

NEWSLETTER Issue 31 September 2014

UERSA website *http://groups.exeter.ac.uk/uersa/index.html* - for those on the internet

Editor's Comment

Here we are at the start of a new University year, in fact the start of our 11th year. Yes, UERSA is now 10 years old! I think the people who founded it, and the various committees and their officers should give themselves a pat on the back for all the effort and work they have put in, as well as the volunteers who keep dreaming up and organising programs for the special interest groups. My thanks to you all for such a successful venture. Where else can you get so much for just £6 a year?

A note to new recruits! I hope we shall be welcoming many recently retired staff members. There should be plenty to interest you with events open to all (listed as UERSA events), and several special interest groups. Please read through the Newsletter to find out about the existing groups, and contact Membership Secretary Chris King (tel: 01392 255533, e-mail: chrisandmikeking@gmail.com) if you would like to be included in the mailing list for any group. This way you will receive directly any information on plans and updates - important between Newsletters. It is particularly important if you are not on the internet so that the organisers can send this information by letter post. If there isn't anything to your taste, the Committee would like to hear if you have any suggestions for new groups. At the time of writing, we have around 330 members, so I am sure there would be people who would share your enthusiasms and would help to start a new group. Do contact me or any other Committee member with your ideas. Details for the AGM (to be held on Friday 10th October at 6 p.m.), is attached to this Newsletter. Please try to be there! The AGM is the time for changes in the Committee. This year, in addition to the rolling over of the President Elect/President/Past President, our Chairman is stepping down, as well as a Committee member who has completed her stint. We are fortunate to have nominations for all these positions, subject to approval at the Annual General Meeting.

Just a reminder that I would like to hear any interesting news from members, especially if suitable to be included in the next Newsletter. I would also like to have any comments and feedback about UERSA events you attend, so that those who didn't, couldn't (or wouldn't) can hear more about it. (I can't always ask my 'sub-editor' (Brian!!) to write the reviews)

I wish you a fruitful Autumn and look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the AGM.

Rachel

Rachel Kirby, (Newsletter Editor) 3 Pennsylvania Crescent, Exeter EX4 4SF Tel: 01392 273536 E-mail: r.m.kirby@exeter.ac.uk

Chairman's Message for September 2014 Newsletter

Dear friends, it's hard to believe it's almost three years since I became Chair of UERSA, under the gentle but firm persuasion of Alan Leadbetter, my predecessor. The time has flown by with increasing speed, as seems to happen when you get older. It's been a great privilege to belong to and Chair such a pleasant, lively and friendly organisation, and the job, I have to admit, has been great fun, largely due to the excellent support I have had from the Committee and the general encouragement I have had from members of UERSA. As Secretary, Jan Reynolds has been a tower of strength, with her comprehensive knowledge of the workings of the Committee from the beginning, and her unobtrusive promptings, always keeping me right. Wojtek Krzanowski has been a very efficient and unflappable Treasurer, always able to conjure up a little extra finance when needed. Rachel Kirby has edited our Newsletter with some verve and flair, and the other members have made their own distinctive contributions. The list of Presidents, past, serving, and elect, is particularly distinguished, a roll-call of the great and the good of the University. So I have never lacked sage advice and guidance. I look back with pleasure on the various social events in which I have been involved over the years; the annual Garden Party at the Cricket Club with Pimms and strawberries, the Christmas lunches at the Devon Motel, the Trivia Quiz in the Arena, the Vice Chancellor's Garden Party which I finally managed to attend this year. I also recall various trips, most memorably the Stuart Line cruise to Brixham so ably 'skippered' by Bruce Coleman, whose has done so much for UERSA behind the scenes in his usual quiet and efficient way. All in all it's been a most enjoyable stint.

Alan said to me early on that the most difficult thing was to find new volunteers for the Committee, particularly the Chair, and that I should keep that in mind and always be on the lookout for new blood. Well I can say both that I have had some good new members on the Committee, no thanks to me, but also that I have managed to find an excellent successor as Chair, who will be unveiled at the AGM! I wish that person, the Committee and UERSA good luck for what I am sure will be a bright and enjoyable future.

Alastair Logan

Personal Notes

We are sorry to record the deaths of several people who were, or were known to, our members. If you receive any such notification, please pass it on to Sue Odell – email: seodell@bavent.eclipse.co.uk
Please note that where the individual notice is very short, this is due to a lack of information and not of respect.

Stan Sparks, who died on 28 April 2014, retired as Chief Technician in Biological Sciences. He was also active in University affairs in relation to his role as a Trade Union Officer and so was well known to administrative and academic staff across the University.

From Clive Kennedy

Maeve Creber, who died in June 2014, was a mature student (then known as Mavis Hampson) in the School of English from 1972-5 followed by further study at Thornlea. She taught on University summer schools and was a part time tutor in the School of English.

Maeve's husband, Paddy Creber, died in February this year.

From Ann Corbin

Professor Leslie Reid died on September 7th 2014, aged 90. He was Head of the Department of Psychology for many years, and later, Deputy Vice Chancellor.

From Sue Guy

On a happier note - from Peter Wiseman

Friday 3 October, at 6.30 p.m. in the Alumni Auditorium

How old is Exeter? Did Cymbeline's son really defend it against the invading Romans? How can modern historians use medieval legends? If you're interested in questions like these, here's a date for your diary:

On Friday 3 October, at 6.30 p.m. in the Alumni Auditorium, there will be a public lecture by **Peter Wiseman**, ex-Professor of Classics and UERSA President 2005-6, entitled Divining the Distant Past: W.G. Hoskins and Pre-Roman Exeter, to mark the 60th anniversary of Hoskins' great history of Devon.

More information available from Peter Wiseman < T.P. Wiseman@exeter.ac.uk>

Reports on General UERSA Events

Guided Walk Around the St. Leonards area Tuesday 6th May:

26 members took part in a stroll around St Leonard's, guided by David Smith and Judy Mead, followed by tea and cake at David's house. The weather was really good for the actual walk but turned to rain at the finish! Comments received were very favourable.

However, it was mentioned at the meeting that a 'Collecting Box' in aid of Hospiscare had been provided but according to many of the participants taking part in the Walk this box was not put in a very prominent place at the end of the Walk so not all Members had seen it, so not as many donations were given.

