

NEWS BULLETIN

SENTINELS OF THE SEA THE AMAZING HISTORY OF LIGHTHOUSES

HYBRID TALKS PLANNED TO SUIT EVERYONE

The Committee is looking into how future monthly meetings could be held on Zoom as well as in person at the Old Barn Hall.

We want to fulfil the in-person experience that only live meetings can provide while also serving members who still prefer to participate from home.

This poses technical challenges that need to be sorted out but in the meantime we are offering some Zoom-based talks given by members from other u3as.

This is only possible because our own members Michelle Howes and Judith Witter are providing reciprocal Zoom talks to other u3as from their own previously prepared talk portfolios.

The relevant talks, each lasting between an hour and 90 minutes, will be held on the second Tuesday of the month, starting at 2:30pm. Joining instructions will be provided closer to the date for each talk.

Pharology, the study of lighthouses and other navigational aids, may be unfamiliar to landlocked Surrey members but it made for a fascinating talk this month at the Barn Hall.

Many members will recall the Zoom meeting last February when the Durham couple *Fool's Gold* gave a musical presentation on the mysterious disappearance in 1901 of three lighthouse keepers on the Flannan Islands in the North Atlantic.

Mark Lewis, this month's speaker, had his own theory on the mystery after explaining in detail how and why lighthouses came to exist and what keepers had to do to maintain them over the centuries.

But first, Mark, a lifelong pharologist, member of the Association of Lighthouse Keepers, and former principal lecturer at London Metropolitan University's Department of Art, Media and Design, introduced the lighthouse prototype that gave the subject its name.

This was the Pharos of Alexandria, 440 feet high and one of the Seven Ancient Wonders of the World. Built around 270 BC, it is believed to have had three contrasting

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levels - square at the bottom, octagonal above that and cylindrical at the top where a fire would burn at night. It was still standing in the 12th century but its ruins were used to build a fort in 1477.

Mark explained the evolving history of lighthouse construction since the Romans built the first ones around the Mediterranean and other coasts of their empire.

He showed the first known British lighthouses - two towers which guarded the port of Dover - and the oldest still surviving today, the 2nd century Tower of Hercules at Corunna, Spain.

The Church helped mariners in the Middle Ages, building St Catherine's on the Isle of Wight in 1314 and another in Devon in 1321. In 1514 King Henry VIII founded Trinity House to assist marine pilotage in wartime. Beacons rather than built lighthouses were used, often inefficiently.

Changes came when coal was introduced for firing, including for the lighthouse at Dungeness, now Britain's oldest surviving lighthouse.

It was entrepreneur, inventor and conjurer Henry Winstanley who designed the famous Eddystone Lighthouse in 1698. Built in extremely dangerous conditions on rocks that vanished at high tide, this survived for five years, run by two keepers for the first time. Just how dangerous the conditions were was shown in 1703 when the lighthouse was



destroyed by the worst storm ever to hit these shores. A series of replacements were built before the current one in 1882.

Mark explained how methods of illumination were improved over time with the introduction of copper reflectors and later the revolving optic Fresnel lens which brought flashing rather than static light and assisted shipping at greater distances.

Bells and guns were added to provide warning sounds in foggy conditions and by the late 19th century, lighthouse keepers were required to have much more sophisticated civil engineering skills, wear smart uniforms and follow strict routines.

The grim case of Smalls lighthouse when one keeper is thought to have killed another and then gone mad led to a new minimum of three men to maintain each lighthouse. This in turn produced the Flannan Islands case when all three keepers

mysteriously disappeared.

Mark suggested that one of them may have been swept away by an unexpected wave, followed by the others who tried to rescue him. We will never know but it seems more credible than tales of alien abduction!

Keepers would normally remain in post for up to eight weeks at a time and a record of 159 days existed. It was a very particular role for a select few. Lighthouse keeping was always an exclusively male job in Britain, unlike the USA where the widows of deceased keepers occasionally took over the job.

