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Most u3a members born either during or before World War 2 will still recall the post-war Britain of 1950.

Howard Smith, this month's Old B a r n H a l l speaker, brought it all to life for everyone with his

talk about it through the camera lens of the weekly magazine *Picture Post*.

In the 1940s, *Picture Post* enjoyed a circulation of nearly two million copies a week as the country's first photojournalism magazine.

Published by Hulton Press, under editor Tom Hopkinson it produced intimate and detailed articles on life at the time, conveying a strong message of the need for regeneration and social reform.



Howard's talk showed how the magazine depicted Britain's post-war population at play, on holiday, at work and enjoying food.

Churchill's wartime government had been replaced by that of Clement Atlee and the public desperately needed change after the terrible war years.

It was a time of austerity and hardship but the overall message that seemed to prevail was one of optimism and getting on with things. It was an era of make do and mend. In a series of photographs about the *Elephant and Castle* by the renowned photographer, Bert Hardy, we saw how fish remained an important part of the diet. Rationing dictated what you could eat and fish didn't attract points. **Continued on Page 2.**

Below: The Dome at the Festival of Britain on the Thames South Bank. Millions were entertained.



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We saw various aspects of life, the markets, the coal merchants, the Salvation Army, how children played on traffic free streets.

It was the era of radio comedy with great shows like *Educating Archie*, *Much Binding in the Marsh* and *Take it from Here*.

Saturday morning cinema for just 6d brought back memories and we had a treat of a part of a *Famous Five* serial by Enid Blyton. Seaside holidays were basic and Billy Butlin's holiday camp empire expanded with escapism at its chalets, gardens, swimming pools and nobbly knees contests. They were heady days!

The 1851 Great Exhibition had been the last time that Britain had proudly shown itself off to the world and now Home Secretary Herbert Morrison, spurred on by the editor of the *News Chronicle*, brought the Festival of Britain 1951 to the 27-acre bombsite





Above left: Howard Smith recording one of his lectures. Above: Picture Post photographer Bert Hardy.

at Waterloo, London.

There were also the Battersea Pleasure Gardens, a seabourne exhibition in the ship *Campania*, and numerous arts festival events around the UK. This was to be the kickstart Britain needed for the arts, business and tourism.

Finally came another treat with *Picture Post's* coverage of the Coronation on 2 June 1953. The Queen had ascended the throne some 18 months earlier, hence this year's Platinum Jubilee.

The talk was one of a series of lectures on *Graphic Icons of the Twentieth Century* by Howard Smith.

Left: Eels on sale at a market stall. They were a popular food source.

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THOMAS CORAM AND THE FOUNDLING HOSPITAL FROM START TO THE PRESENT DAY

A group of Bookham u3a members is transcribing documents from the Coram archives, prompting organiser MICHELLE HOWES to delve into the history of this charity and present it to Bookham u3a by Zoom on 10 May. This follows last month's introductory feature in the *News Bulletin* on the Foundling Hospital.

Born in 1668 in Lyme Regis, left motherless at three, Thomas Coram (right) was sent to sea at 11 and later apprenticed to a shipwright.

In 1690, he was sent to colonial America to oversee the supply of cheap merchant ships for the transatlantic trade. In Boston he met his wife Eunice, before moving to Taunton, Massachusetts to establish a shipbuilding business.

Living in New England for the next ten years, he angered his Puritan neighbours with his fierce loyalty to the British Crown and Anglicanism. When a mob attacked his home, he and Eunice sailed for England and never returned, although he continued to campaign for education of native American girls.

Back in England, Coram was shocked to discover destitute and dying children on London's streets, and decided to petition the King for a charter to create a foundling hospital supported by subscriptions.

He faced opposition due to social attitudes to illegitimacy and fear that providing for the babies of unmarried mothers would encourage immorality. Initially he found



it impossible to gain the backing of anyone influential. Undaunted, and inspired by the role of women in caring for foundlings in Paris, Coram asked noblewomen (21 ladies of 'quality and distinction') to support his petition and encourage the interest of influential men. Ten years later, King George II signed the Foundling Hospital charter.

Unlike most of his fellow governors, Coram was neither wealthy nor an aristocrat. His plain-speaking left him an outsider and in 1743 he was de-selected from the General Committee of the Foundling Hospital and no longer involved with his 'darling project'.

