

## **St Austell u3a July 2024 Newsletter**

### **St Austell Arts Centre**

Simon Messenger has resigned as Manager of St Austell Arts Centre and Sheila Vanloo also has no further involvement. The u3a Committee are continuing to negotiate with the Arts Centre Trustees to secure our future use of the building and facilities.

### **Committee**

We always welcome enquiries from members who may be interested in joining the committee.

### **Speaker**

There was no Speaker in July due to the General Election.

Our next Speaker will be 1<sup>st</sup> August when we welcome Carol Avery whose talk is "My Life in the RAF".

Carol's talk won't cover the current role of the RAF but she has plenty of anecdotes from her time in service. The scope will be a potted history of her various postings including flying in the Queen's seat with the Royal Flight each month, deploying to the Gulf war with an important cargo to deliver under fire, hosting VIPs and a trip around the USA as part of her tour with the Red Arrows.

The Speaker programme for the rest of the year is available of the website: <https://staustellu3a.org/speakers>

### **Groups**

#### **Social Group**

On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July members went to Buckfastleigh for a ride on the South Devon Steam Railway and to visit Buckfast Abbey.

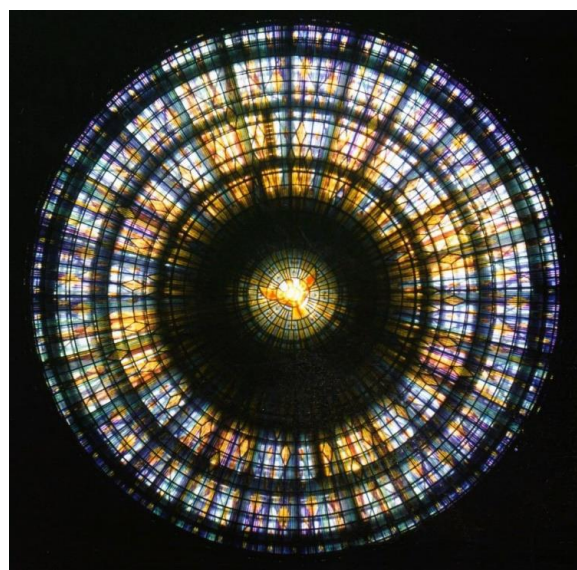


### **Book Group 3**

A new Book Group has started and will be meeting in Par. If you are interested in joining or would like more information please contact: [lee.argent@staustellu3a.org](mailto:lee.argent@staustellu3a.org)

### **Happy Snappers**

The winner of last month's Happy Snappers photographic competition was "Circle of Light".



## French Group

The French Group Celebrated Bastille Day in Danielle's garden. Everyone contributed French themed food and had quite a feast. Danielle organised a French quiz and the singing of French songs, she had put a lot of thought and work into the preparation.



## Travellers' Tales

The Travellers' Tales group is not meeting in August but is back on September 6th with a great programme of talks, starting with "Cycling in Vietnam and Cambodia". All welcome. Contact: [sally.haywood@staustellu3a.org](mailto:sally.haywood@staustellu3a.org)

## Wine Group

On Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July, members from the Wine Group visited Ellis Wharton Wines at Indian Queens for a "wine tour around the Mediterranean" tasting wines from Italy, Spain and Greece all accompanied with plenty of tasty nibbles. A great time was had by all!



## Short Walks

The next short walk scheduled is to Minions on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July. The walk is approximately 3 miles long and circular, taking around 2 hours. Contact: [roger.jones@staustellu3a.org](mailto:roger.jones@staustellu3a.org)

## Long Walks

On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July the “Half Day Wanderers” completed an 8k circular walk on beautiful moorland. A detour to take in the far reaching views from St Bellarmins Tor, passing by a well preserved row of standing stones.



**Please do tell me of interesting events your Group may have participated in, I am sure all members would enjoy hearing about them in this newsletter.**

### **u3a Tour 2025 to Italy**

The Tour for 2025 is going to be to PUGLIA & the South - Undiscovered Italy with NEWMARKET HOLIDAYS. on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2025.

An 8 day escorted Tour- Newmarket Holidays online for a detailed daily breakdown of the Tour.

<https://www.newmarketholidays.co.uk/holidays/europe/puglia-and-the-south-undiscovered-italy>

To date 21 members have booked and there are only 25 places available!

Newmarket have just lowered their prices: The prices are for Half Board at the Hotel.

Twin rooms are £1237 pp.

Single rooms are £1542 (but like this year this price is for the first 4 rooms; so if there are more single travellers, the price may increase which will affect all single room costs).

To these costs there would be the cost of a coach to Gatwick and a night's stay at Premier Inn which could be around £240 per single traveller and about £350 per couple.

If you are interested please email me with your FULL NAMES as on your passport, as that is all Newmarket Holidays require in the next 2 weeks. Then I can collect cheques for the deposit of £250pp when I am advised by Newmarket.

On the Tour like most travel companies there are free days with optional extra excursions which are

Day 2- Monopoli and Polignano a Mare - cost £98 pp.

Day 7 - Castellano Grotto and Locorotondo - cost £182 pp.

**Contact:** [roger.jones@staustellu3a.org](mailto:roger.jones@staustellu3a.org)

If you are a Social Media user you can follow St Austell u3a on:

Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/StAustellU3A>

Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/staustell\\_u3a/](https://www.instagram.com/staustell_u3a/)

X (Twitter): <https://twitter.com/StAustellU3A>

Please don't forget to: Follow, Like, Share and Repost.

Best Wishes

**Chris Crane**