



## February 2022 Newsletter

We're already a month into 2022 and many interest groups have started the year with the positive expectation that activities will take place as much as our new "normal" will allow. The prevalence of the Omicron virus variation caused the first open meeting of the year to be postponed, however the committee hope that as many of the other planned open meetings will take place if not face-to-face then on Zoom.

### Updates from the Interest Groups

**Art2Start:** January 2022 saw the start of the u3a art group Art2Start. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month from 14.00hrs - 16.00hrs at the Church Hall in Lostwithiel

**Bird Watching:** meetings planned -

- 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022 Wacker Quay and Millbrook. Meeting 10.00hrs at Wacker Quay
- 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022 Porthgwarra and Battery Rocks Penzance. Meeting 11.00hrs at Porthgwarra
- 6<sup>th</sup> April 2022 Walmsley and Burniere. Meeting 10.00hrs
- 20<sup>th</sup> April 2022 (Easter 17<sup>th</sup> April) Botallack and St Just (Choughs)
- 18<sup>th</sup> May Gwithian sands, Godrevy. Meeting 10.30hrs
- 15<sup>th</sup> June Golitha Falls and Siblyback. Meeting 10.00hrs
- 20<sup>th</sup> July TBA
- 17<sup>th</sup> August Planning Meeting at 16.00hrs

In addition to the planned visits above, we hope to arrange the following

- Visits to Walmsley and Burniere hides (near Wadebridge)
- An overnight trip to Exmouth and Seaton to include boat trip to see Avocets on River Exe .  
Arrange for 27th/28th February 2022

Please note we sometimes have to change the date. so being on the email list is the best for accurate info.

**Chess:** the Chess group was launched as a new group at an initial meeting on 14th February 2020, but due to the pandemic the meetings planned for Spring 2020 had to be cancelled. The group has not met since and is now looking for a chess enthusiast to take on the role of Group Leader and re-

launch the group. If you are interested in taking on this role please contact Annie Singer.

**Electric Bikers:** unfortunately at the moment the group is full but if you would like your name to go on the waiting list please contact Brian Marriot

**Family History:** via the medium of Zoom, our February meeting is on Wednesday 16th at 11.00hrs. We eagerly anticipate Roger Hancock's previously postponed talk on WikiTree - a free, collaborative Family History website which is well-regarded although our own group knowledge is somewhat sparse! Additionally we continue to look at breaking down "brick walls" and the various changes to the plethora of information on FamilySearch.

Interested in joining us? Please contact David Platt for further details.

**Garden Visits Group:** members have recently been e-mailed a copy of Draft 2 of the proposed programme for 2022, put together by a small group of fellow enthusiasts. We intend to resume our programme in March 2022 with a visit to the Pinetum Garden in St Austell (for the early Spring flowers and shrubs) and to finish it in October /November with a visit to Lukesland Garden near Ivybridge in Devon (for the Autumn colours).

We have no waiting list so new members are very welcome.

**Photography:** the group continues to meet three times each month. Currently, on the fourth Thursday each month our meeting sees us out and about taking pictures in a variety of fairly local locations. The other two monthly meetings are held online on the first Monday and third Thursday - in one we share and discuss images based on a monthly theme, whilst in the second we explore a variety of topics related to processing images in more depth.

We welcome members with all ranges of ability and equipment - most of us started out using our phone as a camera!"

**Science Group:** this group is planning a meeting early in February to allow potential members to express their views on what Group activities they would like to support. Topics for discussion, guest (or internal) speakers, outside visits, quizzes, book exchange and the like. All suggestions will be considered. Please contact Alf Littler for more information.

**Scrabble Group:** our small but friendly group continues meeting, to try to keep the little grey cells active. We play strictly for fun.

We meet fortnightly on Thursdays at 14.00hrs, courtesy of our very kind hosts at the Royal Oak, Duke St., Lostwithiel, where there is usually parking available. All equipment is supplied.

New players are very welcome. Please feel free to contact Jon Hancock for more details.

**Strummers Ukulele:** we now meet at Lanhydrock Memorial Hall every Monday Afternoon 14.00hrs to 16.00hrs. If you are a player or would like to learn you would be most welcome. Please contact Brian.

**Wine Appreciation:** in the past few years we have tasted wine from all over the world as each month. A different member hosts the group and chooses which wines we should taste - sometimes by country or region, and sometimes by grape variety. We have all enjoyed trying wines which we would not normally have chosen so we like to feel our tastes have widened through belonging to

this Interest Group. Initially in 2022 we will continue with members hosting the group in their homes:

28th February 2022 Eric Gadd

28th March 2022 Lindsay and Keith Southgate

25th April 2022 Helen Mills

We will continue with a regular fixture of 15.00hrs on the last Monday of the month.

**Writing:** the Group is still very lively and active and is now meeting in person after a long period of Zoom meetings. We have had to change the venue of our meetings and the date. We now meet at the Church Rooms on the second Tuesday of the month.

Unfortunately, we cannot take on any new members at the moment but please contact the Group contact if you want to join us as we maintain a waiting list.

## **OPEN MEETING**

We hope to have made appropriate arrangements to be able to go ahead with our **Open Meeting on Monday 7th March at 2pm in the Church Room.**

**The Fire and Rescue Service** will talk about their work focussing on fire safety in the home and road safety. it's salutary to realise that over 80% of all casualties occur as a result of fires in the home. The majority of these fires are accidental and could have been prevented.

**To ensure that the Church rooms are as Covid-19 safe as possible the current plans are that:**

- The talk will be open to **members only**.
- The chairs will be set 1 metre apart so numbers maybe restricted.
- The committee kindly requests that, unless they are exempt, members wear a mask until seated and when they move.
- Refreshments **will not** be served.
- The above arrangements are subject to change should Covid-19 guidance change.

### **Contacts**

Chair – Chris Dimond 01208 871784

Membership – Sue Sargent 01208 368935