving a cycling group for example.

In general, public liability insurance is intended to indemnify the insured against compensation, which they become legally liable to pay, following injury or property damage sustained to others as a result of an activity.

Legal liability to another person can arise in a number of ways but by far the most

common is negligence. Public liability does not cover pure accidents where no legal liability has been established. Product liability protects the policy holder against claims arising from injury or damage sustained by a product supplied by you and for which you are held legally liable.

The policies are set up to protect all u3a members and include 'member to member' cover so if somebody is injured undertaking a u3a activity and legal liability could be proven against another member, the insurers will deal with it.

In each case the most important principle is legal liability against which any claim should be assessed.

The public liability does not automatically cover loss of property, but if such loss or damage is caused by an act of negligence or omission by the u3a, or any member (other than the member whose property it is), a claim could be made.

When a u3a interest group meets in a member's home, there is public liability cover subject to the normal test of legal liability. Injury or damage sustained due to a defect in the property is the legal responsibility of the house owner/occupier and cover should be provided under buildings/contents insurance.

In a similar way damage to any home contents belonging to a u3a member hosting an interest group is covered, provided legal liability can be assigned to the u3a. Otherwise, the damage should be covered under contents insurance.

Examples of public or product liability issues are as simple or complex as the world we live in but perhaps a few illustrations will highlight the intricacies of legal liability.

The leader of a London walking group indicates that the group should cross a road at traffic lights where there is a central bollard refuge for their safety. However instead, one or more of the group cross the road at another location and become involved in a traffic accident which includes personal injuries.

The breakaway group has not abided by its leader's guidance and so the u3a cannot be held legally liable for the outcome.

Red wine spilt on the carpet of a member's home during an interest group meeting could be covered if it can be shown that the damage was caused by another member attending the group rather than the homeowner.

If a member takes a personal laptop computer to a u3a activity away from their home, if there is accidental

damage, depending on how caused, the u3a may or may not be liable to compensate for the damage.

If a member is driving his/her own car with other u3a members to a u3a activity and an accident occurs, the situation may be complex.

The accident would generally fall outside the scope of public liability insurance so such incidents are covered by a motor insurance policy.

However, on a coach where a member is injured by the actions of another member in circumstances that have nothing to do with the vehicle, it may be covered by the public liability insurance.

With the best will in the world, accidents happen. If this unfortunately involves you and you think the incident could be covered by u3a insurance, please provide

details to a Bookham u3a committee member.

An incident report form is available from the Third Age Trust which encourages you to describe the circumstances and consequences of the accident in detail. Only by fully recording these matters can the insurers assess whether the u3a and/or a u3a member is liable and covered by the policies.

DO MODERN HOUSEHOLD ITEM DESIGNS DRIVE YOU CRAZY?

A u3a campaign is under way challenging negative stereotypes around ageing.

In the newly published Newsletter Express, Third Age Trust Chief Executive Sam Mauger and Chair Liz Thackray have asked u3a members to identify every day items for the home they find most irritating.

Poor design can make life more difficult rather than easier for older people. The campaign works with This Age Thing and The Design Age Institute at the Royal College of Art to confront it.

The Newsletter Express contains a survey to be completed. This follows a study earlier in the year to

review walking frame designs.

u3a members' feedback on that topic is now being used to consider possible improvements. Such initiatives provide an opportunity to put older adult voices at the heart of design and make everyday objects more usable, more useful and so more desirable for all.

A HEARTY THANKS TO ANGIE, FRANCES AND DAVID

Bookham u3a Committee have expressed their thanks to three crucial volunteers who have now stepped down after years of contributing to the organisation's smooth working.

Chairman Chris Middleton said: 'We are truly indebted to Angie Squires who, after 14 years of distributing the paper copies of *Senior Moments*, decided earlier this year to stop packing them into envelopes and retire. A big thank you, Angie, and also to Frances Pullan who assisted Angie with the task.'

He added: 'The Committee has lost an experienced contributor in David Hyde who decided to retire at the AGM after many years of service. He was the Assistant Groups Co-ordinator but he also played a tremendous supporting role to his wife Pam as Membership Secretary. I shall miss his meticulous attention to detail but wish him more time to better his golf handicap.'

2022 CALENDARS SELL OUT



The last copies of the Bookham u3a Painting Workshop calendar for 2022 have now sold out.

Produced by Maurice Baker, Editor of Senior Moments, they depict some familiar cottages. Thanks to all who bought one.

