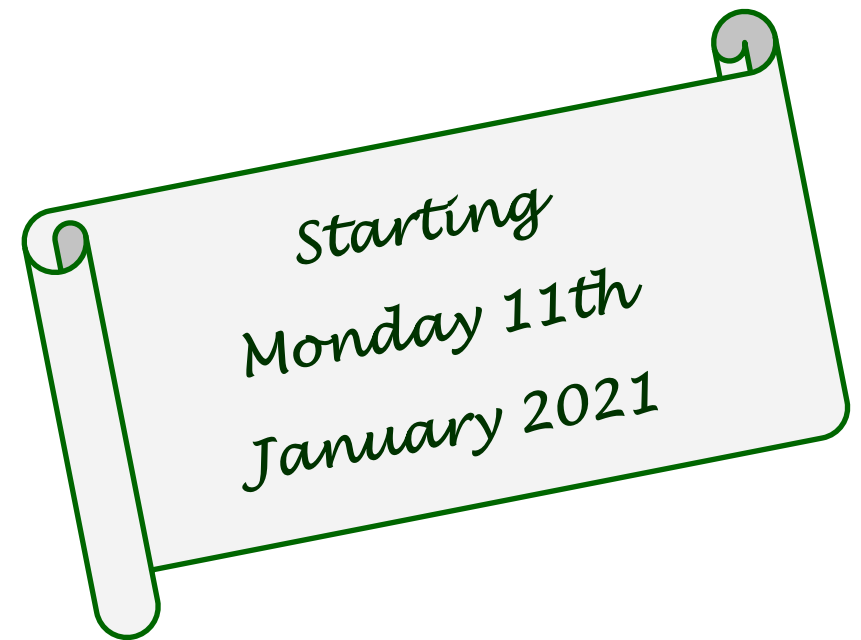


# EXPLORE



## Season 2 2020-21 programme

## Explore Season 2 Programme 2020-21

**Welcome to our Season Two Programme. As you'll know the global changes have had a dramatic impact on our organisation's normal schedules, how we learn and interact. We're still here though and we're very happy to present our programme for the second season this year here at Explore.**

**If you're new to Explore, you will find that this season's programme is primarily focussed on our existing members rather than new joiners—omitting our popular welcome days and public events. If you would like to join Explore please [get in touch](#) or join our [mailing list](#) to find out more over the coming months.**

### **No theme this Season, but many strong threads.**

This season we are pleased to present a variety of courses and sessions which, whilst not focused on one agreed theme, reflect a time of adjustment, reflection, adaption and resilience. We cover topics around friendship and negotiation, of sharing space and ideas, of the passing of time and the persistence of thought. Whilst global issues revolve and mankind works to resolve new and entrenched problems, we'll consider how the process of learning can improve us as individuals and as a species, from gradual evolution to revolutionary change and enlightenment. We'll also consider how understanding the constriction of thought, of confinement, isolation, destruction and distraction, can inform us further. We have all learned a lot recently, and we're looking forward to learning even more in the new Season at Explore!

**Welcome to our Explore 2020-21 Season 2 Programme.**

# Explore Season 2 Programme 2020-21

**How will sessions be delivered?** Members will receive additional information about accessing different sessions, but if you're unsure please read all the details provided, then [get in touch](#) and we'll try to help. There are various types of delivery method and some sessions use more than one format in combination:

LIVE ZOOM  
SESSIONS

\* **Live Zoom Sessions** - these sessions are online sessions using Zoom to create a live classroom environment remotely with a tutor and 'audience'/members actively attending the session. This allows an immediacy of interaction akin to being in the same room (but often with audience member microphones 'muted' during tutor presentation) Details of individual Zoom sessions/courses (invite links and relevant codes) will be sent to members via the members' mailout in advance of the sessions. If you need assistance setting up Zoom on your computer/tablet click [HERE](#). For these sessions you will see this green box in the programme. Some sessions might be a live Zoom of a Face-to-Face session at CU House.

