



# BRITISH-UZBEK SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 1, 2022



Welcome to the September newsletter of the British Uzbek Society. We hope that you have been able to take a break and enjoy the good weather, and are looking forward to the next few months. There's lots going on, so do please follow BUS on [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#) to keep up to date with what's happening.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Please put the evening of 27 October in your diary: **Professor Birgit Beumers** will be speaking about Recent Uzbek Cinema and its Contexts. This talk will explore some trends in recent Uzbek cinema, both in terms of its industry structures and film production mechanisms, and in terms of the status of Uzbek cinema in Central Asia and beyond. For this purpose, Prof. Beumers will look specifically at works by filmmakers such as **Yolkin Tuichev**, **Rashid Malikov**, and **Zulfikar Musakov**, but also the films, installations and video projects of Paris-based **Saodat Ismailova**. She will address questions of film aesthetics to determine the extent to which Uzbek cinema is integrated into discourses of the regions (specifically other Central Asian countries) and of Russian cinema. The event will take place on 27 October at 6.30pm, at the Embassy of Uzbekistan (41 Holland Park).



**The BUS AGM** will take place on 3 November, 2022 at 5.30pm at Dentons, 1 Fleet Pl, London EC4M 7WS. At this meeting, members of BUS will have opportunity to elect the directors and chairman of the Society. In accordance with the Society's articles of association all three directors, **Louis Skyner**, **Rosa Vercoe**, and **Otabek Nuritdinov**, are standing down after serving for three years, though they are eligible for re-election.

Those members interested in standing for election to the position of director or chairman should please inform Louis Skyner by email ([louis.skyner@dentons.com](mailto:louis.skyner@dentons.com)) by 30th September. Please note that only paid up members of the Society can stand for election, and can vote at the AGM. Please therefore ensure that you have paid your membership fee by 30th September if it expires before 3rd November.

**Lilian Cordell's** event "**Miriam's Table – The Legacy**" will take place immediately after the AGM at 6.30pm in the same location. Lilian is the author of *Miriam's Table: **The Bukharian Cookbook***, in which she shares family recipes from Bukhara with a new generation of food and culture lovers. The book won the **2019 Gourmand Award in the Silk Road** category.



## MEMBER'S NEWS

**Andrew Staniland's** new collection [\*Nodira And Uvaysiy: Selected Poems\*](#), is now available to order from Amazon for £10.99. Andrew and his co-translators **Nazeela Elmi** and **Aidakhon Bumatova** identified some of the most beautiful and interesting poems by these two great 19th century poets from the Fergana Valley, and translated the original poems from Tajik and Uzbek. Some of these poems have been translated into English for the first time.

If you would like to hear Andrew speak about the poems, the poets, and the translation process, he will be participating in the online **Silk Road Literary Festival** on 17 September. BUS members **Megan Eaves**, **Nafisa Feeney**, **Sophie Ibbotson**, and **Kamola Makmudova** will also be speaking at the

festival, on topics as broad as decolonising travel writing about the Silk Road and the importance and challenges of translating **George Orwell's** novels into Central Asian languages. The full programme and registration links are on the Silk Road Lit Fest [website](#).

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## RECENT ARTICLES ABOUT UZBEKISTAN

Congratulations to Uzbekistan for winning gold in the international Chess Olympiad! Read about this impressive feat in [The Guardian](#).

**Henry Wismayer** visited Uzbekistan in June and wrote about the [Khiva Silk Carpet Workshop](#) for the *Financial Times*. The carpet workshop, which many of you will have visited or read about in Christopher Alexander's excellent book [Carpet Ride to Khiva](#), is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year.

**The Davis Center** has published a fascinating article, [Central Asians in Harvard Collections](#). The combination of miniatures, postcards, and posters is inspiring.

### Central Asians in Harvard Collections

Who ventured back and forth on the Silk Road? Who built the wonders and monuments that stand proud today?



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## EVENTS IN UZBEKISTAN

On 1 September Uzbekistan celebrated Independence Day. BUS would like to congratulate all our friends in Uzbekistan and in the diaspora on 31 years of independence.



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## **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. Please send all membership queries to [BUSmembership@gmail.com](mailto:BUSmembership@gmail.com). More information about events is available from [BUS\\_events@outlook.com](mailto:BUS_events@outlook.com).

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