SURREY U3A NETWORK

UP AND COMING STUDY DAYS

Surrey's u3a study days returned in September with Dr Geoffrey Mead's presentation on *Landscapes of South-East England* kicking off the new schedule.

The study days now follow the same Covid-secure arrangements used for the Summer Festival run by the Menuhin School in June and July. Most of the speakers scheduled earlier now have new dates.

Study days are open to all u3a members and guests are very welcome. They are held in the Yehudi Menuhin Hall at Stoke d'Abernon, starting with registration from 9.30am and running from 10am to 4pm.

Following the successful experience so many people had during the pandemic of attending events virtually, the organisers have decided to offer Zoom attendance too so that members can view the study days from home if they prefer.

The fees from February 2022, including coffee/tea and biscuits, are £12 for members and £15 for guests and £5 for virtual attendance. Attendees should bring a packed lunch and prior booking is necessary.

Click on any study day link at the website www.u3asites.org.uk for a programme and booking form. You can use the on-line form on the [Contact](#) page to send a message to John Kennedy, Booking Secretary.

If you would like to comment on the organisation or content of the study day or would like to offer ideas for the future please use the [Feedback Form](#) and send it to John Kennedy as an email attachment or fill in the same form which will be available at the study days and hand it to any member of the committee.

The list of [study day titles](#) over 15 seasons is given, together with a poster of a [typical study day](#). When study day hand-outs or presentations are available for download they will be mounted for a period of at least three months.

Surrey Network treats your privacy rights seriously and its [Privacy Policy](#) can be found by following the link. [History of Study Days](#).

Please contact Surrey Network Chairman, Caroline Sawers, on 01483 560590.

Coming up are the following study days:

18 February

A Passion for Drawing

Presenter: Colin Wiggins

Drawing is the foundation stone of western art. In the 15th century artists used drawing to try out rough ideas before arriving at their final compositions. By the 16th century, artists like Leonardo and Michelangelo produced finely wrought drawings as artworks in their own right. Rembrandt's contemporaries carried sketchbooks to catch fleeting moments or record landscapes. More recently drawing became a medium for personal expression. This continues today among artists like David Hockney and Tracey Emin.

18 March

The Art and Objects of the Mughal Emperors c. 1550-1650

Presenter: Dr Ursula Weekes

22 April

Illuminated Manuscripts of the Medieval Period

Presenter: Imogen Corrigan

20 May

Talks on Science: Colour, Electronic Music, Poisons & Dying

Presenters: Andrew Hanson of NPL and Dr Kathryn Harkup

17 June

Understanding Turner: The Man, His Life & His Work

Presenter: Professor Maria Chester

YOUR OPTIONS FOR GROUP MEETINGS

CODE	GROUP NAME	WEEK IN MONTH	DAY	TIME
His12	3E London	Fourth	Wednesday	AM
Art06	Architectural History	Fourth	Thursday	PM
Art01	Art Appreciation 1	Second	Thursday	PM
Art02	Art Appreciation 2	Third	Monday	PM
Art05	Art Appreciation 3	Third	Tuesday	PM
Bee01	Beer Appreciation	Second	Wednesday	PM
Eng07	Book Reading 1	First	Thursday	PM
Eng08	Book Reading 2	Second	Thursday	PM
Eng12	Book Reading 3	Third	Tuesday	PM
Eng10	Book Reading 4	Second	Tuesday	AM
Bri01	Bridge 1	Weekly	Monday	AM
Bri03	Bridge 3	Weekly	Monday	AM
Bri04	Bridge 4	Weekly	Tuesday	AM
Bri05	Bridge 5	Weekly	Thursday	AM
Bri06	Bridge 6	Weekly	Friday	AM
Bri07	Bridge 7	Weekly	Thursday	AM
Bri0x	Bridge All Groups	When Required	N/A	AM
Bri08	Bridge Beginners and Improvers	Weekly	Wednesday	AM
Can01	Canasta 1	Second + Fourth	Wednesday	PM
Can02	Canasta 2	Second	Tuesday	PM
Cra07	Card Making	Last	Thursday	PM
IT03	Computing Workshop	Second	Thursday	AM
Cra01	Crafts	First + Third	Tuesday	AM
Cra08	Creative Embroidery	First	Monday	AM
Eng03	Creative Writing	Every Other	Friday	AM
Cro01	Croquet (April to Oct)	Various	Various	AM
CA01	Current Affairs	Second	Wednesday	PM
Cyc01	Cycling	First + Third	Friday	AM
Wal03	Easy Rambling	Second + Fourth	Tuesday	AM
His10	Family History	Third	Monday	AM
Cra06	Flower Arranging	First	Thursday	AM
Fre04	French Back to Basics 2	Second + Fourth	Thursday	AM
Fre01	French Conversation 1	Second + Fourth	Wednesday	AM
Gar03	Gardening 02	Second	Wednesday	PM
His22	History	Second + Fourth	Wednesday	PM
Mus06	Intro To Classical Music	Fourth	Wednesday	PM
Dan01	Line Dancing	Weekly	Wednesday	PM
Dan02	Line Dancing Beginners	Weekly	Wednesday	PM
His11	London Walks	Third	Wednesday	AM
His13	London Walks 3	Third	Thursday	AM
His15	London Walks 4	First	Thursday	AM
His17	London Walks 5	Third	Friday	AM
His18	London Walks 6	Third	Thursday	AM
His19	London Walks 7	Third	Wednesday	AM
Mah01	Mah-jong	Weekly	Friday	PM

