



Notes From the Chair.

Looking out of the window the sun's shining, crisp white frost on the grass and that lovely feeling that the days are beginning to stretch out – I can feel Spring coming and I am happy!

We are planning an **Open Day** for both current members and those interested in joining our u3a. More details below.

Membership Renewal is on the horizon. We will be sending out renewal forms at the end of the February, more details to follow.

February's talk is given by Steve Herra a previous speaker who last time spoke about life on the QE2. This time around Sweeney Todd is a slightly different subject! **Thursday 16th February** is the date of our February meeting. Doors will open at **10:45**, with kick-off at **11:00**.

An update on **groups** - requests for Line Dancing group and Garden Visits group, see below for more info.

Contact us on email
TandDu3a@gmail.com

February Speaker

Steve Herra
'Sweeney Todd – Romance, Riches and Retribution
16th February 2023

Steve returns with a variation from his nautical background with his talk titled "Sweeney Todd – Romance, Riches and Retribution".

Initially he poses us some questions about the notorious barber (and hopefully gives us some answers?)

How old was Sweeney Todd when he went to Newgate prison?

What was a 'Flying Barber'?

What was the name of Sweeney Todd's accomplice?

What was the *significance of the revolving chair*?

How did most victims of Todd die?

What first attracted attention to St Dunstan's Church?

What happened to Mrs Lovett?

How many victims of Todd were there?

In passing ... the **Watermill Theatre** in Newbury produced an innovative actor/musician version of Sondheim's Sweeney Todd under the guidance of John Doyle way back in 2004. It proved to be an outstanding success transferring first to the West End and then to Broadway.

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



The Raffle for the Double Size Quilt raised £135 for our charity Homestart North-West Hants. Many thanks to all of you who contributed.

An idea has been floated for a **Garden Visits group**. Gardens such as Exbury spring to mind but there are many in the National Garden Scheme, for example, that are worth a visit. If you're interested email TandDu3a@gmail.com

There have been several requests for a **Line Dancing group**. Unfortunately, despite searching high and low, we have not been able to find a leader that would come to Tadley. Checking with local u3as show that they're all fully subscribed. So, no luck I'm afraid.

Unless we can find a new leader(s) to take over the Photographic group then the group is no more. If you feel that you can help do contact us via the usual email address.

Membership renewal will take place in the Community Centre on the dates below. You will receive your renewal of membership form in the post very soon. Just turn up with your form and a cheque for the membership fee and in return you'll receive a brand-new Membership card.

Monday 6th March 1.30- 3.15
Tuesday 7th March 11.30-1.30
Wednesday 8th March 2.00-4.00
Friday 10th March 10.30-12.30

Brian Bilston whose poems I regularly use in these updates is known as the Twitter Poet. His poems are perfect for the update being short, pithy, humorous, and accessible. Follow him on Twitter or take a look at his website <https://brianbilston.com/>

The website is nearly back to normal and is in a good enough state to provide all the information you may need, give it a try!

Our **Open Day** is designed for both current members and those interested in joining our u3a to show what our u3a's all about. Most groups will be present to show what they get up to and for people to talk to the group leaders to get more information. Reserve the date **30th March, Tadley Community Centre, opens 10:30 – 15:30.**

We need members to help us with both **Membership Renewal** and the **Open day**. If you can only give an hour or two that's fine but both events need lots of help to setup/tear down as well as handle the paperwork for renewals. As usual do contact us on TandDu3a@gmail.com if you can help.

Don't forget significant work will be taking place at the beginning of the year on the roof at TCC as well as entrance hall and ventilation system. So please be ready for some disruption.

Entrance to the TCC for the monthly meeting is through the double fire doors on the right of the building.