

Summer Newsletter

Issue 55 August 2019

St. Luke's in The Avenue, Kew, Richmond, TW9 2AJ

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Welcome to our Summer newsletter. What a busy and exciting Summer we've had so far. The Avenue Club have been out and about recruiting new members at the Kew Fete, Circle of Life festival at Mortlake Crematorium and Kew Village Market on 4th August. Our outings were as popular as ever and many members enjoyed trips to the Bluebell Railway, Knole House and the Heath Robinson Museum to name but a few. Our Summer Choir Concert was packed to the rafters. Our Choristers delighted us with songs from the Deep South and popular musicals followed by a delicious afternoon tea with scones donated by the Original Maids of Honour on Kew Road. Some of our class teachers are taking a well earned break in August but most exercise classes are continuing as usual. Please contact the office for an updated timetable. We have some exciting events coming up in the Autumn. Read on for details....

What Treasures

Are You Sitting On?

Enjoy free valuations on your jewellery, watches and small items by **Kate Bliss**

On Friday 6th September, 11am—3pm

Famous TV jewellery expert, Kate Bliss can value your precious gems and designer timepieces for FREE at

The Avenue Club.

She says: "I'm delighted to be heading this new free valuation event at The Avenue Club and hope to uncover some fabulous finds."

So, don't be shy, bring us your treasures.

Refreshments will be available.

To make the day run smoothly and avoid long queues, we are asking you to book a time slot for your valuation.

Please contact the Avenue Club Office before 6th Sept.

HANSONS
Auctioneers and Valuers Ltd

Free Jewellery & Antiques Valuation Day with **Kate Bliss**

6 September 11am - 3pm

**The Avenue Club, St Lukes
The Avenue, Kew TW9 2AJ**



Classes Starting in September

Spanish

Monday 16th September
10.00, 11.15 or 12.30 £5

Our new Spanish teacher, Marietta Freeman, will be running classes on Mondays:

beginners 11.15am

intermediate classes 10am or 12.30pm

Marietta says 'I am very keen on Spanish culture, food, music, and of course the language, and eager to share my enthusiasm for communication in a foreign language. It can truly open new worlds of experience, understanding, and fun.'

Art History

Tuesday 24th September
10.30—12.00 £7.00

What makes a Masterpiece?

Caroline Levisse will be running a fascinating series of lectures asking questions such as 'What makes a Masterpiece?', Why are some works designated as masterpieces and who gets to decide?



Throughout this course you will answer these questions and more and reflect on this familiar yet elusive concept.

Opera Masterworks : Puccini
12th September

10.00—12.00 £7

Ross Alley is returning with an Autumn series of Opera Lectures with a focus on opera masterworks, starting with Puccini.

12 Sept: "Manon Lescaut"

26 Sept: "La Bohème"

10 Oct: "Tosca"

14 Nov: "Madam Butterfly"

21 Nov: "Il Trittico"

12 Dec: "Turandot"

Afternoon Cinema & Film Club
Tuesday 24th September
12.45—2.45 £7

The History of Hollywood: Scandals, Stars & Style



Our afternoon cinema and film club, run by John Wischmeyer, will be following Hollywood from its dusty origins to its glorious rise to stardom. We will watch excerpts from films and follow on with discussion over coffee.

There is also always time for a natter about what is going on in the film world and chat about recent releases.

History Lectures

Thursday 26th September
12.30-2pm FREE
(donations gratefully accepted)

"Sugar, Cotton and Slaves: a History of the Atlantic World from Columbus to the end of Slavery in the New World."

Alan Hertz is starting a new series of classes tracing the emergence of the plantation system of production. It transformed the world's economy and ecology, moulded the culture, society and politics of dozens of countries and shaped the lives of billions of workers and consumers.

In other words, to know this story is to understand why we live, behave, and work the way we do.

We are very grateful to Alan who runs these lectures free of charge for us.

We continue to serve lunch Monday to Wednesday from 12pm, not forgetting our delicious roast lunch every Thursday.

Watts Gallery and Chapel

Tuesday 10th September

George Watts was widely considered to be the greatest painter of the Victorian era. His work embodied the most pressing themes and ideas of the time, earning him the title England's Michelangelo.

His wife Mary, was a renowned designer in her own right, founder of the Compton Pottery and creator of Watts Chapel.

Cost: £ 30 (includes entry to the Gallery and Studios, a visit to the fantastic Chapel, and lunch)

Leaving the Avenue Club: 10.00am

Spaces Available: 28



Brooklands Museum

Monday 16th September

Step back in time to the days of innovation, determination and record breaking on the site of the world's first race track.



