



BRITISH-UZBEK SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

April 1, 2022



Welcome to the April newsletter of the British Uzbek Society. In it you will find out what the society has been doing and has planned, as well as other relevant news about Uzbekistan.

UPCOMING EVENTS

BUS and EUROUZ are co-organising a webinar on the issue of the impact of the Russia sanctions and Russia's financial isolation / economic decline on Uzbekistan. This event will be in the second half of April, and the date and time will be announced to members shortly.

RECENT EVENTS



On 24 March, HE Said Rustamov invited BUS members to celebrate Navruz at the Embassy of Uzbekistan in London. This was a fabulous in-person event with excellent Uzbek food cooked by [Osh Paz](#) and a fascinating presentation about Navruz traditions from cultural attaché Shokhruz Samatov. After two years of COVID restrictions, this spring celebration felt particularly special and we were glad that so many BUS members could participate.



In Tashkent, EUROUZ hosted the European Business Evening at the Hyatt Regency Tashkent on 23 March. BUS Chairman Louis Skyner was a keynote speaker, emphasising the value of the EUROUZ-BUS joint webinars and the €100,000 of humanitarian aid raised by members during the pandemic to purchase and deliver oxygen equipment to remote regions of Uzbekistan.

MEMBERS' NEWS

[Uzbekistan Airways](#) is delighted to announce that Uzbekistan has lifted all COVID restrictions for vaccinated travellers arriving in Uzbekistan. The new terminal at Samarkand Airport is now officially open, too, significantly improving passengers' travel experience. You can read about the new airport in [International Airport Review](#).

Member Andrew Staniland is translating a new collection of poetry by female poets from Uzbekistan, which will be published in autumn 2022. You can read more about Andrew's work, including his previous translations of poetry by Alisher Navoiy and Abdulhamid Cho'lpon, on his [website](#).

RECENT ARTICLES ABOUT UZBEKISTAN

The Economist published an article by Joanna Lillis, [Uzbekistan has succeeded in abolishing forced labour](#). This followed the International Labor Organisation's report on 1 March 2022 stating that that forced labour was now "so insignificant that it was exacting to detect and measure". As a result, the Cotton Campaign has ended their boycott of Uzbek cotton, paving the way for what *Nikkei Asia* calls a ['white gold' rush](#).

David Valerio of *Business Insider* produced a video about the legendary bakers of Samarkand and the 15,000 loaves of bread they make each day. You can watch the video and read the transcription [here](#).

The Fergana Valley has been on travel writers' radar this month. Travel blog *Adventures of Nicole* published a new [Uzbek Fergana Valley Travel Guide](#) and *Outlook Traveller* magazine explored the links between the Fergana Valley and India's Mughal emperors in [Birth of an Empire](#).

EVENTS IN UZBEKISTAN

From 25-30 April Khiva will host the Lazgi International Dance Festival. The [Lazgi](#) style of dance is recognised by UNESCO on the list of Intangible Cultural Heritage, and the festival events will take place within the [Ichan Qala](#), Khiva's UNESCO World Heritage Site. For more information, please contact Javlonbek Shamuratov (jova1@mail.ru).



The [Stihia Festival](#) of electronic music will return to Moynaq, Karalpakstan from 6-8 May. This year there will be more than 30 electronic artists including Italian duo Boston 186, Sicilian DJ Toto Chiavetta, and experimental Russian DJ Vladimir Dubyshkin. Tickets are available now from the festival website, and you can also book a Stihia tour packages with festival partner [peopletravel](#).




ABOUT THE BRITISH UZBEK SOCIETY

The British Uzbek Society (BUS) is an independent, non-political organisation. It was formally established in July 2002 with the aim of supporting and helping to facilitate cultural, educational and people-to-people links between the United Kingdom and Uzbekistan. The Society organises a monthly programme of events including lectures, forums, and cultural activities. BUS membership is open to all and the cost for an individual member is £50 per year. Students benefit from a specific discount and pay just £25. Find out more about the BUS and apply for membership [here](#). We look forward to seeing you at our next event.

[BUS website](#)



Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)

Grow your business with  **mailchimp**