Since 1998, when North Foreland lost its last three lighthouse keepers, the entire network of lighthouses around the British coastline has been automated, run from a venue in Kent.

But the Association of Lighthouse Keepers lives on - with Mark among its 1000-strong membership - dedicated to maintaining awareness of the heritage of pharology.

CHAIRMAN'S NOTE

Comments I received about last month's Newsletter suggest it was well received. You may notice we are filling more than just a few pages so it is really more a News Bulletin - hence its new name. I hope you like this month's content.

We have finally got a handle on our continuing interest groups so please go to Page 9 for the complete list. On Tuesday, 5 October, we welcomed 85 members to the Barn Hall but this was 20 short of the number needed to meet the 20% of the membership for an AGM quorum. Instead, the 2021 AGM will be held at the start of next month's meeting on Tuesday, 2 November when according to the constitution the quorum will be whatever number of members attend. I look forward to seeing you then.

CHRIS MIDDLETON

**NEW WOODLAND TO HELP BENEFIT BIODIVERSITY**

The Third Age Trust is creating a dedicated woodland in the Brecon Beacons to mark the u3a's 40th Anniversary in 2022.

A total of 5000 trees are scheduled for planting between this month and March 2022 as the u3a contribution to helping benefit the environment, wildlife and climate for future generations. Individual u3a members can buy individual trees or a copse of 100 trees and u3as are also being encouraged to plant trees within their own communities.

The money raised will go towards getting the trees established with part of the cost reserved to cover future maintenance once the woodland is fully established.

The Third Age Trust is fortunate to have secured the woodland in an area of outstanding natural beauty and the trees will be expertly looked after by skilled arboriculturalists. More details of the project are in the September issue of Third Age Matters. You can buy u3a woodland trees on the u3a brand centre.

Other details of what is planned to celebrate 40 years of the u3a movement can be read on the u3a 40th anniversary page.

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INTEREST GROUPS

VENTURING BACK TO LONDON



London Walks 4 returned to the capital this summer as pandemic restrictions eased. It was a test to see how members felt about going back to what they love.

Without the traditional recce beforehand, the plan was to walk along the South Bank from the Festival Hall to Tower Bridge. The first notable change was the end of the 'geriatric express', the 09:18 from Bookham to Waterloo. The first direct train to accept a Senior Railcard was now the 10:02am.

The train was empty for much of the journey and most other passengers wore masks. The first target in London is usually a morning coffee. Sadly the Festival Hall was closed until midday. Takeaways had to substitute, although we did commandeer the hall's external seating.

The stroll along the South Bank was leisurely as we enjoyed each other's company and saw the great buildings that adorn the river banks. But it was different from BC (Before Covid) times.

There were no Far Eastern tourists blocking our path. Indeed, there were few foreign voices at all as they seemed largely to be replaced by 'staycationing' Brits.

The only time the riverside became crowded was under Blackfriars Bridge but even then social distancing applied.

We reached Tate Modern but there was no chance of a 'comfort stop'. The gallery was still free but now required timed tickets and a half-hour queue stood in front of us. Thank goodness for a nearby pub!

We had our picnic lunch in front of the Millennium Bridge, looking towards St Paul's Cathedral and avoiding a crowded restaurant. The man making soap bubbles to entertain passing children was still there but no living statues to spook us suddenly.

After about 2½ hours walking slowly we arrived alongside *HMS Belfast* whose partial new coat of paint showed up other areas in need of attention.

The forecast rain started

just as we reached City Hall so we didn't quite reach Tower Bridge. Instead we made our way to the newly rebuilt London Bridge station and navigated across the cavernous entrance hall to find the up-escalator for a train back to Waterloo East.

Of course by then the rain had stopped but we were committed to our return journey, particularly as we wanted to leave before the rush hour crowds.

We need not have worried. The 15:54 was a bit busy until Wimbledon but then we had much of the carriage to ourselves. We arrived back at Bookham station before 5pm and agreed the day had been a great return to near normal. We must do it again.

