



RETIRED STAFF ASSOCIATION

Issue 8, January 2007

Firstly, the President and Committee of UERSA would like to wish all our Members a very happy new year. After the flat period following the festivities of Christmas and New Year, and an unusually wet and gloomy winter since then, we hope we can offer some attractive outings and events to cheer us all up.

Membership

Sandy Simpson, our Membership Secretary, has received renewal subscriptions from most of our 300-odd members, and has enrolled an additional eight new members. Please encourage your friends and any recently retired University people to join – we always welcome new blood. We would like to remind any of our members who want to renew their membership and have not already done so to send a renewal subscription (£6) to Sandy Simpson as soon as possible.

General Notes

UERSA Committee: following the AGM in October, the UERSA Committee now has a new Chair, new President, new President-elect, new Treasurer, new Social Secretary and two new Committee Members. Details of the names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses are on the sheet attached to this Newsletter. Do contact any Committee Member with news, enquiries or suggestions.

Wills: The University is planning to hold a "Will Writing Seminar" in the Spring of this year. Any member of UERSA interested in attending this can obtain details by contacting Susie Hills, Development Office, University of Exeter EX4 4 QJ, tel: 01392 269013, email S.E.Hills@exeter.ac.uk.

Antiques Fair: It has been suggested that it might be interesting to hold an Antiques Fair on the lines of the Antiques Road Show on television, where members could bring their antiques to be discussed and valued by experts. We would welcome some feedback about this proposal.

Coffee Mornings: These have been arranged for members at the Imperial Hotel, New North Road, Exeter on the fourth Tuesday of every month, from 10 to 11.30 a.m. The dates for the next few months are: 30th January, 27th February, 27th March, 24th April. Do come along for a chat and a coffee – you can even get a brunch if you are hungry! The area reserved for us in the hotel is the third area on the lefthand side as you enter.

Health and Wellness Opportunities: in addition to the information about this in the last Newsletter the following activities are available for those interested:

Walk: Mondays 13.00, meet at the Great Hall Car Park. FREE

Wednesdays 13.30 meet outside St Lukes Sports Centre. FREE

Jog: Tuesdays 13.00, meet outside Streatham Sports Centre. FREE

Supervised Gym Session: Wednesdays 07.45-09.45. £2

Circuits: Wednesdays 12.15-13.00 Streatham Sports Centre, Studio 2. £0-£3.60 depending on membership type.

Weight Management Class (Rosemary Conley): Thursdays 10.00-11.30, Streatham Sports Centre, Studio 1. £5

If you want to get back into a regular routine than just turn up at your chosen activity and these will run every week as long as staff/retired staff still want them to.

For further details please contact Lucy Barratt, Sport and Wellness Development Office, Streatham Sports Centre, University of Exeter. Tel: 01392 262039.

Reports on General Events

Visit to Bath: A full coach of members made a most enjoyable visit to the Christmas Markets in Bath at the end of November. There was a proper seasonal atmosphere and we hope to do it again next year.

Christmas Lunch at Holland Hall: Over 80 members came to enjoy the spectacular views from the Dining Room of Holland Hall, and a good Christmas meal. Judging from the hum of conversation as old friends met up and chatted this was a very successful event.

Talk at Reed Hall: This talk on Peru was given by Tom Colman, with slides. It was, according to those present, a fascinating event, but with a disappointingly small audience. We have arranged another talk on Thursday 22nd February – see below under Forthcoming Events for further details – and hope more members and their friends will come to what promises to be a very entertaining afternoon.