Brian Kirby writes The great thing about UERSA is the range of talents evidenced by this entrancing walk through St Leonard's. Though we have lived in Exeter for over 40 years and thought we knew our way around the city, it turns out that we didn't know more than a fraction of it.

David and Judy split the group into two parties starting in Matford Avenue with a brief history of the area's progression from open land to residential, with further modifications as larger properties were modified and their gardens developed. Then on to Devon County Council with the intriguing story of how even in the days when it was built DCC didn't have quite enough money to do all that they wanted: *plus ca change - plus c'est la meme chose*! Seeing a wonderful William & Mary House in its grounds now used primarily as offices for a fortunate few of our representatives was an unexpected surprise and seeing contemporary sculpture another delight. We enjoyed being introduced to a beautiful grove of pine trees preserved when the grounds of the Devon Orthopaedic Hospital was sold for housing development. Along the way we also saw 'Parkerswell', remnant of an old well the waters of which were credited with cure of eye diseases - and now the name of the Eye Ward in the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital. This fine tour ended in David's garden where we had a superlative tea and an opportunity to admire a wonderful sculpture collection not open to public view; and all before the rain started!

Trivia Quiz evening - 7 pm on Tuesday 13th May, at the Isca Centre in Exeter.

Organised by Jan Reynolds

44 members took part in the Quiz and very positive comments were received at the end of the event, as well as emails received the next day, complimenting the Quizmaster (Nick Maguire) and also the Isca Centre staff on the food provided at the event (and, of course, Jan herself Ed.)

Here are two of the appreciative e-mails –

Jan - Just a quick thank-you for last night's quiz. The pleasure and atmosphere was just what UERSA should be all about, good company, good food, superb entertainment and great laughs. It is so good of you to put these things together.

Eddie Abel.

Thank you, Jan, that was great, it is always a good evening and even I don't find the questions too challenging.

Mary Banks

Newton House, Newton Surmaville, Yeovil 5th June

This was a house and garden visit, originally arranged for the Gardens Group by Anne Mayes, but open to all UERSA members. Here is a shortened version of Anne's entry in the Garden Group's webpage:-

'Thirty-three members braved Yeovil's road network – they seem to specialise in putting signs up after the turn rather than before – and found their way to Newton Surmaville where we were met by the owners, Robin and Jane Cannon, and given a tour of the house accompanied by its history and the subsequent renovation, which they have painstakingly carried out since their purchase in 2007. It must have been scarcely habitable before – just one example, 12 radiators for the whole house, there are now 54. (See the book, Newton House 'Restored for Life' for details of the changes). The tour included the Great Hall, now devoid of its black painted walls decorated by "invitation" of Queen Victoria to share the mourning of Prince Albert's death (now a warm, vibrant room) and most of the other main rooms of the house, each with their own stories.

The gardens are large and varied and beautifully laid out with many intriguing sculptures. The frog jazz band is particularly enjoyable as music emanates from the base (see photos on web) As we picked the only dry and sunny day that week we were able to sit outside the barn for our afternoon tea and bask in the sunshine.

PS **Tintinhull**. Some actually started here in the garden and went on to the pub. Both the garden and the adjacent pub were highly rated by us and several made a note to use the pub again on trips up and down the 303'.

Anne Mayes (e-mail:a.c.mayes@Exeter.ac.uk)

UERSA Summer Garden Party – 25th June 2014 3pm

Our Summer Garden Party was held at the Exeter Cricket Club (the last time we shall be at the old Pavilion), as building work on a new Pavilion starts there in August (2014).

Anne Mayes sent this appreciation.

'I'd like to thank everyone who played a part in this, from organising to buying the essentials, borrowing the crockery, sorting out the refreshments, concocting the very acceptable Pimms (how many cucumbers?!) and clearing and washing up afterwards. Our thanks too to Bruce for arranging for us to use the Cricket Club. Not sure who to thank for that rare commodity - the sun! Apart from the standing water in the outfield, and on the crease come to think of it, one might have thought it was summer! We hope to be allowed to use the new Pavilion - maybe, if we behave! Finally, thanks to all who came. It was a full house and it was clear that a very enjoyable time was had by all.'

Exmouth/Brixham cruise - July 3rd 2014, organised by Bruce Coleman Bruce.I.Coleman@exeter.ac.uk
21 UERSA members participated in the cruise, and several people commented on how successful it had been.

Bruce himself writes ... My thanks to all who went on the cruise for their company and the evident pleasure they took in the day. We were very fortunate with the weather, but I think we also discovered (at least those of us new to StuartLine) a tremendously rewarding experience. Seeing the coastline in that way was fascinating. I could just have done with more time to explore and enjoy Brixham. With thanks again to such an agreeable (and easy to 'manage') UERSA crew.

and from Alastair On behalf of UERSA and of those who took part in the very enjoyable cruise on July 3rd may I thank Bruce very much for arranging it and (of course) the wonderful weather we had - rather an improvement on the previous Thursday! It was a great idea and the cruise itself was very informative. It's amazing how different a view you get from the sea.

UERSA Coffee Mornings (arranged by Jan Reynolds) are held on the last Tuesday of most months, from 10:00 to 12:00 in the Nutters Bar area (!) at The Imperial in New North Road. They are very informal (not to mention noisy on occasion) and an average of around 30 members attend. (Some recent research indicates that coffee is good for the memory!). *from Jan Reynolds*

Special Interest Groups

The Special Interest Group Organisers are:

Badminton:	Jan Reynolds (tel: 01392 271204, e-mail: janandmikereynolds@gmail.com)	
Bridge:	Paul Ellison (tel: 01626 867999, e-mail: p.a.ellison@exeter.ac.uk)	
Gardens:	Anne Mayes (e-mail: a.c.mayes@exeter ac.uk)	
Guided Nature Walks	Judy Mead (email: judymead@hotmail.co.uk)	
Music / Opera:	Alastair Logan (tel: 01392 434715, e-mail: a.h.b.logan@exeter.ac.uk)	
Restaurants:	Liz Smith (tel: 01363 84667, e-mail: lizsmith15@icloud.com) Frankie Peroni (tel: 01363 773946)	
Table Tennis	Ruth Preist email: preist.exeter@blueyonder.co.uk	
Theatre and Shows:	Sue Cousins (e-mail: scousins@talktalk.net)	
Walking:	Trevor Preist (e-mail: <u>preist.exeter@blueyonder.co.uk</u>)	
Wine:	John Carroll (tel: 01392 876048, e-mail: carroll595@btinternet.com)	
Membership Secretary:	Chris King (tel: 01392 255533, e-mail: chrisandmikeking@gmail.com)	

Reports and News from Special Interest Groups:

If you can get on the internet, all this information can be found on the UERSA website

(http://groups.exeter.ac.uk/uersa/index.html) where it is kept up-to-date, and is easy to navigate (thanks to Roger Coles).

