

Kingston u3a News Bulletin April 2022 No 43

(Sent out Wednesday, 30 March)

We're beginning this edition with a request for a volunteer to help with public relations for this year, important as it is the 40th anniversary of **u3a** nationally. We'd like to arrange a mention of this in local papers such as *The Surrey Comet*, *The Good Life*, *Berrylands Companion* and others. If you think you could help us with this, please contact Linda Foreman at chair@kingstonu3a.org.uk.

We're delighted to hear that Surbiton Croquet Club is again opening its doors to allow our members to try their hand at the game. Sessions held in previous years have proved very successful and some members enjoyed the game so much they joined the club.

The Third Age Trust has another series of online talks throughout April and May on a range of subjects and we're happy to announce that the programme has now been confirmed for the London Region Summer School. Booking is due to open soon.

Details of Kingston **u3a**'s next three monthly meetings are given below, along with submission dates for our next news bulletin and newsletter. We look forward to receiving your contributions and photographs for the May newsletter.

Do take the opportunity to attend some of the online events or enrol for the study days and summer schools.

In the meantime, please keep in touch with us and take care!

Group News

Croquet

Surbiton Croquet Club is offering our members another chance to learn to play croquet in:

- a free taster day with coaching on Friday, 6 May, 1-3pm and
- a further six sessions with coaching on Fridays 13/20/27 May and 3/17/24 June, 1-3pm. (The lawns are not available on 10 June.) The sessions cost £36 for the six, payable in advance.

All sessions will be held at Surbiton Croquet Club, Alexandra Drive, KT5 9AA.

If you are interested, please contact Lorraine Hellen at lorrainehellen55@gmail.com to reserve a place. You can also phone her on 07986 851959 late afternoon/early evening, but email is preferable. Numbers will be restricted to 16 maximum on a first come, first served basis.

If you'll be coming by car, you are kindly asked to park in the road outside. More details can be given later.

Opera Appreciation

Unfortunately this group has had to finish. Please get in touch with [Shirley Miller](#) if you would like to lead this group and/or know of a suitable venue for it to meet.

Surbiton Library: Room Closure

The whole of Surbiton Library is closed to everyone for urgent ceiling maintenance.

Two of our groups, Drama and Climate Emergency, had begun holding their respective sessions in a room in the library but have been meeting elsewhere in the meantime. We'll let them know as soon as the room in the library becomes available again.

The estimated opening date shown on the Council website is currently 14 April.

u3a Online Events

The Third Age Trust is holding some online talks in April and May which may be of interest to you.

You can see them all listed on the national [u3a](#) website, along with dates and times. These events are free of charge.

- [Crochet Workshop: How to Crochet a Creature](#) – Tue 5 Apr, 10am
- [The Geology of Igneous Rocks: Part 2](#) – Thu 7 Apr, 2pm
- [An Introduction to Evidence Based Medicine](#) – Fri 8 Apr, 2pm
- [Roger Black: From Olympics to Now](#) – Tue 12 Apr, 2pm
- [Do All Religions Lead to the Same God?](#) – Wed 20 Apr, 10am
- [Book Groups Discussion Forum](#) (a discussion on how to run a book club) – Fri, 22 Apr, 2pm
- [Cryptic Crossword for Beginners](#) – six-week course, Thursdays 10am, 5 May- 6 Jun
- [The Stories of the Willow Pattern Plate](#) – Fri 13 May, 2pm
- [40th Anniversary Edition Picnic in the Park: Live Cookery Demonstration](#) – Mon 16 May, 10.30am
- [Pictish Stones](#) – Fri 20 May, 10am
- [Geometric Abstraction](#) (repeat event) – Fri 27 May, 2pm

It's a good idea to make a note of the national [u3a Events](#) page and check it regularly to make sure you are in time to book any new talks you are interested in. By the time we publish our bulletins and newsletters, these events are often sold out.

London Region Summer School: 26-27 July

This is to be held at St. Bride's Institute, off Fleet Street. It is an in-person event for [u3a](#) members only. You can choose to attend for one or both days.

Cost

£39 per day including refreshments and lunch. You can choose to attend for one or both days.

Programme

Activities include talks, workshops and guided walks. There'll be a wide range of subjects to choose from – Art, Current Affairs, History, Literature, Music, Sciences and Social Studies, with Discovering London – Past, Present and Future as a general theme throughout.

Subjects include:

- **Talks**

- The Pearlies
- Our Wonderful West End Theatreland
- The Art of Underground Travel
- Biosciences in London: Bigger Bangs for Bucks or Blather
- London Statues: Insight into the Soul of Londoners
- A National Treasure: The V&A
- London and Londoners: Archival Treasures
- Symphonic London
- 'The Eighth Wonder of the World' (Thames Tunnel)
- 'Capital, Watson!': Conan Doyle, Sherlock Holmes and London
- County Lines: A Historical Perspective
- William Golding
- The Twentieth Century Society (Protection of Buildings)
- Heart of the Matter (Heart Surgery)
- The History of the Port of London
- Climate, COP(26), and Carbon Capture for Industry
- London through Painters' Eyes
- The Story of Jazz in London

- **Guided Walks**

- The City: From the Romans to Richard Rogers and Beyond
- The City and Slavery
- Crime and Punishment
- The City and the River: Flowing through History
- A Tour of Some of Wren's Beautiful Churches
- Contemporary Architecture on the South Bank: Bankside
- Fleet Street: 'Walking the Street of Shame'
- Spitalfields Stories

- **Workshops**

- Into the Unknown (Art History)
- Writing your Play
- Playing with Shakespeare

You can see full details of these talks, walks and workshops in the leaflet [London Region Summer School](#).

