

### Notes From the Chair.



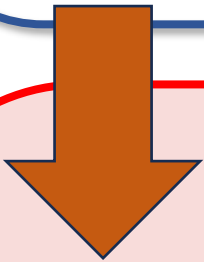
A late Happy New Year to one and all and trust that you enjoyed the festive season and have emerged in good health.

The family spent Xmas and New Year in Scotland which was fun and where, for once, the weather was better than down here, wellies weren't required!

We go into 2024 with a u3a that's in good health both in terms of number of members and finances, but as members come and go we continue in our efforts to recruit new members. There's no definition of 'full up'!

On the subject of recruiting, we are stepping up our search for new committee members. A number of committee members will be stepping down this year, it is with some urgency for the future of TandD u3a that we find replacements. If you're interested, then just email us, or contact an existing member.

Back to this month...Our January speaker is Patricia Pearce talking about the 'Dreamflight' charity, looks reaaaaally interesting.



### January Speaker Patricia Pearce MBE "Dreamflight"

Dreamflight was co-founded in 1986 by Patricia Pearce and Derek Pereira, both of whom worked for British Airways. Patricia had previously helped organise a BA project, Skyride, which raised money to take underprivileged children on a one-hour 'Christmas party' flight. Patricia and Derek decided to go one step further and take deserving children to Walt Disney World, Dreamflight was born.

The first trip took place in November 1987. It was originally meant to be a 'one off trip' but has now become an annual event. 197 seriously ill and disabled children are taken to Orlando for 10 days each year without any parents just a huge team of doctors. Nurses, physiotherapists and other helpers to look after them.

Over 6,000 children have experienced their 'holiday of a lifetime'.

January's Monthly Meeting is on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January in the Community Centre. Doors open 10:45 meeting starts at 11:00.

Don't forget that you can always contact TandDu3a via email [TandDu3a@gmail.com](mailto:TandDu3a@gmail.com)

Has Aunt Daisy given you an Xmas present that although totally gorgeous, tasteful, carefully considered doesn't quite fit in with your décor? Well, bring it along to January's monthly meeting for it to be included as one of this year's raffle prizes where it can be fully appreciated...and just a reminder that all proceeds from the raffle go to this year's Chair's charity Treloar School.

By the bye...we sent out a member survey form to our 760 members asking for your views on how T&Du3a is doing and what it could do better? We only received 24 replies, the majority positive! Whilst that could indicate that we're doing an astoundingly good job it gives us no indication of how we might move our u3a forward. If we don't change, we stagnate, membership drops and eventually our u3a dies. The committee can't do everything so ideas please.

The Wine group has relocated to the new, sparkling, revamped Pamber Heath Village Hall. 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday in the month, tasting starts at 14:30.

Hampshire CC are carrying out a survey on where to locate new EV charging points within the county. Click [here](#) to go to the survey form. It's important for Tadley.

Just a short note that the next Repair Shop in Heath End village hall is on Sunday, 21st Jan from 10am till 1pm. So, if any of T&D U3A members have any household items to fix, please bring them along.

They are also looking for volunteers, both in the front office and as repairers (particularly tool sharpening, electrical /electronic repairs) so if anyone can spare 4 hours every 3rd Sunday of the month and enjoy the buzz of a repair cafe, they can get in touch with Rosie on 07801-787280.



A moment of indulgence for a limited audience but for those of us who are, who were, or wish they could be railway modellers. Hattons Model Railways, founded in 1946, has announced with "immense sadness" that it will cease trading after 77 years. Apologies for taking up the space.

NB. We will be checking membership cards

**The building work at the TCC is finished.**

**Entrance to the TCC for January's monthly meeting is through the double entrance doors, turn left and enter the hall via the double doors to hall A on your right. Just like we used to do many moons ago!**