If you are interested in participating in any of these groups, please apply to the Membership Secretary, Chris King. This is particularly important if you are unable to use e-mail, as information and updates on group activities are sent by ordinary mail only to members of that specific group

You can contact Chris by telephone or via her e-mail address above. Or you can download an application form, in pdf format, from the Membership forms page.

Here are some of the highlights of our special interest group activities over the last few months, gleaned either directly from the organisers, or from browsing our website:-

Badminton (Jan Revnolds)

The Badminton Group continues to thrive but we would welcome a new member or two to this very friendly Club. Please give Jan a ring if you are interested in possibly joining.

The Bridge Group (Paul Ellison)

The Bridge Group has been meeting at 21,The Mint, in the past year or two, but members would prefer a room where access is stair-free (two flights currently). This is being investigated, but contact with the necessary person has not proved easy during the vacation! At the last meeting those that came agreed that we should meet on the fourth Thursday of the ten months from Sept to June so, if a suitable venue can be found, that will be arranged.

Paul Ellison

Gardens Group (Anne Mayes)

We've had five visits since the last Newsletter. Two were on totally dry days, with the others we specialised in wet journeys but dry whilst there.

Lukesland was a riot of colour; **Newton House** (where we had 33 from across the membership) was much enjoyed both for the house and garden - a truly remarkable place; **Sand** was a complete contrast both in size and work done/money spent, but absolutely fascinating; and the castle at **Trematon** was different again. No buildings to go round, but history, an abundance of plants and amazing views.

Our last visit was quite dramatic. 15 stalwarts approached **Cannington** in a thunderstorm, waded through water to get in, but then went round a lovely garden in the dry. The journey back would have been better undertaken in an ark, the rain was torrential.

We have one more visit left, in September, to **Holcombe Court**.

Anne Maves

(This report really doesn't do justice to these visits - you really need to look at the descriptions and the glorious colour pictures on the web!

Ed)

Music/ Opera Group (Alastair Logan)

Dear friends,

Helen is not able to continue being in charge of the Music/Opera Group, so we have decided that I will take over from now on. I am hopeful of getting someone else to help and share the responsibility, something which has worked well with Helen and me. I will offer Helen our warmest thanks on your behalf for all that she has achieved over the years when next I see her. Thankfully she is willing to help if problems arise.

From Alastair Logan

Nature Walks (Judy Mead)

Our nature walks with Nigel Pinhorn have continued over the summer. All have been packed with interest and Nigel is proving to be a very informative and entertaining guide We have seen nesting birds, fruiting fungi, exciting insects to mention but a few.

From Judy Mead

Restaurant Group (Frankie Peroni and Liz Smith)

Over the summer the Restaurant Group enjoyed welcome return visits to the **Rodean in Kenton**, and the **Drewe Arms in Drewsteignton.** Our most recent lunch was at **The Three Crowns at Chagford**. A venue suggested by Anne Mayes which was new to the group but appreciated by us all. Whilst in Chagford a number of people took the opportunity of also looking at the church or popping into the famous ironmongers for that difficult to find gadget. In October a trip to another new venue in Bovey Tracey is planned, whilst in November we are hoping to return to the **Redwing in Lympstone**.

From

Frankie Peroni

Table Tennis Group (Ruth Preist)

There were no meetings in July and August, but I trust that you are all ready for this excellent exercise in the Autumn! We specially welcome three new members who signed up during the year. Thank you to all the happy players who have come during the past months! It has been a very good start for the group.

From Ruth

Theatre and Shows Group:(Sue Cousins)

'The Mousetrap' at the Northcott Theatre, Exeter - July 1st 2014

Sue bought 10 tickets in advance and finally managed to sell these tickets. She pointed out the difficulty of selling tickets for Shows which she had booked on behalf of Members. She wondered whether it is worth the effort but will give it one more try. It has been suggested that it might be better to book seats for a Matinee Performance rather than an Evening Performance. Any opinions on this?

Sue Cousins. E-mail: scousins@talktalk.net. Tel: 01392 432309

Walking Group (Trevor Preist)

Many members have enjoyed the walks of the last three months and the new programme offers a range of enjoyable walks, shorter than the historical average. Another feature is the appearance in the last year of new leaders prepared to show us the walks they have enjoyed – thank you very much to them from all UERSA walkers. Once again I end with my usual exhortation – DO JOIN US for a bit of exercise and a lot of enjoyable conversation with former colleagues – once you've started it can be addictive!

From Trevor

Wine Tasting Group (John Carroll)

Tuesday 17th June Tasting of 12 Fairtrade Wines by Roger Camble

Brian Kirby writes:-Most of us have come across the Fairtrade symbol on food and support the underlying idea that small producers or farmers, often in developing parts of the world, should get a fair share of the income from sales. But ... Fairtrade wine?

The Wine Group had a truly fascinating educational evening, first being brought up-to-date on the Fairtrade idea, and then enjoying going on to try Fairtrade wines. In general these were at the lower end of the price range so expectations were not high but the evening introduced us to a variety of enjoyable wines. We learned that there was still a way to go with acceptance of these wines by supermarkets with the Co-operative taking the pole position in stocking the greatest range of them. Our thanks to Roger Gamble for a great evening.

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#### NOW, LOOKING TO THE NEXT FEW MONTHS!