CUH  
Face-To-Face

\* **Face-to-Face Sessions** - **At the time of publication, there is a strong likelihood that Face-to-Face sessions will not run and all sessions will remain Remote Access only this season, however we will inform members if the situation changes. If there are sessions later in the season that can proceed 'Face-to-Face' we will then highlight them with this purple icon, however we do expect the majority of sessions to continue as remote access only. We have included the following details for information only.** These sessions are planned to take place at Commercial Union House as a Face-to-Face session, provided that the situation allows. In order to allow for social distancing and room capacity, places must be booked online in advance. If circumstances do not allow the session to proceed on-site, it will shift to a remote Zoom session only.



\* **'Paper-based' Offline Resources** — these sessions will be distributed by email in the form of written activities, texts and direction, initially provided as a document via the members mailouts, to be enjoyed by members and where appropriate followed up with email correspondence with the tutors and/or group. Look for this envelope/mail icon in the programme.

**Will also send any additional resources via the members bulletin in advance of sessions.**

# Explore Season 2 Programme 2020-21

Thank you to the programming team and everyone else not listed who helped to organise the original Season:

Art History and Design: Helen Watson and Margaret Adams

Narratives (Literature, Cinema and Music) : Rita Prabhu and Angela Young

Perspectives (Science & Mathematics): Pamela Denham and Sally Standart

Culture & Society (History and Archaeology): Joy Rutter and Kath Smith

Philosophy: Trish Hutson

With direction from Rachel Lister & Malcolm Grady.

Thanks also to Rob Campion for our programme cover image.

We are also grateful to [Ampersand Inventions](#) for our office, room hire and support at Commercial Union House, as well as [B&D Studios](#) and [Vane](#) for additional room hire and support.

*‘It is not knowledge, but the act of learning, not the possession but the act of getting there, which grants the greatest enjoyment.’ Carl Friedrich Gauss (1777-1855)*

## Monday

**Philosophy Course:** *11th January to 8th February*

**Provocations 6: From the Social to the Self**

**Tutor:** Ian Ground

**Venue/Format:** These sessions will be delivered **live via Zoom**

**Time:** 10.30-12.00



The Royal Institute of Philosophy (RIP) hosts a lively series of lectures from professional philosophers but aimed at a more general public.

In this series, we will view a lecture before each session and then open for discussion, first in breakout groups and then as a whole group. It will take about an hour to view each lecture before the Explore session so please make time to do that.

These lectures are, in various ways, all connected with the nature of the self in, and isolation from, the social which seems an appropriate theme for current times.... Details of the lectures for each week will be supplied in the weekly bulletin.

*\*If you need any help downloading and using Zoom there is an information sheet [HERE](#)*

**LIVE ZOOM  
SESSIONS**

## Monday

**Art History Course:** *15th February to 15th March*

**The New York City—Visual Arts, Photography, Film & Design**

**Tutor:** Peter Quinn

**Venue/Format:** These sessions will be delivered **live via Zoom**

**Time:** 10.30-12.00



In this series, we will look at New York City as a creative entity, covering the following themes:

15 Feb Arrivals: New York and emigration

22 Feb New Amsterdam

01 Mar Take the A Train: Harlem matters

08 Mar Writing on the Wall: crisis and transformation

15 Mar City of Glass: modern myths

*As with all sessions, any details needed in advance will be sent out via the members mailout.*

*\*If you need any help downloading and using Zoom there is an information sheet [HERE](#)*

**LIVE ZOOM  
SESSIONS**

## Monday

**Art History Course:** *11th to 25th January*

**Artists' Books in France and Germany in the Early 20th Century**

**Tutor:** Malcolm Gee

**Venue/Format:** These sessions will be delivered **live via Zoom**

**Time:** 14.00-15.30



Artists and publishers developed approaches to the 'illustrated book' in this period which strengthened the status and value of the visual components of the whole. In some cases artists themselves provided the texts that accompanied their work.

These talks will present some prominent examples of the genre, focusing on the relationship they establish between image and text, and the place of the work in the overall output of the artist. They will include Bonnard's illustrations to Verlaine, Derain's to Apollinaire, Picasso's to Balzac, and Kandinsky, Kokoschka and Matisse's to themselves.

