



RETIRED STAFF ASSOCIATION  
(UERSA)

**NEWSLETTER Issue 30**  
May 2014

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

### **Editor's Comment**

As usual while preparing this Newsletter, I have been through the emails and notifications sent out by Group leaders and Event organisers since the last Newsletter, and I have been amazed at the amount of organisation that goes into so many of these events. This is bad enough for the Special Interest Groups, but at least they are arranging events they will enjoy themselves, and they probably have a fair idea of numbers and capabilities of their members. For the general UERSA events more discipline and care is needed by the organisers – so many questions, so many decisions. To start with, the likely level of interest will be unknown; numbers matter – could the proposed event take unlimited participants? Some venues limit group sizes (or require a minimum number to take advantage of group discounts). Is a coach needed? If so, what size? How much needs to be charged to cover costs? Negotiating dates with venues and participants can be tricky. Will the weather be good enough? At what stage do we need to cancel if this becomes necessary? All these and more will have to be taken into account, and sometimes after all this thought and effort, phone calls, letters and e-mails, the arrangement still falls through. This is such a disappointment for everybody involved, I'm amazed that people will do it again!

You can help! You can let event leaders know your intentions as early as possible. You can send your cheque to pay for the event as soon as it is asked for (payable to the University of Exeter so that it's easily accountable). You can look out for updates and news on the website, and make sure you read your e-mail. And of course, you can offer to share the organisation of an event which interests you.

If you are not on the internet, make sure that the leader knows you are interested and includes you in a mailing list for the event; you can decide later whether you actually want to go or not. Organisers can be contacted either by mail or telephone - listed in this Newsletter - and I recommend that you join any special group in which you are interested, so that you will get any postings and updates from that group.

We hope you all have a lovely summer and join in as many events as you can. All thanks to the Organisers!

*Rachel*

*Rachel Kirby, (Newsletter Editor)  
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### **Chairman's Message for May 2014 Newsletter**

After such a miserable wet Winter it's a joy to greet Spring with its warmth, its sunshine, its birdsong and burst of colour, the brilliant yellow of daffodils, the varied hues of primroses, and the haze of green as trees leaf up. There's no more magical and fresh green in all of nature. Spring lifts the heart, whatever your age and experience of life, and one of the great pleasures for us who live in this area is our Exeter University campus and estate. I love walking to the campus from my house, either past the farm and down the little valley with its stream and waterfalls, its eucalypts and magnolias, or down past Hoopern House and the duck ponds with massed banks of rhododendrons; either way there's something of interest all the year round, but particularly in Spring. They do say that living with a view of nature does wonders for one's health, physical and mental, so we should be grateful for the far-seeing benefactors and planners who began, laid out and developed our campuses, Streatham, St Luke's and Tremough. Although it's pity to see more and more grassy areas of the Streatham campus being swallowed up by new developments, some, such as the Forum and the Business School, are an improvement on what was there before, and we still have much green space and fine trees and plants, making the campus such a special place, one we should not take for granted.

Our activities, too, take off in Spring, with less muddy walks, nature rambles, visits to gardens in bloom, trips to the theatre, sporting activities in full swing and events to look forward to, such as our Trivia Quiz in May and our Garden Party in late June. The good news about the last is that although rebuilding work will begin on the

Cricket Club in August, we will be able to hold our garden party in the old clubhouse for one more time. Let's hope the sun shines for us this year! And let's hope that more people attend than last year when many more promised than turned up, leaving us with a lot of food. Let me encourage you to take part in our activities and events this Spring and make the most of what UERSA has to offer.

*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](mailto: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.*

**Ron Isaac** died on 28 January, aged 86. Ron was the University Safety Officer for many years. He leaves a widow Ann, who was also on the University's staff, and two children and their families.

*Sue Odell from the E&E*

**JW Patrick (Paddy) Creber**, husband of Maeve, died on 5 February, aged 83. Paddy was a Senior Lecturer in the School of Education.