**MEMBERSHIP
TOTAL**

Bookham u3a had 522 members at the last count, of whom around 30 have recently joined. The pandemic brought an average 20% reduction in members across the u3a movement as a whole but we lost just 17%.

U3A CELEBRATES NATIONAL POETRY DAY

National Poetry Day was celebrated on Thursday, 7 October, with u3a members nationwide joining an afternoon Zoom session. Jane Page of Guildford u3a was one of two speakers and introduced the audience to Anglo-Saxon poetry.

She explained how the earliest English poetry

emerged from oral, pagan beginnings before the sixth century and developed through Christianity and literacy.

Jane studied Anglo-Saxon at Oxford and achieved a doctorate in Old English Poetry in London. She started teaching the subject and has now been running

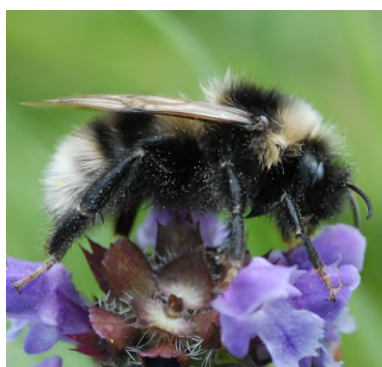
an Anglo-Saxon Attitudes Group at Guildford u3a for the last three years.

The other speaker was Hilda Bronstein, convenor of South Bucks u3a Poetry Group for over ten years. She read poetry from across the four nations of the UK from Shakespeare to Simon Armitage, Poet Laureate.

COMING MONTHLY TALKS AT THE OLD BARN HALL

TUESDAY, 2 NOVEMBER

BUMBLEBEES



DR NIKKI GAMMANS is a Fellow of the Royal Entomological Society and project manager for the re-introduction of the short haired bumblebee (see photo left) for the Bumblebee Conservation Trust.

TUESDAY, 7 DECEMBER

A MISCELLANY OF POETRY AND PROSE FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON

JONATHAN JONES took early retirement in 2010, after a career in IT, quality assurance and process improvement, latterly with Vodafone UK. He became a public speaker/performer and has now delivered over 800 talks, the last to our group two years ago.

We will hear the following: *T'was The Night Before Christmas*, Clement Clark Moore; *Advent 1955*, John Betjeman; *The Nativity - St Luke, Chapter 2, Verses 1-20*; *The Journey of the Magi*, T S Eliot; *Nursery School Nativity Play*, Joyce Grenfell; *The Throwing of the Christmas Trees* from *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*, Betty Smith; *Christmas 1914*, Rifleman Graham Williams; *Christmas*, John Betjeman; *The Boy who Laughed at Santa Claus*, Ogden Nash; *Talking Turkeys*, Benjamin Zephaniah; *Sam's Christmas Pudding*, Marriott Edgar; *Twelve Days of Christmas – A Correspondence*, John Julius Norwich; *A New Nativity*, Alan Titchmarsh; *A Child's Christmas in Wales*, Dylan Thomas

Optional additional prose/poetry may include: *The Carol Singers* from *Cider With Rosie*, Laurie Lee; *The Adoration of the Magi*, Christopher Pilling; *The Shepherd's Tale*, James Kirkup; *The Carol Singers* from *The Wind In The Willows*, Kenneth Graeme; *A Carol of the Poor Children*, Richard Middleton; *Yes Virginia, There Is A Santa Claus*, Francis Pharcellus Church; *Eddi's Service*, Rudyard Kipling; and finally *Christmas Landscape* and *Twelfth Night*, both by Laurie Lee.

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Bookham U3A Outing to Chichester
“The Play What I Wrote”, Chichester Festival Theatre
Wednesday, 9 February 2022

The Play What I Wrote
An homage to
Morecambe and Wise
by Hamish McColl,
Sean Foley and
Eddie Braben

Hamish has written a play,
an epic set in the French
Revolution called ‘A Tight
Squeeze for the Scarlet

Pimple’. Sean, on the other hand, wants to continue with their double act. He believes that if they perform a tribute to Morecambe and Wise, Hamish’s confidence will be restored and the double act will go on. But first Sean needs to persuade a guest star to appear in the play what Hamish wrote...