All Events Calendar for September - December (and beyond)

| Date         | Time               | Activity                                 | Group              |  |
|--------------|--------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Wed 3rd Sep  |                    | Guided walk 3/5 [CANCELLED]              | Nature Walks Group |  |
| Wed 3rd Sep  | 11:00 till 12:00   | Sports Hall                              | Badminton Group    |  |
| Thu 4th Sep  | 10.30 - 12.00      | Sports Park Studio 3                     | Table Tennis Group |  |
| Wed 10th Sep | 11:00 till 12:00   | Sports Hall                              | Badminton Group    |  |
| Wed 17th Sep | 14:00 at entrance  | Holcombe Court                           | Gardens Group      |  |
| 1            |                    | TA2 10PA [OS 181 058191]                 |                    |  |
| Thu 18th Sep | 17:00 at Clyst St  | Pebblebed Vineyard (Ebbford)             | Wine Group         |  |
| •            | George             | •                                        | •                  |  |
| Mon 22nd Sep | 10.30 (SX 041847)  | Woodbury Common Wheathill Car Park       | Walking Group      |  |
| Wed 24th Sep | 11:00 till 12:00   | Sports Hall                              | Badminton Group    |  |
| Thu 25th Sep | 19.00 – 22.15      | Cornwall House                           | Bridge Group       |  |
| Tue 30th Sep | 10:00 to 12:00     | Imperial (Nutter's Bar)                  | UERSA coffee       |  |
| Tue 30th Sep | No details yet     | South Zeal                               | Walking Group      |  |
| Wed 1st Oct  |                    | Guided walk 4/5 [CANCELLED]              | Nature Walks Group |  |
| Thu 2nd Oct  | 10.30 - 12.00      | Sports Park Studio 3                     | Table Tennis Group |  |
| Wed 8th Oct  | 11:00 till 12:00   | Sports Hall                              | Badminton Group    |  |
| Thu 9th Oct  | 12 for 12.30 at    | Brookside Cafe, Bovey Tracy              | Restaurant Group   |  |
|              | Cafe               |                                          |                    |  |
| Fri 10th Oct | 18.00 at Xfi Bldg. | Annual General Meeting                   | UERSA              |  |
|              | University         |                                          |                    |  |
| Wed 15th Oct | 11:00 till 12:00   | Sports Hall                              | Badminton Group    |  |
| Thu 16th Oct | 10.30 - 12.00      | Sports Park Studio 3                     | Table Tennis Group |  |
| Fri 17th Oct | No details yet     | Exmouth                                  | Walking Group      |  |
| Wed 22nd Oct | 11:00 till 12:00   | Sports Hall                              | Badminton Group    |  |
| Thu 23rd Oct | 19.00 – 22.15      | Cornwall House                           | Bridge Group       |  |
| Mon 27th Oct | No details yet     | Lapford                                  | Walking Group      |  |
| Tue 28th Oct | 10:00 to 12:00     | Imperial (Nutter's Bar)                  | UERSA coffee       |  |
| Wed 29th Oct | 11:00 till 12:00   | Sports Hall Badminton Group              |                    |  |
| Thu 30th Oct | 10.30 - 12.00      | Sports Park Studio 3                     | Table Tennis Group |  |
| Wed 5th Nov  |                    | Guided walk 5/5 [CANCELLED]              | Nature Walks Group |  |
| Wed 5th Nov  | 11:00 till 12:00   | Sports Hall                              | Badminton Group    |  |
| Thu 6th Nov  | No details yet     | Sherry tasting (21 The Mint) Wine Group  |                    |  |
| Wed 12th Nov | 11:00 till 12:00   | Sports Hall Badminton Group              |                    |  |
| Thu 13th Nov | 10.30 - 12.00      | Sports Park Studio 3                     | Table Tennis Group |  |
| Fri 14th Nov | No details yet     | Sidford                                  | Walking Group      |  |
| Wed 19th Nov | 11:00 till 12:00   | Sports Hall                              | Badminton Group    |  |
| Tue 25th Nov | No details yet     | Annual Lunch walk                        | Walking Group      |  |
| Tue 25th Nov | 10:00 to 12:00     | Imperial (Nutter's Bar)                  | UERSA coffee       |  |
| Wed 26th Nov | 11:00 till 12:00   | Sports Hall                              | Badminton Group    |  |
| Wed 26th Nov | Coach at 16.00     | "La Traviata" The Theatre Royal (Lyric), | Music Group        |  |
|              | D&E Squash club    | Plymouth, 19.15                          | 1                  |  |
| Thu 27th Nov | 10.30 - 12.00      | Sports Park Studio 3                     | Table Tennis Group |  |
| Thu 27th Nov | 19.00 – 22.15      | Cornwall House                           | Bridge Group       |  |
| Wed 3rd Dec  | 11:00 till 12:00   | Sports Hall                              | Badminton Group    |  |
| Tue 9th Dec  | No details yet     | Broadclyst                               | Walking Group      |  |
| Wed 10th Dec | 11:00 till 12:00   | Sports Hall                              | Badminton Group    |  |
| Thu 11th Dec | 10.30 - 12.00      | Sports Park Studio 3                     | Table Tennis Group |  |
| Thu 11th Dec | 12.30 at Devon     | Christmas Lunch in the Regency Room      | UERSA              |  |
|              | Hotel              |                                          |                    |  |
| Wed 17th Dec | 11:00 till 12:00   | Sports Hall                              | Badminton Group    |  |
| Thu 11th Dec | 19.00 – 22.15      | Cornwall House                           | Bridge Group       |  |

#### FORTHCOMING GENERAL EVENTS (UERSA)

#### Coffee Mornings - Imperial Hotel, New North Road, Exeter

Coffee Mornings (arranged by Jan Reynolds) are held on the last Tuesday of most months, from 10:00 to 12:00 in the Nutters Bar area (!) at The Imperial in New North Road. They are very informal (not to mention noisy on occasion) and an average of around 30 members attend. (Some recent research indicates that coffee is good for the memory!) (If you haven't been to a coffee morning before, do go along and introduce yourself – I'm sure you'll be made very welcome. ... Ed)

A reminder about parking charges:- If you pay for parking and show your 'parking receipt' this amount will be refunded at the bar on your purchase of coffees, etc.

Dates for Meetings in 2014 will be

30th Sept, 28th October, 25th November. (We don't meet up in December. ) and in  ${\bf 2015}$ 

Jan 27<sup>th</sup>, Feb 24<sup>th</sup>, Mar 31<sup>st</sup>, April 28<sup>th</sup>, May 26<sup>th</sup>, June 30th. (None in July/August).