*From Anne Mayes*

**Philip Webb** sadly passed away in early February, after a short battle with cancer. Phil worked for many years in Print & Copy Services on the production printing and was in fact employed by the University for 44 years in total, only retiring from the University a short while ago. He will be remembered for his positive approach and attitude to work as well as his ability to assist colleagues when urgent printing was requested.

*From Nigel Phillips, Print & Copy Services Manager, University of Exeter*

**Anne Pitman (nee Worth)** died February 14th after a long and brave battle with cancer. Anne was latterly Study Abroad Manager in the International Office until her retirement in November 2013. She spent 18 years at the University in a variety of roles in Academic Services and the International Office. Those of you who knew Anne will know that she was an outstanding ambassador for this University, both on campus and overseas.

Over the years many hundreds of students benefitted from her kindness, positive attitude and professionalism.

*From Professor Neil Armstrong, Senior DVC, Internationalisation*

You may also have known Anne when she was PA to Barrie Behenna and his successor Philip Harvey.

*Sue Odell*

**Masoud Yazdani**, Lecturer in Computer Science at Exeter from 1981-98, died peacefully on 18 February, aged 58, after suffering from cancer for 13 months. He leaves a widow, Ayshe, and three children aged 18, 15 and 10. He moved on from Exeter to UWE, where he was Professor of Digital Media, and then retired from academic life at 50 to focus on publishing, at his company, "Intellect".

*From Janet Sandy and Sue Odell*

**David Edgecombe**, retired Lecturer in the School of Education, died February 22nd aged 87. He leaves a widow Jane and two sons.

*Sue Odell from the E&E*

**Martin Turner** died in mid-February. He worked at the University, in the Agricultural Economics Unit and then the Centre for Rural Policy Research, from 1975 until he retired in 2010. On his retirement, he and his wife Sue moved to Suffolk.

*From Anne Mayes*

**Hugh Stubbs**, who lectured in the Classics Department for over 40 years, died February 27th.

*From Peter Wiseman*

**Professor Bob Burden** died on March 22nd. Bob was Head of the School of Education and Lifelong Learning 1999-2002, and became Professor Emeritus in 2005, when he established the Cognitive Education Centre.

Dr Nigel Skinner, Head of the University's Graduate School of Education, writes :- Bob made a difference. His research in educational psychology covered a wide range of topics but shared a concern with improving the quality of children's experience of school. His influential 'Myself as a Learner Scale' revealed the importance of how children think about and respond to education. Bob's work on the self-image, as learners, of dyslexic children was cited by the Rose report of 2009 and led to positive change in government policy. Bob's approach to teaching about thinking focused on shifting the attitudes towards learning of children, teachers and schools.

*From Dr. Skinner and others*

Find tributes to Bob Burden at <http://socialsciences.exeter.ac.uk/education/bobburden/>

**Michael Brock**, who was the first Director of the School of Education, after the merger with St Luke's, died on 30 April, aged 94. He came from Oxford to Exeter in the early 80s, and returned there when he left Exeter again.

*From the B, M and D section of the Times, sent by Barrie Behenna*

**Dr. Desmond Corner**, a long-standing and distinguished member of the Dept of Economics, then SOBE, died May 2nd. He launched the very successful MA in Finance and Investment.

From *Anne Mayes*

### **Reports on General UERSA Events**

*Only two reports for the Spring – but there are many more events planned for the summer! -*

*It would be great to get reports from anyone who has attended a UERSA event Ed*

**‘Romeo and Juliet’** on 10th March at 7.30pm in the Alexander Building, Thornlea.

Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet* has been a parable through the years about forbidden love between two lovers in differing camps – Protestants and Catholics, blacks and whites, other culturally diverse social groups. Stimulated by what is going on currently with the polarised attitudes to same sex relationships in Britain, Russia, the US and elsewhere, director Martin Harvey has given us a fascinating new angle on the one Shakespeare play that we all thought we knew. *Romeo is a woman!*

A vigorous prelude where conflict arises between groups of straight and LGBT people points to the ideas behind this version. When the play itself begins it’s easy to think for a brief period that casting *Romeo* (and friends) as women is simply an expediency in finding a suitable actor, but then it becomes obvious that what’s happening is a challenge to our attitudes about lesbian love.