*As with all sessions, any details needed in advance will be sent out via the members mailout.*

*\*If you need any help downloading and using Zoom there is an information sheet [HERE](#)*

**LIVE ZOOM  
SESSIONS**



## Monday

**Culture & Society One-Off Session:** *1st February*

**Brian Shefton and the Shefton Collection, Great North Museum**

**Tutor:** Andrew Parkin

**Venue/Format:** This sessions will be delivered **live via Zoom**

**Time:** 14.00-15.30



Andrew Parkin (Keeper of Archaeology at the Great North Museum) will give an introductory talk on Brian Shefton and the Shefton Collection of Greek and Etruscan Art and Archaeology in the Great North Museum. He will discuss Shefton's career and influences as well as the significance of the Collection. He will also provide a behind the scenes look at 2019's Shefton centenary exhibition followed by a Q&A session. Sally Waite and Abi Baker of GNM will also be joining the session. After this there will be a brief introduction to GNM's current project, in partnership with Newcastle University, which is to create an online exhibition exploring key objects in the Shefton Collection. Such access can allow users to see detail otherwise only possible by handling. The GNM team are very keen to get Explore members' opinions about the content of this website as it will help them to shape the final product. We hope to facilitate some small group discussion to identify potential themes for the online exhibition. Discussion will be based around collecting and collections, as well as the long-life histories of objects and the ways in which online exhibitions can add value to visitor experiences of museum collections. The event covers a range of interests in history and culture, and we think such a collaboration could offer our members a marvellous opportunity for a level of access to the Museum's collection that comes very rarely.

*As with all sessions, any details needed in advance will be sent out via the members mailout.*

*\*If you need any help downloading and using Zoom there is an information sheet [HERE](#)*

**LIVE ZOOM  
SESSIONS**



## Monday

**History Course:** 11th January to 8th February

### **Spaces and Dwellers in Old English Literature**

**Tutor:** Miguel Gomes

**Venue/Format:** These sessions will be delivered **live via Zoom**

**Time:** 18.00-19.30

This course will look at early medieval representations and understandings of space and its occupation by critically exploring Old English literary texts. How did Anglo-Saxons conceive of themselves as inhabitants of the natural world, the city, or of certain geographic locations? Where did Anglo-Saxon monsters live? What was it like to be away from hall, lord and friends? When would the beasts of battle come to feast on the bodies of the slain?

11 Jan A Man Made World: Durham and The Ruin

18 Jan The Anglo-Saxon Hall in Old English Literature

25 Jan Early Medieval Battlefields: the battle of Maldon

01 Feb Where the Monsters are

08 Feb Far from Society: exiles, seafarers and wanderers

*'I was forced to live in a cold earth-cave, Under an oak tree in an unhappy wood. My earth-house is old. I lie with Longing. Here are steep hills and gloomy valleys, Dark hideouts under twisted briars, Bitter homes without joy...' The Wife's lament (ll. 27-32; trans. Craig Williamson, 2017)*

*As with all sessions, any details needed in advance will be sent out via the members mailout.*



**LIVE ZOOM  
SESSIONS**

## Tuesday

**Literature Course:** 19th January to 9th February

**Emerson, Thoreau, Hawthorne: Literary Friendships & Alliances in Antebellum New England**

**Tutor:** Michael Ayton

**Venue/Format:** These sessions will be delivered **live via Zoom**

**Time:** 10.30-12.00

These sessions will focus on the linked lives of Nathaniel Hawthorne, Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry Thoreau as writers and thinkers firmly rooted in New England milieux, but concerned with universal truths.

Emerson was a chief proponent of Transcendentalism, a literary movement which flourished for only a fairly short time (c. 1835–60) in New England, but has had a lasting legacy. In his essays *Nature* and 'The Over-soul', he sets out a philosophy of intuitive, unmediated knowledge and trenchant self-reliance. *Walden*, the masterpiece of his friend and colleague Thoreau, celebrates its author's two-year experiment in living self-sufficiently and authentically amid nature, untrammelled by 'civilised' society. On these ideas Hawthorne casts a complexly sceptical eye. In his story 'The Celestial Railroad' he satirises 'easy' spiritual satisfactions, while in 'Major Molineux' and 'Young Goodman Brown' he hints at the inescapable ambiguity of moral choice.

