

28 July 2020



Welcome to the July IT Club Newsheet!

This is the first of the monthly newsheets which will be circulated on the last Tuesday of the month, which would have been the day of the IT Club.

The Age Concern IT Club is a monthly informal get-together at the Old Town Hall. It is a chance to meet other people, have a cup of tea and a biscuit and hopefully learn something about all this new technology which is creeping more and more into our lives. There are no plans at present to restart the meetings, but when there are, you will be the first to know!

There is quite a lot of information here, if you want more detail on any topic, or would like a new topic covered, just let me know at steven.p.dow@me.com.

We have requests to send this newsheet to other people so you can either send their email address to me or you can simply email them this pdf.

Information

Our website is here : <https://ageconcernepsom.org.uk>

The coronavirus update is here: <https://ageconcernepsom.org.uk/coronavirus-update/>

If you have IT problems you can still get telephone help by ringing our office on **01372 732456** between the hours of 9.30 – 1.00, Monday to Friday. An IT volunteer will then ring you back and hopefully solve your problem.

<https://ageconcernepsom.org.uk/coronavirus-update/>

Useful Links

Government advice: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Age UK: <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/information-advice/coronavirus/>

The NHS has lots of information: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

111 phone line website: <https://111.nhs.uk>

Livi information: <https://www.livi.co.uk>

Google Arts & Culture

Google makes its money from advertising, and in particular targeted advertising, so if Google knows you are interested in cats, it will send you cat related advertisements. This makes the advertising more effective and therefore they can charge the advertisers higher fees. To do this they need to find as much as they can about you through your use of the Google search engine, Maps, Gmail, Android phones and tablets, Google Chrome and so on. Unfortunately their products are very good, otherwise we could ignore them!



A Google product which is new to me, and following on from last week, is Google Arts & Culture. This is an online platform on which we can view high-resolution images and videos of artworks and cultural artifacts from cultural organisations throughout the world. (from wikipedia:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google_Arts_%26_Culture)

If you like arts and culture it is well worth a look.

It is downloadable from Apple App store for iPads or Googleplay for android Tablets.

For PCs and Macs (and tablets if you don't want to download the app) go here.

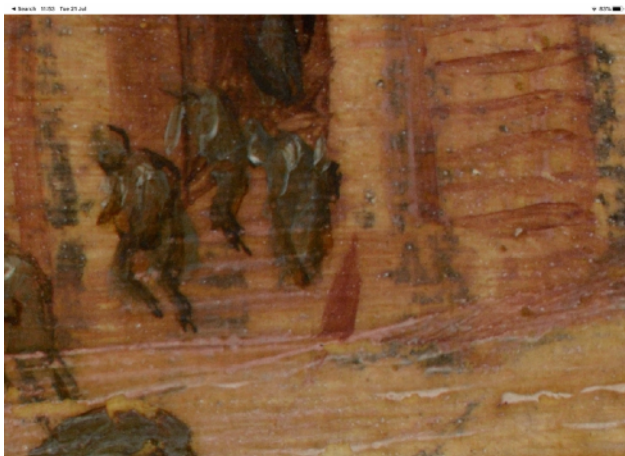
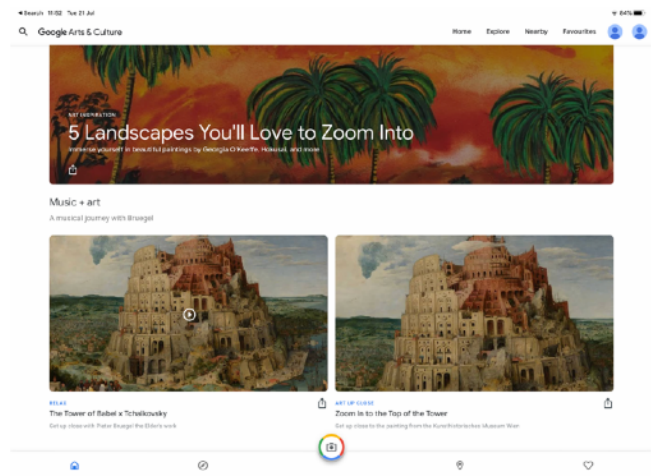
<https://artsandculture.google.com>

Along the top of the screen or bottom of the screen are the main menu options:

Home

Here you will find new additions and featured articles.