Cost: £23 (includes a short introductory talk)

Leaving the Avenue Club at 10.00am

Spaces Available: 25

Pitzhanger Manor and Gallery

Thursday 17th October

The visit will include free flow round the house and entry to the exhibition (no details of the exhibition were available at time of printing).

Cost: £18 Leaving the Avenue Club at 10.00am

Spaces Available: 25



Sustainability & Our Environment

Monday 23rd September, 2pm

Colin Cooper, Chief Executive of South West London Environment Network (SWLEN) is coming to the Avenue Club to give us a talk on the work they do on sustainability – encouraging and educating local people and organisations to think and act sustainably, species and habitat protection and supporting local communities to protect and enhance local parks and green spaces. Come along and hear how we can be more environmentally friendly and help our local environment.

Please let the Office know if you intend to come.

Death Café

Hosted by Princess Alice Hospice

Monday 21st October, 2-3pm

A Death Café aims to bring people together to drink tea, eat cake and talk about death and dying. They can be very interesting and empowering, allowing you to talk about things that might seem 'taboo'. We believe that by simply talking about death and dying, we can each feel more confident to approach the end of life in a planned and peaceful way – whether it is in regards to our own death or the death of someone who is close to us.

Death Café events are a globally recognised initiative to bring people together to educate and normalise death and dying, and help people to become familiar with the end of life.

Please let the Office know if you intend to come.

RNLI Lifeboats on the Thames

Monday 28th October, 2pm

David Clarke will describe the search and rescue service operated by the RNLI on the Thames based on his experience as lifeboat crew and current role as Press Officer for Chiswick Lifeboat Station.

There will be many photographs and videos of the wide range of rescues. Chiswick RNLI Lifeboat is the second busiest in the whole of the UK and Ireland.



Please let the Office know if you intend to come.

As with our earlier outings this year, we will be asking for payment at time of booking and will be taking bookings from **Tuesday 27th August**.

All our talks take place at the Avenue Club and are free but there will be a donation box for those of you who would like to contribute to the Charities giving the talks.

Calendar

Details of [all](#) our classes can be found on our website, on the notice board or feel free to contact the office.
www.avenueclubkew.com Tel: 020 8948 8807 E-mail: avenueclub@kewcommunitytrust.org.uk

Most of our classes are continuing as usual but for those classes which have had a break over the Summer, details of when they resume are below with important dates in the Avenue Club calendar.

September

Tuesday 3rd September	Tai Chi and Seated Exercises re-start
Wednesday 4th September	Low Impact Exercises re-start
Friday 6th September	Valuation Day
Tuesday 10th September	Outing to The Watts Gallery, leaving Avenue Club at 10am
Wednesday 11th September	French re-starts
Thursday 12th September	Opera re-starts
Monday 16th September	Outing to Brooklands Museum, leaving Avenue Club at 10am
Monday 16th September	Spanish re-starts
Tuesday 17th September	Choir re-starts
Thursday 19th September	Avenue Club Walking Group
Monday 23rd September	Talk: Sustainability and Our Environment
Tuesday 24th September	Art History and Afternoon Cinema & Film Club re-starts
Thursday 26th September	History lectures re-start

October

Thursday 17th October	Outing to Pitzhanger Manor & Gallery, leaving Avenue Club at 10am
Thursday 17th October	Avenue Club Walking Group
Monday 21st October	Death Café hosted by Princess Alice Hospice, 2-3pm
Monday 28th October	Talk: RNLI Lifeboats on the Thames

November

Thursday 14th November	Bring & Buy Sale
Thursday 14th November	Avenue Club Walking Group

December

Thursday 5th December	Avenue Club Walking Group
Wednesday 18th December	Christmas Lunch

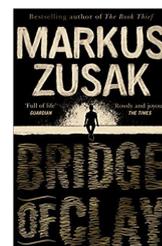
CREATIVE WRITING

We were very sad to say goodbye to Nichola Charalambou who ran the Creative Writing Group and Book Club here for 6 years. As a finale, we were treated to readings by members of the class from their work over the years.

At time of printing we are still looking for a replacement tutor and we hope to find one soon. We will let you know when the classes will re-start.

MONTHLY BOOK GROUP Monday 23 September, 2-3pm

Our book worms will still be meeting monthly. The next book club will take place on Monday 23rd September, discussing 'Bridge of Clay' by Markus Zusak



E-mail addresses: We often send information via e-mail. If you have changed your e-mail address, could you let us know.