

## **LET US GET THEM FARTED!**

Social justice concerns us all. An issue which has been brought to my attention in recent times has been the issue of farting or, to use a more polite term, 'the employment of a bilabial fricative'. Friends have pointed out that, for example, we express sympathy when someone sneezes, using terms such as 'God Bless You'. Equally, when someone suffers from a 'coughing fit', notably during Covid, others would leave the room, out of respect, or even request the person coughing to do so.

But what happens when someone passes wind? We laugh or, on more formal occasions, decide that they are 'people of low repute'. The rule is that any expulsion from the head is treated with respect, whereas any anal expulsion receives none. But in Chinese culture, reputed to be the oldest in the world, farting in public is considered normal.

Our lack of respect extends into the language we use. Any expression associated with 'the fart' (or Frequently Actuated Rectal Tremor) is negative. Examples of this include: 'farting about' and 'silly old fart'. But a solution is at hand which will make the world more inclusive, whilst, at the same time, recognising the importance of our heritage.

The highest status occasions in the UK involve the crowning of a monarch or the ennobling of a peasant. My friends have advocated the incorporation of 'farting' as part of the service. Why? Because this would re-balance centuries of inequality with regard to 'the head' and 'the anus' by awarding farting its rightful status.

Although ideal, it would probably be an unnecessary imposition to expect the individual receiving the honour to fart on demand during the service, although it has been suggested that a breakfast of 'mushy peas', eaten in full view of the public to appropriate classical music, could be incorporated as part of the ceremony. Were the celebrants to find themselves unable to perform on demand, there would be alternatives. One would be to have specially trained servants to perform the function; they would be known as 'Fart-eers'. If this was not possible, then buglers would be employed to imitate the rectal emission.

Developing this quest for modernisation and equality even further, the titles would reflect the movement towards a new Britain. Selected people having honours bestowed upon them, would be known as 'Your Fartship', and it would be expected that the peasantry would always use this term when addressing them. To fully democratise the process, there would be a public vote as to which individuals would receive this new, high status honour, and which would remain with the old-fashioned titles.

Anyone receiving the new title would then be forgiven, or even lauded (no pun intended), for 'blowing their own trumpet', which should be accomplished without too much difficulty for some.

Many of you will have candidates for the new honour. However, it is not the purpose of this article to make suggestions. The purpose of this article is 'to get them farted', not 'to get me started'.