From Jan Reynolds at janandmikereynolds@gmail.com: Tel 01392 271204

The Annual General Meeting will take place on Friday 10th October at 18:00, in the Henderson Room, in the Xfi Bldg, (Streatham Court, Lower Rennes Drive, University of Exeter). Wine and nibbles to follow (see Form attached).

The Christmas Lunch will be at our regular venue, The Devon Hotel (Regency Room on the Ground Floor), on Thursday 11th December, at 12:30. (Details giving choice of Menu, Price and a Booking Form.will follow in due course.)

#### **Suggestions for future events**

If you have any suggestions for future UERSA events we would love to hear them. Please send them to me, Rachel Kirby (*contact details on the Committee Page*) and I will pass them on to the Committee

#### FORTHCOMING GROUP EVENTS

#### Badminton: (Jan Reynolds)

The Badminton Group currently meets on Wednesday mornings for a game of badminton at the University's Sports Hall. Sessions run from 11:00 till 12:00, with time for a coffee and a chat afterwards.

#### Dates for second half of 2014 (all Wednesdays):

September 3,10,24 October 8,15,22,29

November 5,12,19,26

December 3,10,17

For further details, please contact: Jan Reynolds at janandmikereynolds@gmail.com: Tel 01392 271204

#### Bridge: (Paul Ellison)

A suitable venue has been found at Cornwall House; exact details will be sent out to those on the Bridge list when they are known or contact Paul to find out. At the last meeting those that came agreed that we should meet on the fourth Thursday of the ten months from Sept to June. These dates are:

2014

25th Sept 23rd Oct 27th Nov 18th Dec (3rd Thurs, with mince pies)

2015

22nd Jan 26th Feb 26th Mar 23rd Apr 28th May 25th June

Paul Ellison (e-mail: P.A.Ellison@exeter.ac.uk)

Gardens: (Anne Mayes)

This is the last visit of the 2014 season

Wednesday 17th September - Holcombe Court Meet at 14:00 hrs. Entrance £5.

#### Holcombe Rogus, TA2 10PA [OS 181 058191]

Holcombe Court is a Grade 1 Tudor manor house situated close to Wellington on the Devon/Somerset border. The seven acre site includes herbaceous borders, trout ponds and a Victorian rockery. There is a recently restored and recreated woodland garden and newly established vegetable parterre within the 18th century walled garden. There was a camera set up to film badgers in the wooded part of the grounds when I was there last year. The Head Gardener will admit us and tell us about the garden. Unfortunately the house is not open to the public but there is a very informative Wikipedia entry on it.

A cold drink and biscuits are included in the £5 entry fee - all money goes to Holcombe Rogus Church. *Anne Mayes (e-mail:a.c.mayes@Exeter.ac.uk)* 

#### Guided Nature Walks (Judy Mead)

The autumn walks had to be cancelled because there were not enough takers who booked in time. Please let Judy know if you would be interested in more walks for the new year, though – this should give you time to think about things, and her time to arrange them!

The walks are held once a month and last for 2-3 hours and cover many aspects of the natural world including plants, fungi, birds and insects.

Judy Mead <u>judymead@hotmail.co.uk</u>

#### Music / Opera: (Alastair Logan)

# La Traviata, by Giuseppe Verdi performed by Touring Glyndebourne Opera The Theatre Royal (Lyric), Plymouth, 7.15 Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2014.

Leaving Exeter at **4.00** pm from the Devon and Exeter Squash Club as usual.

This event is now fully booked, but I am including details of the event as a reminder for those who have places. A Circle seat will cost £44.50 and an Upper Circle seat £29.00. Supper is booked at the View Pan Asian Restaurant again. You can eat as much as you like for £14.99, but you are, of course, free to book your own. Travel will again be with Downes Motors/Otter Coaches (£8.70 per person).

N.B. Payment is requested by 15<sup>th</sup> September, please, and cheques should be made payable to the University of Exeter. This is an earlier date than previously given (October 24<sup>th</sup>) as Alastair will be away.

In case of any query or problem please contact:

Alastair Logan, 168 Pennsylvania Road, Exeter EX4 6DX

Telephone 01392 434715 a.h.b.logan@ex.ac.uk

# Restaurants (Frankie Peroni and Liz Smith)

Thursday 9th October Lunch at BROOKSIDE CAFE & RESTAURANT at Bovey Tracey organised by Linda Hale (email linda39howard@blueyonder.co.uk) or Jean Cole (telephone Jean Cole 01392 833152).

The lunch will be at 12 for 12.30 and if you are interested in coming to this event please book with Linda or Jean. We are limited to 18 places and some people have already booked in so suggest you book early. Linda & Jean need the numbers two weeks before the event at the latest. Meal choices to be made on the day and the choice of one two or three courses is available. For more info about Brookside Cafe & Restaurant, go to <a href="www.brooksiderestaurant.co.uk/">www.brooksiderestaurant.co.uk/</a>, email is brooksidebovey@aol.com and phone number is 01626 832254

In **November** we are hoping to return to the Redwing in Lympstone, details not yet available.

Liz Smith (tel: 01363 84667, e-mail: lizsmith15@icloud.com)

Frankie Peroni ( tel: 01363 773946)

# Table Tennis (Ruth Preist)

After almost a year of monthly action at the tables (we began last October), a number were keen to meet fortnightly with others opting for the same monthly meetings. Hence we have 7 meetings during the Autumn whereby those wishing to come more frequently can do so. It is a trial period!

We meet on Thursdays, 10.30 – 12.00, Sports Park, Studio 3.

All equipment supplied.

Dates for the Autumn: 4 Sept; 2, 16, 30 Oct; 13, 27 Nov; 11 Dec.

Charges: 7 sessions £14 4 sessions £10 Individual sessions £3

Hope to see many active folk (and coffee drinkers) soon!

Ruth (preist.exeter@blueyonder.co.uk)

#### Theatre and Shows: (Sue Cousins)

No events are currently planned.

Sue Cousins. E-mail: scousins@talktalk.net. Tel: 01392 432309

#### Walking (Trevor Preist)

Forthcoming Walks

The Walking Group section on the UERSA website links to details of the walks and how to get there.

There is still one more walk of the summer season.

10.30am Monday, 22nd September Woodbury - 6 miles PACKED LUNCH REQUIRED

Meet at Woodbury Common Wheathill Car Park (SX 041847), 10.30, plus packed lunch. Reasonably gentle six miles.