Swipe down to see the complete home page. Imagine it as a very long page.



Selecting the suggestion in the home page to zoom in to the top of the tower, I have then expanded to a detail I probably would not be able to see with my own eyes in a gallery. It is astonishing the detail these pictures have.

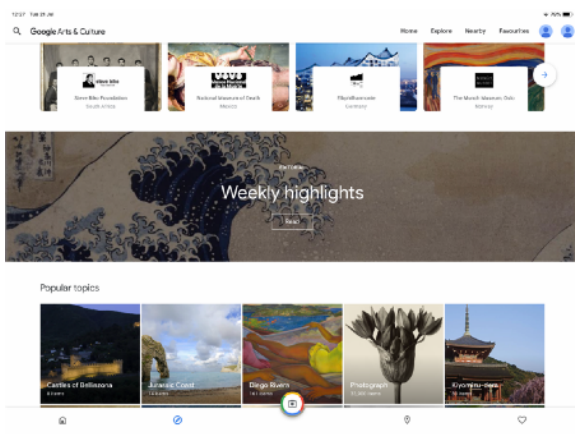
Moving down the Home screen there are more options:

Further down there is an option find who, in art, looks most like you. If you take this option (and you should) it takes picture of you then matches you against millions of faces in paintings. Not to be taken seriously!

There are visits to Museums, Science explanations, in depth look into pictures, and much, much more.

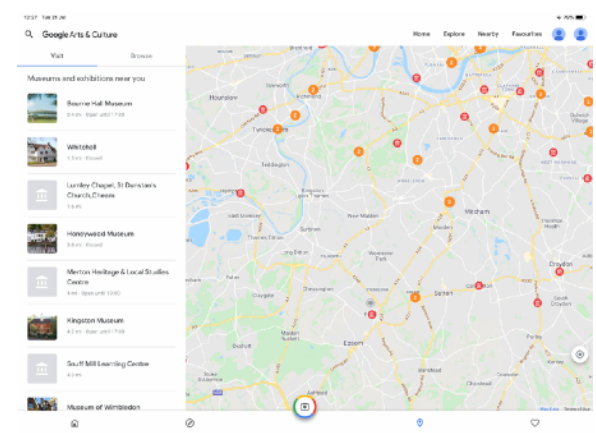
Explore

More options to explore. Again, remember to swipe down to see the complete page.



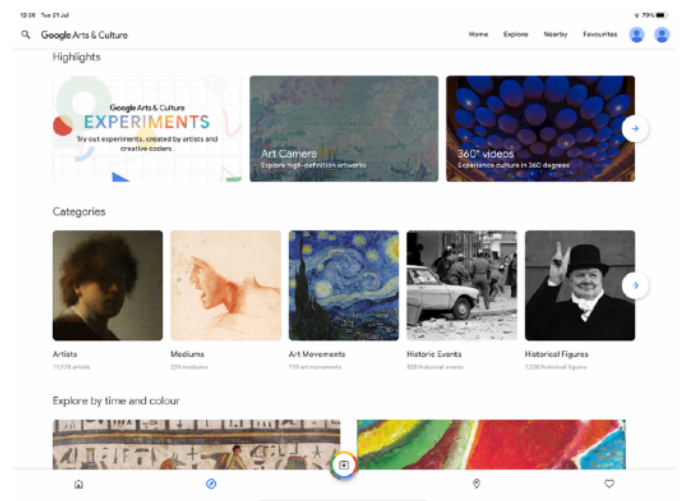
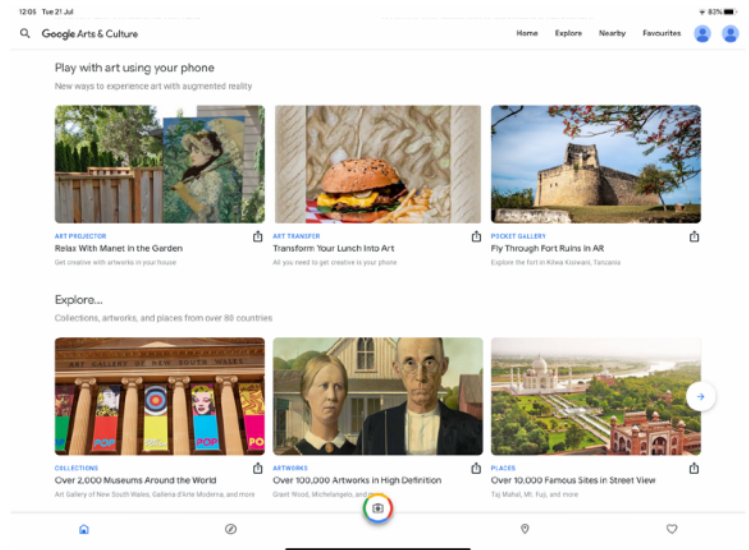
Nearby

