

Kingston u3a News Bulletin June 2024 No 60

(Sent out on 30 May 2024)

Welcome to our latest news bulletin, which we begin with corrections to some inaccuracies in the Summer Newsletter. Please take note of the amendments if they affect you.

The London Region's summer school is already underway with its extensive two-month programme of walks and museum/gallery visits around central London. Some sessions are already full but there are vacancies in others. You'll find below links to details of the programme along with booking details.

As usual we've listed the online talks and study days organised by the Third Age Trust, the London Region Network and the Surrey Network.

You'll find details of our next three monthly meetings and speakers, along with deadlines for contributions to the next newsletter and bulletin. Our next email bulletin will be out at the beginning of July, followed by the Autumn Newsletter in August.

We're sad to say that there'll be no speaker at the monthly meeting on Monday, 2 June as the one who was due to give a presentation has had to withdraw for medical reasons. Rather than cancel the meeting altogether, we'll have an informal get-together, so why not come along and have a chat with other members of Kingston **u3a** over a cup of tea or coffee? There will be no entrance fee on this occasion.

Unless someone volunteers to help arrange a programme of speakers, either alone or with a friend, this situation is set to become the norm. We have speakers booked for meetings only up to November. After that, nothing has been arranged and if no one is willing to offer their services, we'll be forced to consider whether it is worth holding monthly meetings at all. Please help us if you can.

Many thanks.

Group News

A few corrections to details in the Group & Contacts list we published in the Summer Newsletter:

Book Club 1

The timing of this book club was incorrect. They meet at 2.30pm on the first Thursday of the month.

Group leader: Jane Hoyland, 020 8399 0163, jane.hoyland@btinternet.com

Italian Conversation 2

A second Italian Conversation group has been formed, which will meet for one and a half hours on the first and third Monday afternoon of each month in central Kingston. If you're interested in joining, please contact David Shelton on u3adavidshelton@yahoo.com.

Mah Jong

Since Clare Francis advertised in the Summer Newsletter her interest in forming a Mah Jong group, she has changed her mobile number. You can now reach her on 07861 663877.

Wine Tasting 2

Please note that group leader Colin Robson's email address should be cr@bluerow.com.

u3a Festival 2024: 18-20 July

u3a's first national festival will run over three days at the University of York.

There'll be a wide variety of activities, talks, sporting events, musical entertainment and workshops.

The organisers are keen to strengthen their musical offering so, if any of Kingston u3a's singers or musicians would like to participate, please email festival@u3a.org.uk.

You can find more details about events, accommodation (Airbnb, guest houses and hotels), costs and regular updates about this on the [national festival](#)'s website.

u3a Online Events

The Third Age Trust is hosting some online talks in June, 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 usually free of charge.

- [Mindfulness and Meditation](#) – six-week course, 11am Mondays, 3 Jun-8 Jul
- [Flight Inspirations Aviation Group Meeting: Sir Geoffrey de Havilland](#) – 10am Tue, 4 Jun
- [Taking Revenge: Artemisia Gentileschi's Quest for Justice](#) – 10am Tue, 4 Jun
- [AI Chatbots: Asking the Right Questions](#) – 10am Wed, 5 Jun

- [Making Plans for the Future from Home, for Free](#) – 2pm Wed, 5 Jun
- [Help Us Remember with the War Memorials Register](#) – 2pm Fri, 7 Jun
- [Vaccines](#) – 10am Wed, 12 Jun
- [London 2012: A Games Maker's Story](#) – 2pm Fri, 14 Jun
- [Secrets of the Human Brain: Your Spinal Cord](#) – 2pm Wed, 19 Jun
- [The Olympics: From Olympia via Much Wenlock to the World](#) – 2pm Thu, 20 Jun
- [Artificial Intelligence News: June](#) – 9.30am Fri, 21 Jun
- [Laughter Yoga with Merrie Maggie: June](#) – 3.30pm Tue, 25 Jun
- [Celestial Marvels: Demystifying the Cosmos](#) – 11.30am Wed, 26 Jun
- [Darkness on the Edge of Town: Bruce Springsteen and the American Dream](#) – 2pm Thu, 27 Jun

London Region Network

Online Talks

The Online Talks Programme is taking a summer break. Plans for next October to March are currently under discussion.

Summer School: 21 May-18July

- [Summer Walks and Visits Programme](#)

Instead of the usual Summer School, this year London Region is offering an extensive programme of guided walks and visits to museums and galleries around central London.

Click on the link above to view the online programme which includes information about each event with a direct link to the relevant online booking form.

The summer school has already started and many sessions listed are fully booked but you can see those which still have vacancies on [London Region's Events](#) page. If you want to join a waiting list for a fully booked event, please email bookings.lru3a@gmail.com.

The cost of each event, which is for **u3a** members only, is £10 per person (no refunds). Maximum capacity is 20 participants per guided walk, and 15 participants for each guided visit.

This information is also available on the [London Region](#) website.

Surrey Network: Study Days

Study days have been arranged in the coming months.

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. Attendees should bring their own packed lunch. £12 for those attending via Zoom.

Programme

- [Science Day: Rainforests/Evolution and Music/Colour](#) – Fri, 21 Jun
- [Understanding AI and its Repercussions for Society, Now and in the Future](#) – Fri, 20 Sep
- [History of Photography and Modern Developments](#) – Fri, 18 Oct
- [Understanding Lowry: The Man, his Life and his Work](#) – Fri, 15 Nov

Some dates are already listed on the website for planned study days throughout 2025, although booking will not open until nearer the time. Study days are always on a Friday:

- 21 Mar: Exploring Johann Sebastian Bach's St Matthew Passion
- 16 May: The Asian Century?

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. Please arrive promptly for the start of the meeting. Entrance fee is £1. Tea/Coffee and biscuits are available at the end of the meeting.

At each meeting we have a book-swap stall where you can leave any good books you've read and would now like to dispose of and/or pick up one or two that someone else has brought in.

Monday 3 June, 2pm

The speaker booked for this meeting is now unable to attend for medical reasons.

The meeting will still take place but will be an informal get-together, where you're invited to come along and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and chat to other members and Committee representatives. There will be no entrance fee.

Monday 1 July, 2pm

Inn and Out at the Top: Running the Highest Inn in England – Neil Hanson

Author and former landlord of Tan Hill Inn in the Yorkshire Dales, Britain's highest pub, will share his experiences of eccentric characters, local customs, police raids, naturist weekends and lock-ins.

Monday 5 August, 2pm

Gandhi v Churchill: Triumph and Disaster at the End of the Raj – Peter Popham

Journalist and author Peter was based in Delhi when he became interested in the modest lawyer who defied Churchill and delivered India from imperialism. He explains how Gandhi did it and why Churchill couldn't stop him.

Autumn 2024 Newsletter

We are looking for contributions to our next quarterly newsletter which will be out in August. We're always happy to receive articles on topics such as:

- reports from your group
- outings and visits
- 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 by Wednesday, 10 July at newsletter@kingstonu3a.org.uk.

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The next Kingston **u3a** news bulletin will be emailed to you in early July. Please forward any contributions or suggestions by Friday, 21 June to Susan Hinchsliffe at communications@kingstonu3a.org.uk.

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 Hinchliffe, and the webmaster, Diane Wilson. Thank you.