The dialogue is mostly familiar, with what appeared seamless modifications to fit the new context. The cast held our attention without showing discomfort in portraying same-sex love. This must have taken some doing when the cast first started working on the play as they realised what they had to portray – but they did it admirably. The staging was superb with the harsh, unprepossessing vertical lighting, the fighting and the costuming enhancing the starkness of the message, computers and social media giving a modern take.

These yearly Drama Department events are now something UERSA looks forward to year by year, bringing us new angles on traditional theatre. Needless to say there were *sotto voce* comments, but then what’s theatre about, emollient entertainment or making us think? Most of the audience were delighted to have been privileged to see this production – and many wanted to see interesting productions more than just once a year. It was good to know it was going to be performed elsewhere in Devon, and good to experience the creativity that the Drama Department is attracting to Exeter.

Thanks to Jon Primrose of the Drama Department for inviting us again to their annual postgrad Shakespeare production, and to the students who made us welcome.

from *Brian Kirby*

*I must apologise to those who are not on-line, as you won’t have heard about this – I was invited to offer tickets for it on Feb 27<sup>th</sup>, too late to post out the details and get replies as I was away the 2 weekends during this time. However, I should have contacted Drama earlier to find out about it, as we have been invited to attend their Shakespeare production for several years now, so mea culpa! Ed*

**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!) 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. *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:	Helen Pope ( tel: 01392 860159, e-mail: h.pope174@btinternet.com ) 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: preist.exeter@blueyonder.co.uk)
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.

### Reports on Group Activities

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 Reynolds)

Our membership has dropped recently - due to health problems - so we have to make sure there are enough of us available for a game. **n.b. a few more members would be most welcome!**

*From: Jan Reynolds*

#### The Bridge Group (Paul Ellison)

*Exhortation from Ed. Having read several cancellation emails, it seems that Paul has not had great success with getting enough members for the bridge evenings. Please try to get to the last 2 remaining meetings!*

**Garden Group (Anne Mayes)** – We’ve had two visits so far this year. March saw us at Knightshayes where we admired the bulbs which were blooming in great profusion. The other spring stalwarts were just emerging and it was good to see everything getting back to normal after the winter.

In April we had a very enjoyable and successful visit to Pencarrow – so good I put a review on TripAdvisor! They made us very welcome and the house was a delight with much praised guides. The camellias, rhododendrons and magnolias lining the mile long drive were magnificent and really raised the spirits. Not only UERSA friendly, but also dog friendly!

*From: Anne Mayes*

#### Music/ Opera Group

##### **Puccini’s “Manon Lescaut” on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2014** - Welsh National Opera

For our Spring outing the group chose Puccini’s ‘Manon Lescaut’ . Perhaps it doesn’t have any real showstopping tunes, but much lovely music, including the haunting theme from his string piece, ‘Crisantemi’. Sadly, only 24 of the 40 tickets Helen Pope had reserved were sold (more room for us in our 35-seater coach!) Interestingly the theatre appeared only half-full for what was the second of two performances. The music was beautifully played and the singers performed well, although unfortunately the tenor due to sing the part of the hero, Des Grieux, was indisposed and his replacement couldn’t act. But Manon sang and acted splendidly. The real problem was the production, a joint one with Warsaw and Brussels, with a Polish director and choreographer. It was set throughout in a vast railway terminal with, as a backprojection, the rather hallucinatory effect of the lights of endless European trains flashing by interminably. The set did not even change for the final scene of Manon dying of thirst in the Louisiana desert! All very odd. But nevertheless I think those who attended did enjoy the experience overall.

The majority ate in the View Pan Asian restaurant right opposite the theatre and seemed to enjoy the variety of food on offer.

*From Alastair Logan*

*(Sounds near catastrophic to me, but glad they mostly enjoyed the event ! Ed)*

### **Nature Walks (Judy Mead)**

Our nature walks with Nigel Pinhorn have continued with a trip to Ottery St Mary in February, Stover Park in March and a walk at Escot in April. 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)**

This Spring the restaurant group enjoyed fine dining at the Salutation in Topsham. This was followed by a lunch at The Diggers Rest in Woodbury Salterton. Both events were very well supported. In May we are making a very welcome return to Rodean in Kenton. We try to find venues where the food wine and chatter is combined with beautiful settings. Hence, for June, there will be a return visit to the Drewe Arms in Drewsteignton which is now under new management.

