Intro

Many thanks to the 860 members (out of 1130) who have renewed their subscriptions promptly, including the 120 of you who pay by standing order.

Unfortunately we cannot trace the standing orders from two members, because their banks have not given us names or membership numbers, just the money! Please check that any new standing orders have gone through and what reference you quoted. 'U3A' or 'Membership' does not tell us who you are, so please send an email to Linda Foreman at databasemanager@kingston.u3a.org.

This month’s edition alerts you to some shared learning projects, to several research projects and to some forthcoming study days. And there is an opportunity to join the Enjoy Classical Music group as well as a chance to buy tickets to the U3A carol concerts.

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U3A/Royal Holloway College shared learning project

Citizens: 800 years in the making - exploring the history of liberty, protest, rebellion and reform

Citizens, launched in January 2017, is a three-year project run by Royal Holloway College.

Its aim is to create a website that explores the history of liberty, protest, rebellion and reform from Magna Carta to the Suffragettes and beyond. The site, promoted particularly to teachers and school pupils for use when working for the GCSE subject Power & the People, aims to help visitors understand and learn how and

why people’s rights and their relationship with the state have changed; how people have challenged authority; how governments have responded to such challenges; and how Parliament and parliamentary democracy have evolved.

Starting in January 2018, members of South West London U3As who sign up for this project will identify events and people in London, particularly but not exclusively in South West London, who have contributed to this history of liberty, protest, rebellion and reform.

Further information

If this project interests you, please check the [accompanying leaflet](https://u3asites.org.uk/files/l/london-region/docs/southwestlondoncitizens2018.pdf) which gives relevant dates and tells you how to apply. Please note, the deadline for applications is Monday, 6 November 2017.

See also the [invitation](https://u3asites.org.uk/files/l/london-region/docs/invitationtolondonmembersoct2017c.pdf) to a preliminary meeting to find out more about Citizens 800.

You can also visit the [Citizens Project](http://www.citizens800.org/u3a/) website to see work which has already been done.

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Shared learning project: Smithfield and its residents in the year of the Great Plague 1665

This project aims to look into the impact of the Great Plague of 1665 on the residents of Charterhouse and its close neighbour, St Bartholomew’s Hospital.

The team will work primarily at the London Metropolitan Archives in Islington, as well as St Bartholomew’s Hospital Archives kept in the hospital itself.

Further information: please see the leaflet [Smithfield and its residents in the year of the Great Plague 1665](https://u3asites.org.uk/files/l/london-region/docs/slp2018projectflyerfinalgreatplague.pdf).

Applications: If you are interested in joining this project which starts in January 2018, please contact the project leader, dianna.widdisu3a@gmail.com.

Closing date for applications is Monday, 13 November 2017.

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Shared learning project: Locating the lost histories of London and the West Midlands in the late 17h century

Three shared learning projects will explore the records of the Restoration hearth tax and other historical sources. The project aims to publish its findings digitally under the title, *Rediscovering the lost histories of urban communities in late 17th-century England*.

The Restoration hearth tax provides evidence of who lived in every property, its taxable wealth (ie numbers of hearths) and location, ranging from Hampton Court (1,700 hearths) to the humblest homes with one and two hearths, which did

not have to pay the tax. Extensive records have survived for the whole of England and Wales for both the mid-1660s and the early 1670s.

Further information: Please see the [accompanying leaflet](https://u3asites.org.uk/files/l/london-region/docs/u3aa4sharedlearningproject.pdf), which contains more detailed information, tells you how to apply and gives the time lines involved.

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UCL research project: Memory and cognitive abilities

Have you ever wondered what your IQ might be? Have you noticed your memory declining with age? Would you like to know how your memory compares to that of others of your age?

The Research Department of Clinical, Educational and Health Psychology at University College London is looking to recruit a sample of native English speakers, aged 50-69, to complete tests of memory and cognitive abilities. They will use this data to compare with people within the same age band who have a diagnosis of high-functioning autism (until recently called Asperger Syndrome).

As a participant you will receive a report detailing your performance on gold standard tests of memory and IQ, if you attend all the testing sessions.

Further information:

Contact Venus Tse, Trainee Clinical Psychologist, at venus.tse.10@ucl.ac.uk, telephone 07548542641.

Research Department of Clinical, Educational and Health Psychology

University College London

1-19 Torrington Place

London

WC1E 7HB

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UCL research project: Generalised anxiety disorder or long-term worrying

Are you aged 60 years or over? Are you currently experiencing difficulties with generalised anxiety disorder or long-term worrying? If yes, then researchers at University College, London would like to hear from you.

They have developed a short survey asking you about what types of treatment you have been offered for generalised anxiety disorder or long-term worrying and how well this has worked for you. This survey should take approximately 10 minutes to complete.

If you are interested in taking part, please go to the [participant information page](https://opinio.ucl.ac.uk/s?s=49948).

Kate Kimona

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Research project: Dizziness and inner ear disorders

This project will explore if and how some of our mental capabilities (particularly our spatial reasoning abilities) and our composure are affected by dizziness caused by mismatching visual and aural signals.

If you are interested, and have not previously suffered with dizziness, Mr Jeremy Corcoran, the project leader, would like to invite you to take part in the study. Researchers will measure your problem-solving capabilities and your fight-or-flight response while you are spun around in a motorised chair built by the Royal Air Force. The study has been approved by the University of Westminster.

Further information: Please see the [cubex](http://cubex.co.uk/tag/research) website and read the [participant information sheet](http://cubex.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/EXP-05-Participant-information-sheet-v2017-04-13-1306.pdf).

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U3A Christmas Concert 2017 with the Brandenburg singers and organ

There are three U3A Christmas concerts this year, each one with the same programme.

Each concert includes traditional carols and there will be mulled wine and mince pies.

Bob Porter, artistic director of the Brandenburg Choral Festival of London, will introduce and conduct the concert.

Times and dates:

2pm Monday 4 December

5.30pm Monday 4 December

2pm, Monday 19 December

Place: The Queen's Chapel of the Savoy, Savoy Hill, London, WC2R 0DA

Cost: £19.50

Booking: Please go to the [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/christmas-concerts-tickets-38762203795) website.

Please note that this event is for U3A members only.

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Enjoy Classical Music group

This group relaunched on 15 September and has two vacancies.

Members take it in turns to introduce two hours of their favourite classical music from their CD collection.

The group meets in Surbiton at 7.30pm on the third Friday of each month.

New members welcome.

Contact Elinor Parker:

Email: eshparker@:aol.com

Tel: 07973673209

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As the printed newsletter will be published in November, the next email news bulletin will be in mid-December. Please forward any contributions or suggestions to Susan Hinchsliffe at communications@kingstonu3a.co.uk by the end of November. Many thanks.