



BRITISH-UZBEK SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

MAY 1, 2022



Welcome to the May newsletter of the British Uzbek Society. Spring is in the air and there's lots to look forward to in the weeks to come. Below you will find out what the society has been doing and has planned, as well as other relevant news about Uzbekistan.

UPCOMING EVENTS



On 26 May BUS will be hosting a celebration of Lazgi, a traditional style of Uzbek dance which has UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage status. Our speaker will be **Ann David**, Professor of Dance and Cultural Engagement at Roehampton University. More details about the event, including the time and registration link, will be sent out shortly.

RECENT EVENTS

On 26 April BUS and EUROUZ held a joint webinar entitled Sanctions against Russia: Economic consequences for Central Asia. Speakers included **Sir Suma Chakrabarti**, former President of EBRD; **Andrei Movchan**, an expert from the Carnegie Moscow Centre; **Oybek Shaykhov**, Secretary-General of EUROUZ; and **Louis Skyner**, Chairman of BUS.

MEMBERS' NEWS

Please join us in congratulating **Neera Kolhatkar** on her retirement from [Uzbekistan Airways](#) on 27 April after many years of dedicated service. Many of you will know Neera and have benefitted from her efficient customer service and ebullient smile, both in Uzbekistan Airways' London office and when managing check-in at Heathrow Airport. Neera will be sorely missed, but her retirement is well deserved.

RECENT ARTICLES ABOUT UZBEKISTAN

Visit Uzbekistan magazine has published their latest issue, edited by BUS member **Megan Eaves**. It includes a fascinating selection of articles on topics as diverse as the Seven Saints of Bukhara, Zoroastrianism, and Uzbekistan's growing wine industry. You can read the full issue online for free [here](#).



If you are interested in Uzbekistan's handicrafts, *Wanderlust* magazine has an informative [article](#) about how key products are made and where to see and buy them. You might also be keen to read *Hear it from locals'* [interview](#) with tour guide **Viktoriya Yalanskaya** about her home city of Samarkand.

EVENTS IN UZBEKISTAN

The long-awaited **Boysun Bahori** folk festival will take place in Boysun District, Surkhandarya from 7-8 May. This area has been described by UNESCO "the pearl of oral and spiritual cultural heritage." More than 200 performers and sportsmen will participate in this year's festival, and in addition to live music, song, and dance, there will also be wrestling and handicrafts.





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](#)



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