With a mystery guest star at every performance, this ‘recklessly, tear-inducingly funny show’ (*The Guardian*) is ‘a loving celebration of comic genius which is itself touched with comic genius’ (*Daily Telegraph*).

Time in Chichester and matinee at CFT. Transport to theatre. All-in Cost £39 each.

Pick up Bookham 0830 am. **Book your tickets now.**

Contact Viv Bignell at viv@bignells.co.uk or 01372 450392



WHAT ARE THE FUTURE PRIORITIES FOR THE U3A?

Sam Mauger, Chief Executive, and Liz Thackray, Chair of the Third Age Trust, are appealing to all u3a members to have their say in helping develop a strategy to guide the future work of the u3a movement after the pandemic. They want to hear what members see as future priorities and targets to set.

A digital newsletter, *u3a National Newsletter Express*, being circulated online includes a survey as part of a wider consultation process to ensure that a relevant and bold strategy is developed by members for members.

Responses will be anonymous and the consultation findings will be reviewed by the end of the year with firm proposals being developed early next year.

The short survey seeks views on four initial aims following a SWOT analysis for the

movement carried out in June by groups of trustees (S for perceived strengths, W for weaknesses, O for opportunities, and T for Threats). The four draft aims reflect early thinking and may be changed depending on the outcome of the consultation. Additional or substitute aims will all be considered. Feedback should focus on the sentiment of the aims and not the specific wording.

u3a National Newsletter Express includes a video made by Allan Walmsley, trustee for the West Midlands who is leading in the consultation process. He says: ‘We have already had some initial ideas and they are on the u3a website. You can have a look at them under About Us and Vision. Now this is your opportunity to take part and tell us what you really think about what the

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WHAT ARE THE FUTURE PRIORITIES FOR THE U3A?

movement should be doing in the future.'

As well as returning the survey, members can express views individually by going to a dedicated email address

strategy@u3a.org.uk,
or through focus groups being set up throughout Britain.

The four key aims currently identified are:

1. To support an engaged, strong and vibrant movement.
2. To make u3a membership an attractive opportunity for all retired people.
3. To develop the u3a voice.
4. To maximise the u3a learning model.

Under 1, the Third Age Trust will provide foundation and structural support, legal advice, insurance, an operational advice line/email, support in difficult or complex situations/mediation, workshops and training, a platform for u3as to share their experiences/successes/skills, a platform for innovation and development.

Under 2, the trust will promote membership

of u3as; run an attractive and engaging website for both national and local use; engage in social media; run a national awareness campaign; provide a range of opportunities and services as well as learning opportunities, voice opportunities, products, programmes and community engagement.

Under 3, the trust will provide a platform to demonstrate the productivity and creativity of retired people locally, regionally, nationally; engage with u3as and u3a members in conferences, consultations and policies to change the narrative on ageing; and develop partnerships with like-minded organisations to promote productivity and creativity.

Under 4, the trust will document the u3a learning model; promote this within the u3a movement; develop the shared learning programme; and contribute to the development of peer-led learning with like minded organisations.

BUY YOUR CALENDAR NOW FOR 2022 - WHILE STOCKS LAST!

Familiar cottages grace the front of this year's Bookham u3a Painting Workshop calendar for 2022. They cost £6 each from Senior Moments Editor Maurice Baker or £8 with postage.



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SURREY U3A NETWORK UP AND COMING STUDY DAYS

After an 18 months-long gap, Surrey's u3a study days returned in September with Dr Geoffrey Mead's presentation on *Landscapes of South-East England* kicking off the new schedule.

The study days now follow the same Covid-secure arrangements used for the Summer Festival run by the Menuhin School through June and July.

All the speakers now scheduled had postponed their study days and have been offered new dates in 2021 and 2022.

