



Ian Bevan: Edwardian Leisure & Pleasure

We welcome Ian back to Ryarsh this month following previous and much appreciated talks to our u3a. Ian is an engaging speaker on a wide variety of topics, many related to both London and our national life. He has always had a keen interest in history and in 2010 was awarded an MA for his dissertation on 'The Migration of the Welsh to London, 1500-1700.

Himself a Welshman, he was granted the Freedom of the City of London in a ceremony at the Guildhall, and is a London Guide, leading regular walks around the City: he established the City of London 'Exploring the City' course and ran it for the first three years.

But his interests range wider still. For more than 30 years he has researched and promulgated the history of the Crystal Palace through walks and talks, and is the author of 'To the Palace for the Cup', a history of football at Crystal Palace.

Having spoken to us two years ago about life in Victorian times, he is moving on this month to tell us how the Edwardians spent their leisure time and the pleasure they derived from it.

Derek Carpenter, Speaker Secretary

Ian Bevan:
Edwardian Leisure & Pleasure
Tuesday 23 May, at 2pm
Ryarsh Village Hall

The Short View

I am looking forward to welcoming members from both Malling and surrounding u3a's to our Astronomy Study day at the end of June; this event has been a long time in the planning but looks to be a fascinating day. If any members have ideas for future study days, suggestions are welcome as are suggestions for future social events (along with the offer to get involved)

We are also planning another coffee morning to meet our new members in the next month or so and all members are welcome to join us.

Your committee is busy planning for our AGM in June; as usual this will be a hybrid meeting but I hope that as many of you as possible will attend in person. We are still looking for members to join the committee and again for people to join our hardworking technical team so please do think about this and approach any of the committee who will be happy to discuss how you can contribute.

Chrys Short, Chair



May Tea Rota:

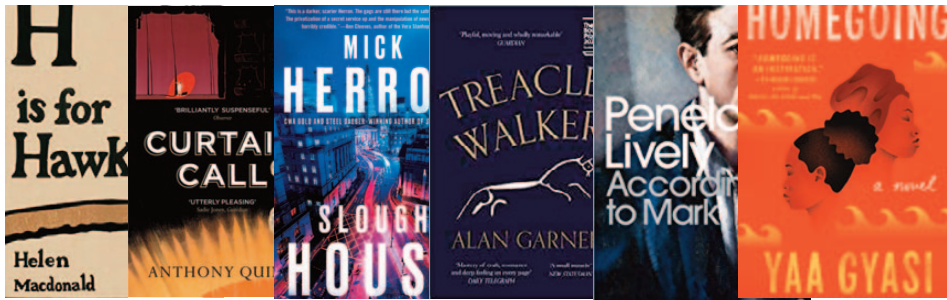
Caroline and Adrian Bouwens

June Tea Rota:

Christine Garrett and Jim Bowen

Beth Minall

Fill your own: Help the environment by bringing a reusable cup.



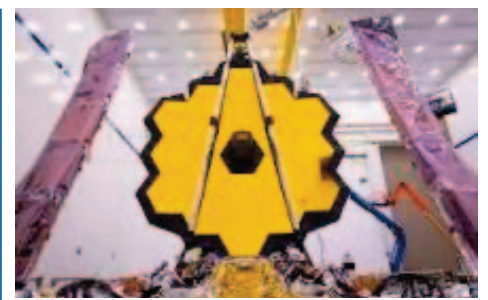
A little something from Book Group 2

Another year brought us another tasty, cake-fuelled and varied diet of fiction old and new, from home and abroad, seasoned with a little real life in the shape of memoir *H is for Hawk*. We grazed on spy fiction from Mike Herron at *Slough House* and made a meal—in a good way—of Alan Garner's latest, hard-to-classify mystical mixture of poetry and mind-bending puzzle *Treacle Walker*. *Homegoing* was a sobering and educational saga about the impact of slavery echoing down the generations; lighter fare was Penelope Lively's delightful *According to Mark*.

Anthony Quinn's dark detective tale *Curtain Call* was a flop, and bestseller *Lincoln in the Bardo* was too chewy for some. While not everyone enjoys everything, part of the fun is the sound of despairing palms slapping foreheads as someone's least favourite type of book is handed round: even more rewarding is when expectations are overturned and that book turns out to be a revelation. We try to share the pain and pleasure equitably by taking turns to choose the next title. We would love to see new members join and expand our horizons.

On the menu in the near future, to be rehashed in each other's houses over tea and cake, are bestseller *Grief is The Thing with Feathers*, Yorkshire Dales-set *Date with Death*, and Nick Hunt's true account of pursuing on foot the legendary winds of Europe from Cumbria to the Adriatic *Where the Wild Winds Are*. Something for all tastes. And did I mention cake?

Kate Shennan, Convenor



Astronomy Group

Now is a very good time to be learning about the universe (or is it more correct to say multi universes?) as the technology that is available to scientists allows them to send probes to virtually any planet, moon or asteroid in our solar system. A new telescope, the James Webb Space Telescope, was successfully launched in 2022. This telescope looks nothing like what we would all think of as a telescope but it has the capacity to look back to the Big Bang. NASA is gearing up to send humans back to the Moon. Elon Musk thinks he is still on schedule to send astronauts to Mars in the near future. All this gives the group plenty to discuss even though we are still only scratching the surface. Apart from our trip to Herstmonceux, we watched the film *The Martian* to see how authentic it was and a very interesting Horizon programme about James Webb. We hope to visit the Royal Observatory at Greenwich over the summer.

Helen Strotton, Convenor



u3a Network Link Summer Meeting

The Network Link Team have an exciting meeting planned to which they would like to invite you, the Network Link Summer Meeting, to be held via zoom, on June 13th, 10am to 12pm.

John Alexander, Documentation and Training Lead, will talk on "Beacon, the Benefits and its relevance for Networks"

Alan Russell, Chair Beacon WordPress Steering Group, will give a progress report on SiteWorks and the migration from SiteBuilder.

As usual, there will be opportunities for questions to both of the speakers and the meeting will conclude with an Air and Share session. If you would like to contribute to the Air and Share session, could you let Sue Russell know in advance at Sue.Russell@u3a.org.uk so that she may have an idea of numbers and likely topics.

Attendance is free, and open to all u3a members – registration is via TicketSource – please copy and paste this link

in your browser:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/booking/t-lnxxpak>

and follow the instructions to register. Please answer the two questions – if your u3a is not currently a member of a network, or if you are not sure which one, please say so.

If you have any problems with registration, please contact Avis Furness at: u3anetworklinkmeeting@gmail.com

The Zoom link will be sent out nearer the time to all who have registered.

Sue Russell, Chair Network Link

