

BOOKHAM AND DISTRICT u3a NEWSLETTER



19th July 2021

Dear u3a Members

COVID-19

The Government relaxed most COVID-19 legal restrictions today but retained powers to reintroduce protective measures should the situation demand. You are now strongly encouraged to take responsibility for not only your own wellbeing but also contribute to a collective responsibility for the community wellbeing by considering all with whom you come into contact. I can see some confusion evolving as different organisations dictate different protective measures without the consistency that the legal restrictions imposed.

As there is little doubt that we will have to live with the virus rather than eliminate it, your u3a committee wants to return activities to as near normal as possible. Provided the Old Barn Hall can safely accommodate a reasonable number of members, we will be back inside from the 7th September. We will be encouraging you to continue to follow Government guidance such as the wearing of face coverings in crowded indoor situations. In lieu of any Barn Hall imposed requirements, perhaps the wisest way forward is to always carry a face covering and put it on whenever you feel uncomfortable or concerned for the welfare of others due to their proximity to you, apart from when eating or drinking.

Monthly General Meetings

The autumn monthly meetings schedule is:

7 th September	‘Tooth Claw and Mane’	Tom Way, wildlife photographer, will be sharing some of his photographic achievements with tigers, brown bears, rhino, cheetahs and lions
5 th October	The amazing history of lighthouses	Mark Lewis, member of the Association of Lighthouse Keepers will present a general introduction to pharology
2 nd November	Bumblebees	Dr Nikki Gammans, Fellow of the Royal Entomological Society will cover all aspects of the lives and habits of bumblebees
7 th December	A miscellany of Prose and Poetry for the Festive season	Jonathan Jones, public speaker/performer will share seasonal items by John Betjeman, TS Eliot, Joyce Grenfell, Ogden Nash, Dylan Thomas and many others

We are returning to our pre-COVID position of not holding a monthly meeting in August in the hope that you can get outside and enjoy some summer weather.

Surrey Network Study Days

These are restarting from September in the Yehudi Menuhin Hall, Stoke D'Abernon and also via Zoom so that you can participate from home. The autumn schedule reads like this:

17 th September	Landscapes of South-East England	Dr Geoffrey Mead
15 th October	The Most Famous Pharaoh of Them All: Tutankhamun, The Boy King	Clive Bonham Carter
19 th November	The Development of British Style & Life on the Antiques Roadshow	Paul Atterbury

More details and booking forms are available by logging in and linking through the Bookham u3a website at [Home | Bookham & District \(bookhamu3a.org.uk\)](http://Home | Bookham & District (bookhamu3a.org.uk)).

Membership Renewals

Are you one of the 325 who have renewed? If so, then thank you very much, particularly to the 213 who paid by bank transfer, so making the work of our Membership Secretary and Treasurer so much easier. If you haven't renewed then please do so before the 31st July, after which you will not be a member of Bookham u3a.

Bookham Village Day – Monday 30th August

Proceedings will be different this year, so your u3a has decided to break out of their usual 'hiding place' in the Harrison Room and move onto the field where we plan to emphasise our presence. Do drop by, say hello to some of your committee and perhaps even introduce a friend as a potential new u3a member.

Monthly Newsletters

These have become the main means of communicating during the pandemic and completely replaced the monthly notices given at the start of our monthly general meeting, followed by a summary on the Bookham u3a website. As we return to the Barn Hall, we will reinstate the monthly notices so that the longer-term need for this newsletter will be reviewed.

Until September, take care and best wishes,

Chris