

## HiARA Chairman's Report June 2022

Here we are in the middle of 2022 and what a year it has been so far. The long-awaited celebrations for Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee are over. How ever you spent the Bank Holiday weekend, whether with family, friends, neighbours or like me glued to the television I hope you had an enjoyable time.

I would like to thank Rod for doing all the necessary things at the May main meeting in my absence and I understand the speaker was very good and Rod is recovering well.

The meeting on June 24 was down on attendees, but, the rest of us were treated to songs by Lucy and a lovely celebration cake made by Tess. Jacquie and Rita also joined in with the singing which was especially enjoyed. We also met the 3 people involved in The Gravesham Sanctuary charity who explained the work they do. They do not supply individual savings boxes, so you could still use your "piggies" if you still have them, or, a donation bucket will be available at all meetings.

At our June committee meeting, we discussed the meeting arranged for Friday, September 23rd. Nearly all the committee and quite a lot of members will be away on a holiday together, which means that organising a main meeting afternoon difficult. So, it will be an additional activity afternoon with a few extra things thrown in to take part in. Watch this space for more information. Tea and coffee will be available but bring your own nibbles if you like.

Our coach trip to the Tenterden Railway was a good opportunity to travel through the Kent Countryside – there is some of it left – although houses going up everywhere in rural villages. We had spare time to stroll in the town for a coffee. The train ride was smooth and reminisant of the past days of travel, but our eagerly anticipated "cream tea" was disappointing. Probably as a result of the changes come about since the Covid shutdown.

Bookings and payments for our Legends and Laughter Social evening on September 17 are low, so please think about booking up as opportunities to do so are running short. If we don't get sufficient interest and bookings to cover cost, it will have to be cancelled. If you are unable to attend the July 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting and want to book, ring Jan to discuss.

Liz Jeffery