The new programme offers a range of enjoyable walks, shorter than the historical average, but the details are still in preparation. They should be available on the website shortly.

The dates have been finalized as below.

Sept 30 South Zeal
Oct 17 Exmouth
Oct 27 Lapford
Nov 14 Sidford

Nov 25 Annual Lunch Walk

Dec 9 Broadclyst

DO JOIN US for a bit of exercise and a lot of enjoyable conversation with former colleagues – once you've started it can be addictive!

Trevor Preist (e-mail: preist.exeter@blueyonder.co.uk)

#### Wine Tasting (John Carroll)

#### Thurs. 18th Sept. Pebblebed Vineyard Tour & Tasting (Ebbford) Geoff Bowen

£15 for the Pebblebed Wines Vineyard Tour and Wine Tasting at their Clyst St George Vineyard (accessible from bus routes 57 and 58) starting at 5pm on Thursday 18th September. The vineyard is down the lane opposite the Clyst St George Church (post code EX3 0NZ).

For £10 more, following the tour and tasting, there is an option to go on to Pebblebed Cellars in Topsham (transport will be provided by Pebblebed) for a selection of local tapas (meats, fish, cheese and pate) and of course a chance to drink some more wine.

If you would like to join us, please complete the slip at the end of the Newsletter and send it to me, with a cheque made payable to the University of Exeter, as soon as possible and to arrive no later than Thursday 11th September. I hope to see you there.

John

Future Events, no details available yet.

**Thu 06-Nov** Sherry Tasting (21 The Mint) **February 2015** Vuelta a España (21 The Mint)

Laurie Burbridge John Carroll

John Carroll (e-mail: carroll595@btinternet.com)

#### N.B. IMPORTANT FOR ALL GROUPS

Full details of the activities and, importantly, updates or changes can be seen on the UERSA website http://groups.exeter.ac.uk/uersa/index.html. For those who do not use the internet, organisers can be contacted either by mail or telephone - listed in this Newsletter - and I recommend that you join any group in which you are interested, so that you will get any postings and updates from that group.

\_\_\_\_\_



#### **UERSA**

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday 10th October 2014 at 6 p.m.

In The Henderson Room
Xfi Building, Streatham Court
University of Exeter

#### **AGENDA**

- 1. To note the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of UERSA held on 11th October 2013
- 2. Chairman's Report
- 3. Treasurer's Report (attached)
- 4. <u>To confirm the subscription rates for 2014/15</u>
- 5. Election of Officers and Committee for 2014/15

At the UERSA Committee meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> August 2014, the following Officers and Members of the UERSA Committee agreed to serve for a further year:

Tony Wragg will become President for a year from the AGM 2014.

Alan Leadbetter will become Immediate Past President for a year from the AGM 2014.

Wojtek Krzanowski (Treasurer)

Jan Reynolds (Secretary)

**Chris King** (Membership Secretary)

Susan Cousins (Social Co-ordinator)

Rachel Kirby (Newsletter Editor)

Roger Coles (Committee Member and Website Editor)

John Carroll (Committee Member)

**Linda Hale** (Committee Member)

The following Members of the Committee confirmed that they will be 'stepping down' from the Committee at the forthcoming Annual General meeting:

Mary Banks, (Immediate Past President 2013/14)

Alastair Logan (Chairman)

Frankie Peroni (Committee Member)

N.B. Since the UERSA Committee Meeting, the following nominations have been put forward and agreed, subject to approval at the Annual General Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2014:

#### \*Election of President Elect 2014/15

It has been confirmed by Alan Leadbetter that Sue Odell has agreed to become President Elect 2014/15

#### \*Election of Chairman 2014/15

It has been confirmed by Alan Leadbetter that David Batty has agreed to become Chairman.

#### \*Election of Committee Member 2014/15

It has been confirmed by **Alastair Logan** that **Ann Corbin** has agreed to become a **Committee Member.** 

#### 6. **Special Interest Groups**

To receive reports on the activities of the Special Interest Groups (many of which are included in the September Newsletter).

#### 7. Amendment to UERSA's Constitution

At the previous AGM held on the 11<sup>th</sup> October 2013, the Members attending were asked by Trevor Preist to consider whether anyone can join any of UERSA's Groups without being a University of Exeter retired staff member?

After discussion it was agreed that an Associate membership is open to those who have retired from a university other than Exeter and are resident in Exeter. Associate members may participate in any of the activities of the Association but may not hold office or vote at General Meetings.

Associate Membership Subscription Fees will be the same as UERSA Membership.

Accordingly, it was agreed that an amendment should be made to the current Constitution, and be approved at the next Annual General Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2014. (A copy of UERSA's updated Constitution is attached – see Item 2(b).

#### 8. Any other business

\*After the AGM, wine and nibbles will be available for Members. (See attached form for completion and return to Susan Cousins if you are attending the AGM.)



#### **UERSA**

#### **Annual General Meeting**

Friday 10th October 2014 at 6 p.m.

# In The Henderson Room Xfi Building, Streatham Court University of Exeter

(Wine and Nibbles will be served afterwards)

In order to ascertain numbers for the wine and nibbles after the Meeting, please complete the form below and return it to Susan Cousins:

Either by post to: 21 Chantry Meadow, Alphington, Exeter, EX2 4PE

Number attending .....

## UNIVERSITY OF EXETER

#### RETIRED STAFF ASSOCIATION

# Treasurer's Report for 2013/14

The UERSA account is held within the general University financial system, and is audited as part of this system at the close of each financial year on 31<sup>st</sup> July. I am extremely grateful to Bridget Kendrick of Finance Services for being such a helpful and efficient point of contact with that system. Bridget has now handed over responsibility for UERSA to Mrs Lynda Swallow, and I look forward to working with her next year.