*From Frankie Peroni*

### **Table Tennis Group (Ruth Preist)**

The first three months of the year were well supported with two, three and then four tables! With 10 signing up in January for the three months and then others coming when they were able, it was a very encouraging beginning for the group. In total eighteen different players took part – I hope that some others who gave it a try in October or November when we were supported by UERSA itself will re-appear as they did not wish their names to be removed from the group! Bats are available – just turn up!

The meeting in March had a singles challenge knock-out competition won by Doug Sedge, who was presented with a Twix (double!) bar. He will be away until the Autumn so July will see another winner take the prize.

*From Ruth*

### **Walking Group (Trevor Preist)**

The wet weather around the New Year created such frustration that the numbers at our walks recently, on a series of splendid days, have been well up.

The Spring programme started with a bang involving a Double-header at Lydford where, in the morning, Bob Higham led us around this Saxon Burh with its Norman fort & castle explaining the development & significance of the topography and ruins. Thirty two enjoyed the excellent tour, followed by lunch at The Castle Inn, an unreconstructed local pub with great food. In the afternoon 23 took on the Gorge challenge with all surviving and some even putting in creditable performances!

*From Trevor*

### **Wine Tasting Group (John Carroll)**

Many thanks to Marc Millon for the informative and entertaining tour of Italian wines at Pebblebed Wine Cellar in Topsham on 15<sup>th</sup> April. Full marks to everyone for getting there despite the disruption to the buses caused by the unfortunate accident at Countess Wear.

*From John*

*(Brian and I were lucky – we went by train! It really was a most enjoyable and well-organised meeting – main problem was needing to throw away at least a token swig from each glass (extra glad of train travel!) Ed)*

Now, looking to the next few months!

### **All Events Calendar for May - August (and beyond)**

Date	Time	Activity	Group
Tue 6th May	Meet 15.00 at 25 Matford Avenue (EX2 4PL)	Stroll around St Leonards guided by David Smith and Judy Mead	UERSA
Wed 7th May	10.00 -12.30	Guided walk 5/6	Nature Walks
Wed 7th May	14.00 at entrance	Lukesland	Gardens Group
Wed 7th May	11.00 – 12.00	Sports Hall at St. Lukes	Badminton Group
Thu 8th May	Lunch	Rodean	Restaurant Group
Thu 8th May	10.30 – 12.00	Sports Hall	Table Tennis Group
Tue 13th May	10.30 at start of walk	N Tors, Dartmoor	Walking Group
Tue 13th May	19.00	Isca Centre - Quiz Evening	UERSA
Wed 14th May	11.00 – 12.00	Sports Hall at St. Lukes	Badminton Group
Wed 21st May	10.30 at Manaton	Manaton	Walking Group
Wed 21st May	11.00 – 12.00	Sports Hall at St. Lukes	Badminton Group

Tue 27th May	10 – 12.00	Imperial	UERSA coffee
Thu 29th May	19.00 – 22.15	21 The Mint	Bridge Group
Wed 4th Jun	10.00 – 12.30	Guided walk 6/6	Nature Walks
Wed 4th Jun	11.00 – 12.00	Sports Hall at St. Lukes	Badminton Group
Thu 5th Jun	Tour <b>starts</b> at 14.00	Newton House, Newton Surmaville	Gardens/ UERSA
Fri 6th Jun	11.00 Budleigh Town Hall	Budleigh Salterton	Walking Group
Thu 12th Jun	10.30 – 12.00	Sports Hall	Table Tennis Group
Thu 12th Jun	Lunch	The Drewe Arms	Restaurant Group
Tue 17th June	19.00 promptly	21 The Mint	Wine Group
Wed 18th June	11.00 – 12.00	Sports Hall at St. Lukes	Badminton Group
Wed 18th - Thu 19th Jun	No details yet	mini-break - Dorset	Walking Group
Tue 24th Jun	10 – 12.00	Imperial Hotel	UERSA coffee
Tue 24th Jun	19.00 – 22.15	21 The Mint	Bridge Group
Wed 25th Jun	11.00 – 12.00	Sports Hall at St. Lukes	Badminton Group
Wed 25th Jun	15.00	Garden Party, Exeter C.C.	UERSA
Wed 1st Jul	19.30	“The Mousetrap “ Northcott Theatre	Theatre&Shows
Thu 3rd Jul	10.30 – 12.00	Sports Hall	Table Tennis Group
Tue 8th Jul	No details yet	Sand	Gardens Group
Thu 4th Sep	10.30 – 12.00	Sports Hall	Table Tennis Group
Wed 17th Sep	No details yet	Holcombe Court	Gardens Group
Thu 18-Sep	No details yet	Pebblebed Vineyard Tour & Tasting (Ebbford)	Wine Group
Thu 6th Nov	No details yet	Sherry Tasting	