Reports on Group Activities

Music and Opera Group: November was busy month for music lovers: on 7th November we went down to Plymouth for a most beautifully sung and staged *Così fan Tutte* (Mozart) by the Glyndebourne Touring Company, then two days' later went to the Cathedral for a performance of Haydn's *Creation*, and finally motored up to Bristol for an excellent performance of Puccini's *La Bohème* by the Welsh National Opera, preceded by a tasty Italian meal at a nearby restaurant. Catching our breath over Christmas and New Year, the Spring programme includes Bach's *St John Passion* in the Cathedral in March and Puccini's *Madame Butterfly* in April at the Plymouth Theatre Royal. For details contact Alan Leadbetter on 01392 254855 or email aandbleadbetter@onetel.com

Restaurant Group: The Group made three visits in the autumn: to the New Inn at Coleford, in the wilds beyond Crediton, to the contrasting urban setting of the Abode Restaurant in the Clarence, and to Gardiners (a return visit) in Budleigh Salterton for a delicious Sunday Lunch. The Spring programme is being planned and will be circulated to Group Members in February. Contact Peter Corbin at CorbinPFCORBIN@aol.com or 01392 256887.

Walking Group: The Group has been happily wandering over Devon during the autumn and is anxious to encourage more members, including the less sturdy amongst us, to join them. The programme for the Winter/Spring of 2007 includes walks in Torquay (Hope's Nose and the Bishop's Walk) in January, Lustleigh Cleave in February, Newton St Cyres to Whitstone in March, and a special for the fainter-hearted (on the flat and only 3 miles!) along Exeter Canal in March. For more details contact Trevor Preist on 01392 259740 or email preist.Exeter@freeuk.com, or go to the UERSA website at www.groups.ex.ac.uk/uersa/walking.shtml.

Wine Group: The Group continues to thrive. Our most recent tasting took place in December and was kindly hosted by Judith Wragg. It proved to be very popular, with more than 40 people attending – a record for the Wine Group. We sampled five pairs of wines from a case provided by the Wine Society, together with two extra dessert wines, and a merry time was had by all. In October the Group met for a tasting of ExeCellars wines accompanied by delicious canapés, with a special interest provided by unfamiliar and excellent Tasmanian wines. The programme of events for the next few months is under construction and should be sent out to Group members before the end of January. For further information contact Laurie Burbridge at 01392 668833, email L.Burbridge@exeter.ac.uk

Bridge Group: The Group has met for one evening each month at Reed Hall, where an enthusiastic band of regulars have established their own convivial form of social rubber bridge, producing some interesting and occasionally spectacular ups and downs. We do hope others will feel able to join what has proved to be a very

cheerful group. In particular, beginners may wish to take advantage of our generally flexible approach which allows us to supply you with your own personal advisor/minder as required. Richard Hitchcock set up the Group, and his efforts in organising such pleasurable evenings is much appreciated. He has, however, resigned his post as Leader and handed over to David Oates who will be happy to be contacted for more details on 01392 279722 or via [HYPERLINK mailto:mail@davallo.co.uk](mailto:mail@davallo.co.uk). The next meetings are at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday 31st January, Monday 26th February and Tuesday 27th March in the Margaret Hewitt Room in Reed Hall.

Garden Group: Although the Group has been in hibernation during the autumn and winter (and with the amount of rain, wind and mud around who can blame them), there are exciting stirrings in the undergrowth, including a visit to Prince Charles' garden at Highgrove,. For more details contact Anne Mayes at SOBE, Streatham Court, University of Exeter EX4 4PU or email a.c.mayes@exeter.ac.uk

Badminton Group

At present the Group has about 9 members who play quite regularly on a Monday morning – as and when members are available to play (retirees find plenty of other activities to take up their time as well as badminton!), so additional members would be welcome. If anyone is interested in joining, please contact Jan (Reynolds) on 01392 271204.

Forthcoming events

We have planned three events for the Spring: a visit to the Drama Department, a visit to Tate St Ives, and a talk at Reed Hall.

Visit to the Drama Department, Thornlea, Friday 16th February

The Drama Department has recently completed a very impressive extension to its premises at Thornlea (on New North Road) and Professor Christopher McCullough has kindly invited UERSA members to a tour of the new building, preceded by a wine and buffet reception where Chris will give a short introductory talk. Members are then invited to attend a performance (for free!) by the Drama students, under Chris's direction, of Shakespeare's *Comedy of Errors*, in the Theatre in the old Roborough Library, starting at 7.30 and finishing at 9.30. Members wishing to take part in this visit can opt to go on the Drama Department tour and then to the play, or just to take the tour. The visit will be limited to 30 people only, so it will be first-come-first-served. There is limited parking at Thornlea for six cars or plenty of roadside parking round the corner on Prince of Wales Road. The cost will be £5 per head, including wine. Please return the application form to Mary Banks by 12th February at the latest.

