



Chair Chat January 2019

Happy New Year to Everyone.

January is considered to be the second month of Winter so that means another six weeks and it should be Spring!

It is also statistically the coldest month of the year on average so wrap up warm! January is named after Janus, the Roman God of Doors, because this month is the door to the year.

Traditionally it is also the time when we make New Year Resolutions. Babylonians and Romans made New Year Resolutions to do with paying off debts etc.

Personally, I make the same resolution every year, which is to have more patience. Not sure if I am succeeding if I have to make the same one every year.

Two of the most common New Year Resolutions nowadays are to learn a new skill or take up a new hobby, and to live life to the full. Really good for all U3A members!

I look forward to an interesting 2019 with a wide variety of activities, including the Barn Dance in February.

The days are getting longer and soon we shall see the first snowdrops, Hoorah!

Sandra Goulding

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## Monthly Meetings and Speakers:

The main meeting is held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month at 2 p.m. (be there by 1.45 pm to get a seat!) at Roberts Hall behind Christ Church, Bexleyheath Broadway.

Space permits this month to include all our meeting dates so please make a note in your diaries for 2019.

|             |                                                |                                                                                           |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| January 10  | Ian Low                                        | My Life as A toastmaster                                                                  |
| February 14 | Ingrid Janson                                  | Organise Your Home!                                                                       |
| March 14    | Kinder Transport.<br>Children Refugee<br>Train | Speaker tba<br><i>Please note the Speaker will start<br/>at 13.45 and finish at 15.30</i> |
| April 11    | Support Dogs                                   | tba                                                                                       |
| May 9       | A Very Special<br>Speaker                      | Details later** subject to acting<br>commitments                                          |
| June 13     | Tony Neild                                     | Hall Place Gardens. Return Visit                                                          |
| July 12     | Summer Social with<br>Aiden Kent Singer        | Don't miss. He is Great!                                                                  |

|              |                              |                                                                                 |
|--------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| August 8     | Oliver Wooller               | The Blind Mayor and the Ghostly Cat<br>Also the History of Hall Place the House |
| September 12 | Gaye Illsley                 | Lasting Powers of Attorney. Don't be put off by the Title!                      |
| October 10   | AGM with Evergreen Revellers | Choir                                                                           |
| November 8   | TBA                          |                                                                                 |
| December 12  | Social with Tom Carradine    | Good old Cockney Sing A Long                                                    |

### **Barn Dance Advance notice.**

There must be very few people who do not like a Barn Dance. Even if you have two left feet and no rhythm you can still enjoy a Barn Dance.

On **Friday February 22<sup>nd</sup> 2019** Bexley U3A are holding our first Barn dance at the Roberts Hall Bexleyheath. Arrive 19.00 to start at 19.30 finish around 22.30; no you will not need to dance for 3 solid hours!

Bring your own nibbles or Banquet & your "Flavoured water". **Price a modest £8.**

A Local band called Skinners Rats will be helping you to understand the moves.

You do not have to have a partner; there will be plenty of people to dance with.

The evening is open to all members of Bexley U3A and their partners. We need 80 to cover the cost. If we do not get the 80 from our membership we will open it up to Friends & Family. Please mark this date in your Diary. We will let you know when tickets go on sale

Barn Dancing originates from English Country dancing and is still performed in Barns in the Country areas; we do not have too many suitable Barns in our Area! The U3A Saying is, Learn, Laugh and Live, this is the Laugh bit!

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**Local Lights next visit to: *St Peters Church, Pickford Lane, Bexleyheath***

**Enjoy the Belvedere Concert Band on Saturday 23rd March at 7.30pm**

**I do not know the cost of the tickets yet (they're normally less than £10 and include a glass of wine or soft drink) but come and pay a deposit of £5 and I will know you are definitely interested. The Church does not release the tickets until nearer the date - so please be aware that I may have to give out the tickets on the night, on the door.**

**Come and support your local Concert Band! Join us!**

**Organiser Carole Alleway**

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**Executive Committee 2018 - 2019**

|                            |                       |  |                                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|--|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Chair                      | Sandra Goulding       |  |                                                                                                                                  |
| Vice Chair                 | <b><u>VACANCY</u></b> |  |                                                                                                                                  |
| Secretary                  | Maureen Wright        |  |                                                                                                                                  |
| Treasurer                  | Ron Clayton           |  |                                                                                                                                  |
| Membership                 | Douglas West          |  |                                                                                                                                  |
| Speakers                   | <b><u>VACANCY</u></b> |  |                                                                                                                                  |
| Group Liaison              | Pat Fearnside         |  |                                                                                                                                  |
| E-mail & IT                | Nino<br>Parascandolo  |  |                                                                                                                                  |
| Social<br>Secretary        | Thelma Wilkes         |  |                                                                                                                                  |
| Catering                   | Vi King               |  |                                                                                                                                  |
| Hall Manager<br>/Database  | Nino<br>Parascandolo  |  |                                                                                                                                  |
|                            | Cynthia Allen         |  |                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>NON-COMMITTEE ROLES</b> |                       |  |                                                                                                                                  |
| Meet & Greet               | Edna Sutton           |  | Please let Edna know of personal events e.g. significant birthdays, anniversaries, condolences, etc. so that she can send cards. |
| Newsletter<br>Editor       | Mary Jupp             |  |                                                                                                                                  |

***Please submit all contributions to February newsletter by***

***Midday - Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January***

**Please ensure you contribute before the cut-off and have an email acknowledgment from me that I have received your contribution!**

**Thank you**

**Mary Jupp**