

## March 2021 Bulletin

### **MONTHLY MEETING**

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

**2pm**

### **After The Wave with Jim Holmes**

Join Zoom Meeting  
Refer to Bulletin email

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#### **The Indian Ocean Tsunami**

Boxing Day 2004 saw an undersea earthquake off the west coast of Sumatra, Indonesia send a vast tsunami wave spreading around the coastal communities of India, Thailand, Sri Lanka and of course Indonesia. The city of Banda Aceh and coastal communities saw the greatest impact and Jim Holmes got the call to be there as soon as possible. His task was to document the emergency situation and then in the following 10 years of frequent visits, the recovery phases within these communities. This enlightening and uplifting talk will explore this devastation and the lives that were affected, and rebuilt.

#### **INTO THE FUTURE**

It is beginning to look as if some of our groups, especially those that meet outside, will be able to start to make tentative plans for later on in the year. Please send any information that you want shared in the bulletin to [crdcu3a@gmail.com](mailto:crdcu3a@gmail.com) and contact Gus [meophamweb@gmail.com](mailto:meophamweb@gmail.com) about adding the details to our website.

Thank you

## NEWS FROM OUR GROUPS

### BEE WATCH

It is now time to re-convene our Bee Watch Group for the 2021 season and you are invited to take part as a Bee Watch group member. If you would like to do so, please 'sign up' by visiting the Bee Watch page on our website indicating which of our walks and other activities you are most interested in (See attached information) . New members will be very welcome, so do have a look at our web pages to see what it's all about.

Chris Haigh –Smith

### GARDEN VISITS

As yet we are obviously unable to resume garden visits but you may well be interested to know that Millbrook have some talks planned via Zoom.

Members have enjoyed these talks in the past so there may be something that catches your eye. If you are interested please book them yourself via the Millbrook website

<https://www.millbrookgc.co.uk/shop/customer-events> and click on Workshops and Events. There is a nominal charge for each talk on booking.

Margaret Groom

### GOLF

We are looking to kick off again in April and would welcome new members-experienced or beginners. We're a very friendly group and are always keen to help any beginners, although it may be best if they start with the 9 hole group rather than the 18!

Mike is in the process of organising rounds for April and May so anyone wanting to join us or just ask for more information should contact him via our website

Mike Chantry

### CYCLING

Cycling has enjoyed something of a renaissance during the past year and some of you may have dusted off your old bike or even bought a new one!

It seems that we will probably be able to revert to the "Rule of Six" from 29 March, so how about joining other members for a ride out in April? Contact Andrew Dunk via our website to book your place.

The group's normal first Thursday date would be 1 April, the day before Easter, but you are unlikely to be away over Easter, so how does this sound? Think how many hot cross buns and Easter eggs you can enjoy, guilt free, after a cycle ride.

Andrew Dunk

## Zoom info

At the Group Contacts Zoom meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> February, it was mentioned that the Zoom licence allows people to participate in meetings by telephone. We have not used this facility yet and it is possible it would not be free, depending on your contract with your mobile or landline provider. Plus of course you can't see anything! However, if anyone is interested in phoning into a group meeting, we will find out how it works and include telephone numbers with the meeting invitations sent to the group contact.