In reading these inspiring texts, we'll consider these writers' diffused impact on Whitman, Melville and Dickinson, their refraction in the music of Charles Ives, and Thoreau's influence on ecological thinking and activism from John Muir to the present day. Details of texts to be read will be supplied nearer the time.

*\*If you need any help downloading and using Zoom there is an information sheet [HERE](#)*



**LIVE ZOOM  
SESSIONS**

## Tuesday

**Science Course:** 16th February to 16th March

### **The Geology of the Lake District**

**Tutor:** Derek Teasdale

**Venue/Format:** These sessions will be delivered **live via Zoom**

**Time:** 10.30-12.00



The Lake District is one of the most beautiful and celebrated places on the planet. Geology has had a profound influence on the development of the landscape. For example, the hard Borrowdale Volcanics have created rugged mountains, while the softer northern hills are underlain by the Skiddaw Slates.

This short course will introduce the geology of the Lakes, and hopefully add to your understanding and appreciation of the magnificent scenery that has inspired so many artists and poets.

*\*If you need any help downloading and using Zoom there is an information sheet [HERE](#)*

**LIVE ZOOM  
SESSIONS**

## Tuesday

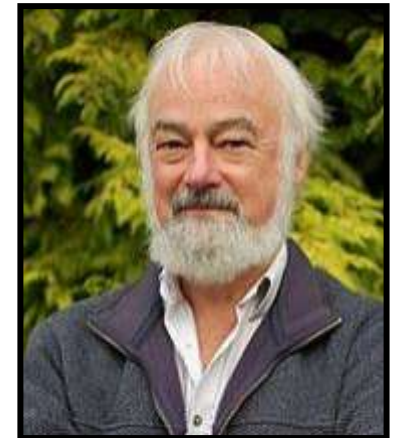
**Science Course:** 26th January to 9th February

**Evolution, Adaption and 'Progress'**

**Tutor:** Wallace Arthur

**Venue/Format:** These sessions will be delivered **live via Zoom**

**Time:** 14.00-15.00



Evolution by Darwinian natural selection has clearly caused the phenomenon that we call adaptation, of which there are examples throughout the living world, including adaptations for flight, burrowing, camouflage, and many other things. As species adapt to their environments, they become different from each other.

But is there, in addition to this 'becoming different', some sort of generalised 'progress' in the living world that evolution also gradually brings about over time? This question has been debated ever since Darwin. Most present-day biologists would say that the answer is 'no'. However, it's time to revisit this key philosophical question, and to ask whether the answer may be more nuanced than a categorical negative.

*As with all sessions, any details needed in advance will be sent out via the members' mailout.*

*\*If you need any help downloading and using Zoom there is an information sheet [HERE](#)*

**LIVE ZOOM  
SESSIONS**

## Tuesday

**Literature Course:** 16th to 23rd February

**Alexander Pope—Architect in Words**

**Tutor:** Tim Crocker

**Venue/Format:** These sessions will be delivered **live via Zoom**

**Time:** 14.00-15.30

Pope was the greatest English poet of the first half of the eighteenth century, the 'Augustan' age: the age of science and reason, of civilization and civility, of commerce and construction, of a newly confident capital city at the centre of an expanding Empire; the age of London as the new Rome. It was an age expressed by its style – in exuberant and rebarbative print culture, in baroque fashions and furnishings, and above all in neoclassical buildings – and the spaces around them: this is the great age of the English garden. Pope was the celebrant of all these things – and the satirist of their abuses. (And a highly influential gardener in his own right too.)