Continued overleaf

YOUR OPTIONS FOR GROUP MEETINGS continued

CODE	GROUP NAME	WEEK IN MONTH	DAY	TIME
Mah01	Mah-jong	Weekly	Friday	PM
Met01	Metal Detecting	Second + Fourth	Wednesday	PM
His08	Military History	Fourth	Tuesday	PM
Wal04	Morning Hikes	Second	Wednesday	AM
Sci06	Ornithology & Botany	Second	Tuesday	PM
Art04	Painting Workshop	Weekly	Monday	AM
Per01	Phoenix Entertainment	Weekly	Thursday	PM
Pho01	Photography	Fourth	Wednesday	AM
Eng11	Play Reading	Fourth	Monday	PM
Eng01	Poetry Appreciation	Second	Wednesday	PM
zz01	Qigong	Weekly	Monday	PM
Sci01	Science & Technology 1	Second	Thursday	AM
Sci02	Science & Technology 2	Fourth	Thursday	PM
Sci03	Science & Technology 3	Third	Wednesday	PM
His16	Social History	Second	Monday	AM
His20	Social History 2	First	Monday	PM
Spa02	Spanish Group 2-Basic	First + Third	Monday	PM
Ten01	Table Tennis	Weekly	Monday	PM
TC01	Tai Chi 1	Weekly	Thursday	AM
TC02	Tai Chi 2	When Required	N/A	AM
The01	Theatre Interest	When Required	Various	PM
Tra01	Travel Experiences	Third	Tuesday	PM
Mus11	Ukulele (Beginners)	First + Second	Thursday	AM
Gar02	Vegetable Gardening	Second	Saturday	AM
Wal02	Walking 12km	First	Friday	AM
Wal01	Walking 7km	Second + Fourth	Friday	AM
Win01	Wine Appreciation 1	Various	N/A	PM
Win02	Wine Appreciation 2	Fourth	Wednesday	PM
Win03	Wine Appreciation 3	Second	Tuesday	PM
Win04	Wine Appreciation 4	Third	Monday	PM
Win05	Wine Appreciation 5	Fourth	Monday	PM
Win06	Wine Appreciation 6	When Required	N/A	PM

SOUTH EAST FORUM SUMMER SCHOOL 2022

The South East Forum Summer School, held at the University of Chichester, had to be cancelled in 2020 and 2021 but will be running in 2022 from Monday, 20 June until Thursday, 23 June. Booking is now open. Go to the Surrey Network website at <http://www.u3asites.org.uk> for more detail.

The picture (right) shows u3a members at the reception in the chapel at a previous event.



Registered Charity No 1036386

SITUATIONS VACANT

Please contact Chris Middleton at chairman@bookhamu3a.org.uk or call him on 01372 454107 for more information on any of the roles below.

OUTINGS COORDINATOR

Do you like visiting country houses, gardens or venturing further afield for group holidays? We need someone to organise such events for the benefit of fellow u3a members. If you rise to the challenge you will be given support and guidance by other members of the Committee to make the events happen. If this feels too much, then why not share the role with friends so that you each only arrange a few visits each year?

THEATRE VISITS COORDINATOR

Performers and audiences alike have missed live theatre during the past 18 months. Please help us get back to enjoying good entertainment again by identifying potential shows for u3a group visits in Surrey, Sussex or London's West End. But we also need someone to organise the travel arrangements. If you are willing to fill this role, other Committee members will support and guide you. If you don't want to go on a particular theatre trip, then why not share the role with friends and select the performances of your choice?

