

# Kingston u3a News Bulletin December 2022 No 48

(Sent out 30 November 2022)

Hello everyone and welcome to our final news bulletin of 2022.

Along with our usual listing of events and deadlines for contributions to future bulletins and newsletters, we have some information for you about the London Flood Awareness Week and a reminder about a hearing research project which we advertised in the Winter newsletter last month. We've also included some feedback on the AGM: the make-up of the new Committee and the new subscription fees.

## Kingston AGM 7 November

In October's news bulletin we appealed for more members to come forward and join the Kingston **u3a** Committee and/or help with the activities we arrange and the administration involved.

We are pleased to report that several members have now volunteered and, following the AGM, we are happy to welcome on to the Committee Francesca Cura, Jacqui Hine, Marcia Mayeda and Fiona Tolmie. Jacqui will take over Gisela's responsibilities for outings and trips; Marcia will look after new members; and Fiona will shadow our treasurer, Joy Garvey.

No one on the previous Committee wished to renounce their current responsibilities to take over Linda Foreman's role as Chair. As a result we have resolved to share the Chair's duties. The Charity Commission requires us, however, to have a registered, named Chair. Shirley Miller and Jane Hoyland have agreed to do this as co-Chairs to ensure that Kingston **u3a** meets its legal and financial requirements as a charity.

It was agreed that from the beginning of the next membership period, starting on 1 October 2023, our subscriptions will go up to £15 per person or £24 for a couple at the same address.

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Finally we would like to extend to all members and their families our very best wishes for a merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

## London Flood Awareness Week

### Monday, 28 November-Sunday, 4 December

Climate change has brought with it periods of heavier rainfall and an increased risk of flooding. Please check the government's website for the following advice:

- [Checking your flood risk online](#)

- [Signing up for flood warnings](#)
- [Knowing what to do if flooding hits](#)

## Research Volunteers Needed

We included this information in the Groups & Contacts section of the Winter newsletter but are repeating it here as the phone number given was incorrect.

Lida Alampounti is a PhD researcher at University College London's Ear Institute. She is investigating how we can use vision to listen better and is looking for volunteers to participate in her study of speech perception at the Institute, about 10 minutes' walk from King's Cross station.

There are minimum criteria to take part including: being a native English speaker; having a hearing status of either normal, or mild/moderate hearing loss; not living with neurological/psychiatric conditions; and not having language-related difficulties. Further criteria also apply. Volunteers will be paid a minimum of £20 for their participation and travel expenses are covered for anyone who takes part.

If you are interested, please contact Lida (preferably by email) at: [lida.alampounti.19@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:lida.alampounti.19@ucl.ac.uk). Otherwise, please call reception at the Ear Institute (020 3456 7870) and leave a message for PhD student Lida, giving your full name, telephone number, an email address if you have one and your preferred times for Lida to call.

If you are thinking of participating, please make sure you read beforehand **u3a's** advice for research volunteers in the Archive section of Kingston **u3a's** website at [www.kingstonu3a.org.uk/events\\_list/1045/](http://www.kingstonu3a.org.uk/events_list/1045/).

## u3a Online Events

The Third Age Trust is holding some online talks in December and January 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.

### December

- [Live Cookery Demonstration: Christmas Recipes](#) – Thu 1 Dec, 10.30am
- [The Geology of Oil and Gas in Britain and around the World \(Part 2\)](#) – Thu 1 Dec, 1pm
- [Learn Digital Life Skills: Discover Online Shopping](#) – Fri 2 Dec, 2pm
- [Exploring World Faiths: Setting up an Exploring World Faiths Groups](#) – Mon 5 Dec, 10am
- [The Maths of Bell Ringing](#) – Tue 6 Dec, 10am
- [Genetic Genealogy: Understanding DNA Testing](#) – Tue 6 Dec, 2pm

- [Writing Poetry for Publication and Performance](#) – Tue 13 Dec, 2pm
- [Learning is the Elixir of Healthy Ageing](#) – Tue 13 Dec, 4pm
- [Learn Digital Life Skills: Photos Week](#) – Fri 16 Dec, 2pm
- [Cryptic Crossword Explained](#) – Mon 19 Dec, 10am

## January

- [Sleep and Dreams](#) – 2pm Mon, 9 Jan
- [Getting Started With Your Family History](#) – 2pm Wed, 11 Jan
- [Holocaust Memorial Day: The Stories of George and Renee Morton](#) – 2pm Fri, 27 Jan

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

**Please note:** the London Region website is down at the moment and is working to fix it. We are keeping the information below in the bulletin in the hope that the links will be working in a few days.

### Programme

- London through Painters' Eyes – Mon 19 Dec
- London's Waste: Past, Present and Future – Mon, 16 Jan
- Cézanne – Mon, 20 Feb
- Changing London – Mon, 20 Feb

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

### Further Information and Registration

See the [2022 Winter Talks Programme](#) flyer (for Dec's talk).

See the [January-March Talks Programme](#) for 2023 events.

If you have any questions, please contact London Region at [talks.lru3a@gmail.com](mailto:talks.lru3a@gmail.com).

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

## Surrey Network: Study Days

**Please note:** as with the London Region website, Surrey Network's is also not working at the moment.

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.

### **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 is already open. This information is also available on [Surrey Network](#)'s website.

### **Kingston u3a: Monthly Meetings**

Meetings are held at the United Reformed Church (URC) in Kingston on the first Monday of each month unless it is a bank holiday. Doors open at 1.30pm for a 2pm start. Entrance fee is £1. Tea/Coffee and biscuits are available at the end of the meeting.

There is room for 150 people and you do not need to book in advance.

**Please note:** December's event will be a hybrid meeting both in the URC and online via Zoom. From January 2023 all meetings will be held at the URC and there will be no online access via Zoom.

### **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.

## Monday 9 January, 2pm

### Annual Quiz

Start the **u3a** new year with a fun afternoon. Team up with friends or make new friends while challenging your general knowledge, memory and puzzle-solving skills. Prizes for the winners.

## Monday 6 February, 2pm

### Watching the Detectives: A History of British TV Crime Fighters

Murder! It's not big and it's not clever. But without it our little grey cells would have missed some of the most popular television programmes ever, via St Mary Mead, Oxford, Broadchurch and Midsomer, this talk reveals clues to our fascination with the law.

## Spring 2023 Newsletter

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

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.

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

Please send any contributions to Susan at [newsletter@kingstonu3a.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@kingstonu3a.org.uk) by Thursday, 12 January.

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The next Kingston **u3a** news bulletin will be emailed to you in early January. Please forward any contributions or suggestions to Susan Hinchsliffe at [communications@kingstonu3a.org.uk](mailto:communications@kingstonu3a.org.uk) by Thursday, 22 December.

In the meantime, please check the [Kingston u3a](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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.