

Chair Report (David Salmon) – February 2024



Honestly, can you believe it!! You take a short break over Christmas and both Sue and Bob decide to take over the 'joke corner'!! But thanks to you both for continuing the monthly chuckle spot. Good for the soul and keeps us all feeling younger at heart. So, just as a change for this month here's a few quotes from some celebrities instead.

"When choosing between two evils I always pick the one I haven't tried before" - Mae West

"I like work. It fascinates me. I can sit and look at it for hours" - Jerome K Jerome

"Both optimist and pessimists contribute to society. For example, the optimists the aeroplane, the pessimist the parachute" - George Bernard Shaw

May I start off by wishing all members a belated Happy New Year. It would be really good this new year to promote ourselves to attract more members and add additional groups for everyone, and that's something I and our Committee will be looking at in the near future. Having said that we had several new enquiries/members recently. Welcome to you all. Our speakers continue to be very varied and we have them lined up until late next year thanks to the efforts of Sue Clements who is doing a great job of finding people from a variety of backgrounds.

Our last speaker did a detailed and fascinating presentation on climate change, but, on a purely personal basis, I felt only portrayed just one side of the story. The amazing advances of science in the recent past and I guess in the future, is an ever changing subject with hydrogen energy becoming used more and more with new fuels like thorium for nuclear power helping keep our planet in balance.

With the days slowly getting lighter, thoughts go to the annual spring flowers to plant with the snowdrops and bulbs poking through, buds appearing on the trees and I've noticed an increase in customers in our local nurseries with lots of plants being purchased. Clearing out the old garden growth and weeds, trips to the tip will once again be necessary, lawn mowers checked and all the associated things to do with the new season. So hopefully new growth not just for our gardens, but for our u3a with new members contributing, bringing new ideas, and making new friends along the way. Please remember that joining u3a as a new member you only pay £5 for membership until renewal in April.

David Salmon
Chair