Study days are open to all u3a members and guests are very welcome. They are held in the Yehudi Menuhin Hall at Stoke d'Abernon, starting with registration from 9.30am and running from 10am to 4pm.

Following the successful experience so many people have had during the pandemic of attending events virtually, the organisers have decided to offer Zoom attendance too so that members can view the study days from home if they prefer.

Prior booking is necessary either way. The fee, which includes coffee or tea and biscuits, is £10 for u3a members and £12 for guests but just £5 for attendance by Zoom. Attendees at the hall should bring a packed lunch.

Go to the Surrey Network website at <http://www.u3asites.org.uk/surreyu3anetwork/> and click on any study day link for a programme and booking form. You can use the on-line form on the Contact page to send a message to John Kennedy, booking secretary.

If you want to comment on the organisation or content of the study day or would like to offer ideas for the future please use the Feedback Form and send it to John Kennedy as an email attachment. Or you can fill in the same form at the hall and hand it to any member of the committee.

For information, a list of study day titles over 15 seasons is available, together with a

poster of a typical study day.

When day hand-outs or presentations are available for download they will be mounted on the Surrey Network website for a period of at least three months. Surrey Network treats members' privacy rights seriously and its Privacy Policy can be found by following the link History of Study Days.

Coming up are the following study days:

15 OCTOBER

The Most Famous Pharaoh of Them All: Tutankhamun, The Boy King.

Presenter: Clive Barham Carter.

19 NOVEMBER

The Development of British Style + Life on Antiques Roadshow

Presenter: Paul Atterbury

Dates to be confirmed

Understanding Turner: The Man, His Life & His Work

Presenter: Professor Maria Chester

The Art and Objects of the Mughal Emperors

Presenter: Ursula Weekes

Industrial Archaeology

Presenter: Professor David Perrett

The Art of Drawing

Presenter: Colin Wiggins

Illuminated Manuscripts of the Medieval Period

Presenter: Imogen Corrigan

The Story of Polar Exploration and the Recent Impact of Security Considerations and Climate Change

Presenters: Lt Cdr John Ash and Bob Headland

Gravity Wave Astronomy

Presenter: Dr Chris North

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YOUR OPTIONS FOR GROUP MEETINGS

CODE	GROUP NAME	WEEK IN MONTH	DAY	TIME
His12	3E London	Fourth	Wednesday	AM
Art06	Architectural History	Fourth	Thursday	PM
Art01	Art Appreciation 1	Second	Thursday	PM
Art02	Art Appreciation 2	Third	Monday	PM
Art05	Art Appreciation 3	Third	Tuesday	PM
Bee01	Beer Appreciation	Second	Wednesday	PM
Eng07	Book Reading 1	First	Thursday	PM
Eng08	Book Reading 2	Second	Thursday	PM
Eng12	Book Reading 3	Third	Tuesday	PM
Eng10	Book Reading 4	Second	Tuesday	AM
Bri01	Bridge 1	Weekly	Monday	AM
Bri03	Bridge 3	Weekly	Monday	AM
Bri04	Bridge 4	Weekly	Tuesday	AM
Bri05	Bridge 5	Weekly	Thursday	AM
Bri06	Bridge 6	Weekly	Friday	AM
Bri07	Bridge 7	Weekly	Thursday	AM
Bri0x	Bridge All Groups	When Required	N/A	AM
Bri08	Bridge Beginners and Improvers	Weekly	Wednesday	AM
Can01	Canasta 1	Second + Fourth	Wednesday	PM
Can02	Canasta 2	Second	Tuesday	PM
Cra07	Card Making	Last	Thursday	PM
IT03	Computing Workshop	Second	Thursday	AM
Cra01	Crafts	First + Third	Tuesday	AM
Cra08	Creative Embroidery	First	Monday	AM
Eng03	Creative Writing	Every Other	Friday	AM
Cro01	Croquet (April to Oct)	Various	Various	AM
CA01	Current Affairs	Second	Wednesday	PM
Cyc01	Cycling	First + Third	Friday	AM
Wal03	Easy Rambling	Second + Fourth	Tuesday	AM
His10	Family History	Third	Monday	AM
Cra06	Flower Arranging	First	Thursday	AM
Fre04	French Back to Basics 2	Second + Fourth	Thursday	AM
Fre01	French Conversation 1	Second + Fourth	Wednesday	AM
Gar03	Gardening 02	Second	Wednesday	PM
His22	History	Second + Fourth	Wednesday	PM
Mus06	Intro To Classical Music	Fourth	Wednesday	PM
Dan01	Line Dancing	Weekly	Wednesday	PM
Dan02	Line Dancing Beginners	Weekly	Wednesday	PM
His11	London Walks	Third	Wednesday	AM
His13	London Walks 3	Third	Thursday	AM
His15	London Walks 4	First	Thursday	AM
His17	London Walks 5	Third	Friday	AM
His18	London Walks 6	Third	Thursday	AM