Displays a list of all nearby museums and exhibitions in the vicinity. Touch or click on an item to get more details, directions etc



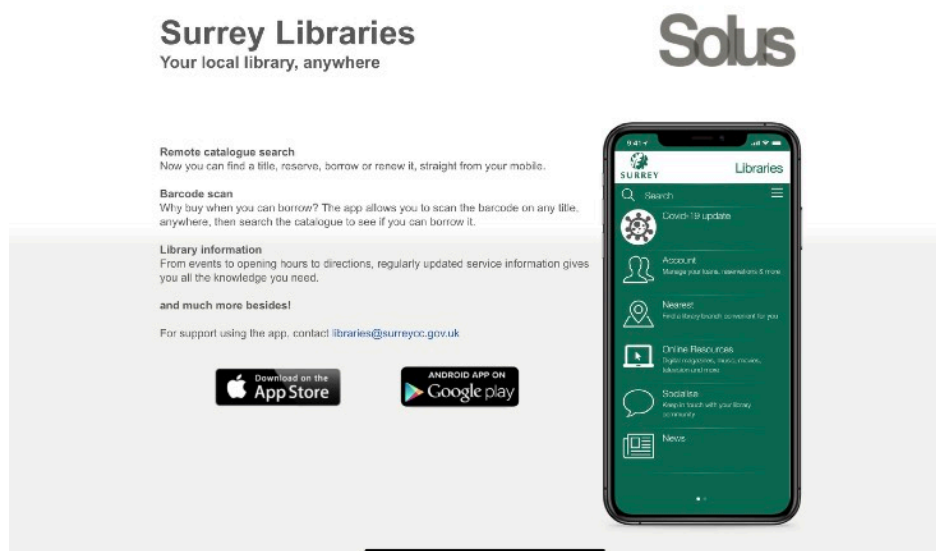
Favourites

It is such a big site you may want to put items in the favourites area for future access. You can also create your own gallery.



Surrey Libraries

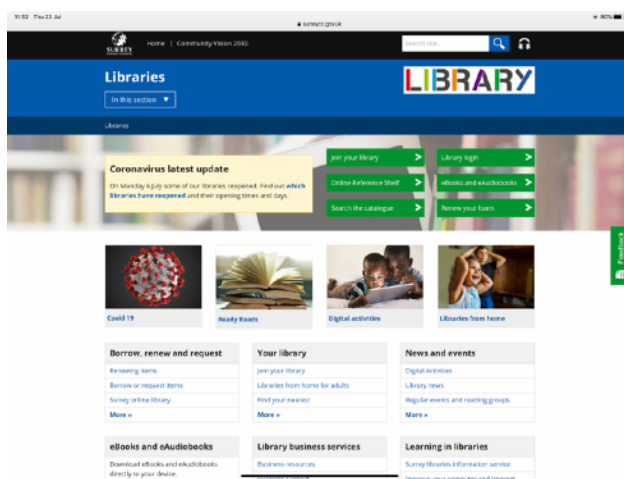
Surrey Libraries have been promoting their app, available in the Apple App store and Google Play store.



To register it would appear you have to go to the library. Currently only Epsom library is open but hopefully the others will open in the near future.

The App enables you to find books, reserve and renew. The barcode function means you can go to a book shop and scan the barcode to see if it is the library. Not sure what book shops think of this feature!

