

## Kingston U3A News Bulletin – 5 October 2019 No 24

Our December bulletin looks forward to 2020 with its many interesting events, courses and opportunities to study a whole range of subjects. The Third Age Trust is running a course for group leaders and committee members. London Region and the South East Forum of U3As are already advertising their summer school programmes and there is a shared learning project which theatre buffs might be interested in. On the local groups front, the Kingston U3A singers are looking to recruit more members. Students from Kingston School of Art will be selling some of their work in the Bentall Centre this weekend and on the eve of the election you are invited to join a political discussion with a panel of experts at Kingston University. To close we've the usual reminder of some of the talks and speakers at our next monthly meetings, including our annual quiz in January.

And of course, we'd like to extend to all members our best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

### Third Age Trust: national workshop – Interest Group Matters

This interactive workshop is designed to generate discussion and ideas about running and coordinating groups. It is open to all U3A members throughout the country, so please register to secure your place as soon as possible if you are interested.

#### Objectives include:

- to discuss and identify the role of group leaders/convenors and coordinators
- to discuss and agree what constitutes participative learning and consider how this can impact on learning
- to analyse the barriers to learning and consider how to ensure that groups are accessible

#### Who should attend?

- committee members, particularly those in the groups coordinator role
- potential committee members
- those in or considering the group leader/convenor role

Attendees will be encouraged to network and share their experiences with those from neighbouring U3As.

**Time:** 10.30am (registration and refreshments), 11am-3.30pm

**Date:** Friday, 10 January

**Place:** National Union of Journalists, Headland House, 72 Acton Street, London, WC1X 9NB

**Cost:** Free – refreshments and lunch will be provided.

**Further information and registration:** Please go to the [Eventbrite](#) website.

## London Region of U3As: Summer School 2020

Theme: The Twenties – Dynamic Decade

The programme includes a range of subjects including art, current affairs, history, literature, music, science, social studies and travel. There'll be a choice of talks, workshops, and guided walks.

Attendance can be for one, two or three days.

**Dates:** 21, 22, 23 July

**Place:** St Bride Foundation, 14 Bride Lane, Fleet Street, London, EC4Y 8EQ

**Cost:** Tickets £38 per day (refreshments and a cold buffet lunch included)

**Registration:** Register now to receive programme details direct in February. Contact Catherine Ware [chair.londonregion@gmail.com](mailto:chair.londonregion@gmail.com), 020 8879 0352.

## South East U3A Forum Summer School 2020

This will be held at the University of Chichester next summer and the following courses are on offer:

- Music: Classical Albums of the 50s and 60s
- Hatha Yoga for the Third Age
- Folk Dancing
- Cycling
- The Fascination of Maths
- Walking on the Downs and Coast
- Researching your Family History
- Natural History
- Needlecraft
- Ukulele for Beginners
- 19th and 20th Century British Poets
- Four Centuries of the British Raj in India and its Aftermath
- Writing Life and Family Stories

**Dates:** Monday 15-Thursday, 18 June

**Place:** Chichester University

**Further information:** [Full course details](#)

**Applications:** The [booking form](#) contains instructions on how to make a booking and send off a deposit to secure your place at the summer school. Course and accommodation costs are also detailed in the form.

## SW London Consortium of U3As: shared learning project Interested in Theatre History?

This project, based on the Cary Ellison Theatre Programme Collection, starts early next year at Kingston University.

Cary Ellison was a talent spotter who worked for the casting directory, Spotlight. He went on twice-yearly tours of repertory performances around the country to find up-and-coming actors and directors, and new plays. The programmes of these productions, heavily annotated by Ellison, are now at Kingston University. They cover theatre performances from around the UK and the West End from the 50s to the 80s when Ellison was touring the country. Actors he spotted early in their careers include Derek Jacobi, Richard Briers and Judi Dench. He also made notes on established actors – Lawrence Olivier, John Gielgud, Ralph Richardson and Vivien Leigh – at the peak of their fame.

The U3A has been asked to work on a project to research aspects of the history of the programmes and the British theatre during the period from the 50s to the early 80s relating to Cary Ellison's work.

This project will interest anyone with a love of the theatre in this country.

If you would like to register an interest in working on this project, please email Sue Leigh (Wandsworth U3A) at [smleigh@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:smleigh@hotmail.co.uk) and further details on the arrangements for the project and an application form will be sent to you.

If you wish to know more about this project and the archives at Kingston University, please contact Dayna Miller, the archivist, at [d.miller@kingston.ac.uk](mailto:d.miller@kingston.ac.uk).

## Group News

### Kingston U3A Singers

The group is looking for new members and has places available in all voice ranges. It offers a friendly welcome with no audition: you sing with us for a month to see if you'd like to join. You don't have to be able to read music and in our rehearsals we work towards two concerts a year, while having fun and making new friends. The work is varied, from classical through to folk, and is mostly sung in four parts.