Widowed and childless, he faced a lonely old age and was to be seen wearing his distinctive red coat, handing gingerbread to **Continued on Page 4.**



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children through the hospital railings. He attended christenings in the chapel and was godfather to more than 20 children.

By his late seventies he was in financial difficulties so a friend organised a pension, to which the Prince of Wales contributed, enabling Coram to rent rooms nearby. He received the freedom of the borough in 1749, and died two years later, aged 84.

Coram's vision was that abandoned, foundling children should be cared for and educated so that, ultimately, they could support themselves, while their mothers could resume a useful life in the world.

The first children were admitted in March 1741 to a temporary house in Hatton Garden with capacity for 30 children. Later the governors set the limit at 60 children, initially restricted to babies under two months old and free from disease.

Mothers were encouraged



to leave a token – such as a marked coin, trinket, or scrap of fabric – as an identifier should they ever find themselves able to reclaim their child.

The children were baptised with a new name, as it was thought that a completely new start would give them the best chance in life. This also assured mothers of confidentiality so that they could rebuild their lives.

The babies were sent to be wet-nursed with foster families in the countryside, where they stayed until they were about five years old.

In 1742, the foundation stone of the new hospital building was laid in Bloomsbury. It was designed in plain brick by Theodore Jacobsen with two wings – one each for boys and girls



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– and a chapel.

Applications far outstripped places available, and a lottery system was introduced. Each mother drew a coloured ball from a bag. A white ball meant their infant was provisionally admitted. If it was red, they could wait and see if one of the infants already accepted turned out to be ineligible because of an infectious illness. A black ball meant outright rejection.

Children would learn to read but not write or do arithmetic, since that might encourage them to seek work above their station. Aged six, they would start work in the hospital, including outdoor tasks for boys such as gardening or pumping water, to get into the habit of labour and build up their strength ready for work.

The children wore a uniform by (originally designed Hogarth along with the hospital's shield) and mended their own stockings. The girls' uniform changed little over the centuries, comprising a brown serge dress trimmed with red, and a white triangular bib. At daily prayer in the chapel, the girls added white muslin bonnets and pinafores.

Children learned prayers and how to behave with 'decency and modesty', and to knit. Girls were also taught to sew and spin. Sewing was a useful skill for future work, and a way for the institution to make



Above and below: Two views of the Foundling Hospital with children at work and play.



some income.

The public could buy shirts and caps, or have initials stitched on to their linen, allowing them to support the institution while it proved the abilities of the girls in its care. After basic training, boys and girls were apprenticed, until the 1760s from as early as seven years old.

At that time, inoculation for smallpox was available to the wealthy but not yet common practice. However, the Foundling Hospital required all staff to have survived smallpox, and children who hadn't caught smallpox while with their country nurses to be inoculated on their return to the hospital. Compared to their peers, even the wealthy, the foundlings were well protected from 'the speckled monster'.

In 1756, the Government offered a grant to allow more children to be received into the Foundling Hospital, conditional on all children referred being accepted.

This presented a great challenge as the governors struggled to cope with the ever growing number of admissions. Temporary branches of the hospital were opened at Ackworth, Shrewsbury, Aylesbury, Barnet, Chester and Westerham.

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Over the next four years, mortality rates in the hospital increased from 45% to 81% and the mortality rate of children wet nursed in the countryside doubled. The Government funding proved inadequate to provide a reasonable level of care for so many, and in 1760 the grant was ended. The hospital was unable to take many new children for some years.

At the end of the 18th century, writing was incorporated into the curriculum. In 1807, some pupils asked that mothers and children might 'preserve a mutual knowledge of each other' but this was deemed 'incompatible' with the founding principles.

Only 3% were reunited, despite many enquiries from mothers about their child's welfare. The Poor Law of 1834 had such a punitive approach to illegitimacy that the hospital was attacked for supposedly permitting 'really guilty' women to 'abandon their offspring' in order to give the mothers 'a second chance!!!'

Life in the Foundling Hospital was preferable to living in the workhouse or on the streets. One visitor described it as a happy place, with a 'great jovial kitchen' and two rocking horses in the infant-school. They witnessed 'general healthy enjoyments' with cheerfulness, and unrestrained childishness.'