The first session will be a short introduction to Pope's life and work – looking closely at some short excerpts from the Essay on Criticism, Windsor Forest and the Essay on Man – which illustrate the aesthetic principles – and the brilliance of the achievement – of this architect in words. In the second session we will focus on one poem on the subject of architecture itself – a highly amusing meditation on what makes a good – and bad – country house, the Epistle to Burlington – addressed to the renowned architect of the age, Richard Boyle, 3rd Earl.

The sessions are introductory and do not assume any knowledge of the subject, but hopefully will also be of interest to more experienced readers of Pope as well as anyone interested in eighteenth century culture and architecture or the country house. A pdf of the texts for discussion will be circulated beforehand. All Pope's poetry is accessible on line from [Project Gutenberg](https://www.gutenberg.org/)

*\*If you need any help downloading and using Zoom there is an information sheet [HERE](#)*



**LIVE ZOOM  
SESSIONS**

## Tuesday

**Literature Course:** *2nd to 16th March*

**Explorations of Freedom and Confinement**

**Tutor:** Clare Jackson

**Venue/Format:** These sessions will be delivered **live via Zoom**

**Time:** 14.00-15.30



In these sessions we will be considering three short stories with a central focus on freedom and confinement.

How are the ideas of liberty and restraint explored by their writers?

How do the texts reflect society's changing concepts of acceptable and unacceptable boundaries or openings?

Who defines and imposes these limits, or decides they may be broken and why?

*As with all sessions, any details needed in advance will be sent out via the members mailout.*

*\*If you need any help downloading and using Zoom there is an information sheet [HERE](#)*

**LIVE ZOOM  
SESSIONS**

## Tuesday

**Music Course:** 12th January to 8th February

### **A Questions of Dots**

**Tutor:** Mike Green

**Venue/Format:** These sessions will be delivered **live via Zoom**

**Time:** 18.00-19.30



Explore the characters and characteristics of five periods of western music history in sessions loosely modelled on a popular TV sports quiz, but without the competition. No technical musical knowledge required. There will be lots of opportunity to listen to examples, discussion and probably some cheating!

12 Jan Renaissance, Man!

19 Jan If it ain't Baroque...

26 Jan Classical with a Capital C

02 Feb The Last Romantic

09 Feb To the Twentieth Century and Beyond!

*As with all sessions, any details needed in advance will be sent out via the members mailout.*

*\*If you need any help downloading and using Zoom there is an information sheet [HERE](#)*

**LIVE ZOOM  
SESSIONS**



## Wednesday

**Science Course:** *13th to 27th January*

**What is a Model?**

**Tutor:** Sam James

**Venue/Format:** These sessions will be delivered **live via Zoom**

**Time:** 11.00-12.00



This year, more than most, all we've heard is scientists talking about models and algorithms. But what do they mean by a model, are there Airfix kits for the spread of a virus?

Do you have to worry about gluing fingers together? In fact as a physicist, my job is to build model universes and the most dangerous thing I deal with is a sharpened pencil.

Over these three lectures we'll look under the hood of a few of the most important "models" and see how a few simple ideas can lead to a powerful understanding of the universe or a virus spread.

*As with all sessions, any details needed in advance will be sent out via the members mailout.*

*\*If you need any help downloading and using Zoom there is an information sheet [HERE](#)*

**LIVE ZOOM  
SESSIONS**

## Wednesday

**History Course:** 17th February to 17th March

### **Eating Out in England**

**Tutor:** John Griffiths

**Venue/Format:** These sessions will be delivered **live via Zoom**

**Time:** 10.30-12.00



Commercial catering has existed in this country for nearly two thousand years (if not longer), and this course will look at how that industry has developed: from mansios on Roman roads and cook shops in early town and cities to the great variety of restaurants, cafes and other outlets of modern times.

We shall look at medieval inns, early modern taverns, eating houses and 'ordinaries', the nineteenth century development of the restaurant, food for the masses (including the origins of fish and chips), the impact of cuisines from outside England and more besides. Where possible, we will use examples from the development of catering in Newcastle.