Visit to Tate St Ives on Thursday 26th April

Initially we hoped to offer members the chance of taking the attractive train journey from Exeter to St Ives, but this proved to be too complicated and expensive. So we will go by coach, with the option, for those members who wish to, of going by train from St Erth to St Ives (approx.15 minutes). This is one of the truly great little train journeys in the country, passing along the Hayle Estuary and winding along the wooded cliffs above the sea to St Ives, with fabulous views across to Godrevy Lighthouse. It is a short and pleasant walk through St Ives from the Station to the Tate Gallery. The plan is to drop the train travellers at St Erth and take the rest of the party on to St Ives in the coach. The coach will take the whole party home from St Ives. The cost is £16. Please return the application form to Mary Banks by 6th April.

Talk: "My Life as an Entertainer", by Stephen Sylvester, Thursday 22nd February, 3 p.m., Veitch Room, Reed Hall. FREE. This promises to be a very enjoyable afternoon with lots of laughs, so please come and bring your friends.

**Contact Details for the Members of the Executive Committee of the
University of Exeter Retired Staff Association
2006-7**

PRESIDENT	John Bridge , 8 Pennsylvania Close, Exeter EX 4 6DJ Tel: 01392 254576 Email: jandj@bridge3768.fsnet.co.uk
PRESIDENT ELECT	Barrie Behenna , Windjammer, Holcombe Road, Teignmouth TQ14 8UP Email: R.B.Behenna@exeter.ac.uk Tel: 01626 774124
PAST PRESIDENT	Peter Wiseman , 22 Hillcrest Park, Exeter EX4 4SH E-mail: T.P.Wiseman@exeter.ac.uk Tel: 01392 273226
CHAIR	Eddie Abel , 1A Rosebarn Avenue, Exeter EX4 6DY. Tel: 01392 270272. E-mail: mea@rosebarn.eclipse.co.uk
SECRETARY	Jan Reynolds , 77 Rosebarn Lane, Exeter EX4 5DG Tel: 01392 271204 E-mail: janreynolds@freeuk.com
TREASURER	Keith Blanshard , Casita, 137 Sidford Road, Sidford, Sidmouth, EX10 9PE Tel.: 01395-515959 E-mail: KBlanshard05@aol.com
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	Sandy Simpson , Greenmantle, 10 Hammond Croft Way, Exeter EX2 8FZ Tel: 01392 213506 E-mail: Sandy@buntline.freemove.co.uk
SOCIAL SECRETARY	Mary Banks , 8 Saint Hill Close, Exeter, EX2 9JE Tel.No. 01392 669239 E-mail: alanandmary@blueyonder.co.uk
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Sue Guy , 4 Station Road, Ide, Exeter EX2 9RP Tel: 01392 275907 E-mail: s.m.w.guy@exeter.ac.uk
COMMITTEE MEMBER	Laurie Burbridge , The Hermitage, Exwick Hill, Exeter EX4 2AQ Tel: 01392 668833 E-mail: L.Burbridge@exeter.ac.uk
COMMITTEE MEMBER	Bruce Coleman , Department of History, Amory Building, University of Exeter, EX4 4RJ Tel: 01392 262049 (office) or 01392 254142 (home) E-mail: bruce.i.coleman@exeter.ac.uk
COMMITTEE MEMBER	Peter Corbin , 67 St David's Hill, Exeter EX4 4DW Tel: 01392 256887 Email: CorbinPFCORBIN@aol.com
COMMITTEE MEMBER	Dennis Lane , 'Farthings', Barrack Road, Exeter EX2 6AB Tel: 01392 279420 E-mail: dlane29590@aol.com
COMMITTEE MEMBER	Anne Mayes , SOBE, Streatham Court, University of Exeter EX4 4PU Tel: 01392 263224 (office), 01647 252603 (home) E-mail: a.c.mayes@exeter.ac.uk
COMMITTEE MEMBER	Tony Wragg , 2 Wallace Avenue, Whipton, Exeter EX4 8DB Tel: 01392 466129 Email: aawragg@exeter.ac.uk



RETIRED STAFF ASSOCIATION

Subscription for 2006-2007

Please renew my/our subscription to the University of Exeter Retired Staff Association. A cheque for £6, made payable to The University of Exeter, is enclosed

I/we no longer wish to be members of the University of Exeter Retired Staff Association

(Please delete as appropriate)

Name(s).....
.....

