



### Notes From the Chair.

Hoping that you had an enjoyable Christmas and trust that it's not too late to wish all our members a Happy New Year.

Outside in the garden, very briefly, the other evening and noticed that despite it being 4.30 there was still some daylight. Taken together with the snowdrops starting to bloom and the bluebells and daffodils starting to show it's difficult not to get overexcited about spring lurking there somewhere.

Those of you who've tried to use our website over the last few weeks will have discovered that it's not in great shape. The website is hosted by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party on behalf of the TAT, to put it politely a planned upgrade did not go as well as it might. It'll be coming to life slowly with a totally new version in a few months.

We kick off this year's monthly meetings with a talk from Dr Frances Hurd, retired Ofsted inspector, that will surely interest all ex and current teachers! **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January** is the date of our January meeting. Doors will open at **10:45**, with kick-off at **11:00**.

Looking back to the end of last year we held our **Festive Afternoon Tea** which I'm happy to report was enjoyed by all. Many thanks to the T&D u3a Guitar Group who provided the music.

Even better ...we are looking to repeat the event sometime in the summer. Volunteers please.

### January Speaker

#### **Dr Frances Hurd 'Nineteen Years at the Chalkface: confessions of an Ofsted inspector'**

Everyone hates Ofsted, especially teachers and parents – now is our chance not only to meet an Ofsted inspector in the flesh but to learn about the history of inspection in England and hear about inspection from the other side of the clipboard.

Dr Frances Hurd is a historical researcher living in Chichester. She has worked in publishing, academia, and the heritage sector, as well as inspecting schools both in the UK and in Abu Dhabi. As an experienced public speaker, she is in regular demand from local societies, PROBUS groups and U3As,

Today she will tell us what it is like to have had the incredible privilege of observing lessons: what she has learnt from nineteen years in classrooms: and the funny side of inspection.

Brian Bilston's poem not displayed due to copyright restrictions.



## Raffle for a Double Size Quilt

£1 per ticket

January monthly meeting

The quilt was made by a number of members from the U3A quilting group to raise funds for **Project Linus**

**Project Linus UK** is to provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children, who are sick, disabled, disadvantaged or distressed by donating gifts of NEW, HOMEMADE, WASHABLE quilts and blankets, lovingly made by UK volunteer knitters and quilters

The raffle will be drawn at the end of the January meeting

Here's one for the techies. As I've previously mentioned the basic website is about to be re-engineered by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Age Trust using Wordpress, it's likely that this will offer us the opportunity to carry out some customisation to enable us to provide a local look and feel. If you've any experience in this space or have a great desire to learn Wordpress this could be your opportunity

Discovered someone who dropped off of the pressie list by mistake? Don't panic T&D u3a comes to the rescue with, the **T&Du3A Calendar**. Last few on sale at the January monthly meeting.

Recently received a message from David Gent the Bus Pass group leader to remind us that despite all the disruption caused by Covid that the group continues to be 'doing stuff'. More information will be posted on our website in the next couple of days.

The Photographic group is short of ideas, difficult to believe but that's the way it goes! If you have any suggestions the group would certainly appreciate them as its future is not looking healthy. Contact the group leader via the Group tab on the website page.

Significant work will be taking place at the beginning of the year on the roof at TCC so please be ready for some disruption.