## FORTHCOMING GENERAL EVENTS (UERSA)

### A guided walk around the St. Leonards area – 3 pm Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May

\*\*\* Fully booked \*\*\*

David Smith and Judy Mead invite you for a guided stroll around St Leonard's, looking at some of the listed buildings and the history of this suburb of Exeter. The stroll will last about 75 minutes and will be fairly level and easy and will be followed by tea and cake,.

Meet at David's house, 25 Matford Avenue (EX2 4PL) by 3.0 pm.

*Getting there :- Parking in and around Matford Avenue is only charged until 3:30pm; alternatively, come by bus. The H bus passes within 100 yards (catch the 2:45pm bus from the High Street to Victoria Park Road/Matford Avenue, or the 2:45pm bus from the hospital).*

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

The closing date for bookings was Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May and I am pleased to report that I have now received 44 definite bookings for the event.

*From Jan Reynolds*

### Newton House, Newton Surmaville, Yeovil 14.00 hrs 5th June

This is a house and garden visit, originally arranged for the gardens group by Anne Mayes, but open to all UERSA members. Anne has written :-

The house was finished in 1612 and remained in the same family until 2007. There were many links with nearby Montecute - and as our tour starts at 14.00 hrs it is possible to visit Montecute in the morning. It is rare to find an estate of this size still in private ownership and both the house and the gardens are well worth seeing. Coaches are out so it will be self-drive; it's less than 50 miles from Exeter. The cost is £15 to include the guided tour of the house, self-tour of the gardens and cream tea. We need at least 20 but no more than 50.

I already have 40 expressions of interest from those on email, perhaps those who are not, but would like to be kept informed, could ring me on 01647 252603?

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

### UERSA Summer Garden Party – 25th June 2014 3pm

Our Summer Garden Party will be held on Wednesday 25th June 2014, at the Exeter Cricket Club. Building work starts there in August, but the Club has kindly agreed that we can use their premises on this date. Further details will be sent out later.

**Exmouth/Brixham cruise in early July.** (A possible date is Thursday 3rd July.)

Bruce Coleman writes that this will be going ahead, and he will be circulating details to the membership in the next 2-3 weeks. He wanted to alert members to the event as pending before the details have been finalised and to suggest that anyone who needs to know more urgently contacts him directly.

Bruce Coleman [Bruce.I.Coleman@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:Bruce.I.Coleman@exeter.ac.uk). (If you can't use e-mail and you wish to contact him before the details arrive, you could leave a message for me at home (phone or ordinary mail) and I will pass your message to Bruce – Ed, - my contact details are on the Committee Page)

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

(Last Tuesday in the Month – between 10 and 12 noon) :

**27th May** and **24th June** are the only 2 meetings before the summer break.

\*None in July or August

\* Resume again in September

### **Suggestions for future events**

#### **Events under consideration include:**

- a visit to Agatha Christie's house "Greenway" in the Spring of 2014
- a guided walk in The Close
- a trip to the Minack Theatre at Porthcurno
- a Jurassic Coast cruise.