YOUR OPTIONS FOR GROUP MEETINGS continued

CODE	GROUP NAME	WEEK IN MONTH	DAY	TIME
Mah01	Mah-jong	Weekly	Friday	PM
Met01	Metal Detecting	Second + Fourth	Wednesday	PM
His08	Military History	Fourth	Tuesday	PM
Wal04	Morning Hikes	Second	Wednesday	AM
Sci06	Ornithology & Botany	Second	Tuesday	PM
Art04	Painting Workshop	Weekly	Monday	AM
Per01	Phoenix Entertainment	Weekly	Thursday	PM
Pho01	Photography	Fourth	Wednesday	AM
Eng11	Play Reading	Fourth	Monday	PM
Eng01	Poetry Appreciation	Second	Wednesday	PM
zz01	Qigong	Weekly	Monday	PM
Sci01	Science & Technology 1	Second	Thursday	AM
Sci02	Science & Technology 2	Fourth	Thursday	PM
Sci03	Science & Technology 3	Third	Wednesday	PM
His16	Social History	Second	Monday	AM
His20	Social History 2	First	Monday	PM
Spa02	Spanish Group 2-Basic	First + Third	Monday	PM
Ten01	Table Tennis	Weekly	Monday	PM
TC01	Tai Chi 1	Weekly	Thursday	AM
TC02	Tai Chi 2	When Required	N/A	AM
The01	Theatre Interest	When Required	Various	PM
Tra01	Travel Experiences	Third	Tuesday	PM
Mus11	Ukulele (Beginners)	First + Second	Thursday	AM
Gar02	Vegetable Gardening	Second	Saturday	AM
Wal02	Walking 12km	First	Friday	AM
Wal01	Walking 7km	Second + Fourth	Friday	AM
Win01	Wine Appreciation 1	Various	N/A	PM
Win02	Wine Appreciation 2	Fourth	Wednesday	PM
Win03	Wine Appreciation 3	Second	Tuesday	PM
Win04	Wine Appreciation 4	Third	Monday	PM
Win05	Wine Appreciation 5	Fourth	Monday	PM
Win06	Wine Appreciation 6	When Required	N/A	PM

THE CORAM PROJECT - SHARED LEARNING FOR U3A MEMBERS

U3A members interested in social history have been invited to contribute to a project involving digital transcription of records from the archives of London's Coram Foundling Hospital, established in 1739.

Hospital staff have always kept meticulous records of each child so together with birth, marriage and death certificates, census and electoral records, the archive makes it possible to uncover the life stories of children,

staff and the mothers.

Transcriptions can be done from home as the Coram Charity is scanning every record, starting with letters penned by mothers who sought to place their babies in the hospital's care. There are 112,000 pages to do.

Entries were deadline by 8 October and some 12 members of Bookham u3a are known to be involved in the project.