In the 1830s, every boy of 14 and girl of 15, except a small number of disabled children, was apprenticed to an employer until the age of 21. While some boys still went to sea, most began craft apprenticeships in light industries.

Almost all girls went into domestic service, although others learned embroidery and hat-making. Some children remained close to their country nurses and were apprenticed back into their families.

Everv employer ('master') was required to sign a covenant 'to teach the trade, and to maintain, clothe and lodge the ap-The hospital prentice'. monitored the apprenticeships through correspondence and occasional visits to the workplace, to ensure the young people were not abused or denied appropriate training, and to mediate where an apprentice misbehaved.

From 1800, the Foundling Hospital gave former pupils five guineas at the end of their apprenticeship, along with a Church of England prayer book and a 'testimonial of their good character'. From 1840, the apprentices were given an annual reward, increased each year and awarded at a church ceremony each Easter.

In 1836 a library was created for older boys, and significant reforms followed in 1840. From the 1850s boys no longer made the children's clothes, as tailoring was deemed harmful to their health. English grammar, geography, reading, writing and arithmetic were all taught.

A Boys' Band was created in 1847, with £250 allocated to buy instruments and appoint a bandmaster. It became a major asset to the hospital and was seen to improve the physical capacities of weaker boys, contribute to social skills and enhance their prospects, with many boys enlisting into regimental bands. By 1913, there were 75 boys in infantry and cavalry bands serving worldwide.

Improvements in the girls' education and residential care followed in the 1850s. Girls made the children's clothing, repaired clothing and linen, and older girls were trained in dressmaking, cookery and laundry work to prepare them for domestic service.

All pupils had swimming lessons and older children formed the chapel choir, along with six professional singers, with the Sunday morning service open to the public. Later, annual summer camp was organised, with 118 boys spending a month camping near Bognor Regis in summer 1913. Girls were able to go to camp in the following year.

The coming of the railways and pollution, along with increasing financial pressures,

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prompted relocation to the 'healthier' countryside.

In 1925, the governors sold the hospital site, with one area designated a public open space, today known as Coram's Fields, where no adult is permitted entry without a child.

School buildings in Redhill were used while a purpose-built school was built in Berkhamsted, Herts. In July 1935, around 300 children moved in and a grand opening ceremony was led by the school band, with *Messiah* played on the organ that had been Handel's gift to the original hospital.

The school's design was almost identical to the original Foundling Hospital and featured some of the original furniture, including pulpit, stained glass windows and oak staircases.

World War 2 proved a particularly difficult time as teachers were called up to the military, income fell and the annual summer camp was stopped. After the war, the hospital started allowing children to return to their foster homes during school holidays.

In 1953, the renamed Thomas Coram Foundation for Children recruited long term foster families while maintaining contact between children and their birth mothers, and some children were later able to return home.

In 1955, Coram closed its residential home and sold

the building to Hertfordshire County Council, where Ashlyns School remains today.

Coram became an adoption agency in 1971, providing a specialist service to children who would not otherwise have the opportunity to be adopted, including older children in local authority care, those with additional needs or disabilities, and children from ethnic minorities. Former pupils have been helped to make contact with their birth mothers or at least learn of their mother's circumstances, building a more complete sense of identity for many of these young adults.

Every year, Coram charities now help more than one million children, young people, professionals and families.

DAY TRIP TO OXFORD



We are taking bookings now for a summer coach trip to Oxford organised for Wednesday, 17 August The all-in transport costs are £14 each. Extra options include a 30-minute guided tour of the Bodleian Library at £7.70 and a visit to an Oxford University College with costs from £3 to £7.

Enjoy the delights of a summer's day in this beautiful city with pick-up in Bookham at 8.30 am. Book your tickets through the Bookham u3a website or enquiries to Viv Bignell at viv@bignells.co.uk or 01372 450392

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JOIN THE TEAM





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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 <u>newsletter@bookhamu3a.org.uk</u>. The more we all share, the more we get to know about Bookham u3a and its potential for future growth.

The third walk of the revived Ornithology and Botany Group was scheduled 10 May for the Wey navigation canal and water meadows near Guildford.

They hoped to spot a reed bunting (right).

