

Mike Bilbrough

Your favourite website: perhaps a rather dull answer but I suppose Youtube. Where else can I relive all those wonderful TV series like “Dad’s Army”, “It ain’t half hot Mum” or “The Morecambe and Wise Show” all over again!

A gadget you can’t live without: as I don’t want to say a mobile phone, I’ll say a bottle-opener on a Saturday evening, delicious smells from the oven and a good bottle of Marqués de Riscal Gran Reserva waiting patiently on the kitchen table.

Something you'd never throw away: my tin toy collection – the children’s world before the days of plastic and the cheapest art naïf you could ever buy.

Who or what inspires you? I love second language acquisition research and I get inspired by the latest or recently discovered article on some topic and the writer to such an extent I’ll probably email them. Then I discover another article that seems even more inspiring and abandon the previous writer and so it goes on.

Useful teaching tool: gestures.

Your favourite lesson: one where I feel I’ve made some sort of discovery about language learning.

Your favourite bit about your talk: the bit about monkeys – I hope I’ll have time to include it.

A lesson you've learnt while teaching: what we teach is not what is learnt.