Address.....
.....
.....

In the interests of minimising our administrative costs we strongly encourage members to use e-mail. Please indicate whether you are prepared to receive all future UERSA information by e-mail:

YES/NO *(delete as appropriate)*

If YES, your e-mail address.....

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

Sandy Simpson,
Greenmantle,
Hammond Croft Way,
Alphington,
Exeter EX2 8FZ.
(Tel: 01392 213506)

TATE ST IVES VISIT

Thursday 26th April

The visit will include a conducted tour of the Tate St Ives Gallery. There will also be time to visit the Barbara Hepworth Sculpture Garden and/or have a wander round St Ives. Gallery

Cost: £16 per person

The visit will be by coach, departing from the University at 8.15 a.m. from the bus bay opposite the Northcott Theatre and returning to Exeter by approximately 8.00 p.m. The coach will stop at St Erth Station to allow those who wish to take the 15-minute train journey from St Erth to St Ives. These train passengers will make their own way (approx.half a mile) from the station through St Ives to the Tate Gallery, to meet up with the main party. The cost of the train journey is not included in the overall cost – members should buy their tickets at St Erth Station on the day. The coach will continue to St Ives; as it cannot park right in the town there is a small bus which runs down into the town from the coach park.

The cost does not include meals, but there is a good café/restaurant in the Tate St Ives Gallery, and many other food outlets in St Ives.

Please note: we can only take 40 people, so the visit will be on a first-forms-to-be-received basis. If you do not hear from Mary Banks following your application you can assume that you are going. If you are too late with your application your cheque will be returned to you.

.....

Please complete the slip below and send it to Mary Banks, Social Secretary, 8 Saint Hill Close, Exeter EX2 9JE (Tel: 01392 669239).

1 /We would like to come on the St Ives Visit, by coach/by coach and train (*please delete as appropriate*)

Name(s).....

.....

Address(es).....

.....

Tel..... E-mail.....

I/We enclose a cheque payable to The University of Exeter for

.....

**VISIT TO THE DRAMA DEPARTMENT, THORNLEA,
NEW NORTH ROAD**

**The visit will include a tour of the new developments
at Thornlea, and an optional attendance at a
performance of Shakespeare's *Comedy of Errors* in
the Roborough Building**

Friday 16th February, starting at 5.00p.m.

Cost: £5 per person.

The visit will start with a wine and light buffet (sandwiches, snacks) at 5 p.m. in Room TS4 on the first floor (stairs on the left as you enter the building). Professor Christopher McCullough will join us for a short introductory talk at about 6 p.m. At 6.15 Jon Primrose, the Drama Department's Technical Manager, will take a guided tour round the new building.

Those going on to the (free) performance of *The Comedy of Errors* at the Theatre in the Roborough Building should leave Thornlea at about 7 p.m. (the performance starts at 7.30 and finishes by 9.30 p.m.).

Parking: there is parking for about 6 cars at Thornlea. There is also ample parking on Prince of Wales Road, just round the corner from Thornlea, or in the Queen's Car Park which is near the Roborough Building (as it would be mostly after 6 p.m. parking charges should not apply)

Please complete the slip below and return it to Mary Banks,
UERSA Social Secretary, 8 Saint Hill Close, Exeter EX2 9JE, by
Monday 12th February

I/We would like to come on the tour of Thornlea /and to the
performance of the *Comedy of Errors* on 16th February (delete as
appropriate)

Name(s).....

.....

Address(es).....

.....

Tel..... E-mail.....

Number attending.....

I/We enclose a cheque made payable to The University of Exeter
for.....