**Rehearsal times:** 10.30am-12.30pm

**Day:** Thursdays

**Place:** Glenmore House, 6 The Crescent, Surbiton, KT6 4BN. There is ample parking on site and Glenmore House is a short walk from Surbiton Station. There's a stop just outside Waitrose, which is served by several bus routes.

**Cost:** £45 per quarter with music provided.

**Further information:** If you would like to join them, please contact any member of the choir or Helga Randall on 020 8397 8712. They'd love to see you.

### Two corrections

In the recent newsletter, some details about two groups was wrong. Please see the correct information on the next page.

## Writing for Children

Please note that the group meets at 10.30am on the second Wednesday of the month. The group leader is Jean Farrell, email [jeanvfarrell@hotmail.com](mailto:jeanvfarrell@hotmail.com). Apologies to Jean for the mistake.

## Towns along the Thames

The email address for the group leaders was incorrect and should read [desandgill.bellew@virginmedia.com](mailto:desandgill.bellew@virginmedia.com). Apologies to Des and Gill for the mistake.

## Honours: newsletter article

Have you received an award in the New Year's Honours or the Queen's Birthday Honours? Would you be prepared to talk about your award or your experience of receiving it in the next U3A newsletter?

If so, please contact Susan Hinchsliffe at [newsletter@kingstonu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@kingstonu3a.org.uk).

## Kingston University events

Here are a couple of events which may be of interest to you. For a full list, see the [Kingston University](#) website.

### Christmas Design Market at the Bentall Centre

If you are looking for an original Christmas present, go along to the Bentall Centre and see some of the things on sale – from prints and cards to jewellery and tote bags – all made by design students from Kingston School of Art. Their stalls will be located on various balconies in the Centre.

**Times/Dates:** 9am-8pm    Saturday, 7 December  
                  11am-5pm    Sunday, 8 December

**Place:** Bentall Centre, Wood Street, Kingston

**Further information:** Contact Anne Marie Fisker at [a.m.fisker@kingston.ac.uk](mailto:a.m.fisker@kingston.ac.uk) and/or see the [Kingston University](#) website.

### The Nation(s) Decide(s): UK General Election Eve Panel

If you haven't already had enough of the election by this stage, why not go along to hear commentary and gain insight from a panel of Kingston University experts and elected representatives as they discuss and debate UK politics, the election and what it all means for us.

After the panel finishes, drinks and nibbles will be available.

**Time:** 5-6pm

**Date:** Wednesday, 11 December

**Place:** Room 0003, John Galsworthy building, Penrhyn Road campus, Penrhyn Road, Kingston upon Thames, KT1 2EE

**Cost:** Free but booking is essential. See the [Eventbrite](#) website.

**Further information and booking:** Contact Peter Finn at [p.finn@kingston.ac.uk](mailto:p.finn@kingston.ac.uk) and/or see the [Kingston University](#) where the panel members are listed.

## U3A monthly meetings

### Two polite requests

If you arrive early for our meetings, please could you move into the centre of the row where you choose to sit. If you don't, it makes it harder for members arriving later to locate and access a free seat if they have to push past you.

Please mute or turn off your mobile phone once you have taken your seat. There were several interruptions during the AGM and following talk in November. A mobile phone's loud ring tone is off-putting for both speakers and audience members.

Many thanks in advance for your cooperation with these requests.

**6 January:** Kingston U3A annual quiz – Please arrive in good time as we have to make a prompt start at 2pm. We are limited to the numbers we can accommodate around the tables, so we'll operate a first come, first served system.

**3 February:** The Cinema Museum – Martin Humphries

The Cinema Museum in Kennington is devoted to keeping alive the spirit of cinema from the days before the multiplex. It houses a unique collection of artefacts, memorabilia and equipment from the 1890s to the present day.

**2 March:** Memory Boxes and Time Capsules – Jo Livingston (U3A member)  
Jo looks at how such objects are linked to our memories and help us recall and relate to past and current events.

These meetings are for members only:

**Time:** 2pm (doors open at 1.30pm)

**Place:** United Reformed Church, Eden Street, Kingston

**Cost:** £1

Coffee and biscuits are available after the talk.

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The next Kingston U3A news bulletin will be emailed to you around the middle of January. Please forward any contributions or suggestions to Susan Hinchsliffe at [communications@kingstonu3a.org.uk](mailto:communications@kingstonu3a.org.uk) by Monday, 6 January. The next quarterly newsletter will out mid-February. If you have any items for this newsletter, please submit them to Susan by Monday, 13 January.

In the meantime, please check the [Kingston U3A](#) website regularly. Many thanks.

Please note: If you wish your name to be removed from Kingston U3A's email list, please notify [Linda Foreman](#) or [Susan Hinchsliffe](#).