*As with all sessions, any details needed in advance will be sent out via the members mailout.*

*\*If you need any help downloading and using Zoom there is an information sheet [HERE](#)*

**LIVE ZOOM  
SESSIONS**

## Wednesday

**Science Course:** *20th January to 10th February*

### **History of Astronomy**

**Tutor:** Gordon Moir

**Venue & Times:** Paper-based Activity/Offline - These sessions will be delivered weekly via **members mailouts**



This season, Gordon's course will focus on some key points in the history of astronomy and, as text based session articles, can be downloaded and studied at a time of your choosing.

The themes covered this season are:

20 Jan Photography and Astronomy

27 Jan The telescope 1609-1870

03 Feb Variable stars

10 Feb Babylonian astronomy

Look out for Gordon's Astronomy articles via email.



## Wednesday

**Literature Course:** 13th January to 10th February

**Moments, Memories and Milestones: Literature and Time**

**Tutor:** Rachel Lister

**Venue/Format:** These sessions will be delivered **live via Zoom**

**Time: 14.00-15.30\* OR 15.45-17.15\***

*\*If you would like to attend Rachel's sessions please email [Exploreelitprog@gmail.com](mailto:Exploreelitprog@gmail.com) before the course starts. This will help us estimate numbers for the class and confirm times to help balance group sizes for discussions.*



How do writers capture the way that we experience time? What techniques do they use to trace the passing of time, the working of memory, the impact of the past or the force of an imagined future? In this module we will discuss these questions in relation to a variety of twentieth-century texts from a range of contexts. We will consider poems, short stories and extracts from novels and plays.

13 Jan Time Passing: Hardy, 'During Wind and Rain', Larkin, 'Disintegration', Plath, 'A Sonnet: Time'

20 Jan Woolfian Time: extracts to be provided from *To the Lighthouse*, *Mrs Dalloway*, *The Waves*

27 Jan Minimalism and Time: Hemingway, 'The Snows of Kilimanjaro' & 'Soldier's Home'

03 Feb Staging Time: extracts from Samuel Beckett

10 Feb 'Tiny Moments': Katherine Mansfield, 'Psychology' & 'The Fly'.

*Extracts or links will be provided via the members mailout.*

*\*If you need any help downloading and using Zoom there is an information sheet [HERE](#)*

**LIVE ZOOM  
SESSIONS**

## Wednesday

**Science Course:** 17th February to 17th March

### Cosmology

**Tutor:** Fred Stevenson

**Venue/Format:** These sessions will be delivered **live via Zoom**

**Time:** 12.30-13.30

The five talks will be broadly based on the following:

17 Feb The Legacy of Cassini One of the most successful interplanetary missions all time was the Cassini mission to Saturn. We will look at the extraordinary images that the probe obtained as well as some of the scientific results from the mission.

24 Feb The Farthest Objects in the Universe I will discuss just how far we can go in distance through the universe and importantly how we can measure these vast distances.

03 Mar The Cosmic Microwave Background We will see how this discovery originally helped to confirm the, so called, 'big-bang' theory and how it is used today as an incredibly important cosmological probe, helping us to understand the formation of galaxies and the large scale structure of the universe.

10 Mar The Multiverse - is our universe the only one that exists? The 'standard model' of the big-bang theory that gave rise to our universe (well, at least the past 14 billion years of it) and see how this may be just part of a much larger entity.

17 Mar Fractal geometry and the mathematical universe - a discussion of the remarkable geometry of fractals and how this can lead to the most beautiful computer generated patterns of infinite complexity - a universe in themselves?

*As with all sessions, any details needed in advance will be sent out via the members' mailout.*

*\*If you need any help downloading and using Zoom there is an information sheet [HERE](#)*



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**LIVE ZOOM  
SESSIONS**

## Wednesday

**Art Course:** 17th February to 17th March

**Practical Art & Craft Studio**

**Tutor:** Margaret Adams

**Venue/Format:** These sessions will be delivered **live via Zoom**

**Time:** 14.00-15.30



The practical art sessions will be Zoom based. They will be a combination of video demonstrations, discussions and sharing of artwork.

Each of the five weeks will focus on aspects of drawing, mark making, colour work and mixed media. The sessions are open to everyone, and members who are new to the art sessions are particularly welcome.