If any of these appeal, you could express an interest to me Rachel Kirby (*contact details on the Committee Page*) and I will pass it on to the Committee

### **FORTHCOMING GROUP EVENTS**

#### ***Badminton: (Jan Reynolds)***

The Badminton Group regularly meets on Wednesday mornings between 11 a.m. and 12 noon for a game of badminton at the Main Campus Sports Hall.

Unfortunately, this Sports Hall is not available to our Group during May as it is booked for Student Exams and in June roof repairs are to be undertaken there.

The good news is that we have now managed to book a court at the University's St Luke's site for May and June, as follows -.

*Wednesdays:* 7th, 14th and 21st May (not 28th May),  
4th, 18th and 25th June (not 11th June).

Sessions run from 11:00-12:00, with time for a coffee and a chat afterwards.

We plan to carry on into June but our membership has dropped recently - due to health problems, so we have to make sure there are enough of us available for a game.

**(n.b. a few more members would be most welcome to join our friendly group!)**

For further details, please contact: Jan Reynolds at [janandmikereynolds@gmail.com](mailto:janandmikereynolds@gmail.com): Tel 01392 271204

#### ***Bridge: (Paul Ellison)***

Meetings are held at 21 The Mint. We start at 7.0 pm, stop for coffee/tea and biscuits mid-session, and aim to finish around 10 to 10.15pm.

The final two Bridge evenings this academic year are on: Thur 29th May and Tues 24th June

If you intend to come, please email me ([P.A.Ellison@ex.ac.uk](mailto:P.A.Ellison@ex.ac.uk)) or phone (01626 867999)

If you do not know the procedure for entry to the Mint, or for any other query, please contact me..

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

#### ***Gardens: (Anne Mayes)***

**Lukesland, Ivybridge PL21 0JF [OS 202 642578]** Wednesday May 7<sup>th</sup> 2014 Website [www.lukesland.co.uk](http://www.lukesland.co.uk)  
Meet at 14.00 hrs at the entrance. Turn off the A38 signed Ivybridge Station, pass through Bittaford, turn right at 2nd mini roundabout signed to Harford and Lukesland. After half a mile turn right, again signed H and L, after ¾ mile turn into drive by green railings. Lukesland is ¼ mile from gateway.

Large garden with streams and bridges, three Champion trees, 43 other trees on the National Tree Register and flowering shrubs throughout the seasons. Tea room. Admission £4.50/£5 depending on numbers.

**Newton House, Newton Surmaville, Yeovil** 14.00 hrs 5th June 2014

The all member visit to Newton House. Details of the visit are under 'Forthcoming **General** Events'.

**Three more possibilities for the summer, details not yet available**

**Sand, Sidbury, 8th July** Devon, EX10 0QN

You can find out about Sand House and Garden at <http://www.sandsidbury.co.uk/>

**Trematon Castle, Saltash,** before the end of July

Any interest? Some info at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trematon\\_Castle](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trematon_Castle)

**Holcombe Court 17th Sept** Holcombe Rogus, close to Wellington

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

### **Guided Nature Walks (Judy Mead)**

There are two walks left in the current series. They are on the following Wednesdays :-

5/6 - 7th May; 6/6 - 4th Jun

A further series of 6 guided walks is planned for each month from July to December so please contact me (Judy) if you would like to join in. Numbers are limited to 15 and the cost is £60 per person for the series of 6 walks.

*Judy Mead* [judy\\_mead@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:judy_mead@hotmail.co.uk)

### **Music / Opera: (Helen Pope)**

No events planned this summer

### **Restaurants (Frankie Peroni and Liz Smith)**

This spring the restaurant group enjoyed fine dining at the Salutation in Topsham. This was followed by a lunch at The Diggers Rest in Woodbury Salterton. Both events were very well supported.

In May we are making a very welcome return to **Rodean in Kenton Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May**. We try to find venues where the food wine and chatter is combined with beautiful settings. Hence, for June, there will be a return visit on June 12<sup>th</sup> to the **Drewe Arms in Drewsteignton**, which is now under new management.

