



Retired Staff Association (UERSA)



Chairs message

Dear Friends

I'm very glad to welcome Sandy Day as the new editor of the UERSA newsletter. You'll see that she has given some thought to a revamp, to include photos and a more extended diary of events that might appeal to members. I do hope that you enjoy reading this edition.

I was pleased to see many former colleagues at the Christmas lunch in December at the Devon Hotel. The warmth of greeting on such occasions is just one striking feature of belonging to an organisation like UERSA – an example of the collegial atmosphere of the University as we remember it! And thanks to Susan Cousins for organising the event.

This New Year edition of the newsletter holds out the promise of longer days and brighter skies. Let's hope that the latter will accompany the stimulating programme of visits that Anne Mayes has put together for the Gardens Group – see the UERSA website for details. The UERSA Committee is also organising a series of events for the generality of members. These have yet to be confirmed but, hopefully, will include a guided tour in late April of the Bill Douglas Cinema Museum (in the Old Library), an evening concert in early June by the University Chapel Choir and, in early July, a whole-day trip to visit the University's campus at Penryn (which will be a real eye-opener for many). Watch out for news on all of these. As ever, the Committee would welcome suggestions from members on other potential activities to supplement those already detailed on the website.

So as we move further into 2018, my belated good wishes for the New Year to all members!

David Batty

Event Exeter

Event Exeter, which represents the portfolio of venues and hospitality at the University, offers members of the Retired Staff Association benefits of their promotions, for instance 2 for 1 lunches at Reed Hall, discounted rates for Bed and Breakfast on campus for family and friends and discounted rates for UERSA members should they wish to host a function or party at the University.

To be kept informed of the latest news, events and offers from Event Exeter, please email them at: eventexeter@exeter.ac.uk asking to be added to their mailing list and stating that you are a member of UERSA. If you decide receiving the newsletter is not for you, you can unsubscribe at any time.

Visit their website at www.eventexeter.com or contact them on 01392 215566.

Forthcoming UERSA events

UERSA general events are found on the [website](#) . If any member would like to advertise their forthcoming event in the newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact the newsletter editor [Sandy Day](#)

A quick reminder of some of the [special interest groups](#) booked events for 2018:

The **Table Tennis Group** have booked 10.30-12 at the University Sports Park, Studio 3 for the forthcoming dates:

- 4th, 11th, 25th January
- 8th, 22nd February
- 8th, 22nd March
- 5th, 19th April
- 3rd, 17th, 31st May
- 14th, 28th June

Paul Ellison would be happy to hear from any members who would like to join the **Bridge Club** as there have been no recent meetings due to a drop in numbers.

Reminder

UERSA committee members are encouraged to check on the UERSA committee members list [here](#) make sure your email address is valid. If it is not, please update with a valid email address to Roger Coles and also inform the special interest group contacts. This is to ensure you are kept informed and do not miss out on critical notifications.

Newsletter publication dates

End of January
End of May
End of September

Local interest events:

Restoring **The Stover Canal** in South Devon, to the west of Kingsteignton is taking place. It runs for nearly 2 miles from north of Teigngrace to the outskirts of Newton Abbot and originally included 5 locks. The exit from the canal was through Jetty Marsh Lock at Newton Abbot on to the tidal Whitelake channel, and from there to the River Teign and the docks at Teignmouth.

The Stover Canal Society has merged with Stover Canal Trust which works with local councils and other interested parties to preserve the line of the canal and to restore it as an amenity for the local community. Some lengths of the canal towpath form part of the Templer Way, an historic trail which links the canal, the tramway and other legacies of the Templer family.

The opening of the Stover Way cycle and walkway from Ventiford Basin to Teignbridge Crossing gives greater public access to the canal features and is worth a visit to see the progress so far.

<http://www.stovercanal.co.uk/>

A short video is available on youtube:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OhXyYc_utnU

The Badminton Group meet on a Wednesday at the University Sports Park from 11-12.

