

Kingston u3a News Bulletin October 2022 No 47

(Sent out 30 September 2022)

Our news bulletin this month contains our usual list of Third Age Trust online talks, Surrey Network's study dates and London Region's new programme of talks. St Mary's University, Twickenham is running some short evening courses, which may be of interest to you.

You'll find details below of Kingston **u3a**'s remaining three monthly meetings in 2022. Remember that 3 October's meeting will be **online only**, so please do **not** go to the United Reformed Church (URC). Please note, however, that there will be a meeting at the URC on the same day but this is **only** for new members.

You'll find submission dates for our next news bulletin and newsletter. We look forward to receiving your contributions and photographs for the Winter newsletter. In particular we'd like to know if any of our members ever met the late Queen, remember her coronation or queued to go to the lying-in-state.

An urgent appeal for help

On several occasions over the last few years, we have talked about the importance of recruiting new members on to the Kingston **u3a** Committee to help with all the activities we arrange and the administration it involves. In the Autumn Newsletter we mentioned this again and included the nomination papers for would-be recruits. We are happy to have recruited one volunteer already but need more.

This November I will be stepping down from the Chair of Kingston **u3a** as I have served the maximum three years. Our General Activities Section representative, Gisela Zürcher-Feiß, is also standing down after many years of organising amazing outings. As yet, no one has come forward to replace either of us and Kingston **u3a** is now under threat of losing some of its activities. As such, no further trips, holidays or outings will be organised until such help is forthcoming.

Most of the current Committee representatives have served for several years and some will stand down next year. We are in desperate need of other Kingston **u3a** members to join them and share the administration so that our organisation can continue to thrive.

I'd be grateful if you would please consider joining us. Please contact me if you have any questions or wish to shadow an existing Committee member before committing yourself. You probably have ideas on how we could do things better. Come along and help us do it!

Many thanks and best wishes.

Linda Foreman
chair@kingstonu3a.org.uk

Group News

Sunday Lunch Club 2

Group leader Gill O'Donnell is looking for members to join her lunch club. They meet on the second Sunday in the month and eat out at different restaurants.

If you are interested in joining, please contact Gill on 020 8399 8125 or gill.odonnell@blueyonder.co.uk.

New Group: Books of Your Choice

Lesley Hodges is hoping to revive the group that Audrey Perry used to run.

It will be held at 10.30am on the third Tuesday each month in central Kingston.

If you are interested in joining, please contact Lesley on 07768 643663 or at lesleyhodges12@gmail.com.

u3a Membership Cards

Many thanks to those of you who have renewed your membership recently. Please be aware that we no longer send out membership cards on renewal. We haven't done so since October 2019 because of the cost of printing cards and the time it takes to process and distribute them.

The membership secretary, Jane Hoyland, has already received about 30 stamped addressed envelopes this month with your renewal forms. Unfortunately there was no need to do this as there was nothing on the renewal forms requesting an SAE.

In the meantime, if you haven't done so already, please renew your membership.

u3a Online Events

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

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

October

- [Mindfulness and Meditation: Autumn Series](#) – Tuesdays 10am, 4 Oct-8 Nov
- [Driving Tips with IAM RoadSmart](#) – Wed 5 Oct, 10am
- [Holocaust Survivor Stories: Eva Cato](#) – Thu 6 Oct, 10am
- [Join Celebrated Pianist Andrew Wilde at the Piano](#) – Mon 17 Oct, 3pm

- [The Artist Who Made a Very Clever Move \(Sofonisba Anguissola\)](#) – Tue 18 Oct, 10am
- [Tai Chi: Autumn Series](#) – Thursdays 10am, 20 Oct-24 Nov
- [Yiddish Theatre: Marc Chagall](#) – Fri 21 Oct, 2pm
- [Exploring World Faiths: Diwali, Festival of Light](#) – Mon 24 Oct, 10am
- [The Arrow of Time](#) – Thu 27 Oct, 3pm
- [The Swan: Its Life, Its Nature and Its Future](#) – Fri 28 Oct, 2pm
- [u3a Explores Science at the Royal Institution \(Ri\)](#) – Mon 31 Oct, 1.45pm
(**Please note:** that you can attend this talk in person at the Ri (tickets £20) or online (£8.50))
- [Secrets of the Human Brain](#) – Mon 31 Oct, 2pm

November

- [Cryptic Crosswords for Beginners](#) – Wednesdays 10am, 2 Nov-7 Dec
- [The British Royal Collection and Japanese Art](#) – Tue 8 Nov, 2pm
- [Seated Yoga for All](#) – Fridays 10am, 18 Nov-9 Dec

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: Winter Talks

Programme

- "Capital, Watson!" Conan Doyle, Sherlock Holmes and London – Mon 17 Oct
- The Art of Underground Travel – Mon 21 Nov
- London through Painters' Eyes – Mon 19 Dec

All talks begin at 5.30pm (login from 5pm) and last an hour.

