

November 2020

Two steps forward...

Some of us enjoyed the Spaceport Cornwall talk last month, some of us thought that it was brilliant, informative, motivational and topical. Forty-one members logged on and between 60-70 listened in total. There is a link on the website if you'd like to see the content.

This month we have Ian Mitchell talking about "How quickly do you make up your mind". Many of you were fortunate to hear Ian's talk about pathways of the brain last year and I know that we came away buzzing from that one. The talk is this Thursday (November 5th at 10 am). Logging on from 9.45 until 10.00. You can email Pietro on pietro.abate@staustellu3a.org if you need some assistance.

Zoom is easy to use and there is help available if you'd like to come to the monthly meetings on-line. I know some of you were first time users last month – thank you for joining us.

For December we have no plans as yet and it is likely to be a bit closer to Christmas when we do something.

Lockdown

It's back to being at home for most of us with an impending lockdown and winter upon us, not an easy time for many of our members. We have a group called Outreach – you can join the group if you would like to make a new friend, have a chat with someone you may not know or if you need some support, (shopping etc). We're also wondering about a hot meal delivered to you sometimes. Drop me an email if you'd like to be included. The group have rung many of the members who have joined since 2019 to find out what they feel about the u3a. During the course of the calls we have learned a lot. You don't need to be alone through Covid times, we hope to help.

Groups

Our walkers have been out and about, the quizzers have been quizzing and boules were thrown on Saturday 31st October. Other groups are also functioning: The Silver Slithers' are slimming down for Christmas, the Wine group sharing tasting notes, the theatre members are sharing reviews. Travellers Tales have had recent talks, Spanish are meeting via Zoom, the book groups are meeting virtually and in a small group. There are photos being critiqued and shared. Have a look at the website or contact any committee member through the links if you're interested in any of the groups.

Sadly from this Thursday, we will be restricting ourselves again according to the new government guidelines so even less contact than we have had of late. Please watch the u3a National website for their guidance.

Membership

To compensate all our existing members for a year with little activity, we have voted to give you a gratis year in 2021. There will be an opportunity to make a donation to the u3a if you wish as we had a number of fixed costs that needed covering in 2020.

The committee also voted to maintain the existing membership fee for new members.

If anyone objects to the above please could you give your views to Chris Scott , (treasurer link on the web site), within 30 days.

Crowd Funding St Austell Arts Theatre

In the near future we will be seeing the launch of a crowdfunding scheme for the Arts Theatre. Jonathan tells me it would be beneficial if they have some pledges before in advance of the launch. Please either email Jonathan or call the Theatre (info@staustellartstheatre.org.uk or 01726 72685)

Poppy Appeal

Have you been wondering where to go for your Poppies? You can log on to the www.britishlegion.org.uk . You can ask for up to 20 poppies for free to share with friends and family, a donation is up to you.

Finally a song

Singing for Fun were due to meet but the rule of 6 put a stop to that. Ever cheerful they shared the lyrics below so I'm passing them on for us all to have a bit of Abba in our lives! Any other bits of quirkiness can be shared with me and I'll see if we can find them a home either in a newsletter or on the website.

All for now, with best wishes

Pippa

THANK YOU FOR THE MUSIC – ABBA

*I'm nothing special, in fact I'm a bit of a bore
If I tell a joke, you've probably heard it before
But I have a talent, a wonderful thing
'Cause everyone listens when I start to sing*

*I'm so grateful and proud
All I want is to sing it out loud
So I say
Thank you for the music, the songs I'm singing
Thanks for all the joy they're bringing
Who can live without it, I ask in all honesty
What would life be
Without a song or a dance what are we
So I say thank you for the music
For giving it to me
Mother says I was a dancer before I could walk
Mmm, she says I began to sing long before I could talk
And I've often wondered, how did it all start
Who found out that nothing can capture a heart
Like a melody can
Well, whoever it was, I'm a fan
So I say
Thank you for the music, the songs I'm singing
Thanks for all the joy they're bringing
Who can live without it, I ask in all honesty
What would life be
Without a song or a dance what are we
So I say thank you for the music
For giving it to me
I've been so lucky, I am the girl with golden hair
I wanna sing it out to everybody
What a joy, what a life, what a chance
Thank you for the music, the songs I'm singing
Thanks for all the joy they're bringing
Who can live without it, I ask in all honesty
What would life be
Without a song or a dance what are we
So I say thank you for the music
For giving it to me
So I say thank you for the music
For giving it to me*