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

*Frankie Peroni (tel: 01363 773946)*

### **Table Tennis (Ruth Preist)**

Session dates to September (Thursdays, 10.30 to 12.00, Studio 3, Sports Park)

Thursday 8th May Thursday 12th June (moved from 5th)

Thursday 3rd July Thursday 4th September

The charge for the next three months will be as before: 3 sessions £6; 2 sessions £5; a single session £3. It worked well in the first three months of the year with over 10 signing up for the three sessions so I am hoping that a similar number will enable me to guarantee multiple courts. Please note that bats are supplied if you haven't got your own.

If there are people out there who want more frequent meetings and will volunteer to help organise, please let me know!

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

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

**Tuesday 1 July "The Mousetrap"** 7.30 pm at the Northcott Theatre.

Sue still has some tickets left for this performance at £33.50. Please get in touch with her if you are interested.

*Sue Cousins. E-mail: [scousins@talktalk.net](mailto:scousins@talktalk.net). Tel: 01392 432309*

### **Walking (Trevor Preist)**

#### **FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

The Walking Group section on the UERSA website links to details of the walks and how to get there. Here are brief notes to whet your appetite!

**10.30 am Tue, 13:05:14** *Dartmoor N-tors walk (N=6, 7, 10) 4, 5.25, 7 miles*  
Led by David Hobbs **PACKED LUNCH REQUIRED**

**10.30 am Wed 21:05:14,** *Circular walk from Manaton Church 6 miles*  
Led by Judy Mead **PACKED LUNCH REQUIRED**

**11.00 am Fri, 06:06:14** *Circular walk from Budleigh Town Hall 7m (or 4 m)*  
Led by Sara **PACKED LUNCH REQUIRED**

**18/19 June Wed/Thurs** *Dorset Delights mid-summer walking break Weymouth area*

First day: We will follow the inland route of the South West Coast Path from Abbotsbury to Upwey.

Second day: We will drive to a car park on Portland and make a circular walk via Portland Bill. There will be a shorter option taking in the old quarry areas which now contain interesting sculptures.

*Trevor Preist (e-mail: [preist.exeter@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:preist.exeter@blueyonder.co.uk))*

### ***Wine Tasting (John Carroll)***

**Tuesday 17th June at 21 The Mint 7 pm**

Tasting of 12 Fairtrade Wines by Roger Camble at 7pm (promptly, due to the number of wines to taste). £10 pp. Roger tells me there will also be a quiz with a bottle of wine for a prize!

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 Tuesday 10th June. I hope to see you there.

### **Future Events**

Thu 18-Sep Pebblebed Vineyard Tour & Tasting (Ebbford)

Geoff Bowen

Thu 06-Nov Sherry Tasting (21 The Mint)

Laurie Burbridge

February 2015 Vuelta a España (21 The Mint)

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.

### **News Snippets**

Prof Neil Armstrong, Deputy V-C, has become the Inaugural Provost of the University, overseeing internal operations, and Prof Janice Kay will succeed him in that role from 1 August 2014.

Cornwall House Outdoor Pool opens May 3<sup>rd</sup> and the brand new pool-side changing facilities are set to open at the end of May. There will be six new changing rooms, two toilets, three “beach style” open showers and lockers, and swimmers will have direct access to the pool from the changing rooms.

Steiner Academy given the go ahead at Thomas Hall

One of Devon's first new free schools has been given the go-ahead to open at a former University Hall of Residence. The Steiner Academy Exeter is expected to open at Thomas Hall on Cowley Bridge Road in 2015.



RETIRED STAFF ASSOCIATION

**UERSA Wine Group**

**7pm on Wednesday Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2014 at 21 The Mint - Fairtrade Wines by Roger Camble**

If you would like to join us, please complete this slip, and send it to John Carroll, with a cheque made payable to the University of Exeter, as soon as possible and to arrive no later than Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June .

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UERSA Wine Tasting: 7 pm 2014

From: \_\_\_\_\_

I/we would like \_\_\_\_\_ tickets (£10 each) for Fairtrade Wines by Roger Camble at 7pm on Tuesday 17th June, at 21 The Mint, Exeter

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 Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June to:

John Carroll  
8 Tophayes  
Elm Grove Road  
Topsham  
EX3 0BW

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