

**Hazel O'Hare has been organising our finances since 2019. Here, she tells us about herself and how she came to take on the role of Treasurer.**



'I was born in Ely, Cambridgeshire, but we ended up in Cornwall, where I went to the local grammar school. I studied Economics and Computational

Methods at the London School of Economics and worked in the computing industry for the rest of my working life, initially within London University and then in the private sector.

### *Opportunity to travel*

I joined a small company that provided access to their computer for a number of quite large companies. No PCs in those days. This gave the opportunity to travel abroad, which led to me being in charge of the Brussels office for 4 years. I had a varied workload – from writing programs for clients to having meetings with the Telecoms company—who suspected we were breaking their monopoly— to doing

the VAT returns. I later worked in Frankfurt and then Paris. I kept my house in London during my travels and remained there when I retired in 2007.

### *The virtues*

I have three sisters who all live in Lewes and they would often extol the virtues of the town, so in 2013 I moved to Lewes. I had joined u3a in London, but found more interesting activities in Lewes.

Two years ago, I went to the AGM where they were asking for committee members, and I volunteered to be treasurer. With my numerical background, I think I am better suited to being treasurer rather than having a more creative role.

### *Modern methods*

In recent times, it has become necessary to bring in modern methods to run the financial side of the organisation. For example, we want to use internet banking rather than cash and cheques and many members want to make payments online. However, it is not easy to ensure that online activities are properly accountable and proof against fraud, and I have been spending a lot of time doing this.

I go to the jazz groups and also Science Series. My favourite groups from last year were Sonya Baksi's "Tales beyond the books" and "Tales beyond the paintings".

# BADMINTON

Group Leader Simon Turner describes the activity within the Group.



'I only joined the group a couple of years ago when I moved to Lewes, so knew nothing of its history. I took over the organising last year.

One of the current members has been playing for 10 years, but thinks the group was in existence well before that. Since we restarted in May when restrictions lifted, we've had 2 new members, so clearly the info on the u3a site is visible.

We aim to play throughout the year. We have a regular booking at the Uni, but we have to play away during exam times or when there is, for example, a summer school course on (or if the hall is used for testing/vaccinations!) We then move to Lewes Leisure Centre, Uckfield or where ever will take us'.

## Technically, our summer term ended 2nd July 2021.

However, there are some courses that run throughout the year, regardless of published term times. They are:

*Badminton*—Mondays, weekly

*Bird Watching*—3rd Thursday except August and December

*Bridge*—Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, Practice on Sundays

*Blues & Roots*—Mondays, fortnightly

*Jazz Club*—2nd and 4th Tuesdays

*Practical Photography*—2nd and 4th Thursday all year

*Recorder Group*—2nd and 4th Tuesday

*Science Matters*—2nd Tuesday all year except August

*Coffee Club*—3rd Tuesday

*Social Cycling*—Fridays

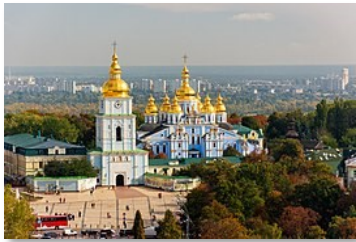
*For further information about joining these Groups, please email the Group Leader from their Group pages on the Lewes u3a website.*

# Lewes Public Lecture

## Russia and Ukraine

Roger  
Cockrell

Wednesday  
25th August,  
7.30pm on Zoom



The aim of this talk will be to place the complex relationship between Russia and Ukraine within its historical perspective, reaching back well over a thousand years – from the founding of Kiev, regarded by Russians as ‘the mother of Russian cities’, to the seizing of the Crimea in 2014 and the current critical situation in the east of Ukraine. The intention will be neither to condone nor to criticize Russia’s behaviour, but to present a more nuanced picture of this relationship than the one portrayed by the Foreign Office and the Pentagon. The talk will be illustrated.

*Roger Cockrell* was for many years the head of the Russian Department at the University of Exeter, where he is an Honorary Fellow.

He has published widely on many aspects of Russian and Soviet culture, and is now a literary translator, most recently of works by Gogol, Dostoyevsky and Anton Chekhov (all published by Alma Classics).

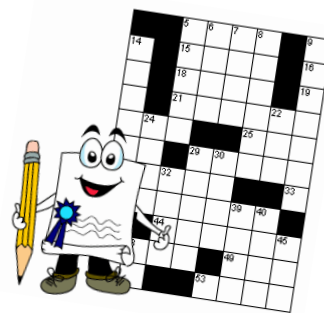
Roger runs our [‘Russian for Improvers’](#) Group.

Reservations for the talk may be made [here](#).

*Don't forget.....*

the [Third Age Trust \(TAT\)](#) website is a useful resource for free online activities.

Below are some of the upcoming events available online.



***Cryptic***  
***crosswords*** for  
beginners, 6 week  
course, beginning  
22 July

***Staying Safe online—Cyber security***  
***in a digital age*** – 28 July

***An introduction to Linguistics*** –  
3 August

***Wellbeing in Nature*** –5 August

***Maths Challenge*** –every Thursday

***Weekly Quiz*** – weekly lockdown quiz  
sheets and answers

Our Facebook page is updated at least once a week with local information and activities which may be of interest to Lewes u3a members. Why not take a look?



*Comments, suggestions or enquiries:*

*Bulletin@lewesu3a.uk*

## THE COMMITTEE ARE SEEKING VOLUNTEERS:

### Accommodation Officer/s

Our current Accommodation Officers will be stepping down after the next AGM in November, leaving a vacancy for this important role.

The new officer will ideally undergo a period of handover to ease the transition, so we would like to begin the process as soon as possible. Although there have been two people in the role in the past, this is not essential.

#### *Trustee role*

This is a Trustee role, which means attendance at monthly Committee meetings and voting on issues that affect the running of Lewes u3a is required.

It would be useful if the the new Accommodation Officer/s has knowledge of Lewes geographically, and the available local venues. However, this can be learnt on the job. They may be required to liaise with one or more of the Convener, the Health & Safety Officer, the Course Publications Officer, the Course Provision Co-ordinator and the Treasurer.

For a job description, please visit the Lewes u3a website, under the Committee tag, or click [here](#).

Please contact [Gordon Bull](#) for an initial discussion. You may also be interested to read the March Bulletin – available on the website –where our current Accommodation officers, Jennie and Neil, described their role.

### ALSO SEEKING

### Health & Safety Officer

Since before the current Covid crisis, it became apparent that we needed a Health & Safety (H&S) Officer to ensure we were compliant with today's legislation regarding meeting and public events run by the u3a. Now, of course, awareness of Covid restrictions has to be included in the role.



The volunteer is likely to be working closely with the Accommodation officer, among others. A full job description can be found on the [Lewes u3a website](#).

### Equipment Officer/s

More important than ever as we properly emerge from lockdown and the likelihood of some meetings taking place in a 'hybrid' format—that is, both face to face and over Zoom at the same time. Click [here](#) for job description.

Contact any committee member if you are interested in either of these roles.