The Surrey Website is quite comprehensive and is well worth a visit:

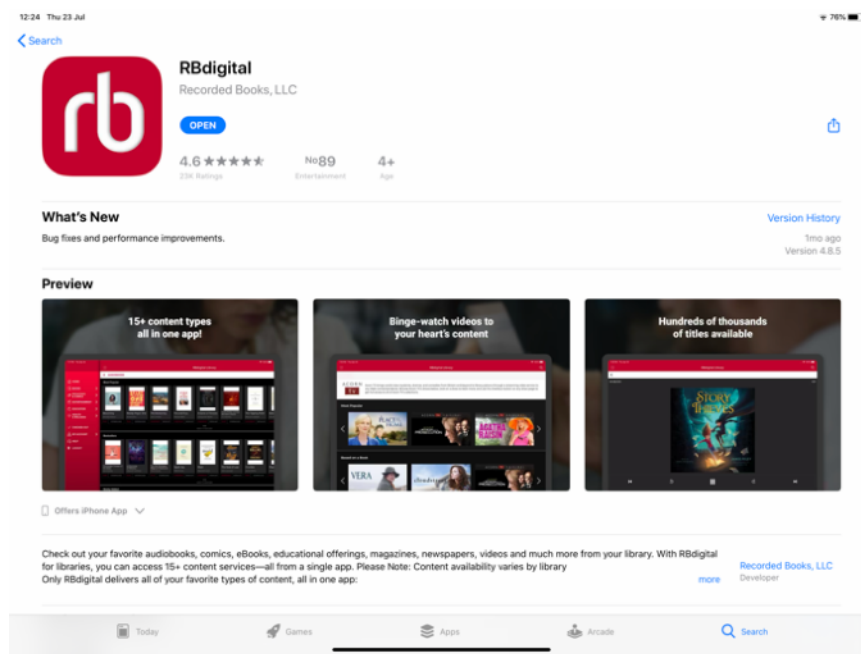


You can visit the site here: <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/libraries>

RBDigital

If you are unwilling or unable to go to a library it may be worth investigating downloading electronic books and magazines.

To do this you need another app, from RBDigital (again in the Apple App Store and google Play). Search for RBDigital.



Using your Surrey library card you should be able to download and read books and magazines.

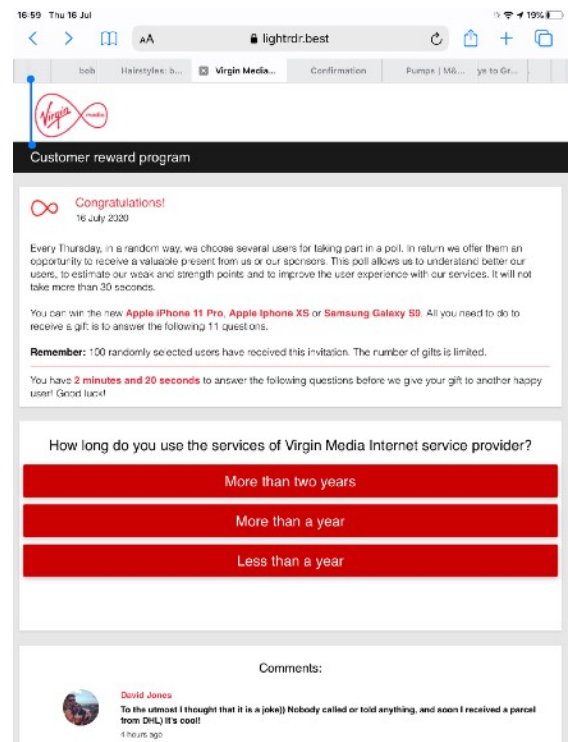
The reviews have been variable but it sounds promising and is free.

Scams

Virgin Media

We happen to be customers of Virgin Media so we were initially interested in this email:

However the web address at the top, the very bad grammar, the short time allowed to answer and the fact that Virgin Media do not give away anything for nothing set alarm bells ringing so this email was swiftly moved to Junk.



Amazon Scam

Here is a message from Surrey police:

This month we've seen a sudden spike in fake Amazon Prime calls. These calls involve someone claiming to be from Amazon and stating that they will be taking money from your account to renew a Prime subscription, typically for £79.99. Victims are told they can avoid this payment being taken by downloading an app to their phone or tablet, where they are then asked to confirm personal and banking details.

Perpetrators of this crime often target older people who are generally less familiar with technology, but we have received reports from younger generations too.

Please act with care if you receive an unsolicited call and never give or confirm any personal details or transfer funds into another account.

You can read the full press release, with advice from our Financial Abuse Safeguarding Officer, here:

<http://orlo.uk/Phjhw>

Please share this information with friends and family members who aren't on social media.

Puzzling picture



Finally

Children today, eh!



If you have any ideas, comments, suggestions please email them to me at steven.p.dow@me.com

See you next month!