

St Austell u3a August 2025 Newsletter

I would like to extend a huge thank you to those 37 members who answered Jenny Skipp's appeal for volunteers to help with the new Welcomer's Group and in particular to Ellie Evans who has agreed to lead the group.

If you would like to add your name, please contact:

ellie.evans@staustellu3a.org

A Date For Your Diary.

Our AGM will be held on Thursday 2nd October 2025. It is important that as many members as possible attend. More details will follow.

Speakers

The speaker on Thursday 7th August was by member, Clint O'Connor. His talk entitled "We are All Made of Stardust", was a fascinating insight into the origins of the elements and how it all started with the "Big Bang".



Due to unforeseen circumstances, Shellie Forster our scheduled speaker on September 4th has had to cancel her talk on Hearing Health. We are currently finding a suitable replacement speaker and will advise details as soon as possible.

Social Group

The August event is a trip on the Paddle Steamer PS Waverley on 31st August. There will be a coach from Fowey to Plymouth and there we will board the Waverley to **sail back to Fowey**. This was a very popular trip last year!



Monday 22nd September is a Trip to Buckland Abbey and on Wednesday 22nd October 2025 there is a trip to The House of Marbles in Bovey Tracey.

For all social events contact: helen.neilson@staustellu3a.org

Groups

There are a few new groups which are either about to start or for which we would like to gauge interest amongst members.

Chris Timmins is leading a visit to Falmouth Air Show on Wednesday, August 13th which is the inaugural meeting of a new **“science” based group**.

Cribbage Group

There will be a new group for playing cribbage starting on 8th September 2025 from 14.00 – 16.00 at St Austell Arts Centre and continuing to meet on the second Monday of the month at the same time.



The group will cater for all levels of players from experienced, those wishing to improve their game and those wishing to learn.

If anyone could bring a cribbage board and pack of cards with them it will be of great help.

Cribbage originated in the 17th century, adapted from a game called "Noddy" by an English poet Sir John Suckling and soon became a favourite game for sailors and fishermen due to its portability. It would be good to keep these historical games alive with your help.

If you are interested in either of the above, or have an idea for a new interest group please contact:

chris.timmins@staustellu3a.org

Travel/Holidays

I am sorry to announce that this Octobers Holiday to Puglia in southern Italy, will be the last organised by Roger Jones. Roger has worked hard for the last few years ensuring that members get the best experience possible on these holidays but now feels it's time for someone else to take over. Roger will provide help and guidance to whoever replaces him. Contact:

roger.jones@staustellu3a.org

Knitting and Crochet Group

The first meeting of this group at the end of July was a great success. The Group has started with a healthy 13 members.

Contact: wendy.poole@staustellu3a.org

Theatre Group

I sadly omitted to include any photographs from the Theatre Groups murder mystery trip. on 27th June. "The Vanishing Lady" was set in the 1930's and steamed out of Bodmin and Wenford station on 27th June.



August 2nd was the Theatre Groups trip to Sidmouth Folk Festival. 22 members enjoyed the sunshine music and culture.



There is still some availability for some future Theatre Group events:

HMS Pinafore, Wheal Martyn, 13th September.

Johnny Cowling, Arts Centre, 27th September.

Death on the Nile Hall for Cornwall 13th November.

Contact: linda.johnstone@staustellu3a.org

Short Walks

The July walk was on 25th, it was a lovely sunny walk from Minions, enjoying The Hurlers Stone Circle, the famous Cheesewring rock formation and beautiful moorland views.





The next Short Walk is to the Luxulyan Valley on Friday 22nd August 2025. The walk is approx. 3 miles and will start at Luxulyan Village Hall carpark Contact: roger.jones@staustellu3a.org

Travellers' Tales

There is no meeting in August. The next meeting will be on Friday 5th September when Roger Jones will give a talk on the Yorkshire coast and York city at 2pm in the Assembly Room. All welcome.

We are looking for interesting talks for 2026. If you have been on a memorable trip, at any time in your life, and have some slides or photos to illustrate it, please get in touch with Sally Haywood

Contact: sally.haywood@staustellu3a.org

Wine Appreciation

On Friday 1st of August Peter May from Majestic Wines in Falmouth, gave a fantastic "Summer Wines" presentation to the group.



A “blind” presentation started with a fizz, then 2 whites, 2 pinks and 2 reds.



Christmas Event

We are still looking for input for the 2025 show. If you have any thoughts please contact: elaine.hyde-linaker@staustellu3a.org

Don't forget to tell me of any interesting events your Group may have participated in, and include photos whenever

possible. I am sure all members would enjoy hearing about them in this newsletter.

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/

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

Please remember to: Follow, Like, Share and Repost.

Best wishes

Chris Crane