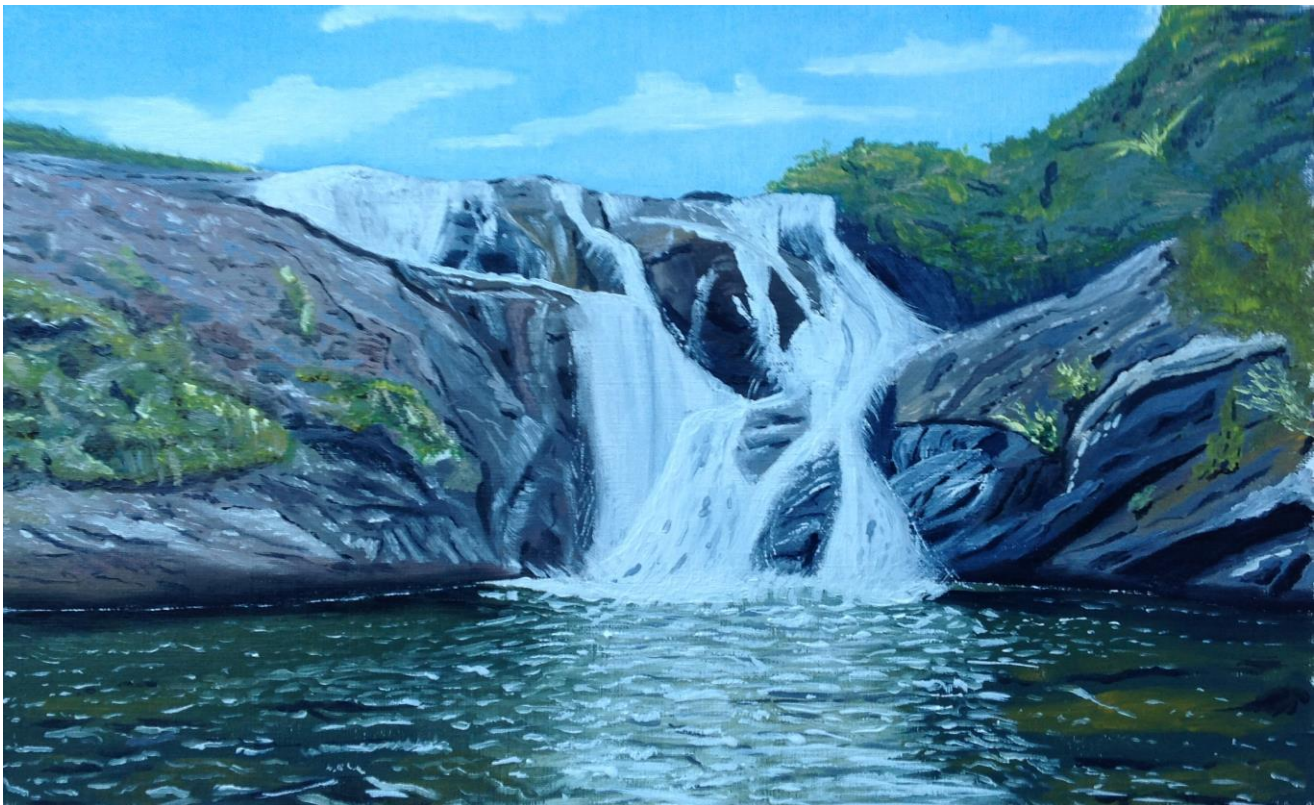
If you would like to have more information about this please contact Lynda. If you don't have access to a computer yourself, please ask a family member or a friend to email her ([mu3abol19@gmail.com](mailto:mu3abol19@gmail.com)) with your phone number and she will ring you back.

### Group Contacts

If any group contacts would like to organise a one-off zoom to catch up with their members, or discuss plans for later in the year (!) please let Lynda know. Providing the date/time is free, this can be set up quite quickly.

Regards, Lynda Bolton Vice Chair

[mu3abol19@gmail.com](mailto:mu3abol19@gmail.com)



### Baker's Falls in Sri Lanka by Terry Chatman

Many of you commented on the beautiful work from our talented Painting and Drawing group.

More of their art work can be found on our website.

## CAN YOU HELP?

I have been asked to appeal to our membership who may have attended the monthly December meeting 2018; (remember those)!!

The Folk singing group '**Swinging The Lead**' performed Sea Shanties for us on that day and now they have asked us if any Members took photos of the performance? This request is following a request from the Editor of 'Third Age Matters' (TAM) who wishes to print a feature on Sea Shanties which are 'on trend' just now, following the interest created by the Tick Tock sensation from Nathan Evans. If you have any High Resolution images we would be grateful if we could use them for the article.

Alison Hillman who tirelessly works at providing Speakers for the monthly and now Zoom meetings is coordinating the information and liaising with the Group for the article. The Group want to include the images of the event at St Johns and this would be a nice bit of exposure for Meopham u3a.

If you have any such images please contact me at [mevillmp@gmail.com](mailto:mevillmp@gmail.com) or Alison in the first instance.

Any images sent in printed form will be returned; digital images are preferred but printed can be scanned.

I hope somebody does have suitable pictures and if so lookout for Meopham u3a featuring in a future copy of TAM.

Lionel Chair u3a Meopham

## MEOPHAM u3a MEMBERS IN OUR COMMUNITY

Early on in the pandemic we heard of those members who were making bags and scrubs for the NHS workers at Darent Valley and in our community.

More recently one of our mu3a members, Linda Rush, responded to a request for extra volunteers at the Gurdwara in Gravesend as they had set up a food collection/delivery service in their langar (the community kitchen). This initiative has helped the needy and the vulnerable in our town and surrounding area, for the stranded drivers at Dover and at Manston Airport and daily meals for our NHS at DV hospital. If you wish to know more please contact [crdcu3a@gmail.com](mailto:crdcu3a@gmail.com)

A number of mu3a members have been involved in the vaccine roll out in Kent. Andrew Morgan is administering the jabs and Clive and Susy Taylor, Hilary Blyth and Caroline Birtwell have been stewarding and assisting at the various vaccine centres.

There are probably many more of you who deserve a mention so please let us know what you have been doing so we can share some positive and encouraging news. Send it to [crdcu3a@gmail.com](mailto:crdcu3a@gmail.com)

Thank you.