Further Information and Registration

See the [2022 Winter Talks Programme](#) flyer. If you have any questions, please contact London Region at talks.lru3a@gmail.com.

You can also find this information on the [London Region](#) website.

Surrey Network: Study Days

More study days have been arranged in the coming months 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

- [Eureka: A Brief History of Maths from 3000 BC to 2000 AD](#) – Fri 21 Oct
- [Industrial Archaeology at Fifty](#) – Fri 18 Nov

Future Study Days: 2023

- Fri 17 Feb (subject to be announced)
- Fri 17 Mar (subject to be announced)
- The Story of Polar Exploration and the Recent Impact of Security Considerations and Climate Change – Fri 21 Apr
- Study day on the Dead Sea Scrolls to be arranged – Fri 19 May
- Vikings and their Influence in the World – Fri 16 Jun

Places will be available in the hall or for online viewing. Booking opens in November, so keep an eye on [Surrey Network's](#) website.

Short Courses: St Mary's University, Twickenham

The university has recently launched a series of evening classes in history, literature, art and local geography. It is hoped that the classes will contribute to the community of life-long learning in our local area.

These courses are run by the university's expert researchers and are designed to be fun and interesting to everyone, with no previous knowledge or experience required. Each course contains local connections and you can find full details on the [St Mary's University](#) website.

Courses and Start Dates

- Exploring Nature on the River Thames (started 22 September)
- Once Upon a Time: The Gothic, Fairy Tales and Monsters (3 October)
- Henry VIII: Renaissance Monarch (4 October)
- Writing Young Adult Fantasy Fiction (5 October)
- Inventing the Modern Christmas (16 November)

There is a fee for these courses but, as you have found out about these courses through Kingston [u3a](#), you can claim a 20% on the cost of a course. To claim the

discount, click the 'Book your place now' button at the bottom of any course page and select the 20% discount option. If contacted by the university team, simply state that you found out about the course through the **u3a**.

Kingston u3a: Monthly Meetings

Please note that some of our meetings will now be just on Zoom, others just in the hall at the United Reformed Church (URC) and others will be a combination of both (hybrid meetings). We've noted the type of meeting each one will be under the relevant paragraph below. When Zoom is involved, we'll send out invitations to all those members for whom we have email addresses. Up to 100 people can participate in an online meeting. You do not need to book in advance to come to a meeting at the URC.

Monday 3 October, 2pm

Jazz Age Greats – Graham Harrison

Zoom only

Billie Holiday, Duke Ellington and Ella Fitzgerald are included: entertaining stories, the struggles they faced as Black musicians, the importance of Black musicians and Black music in the jazz tradition.

Monday 7 November, 1.30pm

URC hall and Zoom

1.30pm: Kingston u3a Annual AGM

2pm: Talk: Your Country Needs You ... – James Taylor

Dr Taylor, author, art expert and former curator of the National Maritime Museum, returns to give an illustrated talk on how propaganda and humour were used in art and design in World War 1.

Monday 5 December, 2pm

History of the Christmas Carol – Adrienne Hesketh

URC hall and Zoom

Adrienne's presentation describes the history of the Christmas carol, Christmas music and poetry.

Winter Newsletter

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

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

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

We'd like to include an article about the late Queen. Do any of you remember her coronation? Did anyone meet her? If so, in what circumstances? Did anyone go to see the flowers in Green Park or queue for the lying-in-state? You don't need to write a lot. We could compile members' recollections and comments into one article.

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

Please send any contributions to Susan at newsletter@kingstonu3a.org.uk by Thursday, 13 October.

* * * * *

The next Kingston **u3a** news bulletin will be emailed to you in early December. Please forward any contributions or suggestions to Susan Hinchsliffe at communications@kingstonu3a.org.uk by Thursday, 24 November.

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.