Booking

Application forms will be available from early April on the [Events](#) page of London Region website.

For enquiries, contact Catherine Ware at talks.lru3a@gmail.com.

Study Day: The Challenges of Architecture – Tuesday, 24 May

SW London Consortium is organising this study day in the Mayo Hall at the United Reformed Church in Kingston. The programme includes three talks and a walk, plus tea/coffee. Tickets: £15. The flyer, with full description, directions and booking details, will be published at a later date. In the meantime, keep your eye on [London Region](#)'s website.

Surrey Network: Study Days

Some study days have been arranged for 2022 and you can now register.

Time: 10am-4pm, (registration and login begin at 9.30am)

Dates: See programme details below.

Place: You can attend in person at the Menuhin Hall, Stoke d'Abernon or join online via Zoom.

Cost (including tea/coffee biscuits): £12 for members and £15 for guests attending in person. £5 for those attending via Zoom. Attendees should bring their own packed lunch.

Programme:

- [Illuminated Manuscripts of the Medieval Period](#): Imogen Corrigan – Fri 22 April
- [Chemistry, Cosmetics and Killers – Secret Lives of the Elements, Chemistry of the Human Body, Poisons, Dying to be Beautiful](#): Dr Kathryn Harkup – Fri 20 May (Please note that this study day has changed its title and content since we first advertised it.)
- [Understanding Turner – The Man, His Life and His Work](#): Professor Maria Chester – Fri 17 June

You can see the dates of other study days which will be held later in 2022 on the [Surrey Network](#)'s website.

Kingston u3a: Monthly Meetings

The meetings listed below will be online via Zoom. We'll send out invitations to all those members for whom we have email addresses. Up to 500 people can participate in an online meeting. For these meetings you are also welcome to come along to the United Reformed Church in person. You do not need to book in advance. (Please note that these arrangements may have to change if lockdown regulations are re-introduced.)

Monday 4 April, 2pm

How Magicians are seen in Paintings, Prints and Cartoons – Ian Keable

Early artists used the magician to symbolise the mysterious and the unknown, associating them with astrology and tarot cards. In the 16th century, Pieter Bruegel and Hieronymus Bosch produced pictures of the conjurer performing the cups and balls trick. The 18th and 19th century saw a proliferation in engravings and lithographs showing the magician both indoors and on the streets. Cartoonists and satirists delighted in linking politicians and skulduggery, with images of them featuring the three-card trick, vanishing illusions or pulling a rabbit out of the hat.

Monday 9 May, 2pm

Charles Darwin and the Voyage of *HMS Beagle*, 1831-1836 – James Taylor

This talk focuses on the family and influences on Charles Darwin and Captain Robert FitzRoy, the commander of *HMS Beagle*, and their participation in the celebrated second voyage of the ship that has shaped our lives. It enabled Darwin to collect vital evidence for his ground-breaking publication, *On the Origin of Species*. FitzRoy paid for two artists, Augustus Earle and Conrad Martens, to paint the people and places encountered, and these images underpin the seafaring stories.

Monday 6 June, 2pm

Family History for Beginners – David Eniffe

This talk aims to encourage people to get involved in researching their ancestors for the first time. It explains how to use the basic tools to build a family tree and takes them through a virtual journey back in time, with illustrations of census returns and other documents. It shows how to illustrate your research with photographs, stories and newspaper reports. It covers up-to-date guidance on accessing new documents and information on the ever changing internet sites.

May Newsletter

We are looking for contributions to our next quarterly newsletter which will be out in May.

We're always happy to receive articles on topics such as:

- reports from your groups
- poems
- stories
- recommendations for books, programmes on TV, radio or online, box sets.

Photos (with captions) are always welcome and brighten up our pages.

Please send any contributions to Susan at newsletter@kingstonu3a.org.uk by Thursday, 14 April.

The next Kingston **u3a** news bulletin will be emailed to you in early June. Please forward any contributions or suggestions to Susan Hinchsliffe at communications@kingstonu3a.org.uk by Wednesday, 25 May.

In the meantime, please check the Kingston u3a website regularly. Many thanks.

Changing your Membership Details

If you change your address, email or telephone/mobile number, please let Chris Cheek know at database@kingstonu3a.org.uk. Chris is also able to change your preferences for receiving post or emails or the *Third Age Matters* magazine.

Changing Group Details

If you spot any mistakes or need to make any of the following changes to the Groups & Contacts list which is published in the quarterly newsletter:
a group's name

- meeting times and locations
- a group leader's contact details

please let Keith Maund know at keithmaund@outlook.com. He keeps a master copy of the spread sheet which contains all this information and passes it on to the newsletter editor, Susan Hinchsliffe, and the webmaster, Diane Wilson. Thank you.