- January 31
- February 7,14,21,28
- March 7,14,21,28
- April 4,11,18,25

Coffee Morning

The place : Imperial Hotel
The date : 30th January 2018
The time : 10am -12noon

Walking Group

10.30am Monday 5th February
6.5 mile walk from Manaton Church.
Park at the Manaton Church car park (OL28 :749812) – charge £1. The walk will follow a circular route taking in North Bovey.
Don't forget to bring a packed lunch.

Lunch at the Lazy Toad, Brampford Speke 6th February 2018

The first **Restaurants Group** lunch event for 2018 has been extended from 20 to 25 persons as the first 20 places were booked quickly. There is a choice of 3 starters, 3 mains (including vegetarian options) and 3 deserts available, which you can select on the day. A fixed price menu will be running with 2 courses for £14.95 and 3 for £17.95.

The Lazy Toad provides good food, all prepared from scratch in the kitchen, using local and regional suppliers plus vegetables, fruit and herbs in season from their own smallholding . **The Lazy Toad** have won the following awards:

Gold Taste of the West Award for 2017 for Fine Dining Pub

*Inspectors' Favourite - Eating out In Pubs
Michelin Guide 2016*

Exeter Living Awards Finalists 2017

University of Exeter Tree Trail



The University has produced Tree Trail Guides for both Streatham Campus and St Luke's Campus which provide a route around campus, pointing out some interesting examples of trees. You can download the trails [here](#)

Recent UERSA events



Walking Group Longdown – St Thomas

On a beautiful autumn day a number of the walking group members met at West Exe School to exchange vehicles and journey to Longdown for a guided linear walk to St Thomas, Exeter via Ide. We covered approx 5 miles and took in part of the old Teign Valley Railway track. David Kernick and Vicky were kind enough to provide a tea/coffee break and a well earned scrumptious lunch. Many thanks for their generosity and kindness.

The Lazy Toad is an attractive Grade II listed Devon Inn. Dating back to the late 18th Century, with possibly an earlier core, it features oak beamed ceilings and slate floors, good locally grown or sourced food - some from their smallholding - local real ales, local ciders and wines, a cobbled courtyard - where once the farrier and wheelwright plied his trade - and beautiful walled beer garden. Prior to 2007 the Inn was known as the Agricultural Inn. It is situated just off the Exe Valley Way and the Devonshire Heartland Way, a few hundred yards from many glorious walks along the banks of the River Exe with its' kingfishers, swifts, swallows, sand martins, swans, geese, ducks, cormorants and much more wildlife.

There may be cancellations prior to the date, so please check with Frankie Peroni on 01363 773946 or seodell@bavant.eclipse.co.uk by Monday 29th January 2018 for up to date availability.

Garden Group

The first visit of 2018 is to **Caerhays Castle and Gardens** on Monday 26th March. The 140 acre gardens hold the National Collection of magnolias containing over 600 species. The coach leaves Exeter at 9am and numbers are limited to 27, so please contact Anne Mayes on A.C.Mayes@exeter.ac.uk to establish if places are available. Please click [here](#) for forthcoming Garden Group events.

**Just for fun
Where am I ?**



Restaurant Group

UERSA Christmas Lunch - Devon Hotel



The festive cheer for UERSA members commenced on the 14th December at the Devon Hotel, where 60 members celebrated with a Christmas Lunch. A good time was had by all. Thanks again to Sue Cousins for organising.

Some 2018 local event dates for your diary:

Jan-Feb	
From 13 Jan -27 Feb	RSPB Winter Avocet Cruises, Topsham <i>Please click here for further details</i>
From 27 Jan – 8 April	George Shaw : My Back to Nature RAMM, Exeter (Meet the artist on 6 Feb) <i>Please click here for further details</i>
From now – 1 July 2018	Seaton Down Hoard RAMM, Exeter <i>Please click here for further details</i>
1 Feb	Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Monumental Brahms, Great Hall Exeter <i>Please click here for further details of all forthcoming BSO Great Hall events</i>



2.

3.



