

# **Celebration of International Moon Day**

## **Monkton Stargazers**

*July 20, Kent, United Kingdom*

The Monkton Stargazers met on the 20 July to celebrate International Moon Day at our venue, the Boating Pool in Ramsgate, Kent, England. We had a very fruitful discussion about the Exploration of the Moon. I had watched the presentation by Imperial College in the afternoon and took screenshots to show the group in the evening.

We were able to see the work done by Interstellar and the research into creating a Lunar Pod to grow plants in a greenhouse on the Moon. We were impressed by Astrobotic's construction of rovers for Moon exploration. We wondered how much actual experience they had!

We found the talk from the United Nations speaker very interesting. It was good that every satellite and space object needs to be registered and insurance issues sorted. However we did not share his optimism for global co-operation. One has only to look at the crash of China's Long March 5B rocket back to Earth to realise that some countries are a law to themselves.  
(<https://www.space.com/chinese-long-march-5b-rocket-space-debris-crash>)

We found the Artemis mission very exciting, with the possibility of a female astronaut on the Moon. We finished the discussion with a Moon quiz of 15 multiple choice questions. It was very challenging but we learnt a lot.

Everyone received a Moon sticker and a poster.

We will make the 20 July celebration an annual event with hopefully more visitors next year.