Above left: The Great Frost Fair of 1683-84
Above right: The Party's Over (Museum of London)

MIKE STRINGER of Limebrook Maldon u3a History Group presented a chilling talk to Bookham u3a members on Zoom this month about the fabled frost fairs which once took place on a frozen River Thames in centuries gone by.

For those of us old enough to remember the long and bitter winter of 1962-63, where we had feet of snow and the country ground to a halt for many weeks, the thought of going out onto a frozen river may have seemed unwise. However, many of our ancestors did just that.

Long before global warming and a huge growth in population that has become very familiar to us, our ancestors took advantage of the frozen River Thames in London to hold what became known as 'frost fairs'. These are believed to have started as far back as the tenth century, although records for these only really start in the 15th century.

And exactly as the name implies, these really were fairs! There were booths selling all kinds of goods and services, with food and

alcohol very prominent among them. There were races of horses and carts, archery (known as 'shooting at the butts'), and you could even have a hair-cut from a barber or have a pair of shoes made!

John Evelyn, the famous diarist, described the Great Frost Fair of 1683-4 as follows: 'Coaches plied from Westminster to the Temple, and from several other stairs too and fro, as in the streets; sleds, sliding with skeetes, a bull-baiting, horse and coach races, puppet plays and interludes, cooks, tipling and other lewd places, so that it seemed to be a bacchanalian triumph, or a carnival on the water.'

The fairs were

not without incident. As quickly as the river could freeze, it could thaw again, and there are various stories of accidents happening throughout their history. One of the fairs could even boast royal patronage (see the leaflet below).

Our talk covered the fairs across the centuries, bringing us back to that long winter, where the Thames actually did freeze over, although not enough for one more fair to be held!



SITUATIONS VACANT

Please contact Chris Middleton at chairman@bookhamu3a.org.uk or call him on 01372 454107 for more information on any of the roles below.

OUTINGS COORDINATOR

Do you like visiting country houses, gardens or venturing further afield for group holidays? We need someone to organise such events for the benefit of fellow u3a members. If you rise to the challenge you will be given support and guidance by other members of the Committee to make the events happen. If this feels too much, then why not share the role with friends so that you each only arrange a few visits each year?

THEATRE VISITS COORDINATOR

Performers and audiences alike have missed live theatre during the past 18 months. Please help us get back to enjoying good entertainment again by identifying potential shows for u3a group visits in Surrey, Sussex or London's West End. But we also need someone to organise the travel arrangements. If you are willing to fill this role, other Committee members will support and guide you. If you don't want to go on a particular theatre trip, then why not share the role with friends and select the performances of your choice?

HYBRID MEETING TECHNICAL COORDINATOR

After the current temporary period of separate live meetings at the Old Barn Hall and those via Zoom, we are looking to reunite our u3a at monthly meetings that can be attended both in person and from home via Zoom. We are looking for someone willing to learn how to run this new form of meeting.

Shared practice guidance is available from the London Region of u3as. You will begin by helping to define the different meeting scenarios with their associated technical requirements and equipment. Following extensive testing, you will manage the hybrid meetings each month with support from the Committee. You will be responsible for:

- *Managing the audio and video streams from within the Old Barn Hall.
- *Managing attendees via Zoom to include their joining, questions and muting as necessary any unintended audio.
- *Ensuring that those at home and the hall audience are visible to each other and can feel part of the same event.
- *Toggling between the speaker and audience in Zoom as appropriate to provide the best experience for all attendees.

SOUTH EAST FORUM SUMMER SCHOOL 2022

The South East Forum Summer School at Chichester University was cancelled in 2020-21 but the team has made a booking for 2022 from Monday, 20 June, to Thursday, 23 June.

Please put the dates in your diary. The announcement of the programme of courses and arrangements for booking will appear on the Surrey Network website from the start of December at <http://www.u3asites.org.uk>.

Contact the Editor

If you are an existing group organiser, want to set one up or just make suggestions for the benefit of our u3a, do contact Tony Matthews, Editor, Bookham u3a News Bulletin at the email address newsletter@bookhamu3a.org.uk