University of Exeter News

Sir Christopher Ondaatje, an honorary graduate has donated £100,000 to the University of Exeter's cricket programme. The donation, which will be used to widen accessibility to surrounding schools and cricket clubs, and to support the development of talented male and female cricketers with elite-level training. (Source: DevonLive October)

A major new study has revealed more than £1 billion has been injected into the economy and 11,000 jobs have been generated by the University of Exeter, the report concludes that The University of Exeter is of major importance to both the local and the wider regional economy. (Source: DevonLive November)

Exeter Northcott Theatre celebrated its 50th anniversary on the 2nd November 2017. The theatre opened in 1967 with a production of the Merchant of Venice.

1 Feb	Cezanne Portraits of a Life Art – Documentary, The Gateway Seaton <i>Please click here for further details</i>
17 Feb	Mike Holgate: Shackleton, Scott and the South Pole Part of Torquay Museum's Explorer Season. Babbacombe Rd Torquay <i>Please click here for further details</i>
28 Feb	Mindfulness Walk, Greenway House <i>Please click here for further details</i>
March	
17 March	Exeter Festival Chorus Choral Concert, Exeter Cathedral Rachmaninov, Liturgy of St John Chrysostum <i>Please click here for further details</i>
April	
4 April	Brixham Fish Market Tours <i>Please click here for further details</i>
6-8 April	Westpoint – Spring Quilt Festival <i>Please click here for further details</i>
May	
17-19 May	Devon County Show <i>Please click here for further details</i>
5-7 May	Exeter Festival of South West Food and Drink <i>Please click here for further details</i>

Exeter Chiefs and The University of Exeter have teamed up to launch a rugby PhD study. (Source : DevonLive September)

The University of Exeter has lost its place as the top university in the South West – but remains in the top 15 universities in the country. In the 2018 guide, the university has slipped from ninth to 14th and lost its Place in the SW to the University of Bath, which remains 12th in the list. (Source: DevonLive September)

Law students to provide free legal advice. Academics and students working in The University of Exeter Community Law Clinic run drop-in sessions where people can get legal information about criminal justice, housing, benefits, and employment law. (Source : UoE website November)

There is hope for us all after the secret to reversing aging has been discovered by scientists led by Professor Lorna Harries at the **University of Exeter** and a team from **Brighton University**. The answer lies in red wine, dark chocolate and blueberries (Source : Devon Live November 2017)

NatWest bank has announced plans to close 259 branches across the country including the **University of Exeter campus branch**. (Dec 2017)

The University has been awarded a **Gold** rating in the UK Government's first national **Teaching Excellence Framework**

In a new book, More Harm Than Good?, published on 20 January **Professor Edzard Ernst** talks candidly about the loss of his post at the University of Exeter and the role royal influence played it in. Prof Ernst set up the UK's first chair in complementary medicine at the University in 1993. (Source: The Telegraph/Guardian/RT Jan 2018)

Notices

Deaths:

Dame Margaret Turner-Warwick, former President of the Royal College of Physicians, and one of our honorary graduates on 21 August 2017

Professor John Black, eminent economist on 7 October 2017

Barbara Northcote-Passmore, retired member of staff who worked in Northcote House on 4 October 2017

Professor John Black, eminent economist on 7 October 2017

Anne Glyn-Jones, Devon Research Fellow in Geography 1973-85 and then Honorary Research Fellow in the Western European Studies Centre on 13 October

Dr Dermot Walsh, retired member of the Sociology Department on 24 October 2017

Dr Michael Proctor, academic staff in the Botany Department and then the Department of Biological Sciences. His funeral was held on 10 November

Dr Rodney Maliphant, Honorary Research Fellow at UCL and Exeter, and formerly Senior Lecturer in Child Development, Department of Psychology, UCL. His funeral was held at the Mint Methodist Church in Exeter on 8 January 2018.

Milo Dixon, retired member of the Department of Mathematic died on 13 January 2018.

Answers to Where am I?

1. Bridford
2. Lustleigh
3. Aymer Cove

For further updated information please visit the UERSA [website](http://groups.exeter.ac.uk/uersa/index.html) :
<http://groups.exeter.ac.uk/uersa/index.html> (Web Editor: Roger Coles)