HYBRID MEETING TECHNICAL COORDINATOR

After the current temporary period of separate live meetings at the Old Barn Hall and those via Zoom, we are looking to reunite our u3a at monthly meetings that can be attended both in person and from home via Zoom. We are looking for someone willing to learn how to run this new form of meeting.

Shared practice guidance is available from the London Region of u3as. You will begin by helping to define the different meeting scenarios with their associated technical requirements and equipment. Following extensive testing, you will manage the hybrid meetings each month with support from the Committee. You will be responsible for:

- *Managing the audio and video streams from within the Old Barn Hall.
- *Managing attendees via Zoom to include their joining, questions and muting as necessary any unintended audio.
- *Ensuring that those at home and the hall audience are visible to each other and can feel part of the same event.
- *Toggling between the speaker and audience in Zoom as appropriate to provide the best experience for all attendees.

VICE-CHAIRMAN

A Vice-Chairman is needed who will deputise for the Chairman and be able to fill that role when the current period of office expires. The Chairman has the following roles:

- Maintain the objectives/purposes of the u3a.
- Preserve order at meetings and ensure that the correct procedure is followed and the agenda covered
- Guide discussions in a positive manner while allowing different points to be expressed
- Encourage audience participation in discussion and decision-making
- Draw discussions to a conclusion and summarise for audience votes where required.
- Ensure decisions are followed through.

COMING TALKS IN 2022 - OLD BARN HALL AND VIA ZOOM

Tuesday, 4 January: George Lockwood Plants for Early Summer (Old Barn Hall)
George, a full-time organic gardener, explains when plants flower and what soils and aspects they need. His talk includes tips for year-round colour.

Tuesday, 11 January: Pat Llanwarne History of Motoring Organisations (Zoom)
Pat is from Farnborough u3a and will talk on the formation of the AA and RAC.

Tuesday, 1 February: June Davey West Horsley Place (Old Barn Hall)
June, a guide at West Horsley Place, will speak on its history and its future.

Tuesday, 8 February: Colin Charman The Story of Music Hall (Zoom)
Colin from Tenterden u3a will tell how music hall developed, why it was important, the main characters involved, and its legacy.

Tuesday, 1 March: Alan Jones Look into My Eyes (Old Barn Hall)
Alan's truly varied career has included being a hypnotherapist, nurse, and BBC journalist. He will talk about the history and mystery of hypnosis.

Tuesday, 8 March: Jo Livingston The Volunteer Fire Brigade (Zoom)
Jo Livingston of Bexley u3a is the main u3a contact for social history groups. She will speak on the history of the Volunteer Fire Brigade from its origins around 1820 right up to 1938.

Tuesday, 5 April: Mary Smith A Schoolgirl's War (Old Barn Hall)
Mary tells the story of school life in Kent during World War 2, featuring the highly original artwork of a local school art teacher. Her work depicts disrupted schooling, air-raids, doodlebugs, and underground lessons in shelters experienced by so many at the time.

Tuesday, 3 May: Howard Smith Picture Post (Old Barn Hall)
Picture Post, the first photo-journalism magazine published by Hulton Press, was selling two million copies a week in the 1940s. In the 1950s, editor Tom Hopkinson detailed post-war life in Britain with a message of the need for regeneration and social reform.

Tuesday, 7 June: Fran Sandham My Walk across Africa (Old Barn Hall)
Author Fran Sandham walked solo across Africa from Namibia's coast to the Indian Ocean near Zanzibar, a 3000-mile trek taking nearly a year.

Tuesday, 5 July: John Griffiths-Colby Emily Connell's Autograph Book (Old Barn Hall)
Emily Connell was a staff nurse at the 3rd Western General Hospital in Cardiff when World War 1 broke out. She kept an autograph book in which her patients drew and wrote messages. This is Part 2 of the story of her own highs and lows and struggles with the system.

Tuesday, 6 September: Ian Keable The History of Cartoons (Old Barn Hall)
Cartoons became standard in *Punch* magazine from the 1840s but Hogarth and Gillray employed satire, caricature, speech bubbles and captions long before then. Masters of the craft have since included John Tenniel, John Leech, David Low, Vicky, Ronald Searle, Heath Robinson, Giles, Gerald Scarfe, Steve Bell and Peter Brookes among others.