

St Austell u3a July 2021 Newsletter

The Government is now expected to confirm the easing of most Covid restrictions on July 19th. The message is that whilst restrictions will no longer be enshrined in law we all become responsible for acting appropriately to protect ourselves and others from the spread of the virus. An advisory discussion document produced by u3a National Office is also attached for your information.

This is Your u3a!

We are always in need volunteers to help St Austell u3a flourish, grow and provide members with the social and interest network to live, laugh and learn. Please, please consider offering some of your free time to help us help you and all our members.

Norma Jarman is stepping down from finding and booking speakers. Thank you Norma for your work to find such a high calibre of speakers. (see below for examples) and now it is Norma's turn to take a back seat but we need someone to step up and take her place. If you are interested in helping or would like more information please contact: jan.badger@staustellu3a.org

Speaker

Our Speaker last week was Jim Holmes Photographer "**Life in Landlocked Laos**" a personal journey through the food, landscapes, people and history of this magical place. Jim's relaxed and informative talk was truly captivating. He has an obvious passion for this country where he lived and worked for 14 years. Although I think most of us would draw the line at raw ducks' blood soup! Mark Stephenson was a great host too. Many thanks Mark.

Our August speaker on the 5th is **Alan Jones "Keep Your Hair On"** Straight, wavy, long, natural or dyed! Wigs, extensions, beards and eye brows.

Smuggling, politics, religion, and fashion collide in a billion dollar trade. Discover the secretive and lucrative international world of Hair that is guaranteed to grip you by the long, short or curly.

Venue

Subject to the lifting of restrictions by the government as expected, we are currently hoping to recommence meetings from September at St Austell Arts Centre. Meantime, we are continuing discussions with the trustees concerning possible improvements such as disabled access and improvements to lavatories. Group Leaders will be contacted in due course to confirm that the pre lockdown time slots will still be appropriate or required going forward.

Groups' News

As life begins to return to some form of normality, more groups are beginning to meet in person. The Spanish Groups met for a Spanish themed picnic complete with paella, the Theatre Group attended the Festival Players production of Henry V at Pinetum Gardens and The Wine Appreciation Group will be visiting Knightor Winery next week for a tour, wine tasting and lunch.

Over one third of the Kernow Petanque team who played against Devon at the end of June were regular u3a Petanque group members. Whilst the team from Cornwall failed to secure the overall title, the u3a members made a valuable contribution.



If you are interested in learning more about Petanque, don't forget that there is an open event at Tregony Sports and Social Club on Sunday 25th July. Whilst this is not an exclusive u3a event, it's an opportunity to meet up in an outdoor environment.

Historic Walking Tours of Charlestown

A couple of weeks ago Amanda and I joined Lyndon (Sid) Allen on his first Historic Walking Tour of Charlestown. Sid is brimming with passion and knowledge and his family has lived in the village for generations. If you are interested in local history, this is a must. We shall be taking another tour soon as Sid tells us he could talk for days!

<http://www.charlestowntours.co.uk>

Finally

For those of us who will be glued to the 2020 UEFA final between England and Italy on Sunday evening let's hope that it's a good game and that the best team wins!

Remember our u3a [website](#) is updated on a regular basis with latest information and you can follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Best wishes

Chris Crane