Last month's successful walk was to see the spread of daffodils at the Sheepleas where Tod Wilson's gallant band also spotted the lovely fritillaria shown below.





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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Every news outlet has a Letters to the Editor section so the Bookham u3a *News Bulletin* is now no exception. If you email your letters to <u>newsletter@bookhamu3a.org.uk</u> or chairman@bookhamu3a.org.uk we will aim to include them in future editions. Please do not forget to include your name and 'LETTERS' in the subject line.

To get started, here are a few brief letters received at the launch of the *News Bulletin* last autumn and one from chairman Chris Middleton following an article last month.

I have just read the new style newsletter - well done, it is excellent!

Best wishes Roger Mendham

Really like the new format newsletter – not sure how lesser techy members will cope.

Jan Hudson

An enjoyable, newsy read! Thanks to all those involved.

Rosemary Coleman

I thought I would just say how much I am enjoying the new style newsletter – so colourful and informative!

Best wishes Cheryl Mendham The recent article in last month's *News Bulletin* about the 465 bus service reminded me of when a group of Bookham u3a members trialled a possible new interest group.



Back in 2019 we caught the 465 to Dorking as part of our journey to Worthing using only our bus passes. The bigger idea was for an interest group to research some day trips by local buses to places worth visiting like Farnham, Winchester, Brighton and then enjoy a summer's day out at little cost.

Our trip to Worthing continued from Dorking to Horsham and then another bus change for what turned out to be almost non-stop to Worthing. There we enjoyed a bracing walk along the pier, a fish and chip lunch and to round things off, an ice cream as we strolled along the seafront.

Finally we bumped into a lady gathering details of local activities to put in her blog. We didn't quite classify as local or normal, but she still put us into her blog that week.

We returned to Bookham using the same three bus services and all ran to time, though we found one hindrance to continuing with this interest group. There were 11 of us and so we caused a bit of embarrassment crowding on the buses around Horsham where they were well used by locals.

Also you have to like sitting on bus seats for some time! We spent more time on or waiting for buses than we did in Worthing but it was fun in a novel way and definitely cheap!!!

Regards Chris Middleton

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COMING TALKS IN THE OLD BARN HALL THIS YEAR

Tuesday, 7 June:Fran SandhamMy Walk across AfricaAuthor Fran Sandham walked solo across Africa from Namibia's coast to the Indian Oceannear Zanzibar, a 3000-mile trek taking nearly a year.

Tuesday, 5 July:John Griffiths-ColbyEmily Connell's Autograph BookEmily Connell was a staff nurse at the 3rd Western General Hospital in Cardiff when WorldWar 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 KeableThe History of CartoonsCartoons 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.

Tuesday, 4 October: Paul Barfield The mysterious death of MI6 spy Gareth Williams

In August 2010 Gareth failed to return to work at MI6 HQ in Vauxhall after annual leave.. Police found him dead in his flat inside a large sports bag, padlocked from the outside and placed in his bath. The flat was locked from the outside. The speaker delves beneath the media headlines into the world of international espionage. Who would want to kill this mildmannered maths genius? A former policeman, Paul recalls how events unfolded to a disbelieving world. We ask if this was a tragic accident, a deliberate act by Gareth or something a lot more sinister. We look at the part played by MI6 and the police enquiry and ask whether international agents had a hand in his demise.

Tuesday, 1 November: Neil Hanson Ghostwriting

Author Neil Hanson has led an extraordinary life but as a professional ghost-writer of over 60 published books, he has also worked with a remarkably diverse collection of fascinating people. His clients include household names, among them an American showbiz legend, England's most famous cricketer, a famous actor, one of Britain's most decorated soldiers and an England football manager. Others include SAS men, fast-jet pilots, explorers and adventurers, a treasure diver, a kidnap negotiator, a hugely successful businessman, a spy, a notorious gangster, an around the world walker, a submariner, a maxillofacial surgeon and many more.

Tuesday, 6 December: Jacques Arnold The House of Windsor

Jacques Arnold, author of the *Royal Houses of Europe* series of genealogical books, draws on a lifetime interest initially encouraged by Lord Mountbatten when Jacques was a schoolboy 40 years ago. He is now one of Her Majesty's Deputy Lieutenants of Kent. He will provide a wealth of interesting anecdotes, drawing on European history with all its dramas and personal triumphs and tragedies.