You will need to provide your own materials but will have ample notice of what may be required. You will be able to follow these sessions with a basic range of equipment.

**Please email Helen & Margaret at [ExploreArtJCLLC@gmail.com](mailto:ExploreArtJCLLC@gmail.com) if you are interested.** (This will help to plan the sessions.)

*\*If you need any help downloading and using Zoom there is an information sheet [HERE](#)*

**LIVE ZOOM  
SESSIONS**

## Thursday

**Mathematics Series:** 28th January, 4th February & 11th March

**Mathematical Thinking Through Puzzles and Problems**

**Tutor:** Peter Pool

**Venue & Times:** Paper-based Activity/Offline - These sessions will be delivered weekly via **members' mailouts**



Some people are almost proud of saying that they 'can't do maths', but might feel insulted if someone suggested they didn't know how to think. We all do lots of mathematical thinking in our heads everyday as we dodge traffic, plan timetables, estimate costs, look for the best way to do practical things etc. There are also a growing number of people who enjoy solving maths puzzles and problems, judging by the space given to that in newspapers.

For this course you don't need high level maths, just a willingness to have a go with what you already know. This learning curve will be plenty of fun as Peter offers members weekly maths puzzles, distributed by email with hints available and answers to follow.

We hope you will have some fun tackling these puzzles & problems.

Look out for these activities from Peter in your Explore members' mail outs.





## Thursday

**History Course:** *18th February to 18th March*

### **Historic Battles**

**Tutor:** John Sadler

**Venue/Format:** These sessions will be delivered **live via Zoom**

**Time:** 10.30-12.00



'It's as easy to tell the story of a ball as a battle' – according to the Duke of Wellington and he knew a thing or two about battles.

However I'm going to attempt to tell the story of another five key battles from history:

Watling Street 60 AD—Boudicca's last battle;  
Brunanburh 937 – the forging of England;  
Gettysburg 1863 – a nation divided against itself;  
Verdun 1916 – Calvary of the French Army;  
Stalingrad – Plan Blue turns sour.

We'll look at key figures and commanders, a full contextual background, strategy, tactics and weapons technology as well as a thorough examination of ground. I'll also put together a course guide for students featuring key information, battle plans and images.

*\*If you need any help downloading or using Zoom there is an information sheet [HERE](#)*

**LIVE ZOOM  
SESSIONS**

## Thursday

**Archaeology Course:** 14th January to 11th February

**Oceani Insulae: A Shared History of Ireland and Britain**

**Tutor:** David Burke

**Venue/Format:** These sessions will be delivered **live via Zoom**

**Time:** 14.00-15.30



A series of talks exploring key periods in Hiberno-British history and reflecting on how events in one nation had unexpected consequences in the other. We will examine familiar topics but in a broader context to better understand the deep and complex relationships between the various people of these Isles. The title of this series of talks is taken from the oldest known indigenous term for these islands together as a collective - the Islands of the Ocean - found in the 7th century Life of Columba by Adomnan of Iona.

14 Jan From Rome to the Vikings

21 Jan The Norman Isles

28 Jan New Divisions: Ireland & the Tudor world

04 Feb The Wars of the Three Kingdoms & the Two Kings

11 Feb From Union to Independence.

*As with all sessions, any details needed in advance will be sent out via the members' mailout.*

*\*If you need any help downloading and using Zoom there is an information sheet [HERE](#)*

**LIVE ZOOM  
SESSIONS**

## Thursday

**Literature Course:** 18th February to 18th March

**And Now For Something Completely Different...**

**Tutor:** Rachel Lister, Mike Green & Claire Nally

**Venue/Format:** These sessions will be delivered **live via Zoom**

**Time:** 14.00-15.30



If you are familiar with the format of our programmes you are probably expecting to see a Thursday afternoon course on an aspect of literature from Bronwen Calvert. Bronwen is taking a sabbatical this season but fortunately we are able to offer a rich mixture of words and music over the next few weeks as follows:

