

Bookham u3a - September 2025 Notices (sent by Chairman 2 Sept 2025)

At the Old Barn Hall this afternoon, 116 members and 7 guests heard an interesting talk from Dr David Jones on how rainforests work – in particular the vitally important role of the termites and ants in ensuring their continued existence.

Upcoming Monthly Meetings

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 7 October when Christine Green will present a talk entitled “Working for Auntie - behind the scenes at the BBC”. Christine was a graphic designer at the BBC for 13 years and worked on shows as diverse as the Queen’s Christmas Speech, ‘Our Friends in the North’ and ‘Foyles War’. She has numerous show reels, story boards and art works to show. She received several international awards for her work including a BAFTA nomination for her work on ‘Cambridge Spies’.

As regulars know, we normally hold our Annual General Meeting prior to the October monthly meeting but this has been put back to 4 November – more details next month. At the AGM I had hoped to hand over the Chair to Angela Benny but I am sorry to say that she is not at all well so will be unable to take up the post. My own personal circumstances have also taken a turn for the worse which means I am not in a position to continue in the role. I must, therefore, repeat my warning from earlier in the year that unless someone - from our membership of over 500 individuals – is prepared to step forward to lead this wonderful organisation there is a danger that Bookham & District u3a will be wound up before Christmas. If you want to speak to me about this please reply to this email and I will happily meet up with you to discuss options.

Senior Moments

Maurice was on hand to distribute copies of the August Senior Moments as he will be at the next meeting.

Display Board and Interest Groups

The Groups Coordinator set up a display Board containing information about your Committee; interest groups with vacancies; a schedule of Surrey Network Study Days at the Yehudi Menuhin Hall and a list of Third Age Trust and National u3a events. All of this information is available on our website <https://www.bookhamu3a.org.uk/Home>. There were sign-up sheets for four groups looking to fill some vacancies: *Up to 6-mile walks*, *Wine appreciation 2*, *Social club for singles – tentatively entitled “Let’s Go”* and *Reading Aloud*. If you are interested in one or more of these please send an email to groups@bookhamu3a.org.uk.

Howard Hills, Group Administrator of the *Line Dancing* group, tells me they have a number of vacancies and he is looking to attract dancers who have maybe not been in a group for some time but now find they have time of their hands and itchy feet. Why not give it a go and see how well your steps memory has held up. The Group meets every Wednesday, in term time, at 4:30pm in Eastwick Road Church Hall. The Autumn term starts **tomorrow!** You can contact Howard at Dan01@bookhamu3a.org.uk.

I have also been asked to mention that the Family History, Table Tennis and Book Reading 2 groups have vacancies – respective contact details are: His10@bookhamu3a.org.uk, Ten01@bookhamu3a.org.uk and Eng08@bookhamu3a.org.uk.

Social Events

We are arranging a Murder Mystery Evening in the Old Barn Hall on Thursday 27 November. The event will be delivered by a local group called The Killing Game and a two course dinner will be provided by Elizabeth whose catering many of you will know. Tickets will cost £45 each and all members can invite a non-member guest of

they wish. If you are interested in reserving places please contact the Social Secretary Kay Angell on social@bookhamu3a.org.uk. She will be in touch with you in early October with payment and menu details. You will be asked to notify her of choices of the main and dessert courses for each member of your group.

We are also bringing back the popular quiz nights at Ye Olde Windsor Castle and the first one will be on Monday 6 October. Please note that this event is restricted to Bookham & District u3a members. We are keeping the cost at just £5 but due to the pub closing slightly earlier in the winter months, the quiz will start promptly at 7pm so please make sure you are settled at your tables by that time. Bookings, which will open on 15 September, should again be made to the Social Secretary social@bookhamu3a.org.uk and payments to the Treasurer, once your place(s) have been confirmed, using the following details:

- Account: *Bookham & District University of the Third Age (U3A)*
- Sort Code: *77-30-05*
- Account No: *02998462*
- Reference: *Quiz + Your surname*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Res' with a horizontal line underneath.

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