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SURREY u3a NETWORK UP AND COMING STUDY DAYS

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.

The fees, including coffee/tea and biscuits, are $\pounds 12$ for members and $\pounds 15$ for guests and $\pounds 5$ for virtual attendance. Attendees 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 online form on the Contact page to send a message to John Kennedy, Booking Secretary. If you want 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 willbe available at the study days and hand it to any member of the committee.

The list of study day titles is given, together with a poster of a typical study day. When study day handouts or presentations are available for download they will be mounted for 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:

20 May Chemistry, Cosmetics and Killers. Presenter: Dr Kathryn Harkup

17 June Understanding Turner: The Man, His Life & His Work Presenter: Professor Maria Chester

16 September Cuneiform Tablets & Noah's Ark to be arranged Presenter: Dr Irving Finkel

RESEARCH AND SHARED LEARNING OPEN DAY

A Research and Shared Learning Open Day will be held this summer for anyone with an interest in living history.

The conference on 3 August will take place in Preston, Lancashire, but will be accessible for Bookham u3a members via Zoom unless they choose to travel there.

From archaeology to urban sketching, there will be displays of u3a members' work across the country to inspire, handouts to take away, presentations by project leaders and opportunities to ask questions. The full programme will be circulated this month.

A family story, handed down over generations, was a starting point for members of Glasgow West End Local History group. It said: "She smuggled home her father's severed head, wrapped in her apron...." Working with local archives and museums, the group uncovered the true, tragic story behind the family tale about the death of James "Purlie" Wilson. Their findings will be featured at the open day.

Maggy Simms, u3a national Research & Shared Learning Projects coordinator, said: "Do come and find out what's happening across all the u3a regions and countries. For details of the open day and a booking form $g \circ t \circ https://forms.gle/gUxvQcEecF7KJTW46.$

Lunch will be provided. The venue is opposite Preston mainline station. If driving, Fishergate Shopping Centre Car park offers 24-hour parking for £8.50 and is a short walk from the venue. If you have any queries please contact me on slp@u3a.org.uk."

YOUR OPTIONS FOR GROUP MEETINGS

Please go to the website to ensure you connect to the latest information on each group.

CODE	GROUP NAME	WEEK IN MONTH	DAY	TIME
His12	3E London	Fourth	Wednesday	AM
Art06	Architectural History	Fourth	Thursday	PM
Art02	Art Appreciation 2	Third	Monday	PM
Art03	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	Weekly	Various	AM
Bri08	Bridge Beginners/Improvers	Weekly	Wednesday	AM
Can01	Canasta 1	Second + Fourth	Wednesday	PM
Can02	Canasta 2	Second	Tuesday	PM
Cra07	Card Making	Last	Thursday	PM
Ch01	Chess	When required	TBC	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
Fre01	French Conversation	Second + Fourth	Wednesday	AM
Fre04	French Intermediate	Second + Fourth	Thursday	AM
Gar03	Gardening 03	Second	Wednesday	PM
His22	History	Second + 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
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	Thursday	PM

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CODE	GROUP NAME	WEEK IN MONTH	DAY	TIME
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
Scr01	Scrabble	When required	Various	PM
His16	Social History 1	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
Ten02	Table Tennis Summer	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	Second + Fourth	Thursday	AM
Gar02	Vegetable Gardening	Second	Saturday	AM
Wal02	Walking 12km	First	Friday	AM
Wal01	Walking 7km	Second + Fourth	Friday	AM
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

SITUATION VACANT

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

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.

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING FOR UKRAINIAN REFUGEES?

A table will be set aside at the back of the hall at the 7 June monthly meeting for donations to Ukrainian refugee families being hosted in the UK.

Organiser Winnie Benford said: "The impossibility of imagining how I would feel, being forcibly removed from all I know and leaving possessions and friends behind, prompted me to appeal at the May meeting for members' help in donating unwanted toiletries etc to Ukrainian refugees. Janet Billham and I are in the process of finding where new refugees are being homed and will deliver what is given to the person in charge for distribution which, hopefully, will give them hope in the knowledge we are all supporting them. Please accept my grateful thanks for your support with this."