18 Feb Rachel Lister Conflict in the Short Story: Edith Wharton's 'Souls Belated' and 'The Other Two.'

25 Feb Mike Green Don Carlo Gesualdo

04 Mar Mike Green Sir Arthur Sullivan

11 Mar Claire Nally Poetry, Ireland, and the Famine: the relationship between land, the Great Famine (an Gorta Mór) and literature. During the nineteenth century (reaching a high point between 1845 –1849) Ireland suffered a wave of famines; writing during the 1840s, Mangan's poetry is therefore a direct response to these heartbreakingly dark times. But no less affective is Boland's contemporary work, which represents careful attention to women's experiences, as well as a reflection of what the Famine has come to mean for Irish history and literature.

18 Mar Claire Nally James Clarence Mangan - 'Dark Rosaleen' and 'Siberia' Eavan Boland - 'That the Science of Cartography is Limited', 'Quarantine' and 'Mise Éire'.

*As with all sessions, any details needed in advance will be sent out via the members' mailout.*

*\*If you need any help downloading and using Zoom there is an information sheet [HERE](#)*

**LIVE ZOOM  
SESSIONS**

## Friday

**History Course:** 19th February to 19th March

**Coalition, Compromise & Disruption to the Party System in Modern British Political History (Part 2: c. 1922-1945)**

**Tutor:** Nick Cott

**Venue/Format:** These sessions will be delivered **live via Zoom**

**Time: 10.30-12.00**



This series will continue a trawl through Modern British political history to examine the challenges to a party system, which had its inception in the mid-Victorian period and has remained intact in some form or another, ever since. It will look at key political figures and issues that led politicians to challenge party orthodoxy and seek to work with members of different parties to achieve certain ends. This discussion will be set within the context of the enduring two-party political system in the United Kingdom.

In this current series, we will look at the development of perspectives outside the tribal aspects of the developing party system. We will look at the impact of the First World War and the Lloyd George Coalition government in shaping attitudes. We'll encounter the recovery of the two-party system with the decline of the Liberal party and look at the long period of Coalition government between 1931 and 1945, with the National government and Coalition in the Second World War.

19 Feb The Lloyd George Coalition: reflections and aftermath  
 26 Feb National politics & the recovery of the party system  
 05 Mar Crises & the Origins of the National Government  
 12 Mar The National Government, 1931-39  
 19 Mar Coalition in the Second World War

*As with all sessions, any details needed in advance will be sent out via the members' mailout.*

*\*If you need any help downloading and using Zoom there is an information sheet [HERE](#)*

**LIVE ZOOM  
SESSIONS**

## Friday

**History Course:** *14th January to 5th February*

### **Sense of Time—The Victorians**

**Tutor:** Anthea Lang

**Venue/Format:** These sessions will be delivered **live via Zoom**

**Time: 11.00-12.00**



This is a follow up to Anthea's course last term, this time concentrating on the Victorian era. Once again, we'll be looking at how national events shaped the North East and how some North Easterners put themselves at the forefront of change.

15 Jan Moving On

22 Jan Reform and Revolution

29 Jan Culture and Consequences

05 Feb A Matter of Life and Death

*As with all sessions, any details needed in advance will be sent out via the members' mailout.*

*\*If you need any help downloading and using Zoom there is an information sheet [HERE](#)*

**LIVE ZOOM  
SESSIONS**

## Coffee Morning/Lunch with Friends of Explore

**Venue/Format:** This event will be delivered **via Zoom** \*

*\*If you need any help downloading and using Zoom there is an information sheet [HERE](#)*

Once we've settled into Season Two, we might want a coffee and a chat between sessions, a chance to catch up socially and keep in touch.

If you would like to join one of these chat sessions please email [friendsofexplore@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofexplore@gmail.com)

We'll announce more details **via the members' mailouts** so keep an eye out for occasional catch up/ chat sessions with [Friends of Explore](#).



**LIVE ZOOM  
SESSIONS**

**The End of Explore Season Two**  
**For an overview of Season Two click [HERE](#)**

**Season Three will start**  
**Monday 26th April 2021**

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