The position at audit for the immediate past and two preceding years is given below. "Events" are those that have been advertised in newsletters for all members, while "Activities" are those held within special interest groups. It was agreed by the Executive Committee some years ago that the latter should aim to break even but the former could be supported from general funds; events that benefited in this way last year were the refreshments after the AGM, the Christmas lunch, and the summer Garden Party. "Administration Costs" cover printing, photocopying, postal charges, and general running expenses, while "Disbursements" comprise donations approved by the Committee. Last year these were to Wonford Methodist Church who supplied crockery for use at the Garden Party, and to Exeter Cricket Club who made available the pavilion for the Garden Party as well as parking space throughout the year for members attending events.

|                                   | 31-07-14<br>£   | 31-07-13<br>£   | 31-07-12<br>£   |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Surplus Brought Forward           | 6,519           | 6,594           | 6,614           |
| Subscription Income               | 1,308           | 1,404           | 1,427           |
| Administration Costs              | -138            | -333            | -387            |
| Events - Income - Expenditure     | 2,146<br>-3,143 | 1,603<br>-2,438 | 1,575<br>-2,444 |
| Activities - Income - Expenditure | 6,781<br>-6,820 | 6,728<br>-6,858 | 6,422<br>-6,413 |
| Disbursements                     | -180            | -180            | -200            |
| Surplus Carried Forward           | 6,474           | 6,519           | 6,594           |

This year I have moved the cost of refreshments after the AGM from "Administration Costs" to "Events Expenditure", which explains the big drop in costs for the former and the comparable rise in deficit for the latter.

We continue to *almost* break even on the year's activities, the deficits in the last three years having been just 0.7%, 1.1% and 0.3% of the balance respectively. However, the balance of just under £6,500 continues to be very healthy, so the Committee has once again proposed to maintain the subscription at £6.

I can supply detailed information about individual transactions on request, and will be very happy to answer any questions at the AGM.



# RETIRED STAFF ASSOCIATION (UERSA)

#### **CURRENT CONSTITUTION**

#### As Recommended at the AGM October 2013

#### 1. THE ASSOCIATION

The Association shall be called the University of Exeter Retired Staff Association.

#### 2. MEMBERSHIP

(a)Membership of the Association is open to all retired employees and retired former employees of the University, in all categories, including semi-retired employees. Joint membership with spouses/partners is also available. The widows, widowers and partners of deceased employees are also eligible for membership.

(b)Associate membership is open to those who have retired from a university other than Exeter and are resident in Exeter. Associate members may participate in any of the activities of the Association but may not hold office or vote at General Meetings.

#### 3. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Association is to enable its members to remain in touch with each other and with the University through a range of activities to be determined by the membership and arranged by the Executive Committee of the Association.

#### 4. FINANCE

- (a) The Association shall be empowered to own financial and other assets on behalf of its members, to open accounts with authorised financial institutions and/or to appoint another institution to hold and administer its assets. The Executive Committee shall be empowered to make such arrangements and shall, through the Treasurer, make a report on the financial year past to the AGM.
- (b) The Association's financial year shall run from 1 August to 31 July following.
- (c) No member shall derive direct material benefit from the activities or finances of the Association.
- (d) The Association may raise or donate funds for charitable purposes or other purposes of benefit to the University or the wider community.

#### 5. PRESIDENCY

- (a) The Association, at its Annual General Meeting, will elect from its members a President who shall hold office for one year. The Presidency may be held jointly by a member and his/her spouse/partner. The President shall be an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee.
- (b) The Association will also elect a President-designate, who will assume the office of President the following year.
- (c) The President-designate and the immediate Past President may deputise for the President and may also attend meetings of the Executive Committee.

#### 6. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- (a) The business of the Association will be conducted by the Executive Committee consisting of the Chair, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Membership Secretary, the Social Secretary, the Editor of the Newsletter, four General Members, and the President ex-officio.
- (b) The above officers will be elected by the Annual General Meeting and will serve for a three-year term which may be extended for a further term of three years. The General Members will be elected annually for one year, renewable for up to four years.

- (c) Should the AGM be unable to fill an office or other designated Executive Committee position by reason of lack of nominations, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the Executive Committee for one year at a time (renewable) until the AGM is able to elect a replacement.
- (d) The Executive Committee will have the power to fill casual vacancies by co-option between Annual General Meetings.
- (e) The Executive Committee will also have the power to co-opt any Member of the Association or invite him/her to attend one or more meetings to assist it in carrying out its duties.
- (f) The Executive Committee will have the power to appoint sub-committees.
- (g) The quorum of the Executive Committee will be five.

#### 7. ELECTIONS

Elections to the offices of President and President-designate and to the Executive Committee will be by simple ballot where two candidates are nominated and by preferential ballot where three or more candidates are nominated for a particular position. (See Note)

#### 8. **SUBSCRIPTION**

Members and Associate Members will pay an annual subscription to be decided by the Annual General Meeting.

The subscription for joint membership will be the same as for individual membership.

#### 9. **GENERAL MEETINGS**

- (a) Following the Inaugural General Meeting held on 7 October 2004 to establish the Association and elect its first officers and Executive Committee, an Annual General Meeting will be held in October each year. At least three weeks notice will be given together with a call for nominations for the Presidency and, where appropriate, for membership of the Executive Committee.
  - (b) The quorum of the Annual General Meeting shall be 30.
  - (c) A Special General Meeting will be convened by the Secretary, giving at least three weeks notice, on the request of not less than 30 members of the Association or at the request of the Executive Committee. The quorum of a Special General Meeting shall be 20.

#### 10. AMENDMENTS

- (a) The provisions of this Constitution may be amended by the Annual General Meeting.
- (b) Proposed amendments, with a proposer and seconder, will be circulated in writing with papers for the Annual General Meeting, but amendments to proposed amendments may be tabled at the Annual General Meeting.

#### 11. **DISSOLUTION**

The Association may be dissolved by a resolution agreed by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee and passed by a two-thirds vote of a General Meeting, one month's notice of the proposal having been given to members.

#### **NOTE**

A simple ballot requires members to place an X against the name of their preferred nominee and the nominee with the most votes is elected. A preferential ballot requires members to place nominees in order of preference by placing 1 against their first choice, 2 against their second, and so on. The outcome is calculated by scoring the preferences 1 for a first choice, 2 for a second, and so on. The nominee (or nominees if more than one place is at issue) with the lowest score is elected.



#### **UERSA Wine Group**

#### **Next UERSA Wine Group Event**

Topsham EX3 0BW

**Pebblebed Wines Vineyard Tour and Wine Tasting at their Clyst St George Vineyard** (accessible from bus routes 57 and 58) starting at 5pm on Thursday 18th September. The vineyard is down the lane opposite the Clyst St George Church (post code EX3 0NZ).

Following the tour and tasting there is an option to go on to Pebblebed Cellars in Topsham (transport will be provided by Pebblebed) for a selection of local tapas (meats, fish, cheese and pate) and of course a chance to drink some more wine.

If you would like to join us, please complete the slip below and send it to me, with a cheque made payable to the University of Exeter, as soon as possible and to arrive no later than Thursday 11th September. I hope to see you there.

# **Future Events** Thu 06-Nov Sherry (21 The Mint) Laurie Burbridge February 2015 Vuelta a España (21 The Mint) John Carroll Kind Regards, John Carroll (01392) 876048 UERSA Wine Tasting: Thursday 18th September 2014 From: I/we would like tickets (£15 each) for the tour and tasting at the Pebblebed Vineyard, Clyst St George at 5pm on Thursday 18th September. I/we would also like tickets (£10 each) to go on for the selection of local tapas at the Pebblebed Cellars, Topsham. I/we enclose a cheque for £ made payable to the University of Exeter. Please return as soon as possible and to arrive no later than Thursday 11th September to: John Carroll 8 Tophayes Elm Grove Road

# Contact details for Members of the Executive Committee of UERSA, September 2014

| DD EGID ED IT 0010 11           | 1.7 7 17                                                         |  |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| PRESIDENT 2013-14               | Alan Leadbetter                                                  |  |
| *** change after the AGM        | 23 Hillcrest Park, Exeter EX4 4SH                                |  |
|                                 | Tel: 01392 254855                                                |  |
|                                 | E-mail: leadbetter.a@sky.com                                     |  |
| PRESIDENT ELECT 2013-14         | Tony Wragg                                                       |  |
| *** change after the AGM        | 2 Wallace Avenue, Whipton, Exeter EX4 8DB                        |  |
|                                 | Tel: 01392 466 129                                               |  |
|                                 | E-mail: wraggster1@hotmail.co.uk                                 |  |
| IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT        | Mary Banks                                                       |  |
| *** change after the AGM        |                                                                  |  |
| change after the AGM            | 8 Saint Hill Close, Exeter EX2 9JE                               |  |
|                                 | Tel: 01392 669239                                                |  |
| CHAID                           | E-mail: alanandmary@blueyonder.co.uk                             |  |
| CHAIR                           | Alastair Logan                                                   |  |
| *** change after the AGM        | 168 Pennsylvania Road, Exeter EX4 6DX                            |  |
|                                 | Tel: 01392 434715                                                |  |
|                                 | E-mail: a.h.b.logan@exeter.ac.uk                                 |  |
| TREASURER                       | Wojtek Krzanowski                                                |  |
|                                 | 3 Lark Close, Pennsylvania, Exeter EX4 4SL                       |  |
|                                 | Tel: 01392 426945                                                |  |
|                                 | E-mail: W.J.Krzanowski@exeter.ac.uk                              |  |
| SECRETARY                       | Jan Reynolds                                                     |  |
| SECRETARY.                      | 77 Rosebarn Lane, Exeter EX4 5DG                                 |  |
|                                 | Tel: 01392 271204                                                |  |
|                                 | E-mail: janandmikereynolds@gmail.com                             |  |
| MEMDED CHID CECDETADY           |                                                                  |  |
| MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY            | Chris King                                                       |  |
|                                 | 19 Hillcrest Park, Exeter EX4 4SH                                |  |
|                                 | Tel: 01392 255 533                                               |  |
|                                 | E-mail: chrisandmikeking@gmail.com                               |  |
| SOCIAL CO-ORDINATOR             | Susan Cousins                                                    |  |
|                                 | 21 Chantry Meadows, Alphington, Exeter EX2 8FT                   |  |
|                                 | Tel: 01392 432309                                                |  |
|                                 | E-mail: scousins@talktalk.net                                    |  |
| NEWSLETTER EDITOR               | Rachel Kirby                                                     |  |
|                                 | 3 Pennsylvania Crescent, Exeter EX4 4SF                          |  |
|                                 | Tel: 01392 273536                                                |  |
|                                 | E-mail: r.m.kirby@exeter.ac.uk                                   |  |
| COMMITTEE MEMBER                | Frankie Peroni                                                   |  |
| *** change after the AGM        | Franklyn, 4 Belle Parade, Crediton EX17 2AA                      |  |
|                                 | Tel: 01363 773946                                                |  |
|                                 | No E-mail at home :                                              |  |
| COMMITTEE MEMBER                | John Carroll                                                     |  |
| COMMITTEE MEMBER                |                                                                  |  |
|                                 | 8 Tophayes, Elm Grove Road, Topsham EX3 0BW<br>Tel: 01392 876048 |  |
|                                 |                                                                  |  |
|                                 | E-mail: carroll595@btinternet.com                                |  |
| COMMITTEE MEMBER                | Linda Hale                                                       |  |
|                                 | 39 Howard Close, Exeter EX4 2LX                                  |  |
|                                 | T el: 01392 210498                                               |  |
|                                 |                                                                  |  |
|                                 | E-mail: linda39howard@blueyonder.co.uk                           |  |
| COMMITTEE MEMBER                | E-mail: linda39howard@blueyonder.co.uk  Roger Coles              |  |
| COMMITTEE MEMBER and Web Editor | - · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·                          |  |
|                                 | Roger Coles                                                      |  |



#### Subscription Fee for 2014/15

19 Hillcrest Park

Exeter EX4 4SH

The UERSA Committee at its meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2014 discussed Subscription Fee for 2014/15 and agreed it should remain at £6 per person/couple, subject to the approval of the AGM. The Committee decided that the agreed fee could be paid by Members at the AGM, or as soon as possible thereafter, and definitely not later than 1 December.

Please renew my/our subscription to the University of Exeter Retired Staff Association. A cheque made payable to the University of Exeter is enclosed.

(Please delete as appropriate)

Name(s)

Address(es)

In the interests of minimising our administrative costs we strongly encourage Members to use email. Please indicate whether you are prepared to receive all future UERSA information by Email:

YES/NO (delete as appropriate)

If YES, your email address is

Please return this form to the UERSA Membership Secretary, either in person at the AGM or by post to:

Mrs Chris King