



RETIRED STAFF ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER  
Issue 26, January 2013

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

A bit late to be wishing you a Happy New Year, nevertheless, I do hope everyone will enjoy health and happiness in 2013.

It's difficult to think of Spring or Summer after the recent torrential rains which have left gardens and fields resembling WW1 battlefields, and now with cold winds, snow and ice. But look carefully, there are buds on magnolias, camellias and japonica with bulbs pushing through below. And now, to really cheer you up here is this spring's UERSA programme. Feast your eyes, look forward to a new year of agreeable UERSA activities and muse about the enjoyment you are going to get.

Let's resolve we are all going to refute Virginia Ironside's bleak vision of life:

"Lager, Aga, Viagra, Saga then gaga."

*Ed*

*As always - don't forget to join any of the groups in which you may be interested, so that you get the news and updates from the organisers – details near the end of this newsletter.*

**A Message from our Chairman**

Well that's another year gone in a flash, but what a year, embracing the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the London Olympics. Despite the generally atrocious weather of the latter half of the year, miraculously the sun did shine during the Olympic fortnight and we all felt happier and imbued with a real community spirit, very much generated and fostered by the wonderful bunch of volunteers. That period was perhaps the nearest we have got so far to David Cameron's vision of the Big Society in action. We tend to overlook the vital part that volunteers play in society, particularly, but not only, at the local level. If you look closely you will generally find that most amateur groups and organisations are run by a small but enthusiastic and committed band of folk. We may bemoan the fact but probably it was ever thus. Certainly, if it wasn't for a very small group of people who had the original idea over eight years ago, there would be no UERSA. And it's those same folk plus others they have been able to inspire and enlist who keep UERSA going today. So if I were to suggest a New Year resolution to you all, it would be to get more involved in UERSA at whatever level feels comfortable. We have such a large membership but yet our various groups are pretty small, even including the monthly coffee morning at the Imperial about which Jan faithfully reminds us by electronic and other media. It would be nice to see more folk attend what is a very pleasant and sociable event, allowing people to catch up, meet new folk and gossip. And more folk attending our main social event, our splendid Christmas lunch, would be great. We must all know former University staff at all levels who have retired but who haven't got round to joining UERSA, or have a misleading idea of what it is like, so if you happen to bump into them or come into contact in some way, do suggest they consider joining. We all know and appreciate the delights and benefits of membership. A happy and fruitful New Year to you all.

**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)**

**Shirley Hoole** died on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2012 after a long illness. Before her retirement, she was a member of staff of the External Relations Division at the University. Shirley will be remembered by UERSA friends, particularly those in the Walking and Restaurant Groups.

**Vi Palfrey** died on 29 December 2012 in the RD&E after a long illness. Vi worked for many years as a Secretary in Amory Building and in the School of English before her retirement.

*From Sandi Ellison 11 Jan 2013*

**Dr Michael Pakenham**, friend and former colleague in the French Department at the University of Exeter, died peacefully at his home on January 1, 2013. Michael's work on the French poets of the 19th century and,

more recently his work on the edition of the Verlaine correspondence, are of the highest quality. We lose a scholar of great integrity and knowledge and a caring and devoted teacher."

*From Malcolm Cook 8 Jan 13*

*It was suggested that it would be good to include in this section interesting news from or about our members (marriages? Achievements? ...) as well as the sad but necessary notices of deaths. If you have anything you think would be suitable, please write or email it to the newsletter editor, (details at the end of the newsletter)*

## **REPORTS ON GENERAL EVENTS**

### **Notes from the Annual General Meeting 12th October 2012**

48 Members were present at the meeting and 28 sent apologies.

#### **Election of Committee for 2012/13:**

It was confirmed by the Chairman that this matter had been discussed at the previous Committee Meeting and all the present Committee Members had agreed to serve a further year:

**Mary Banks** will become President of UERSA for 2012/13 in place of **Anne Mayes** who will serve a further year on the Committee as Immediate Past President

**Alan Leadbetter** has been unanimously elected as President Elect for the following year.

*A revised list of Committee Members with contact details is enclosed with this Newsletter. It can also be found on the UERSA website (Executive Committee) at <http://groups.exeter.ac.uk/uersa/> together with the Minutes of the AGM (Newsletters and Archives)*

The Subscription Fee of £6 per person/couple has been held for a further year. Current membership in early December was reported as 361.

*A view of the meeting from a member (Brian Kirby)*

When things are going well and everyone is happy, it is remarkable that anyone turns up at an AGM – but UERSA is remarkable. It is the experience of Chair and Officers who must, in their working lives, have been bored by many such meetings, which has provided the skill to run informative and interesting meetings which come to useful conclusions (with help from the members!)

There were a couple of humorous moments:- when the Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) was confused with the RNIB; and a feminist uprising was narrowly averted when the visit to the Railway Museum was mooted, and a suggestion was made that women members might like to go shopping instead, but minus access to joint credit cards. At the end of the meeting there was plenty of time for meeting other members over a pleasant drink.

### **UERSA Christmas Lunch held on 11th December 2012**

The Annual Christmas Lunch took place again at the Devon Hotel on a bright, but bitterly cold day. Greeting us with mulled wine dispelled the cold and got conversation going between those who had been seeing each other regularly and between those who had not seen each other for the past year.

Again the activities everyone had got up to were remarkable, from the physical to the intellectual. Fascinating that so many were so physically active both in and around their homes in Devon and to some rather far-flung corners of the world. Families are often the stimulus to more distant journeys though being presented with air tickets to some of the wilder, more distant places would have set my mind wondering if there was a signal in there somewhere – (forfeend such an unworthy thought!)

Lunch itself had a wide enough choice to cope with even the most jaded palate aided by pleasant table wine. Conversation with old and new friends made the time pass rapidly until our President rose to speak. As she put it, the words were there but she couldn't guarantee the order. It was a delight when she presented Jan Reynolds with a splendid bouquet acknowledging all the hard work she puts in to ensuring the success of UERSA. Finally the lunch broke up with the minority inwardly gloating that they were well ahead in preparations for Christmas but with probably the majority firmed up in their resolve to get moving before it was too late!  
From Brian Kirby (*you may guess some arm-twisting has taken place to get these reports! Ed*)

### **UERSA Coffee Mornings at the Imperial Hotel**

Jan confirmed that the monthly coffee mornings are still proving popular at the Imperial Hotel, New North Road, Exeter, on Tuesdays, from 10 a.m. until 12 noon. An average of between 25-35 members attend. Many comments are made about the 'chatter coming from the area where we are'!

## 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 )
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: Geoffandlizsmith@yahoo.co.uk ) Frankie Peroni ( tel: 01363 773946, e-mail: F.Peroni@exeter.ac.uk )
Theatre and Shows:	Sue Cousins (Tel.01392 432309. e-mail: scousins@talktalk.net )
Walking:	Trevor Preist (Tel.01392 259740.e-mail: preist.exeter@blueyonder.co.uk )
Wine:	John Carroll (Tel.01392 876048. e-mail: carroll595@btinternet.com)
Membership Secretary:	Judy Mead ( tel: 01392 425571, e-mail: JudyMead@hotmail.co.uk )

If you can access the internet, all this information can be found on the UERSA website 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, Judy Mead. 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 group.**

(Judy's contact details are listed above. )

### **Reports and news from Special Interest Groups**

*Reports on group activities over the last few months, have been gleaned either directly from the organisers, or from browsing our website :- <http://groups.exeter.ac.uk/uersa/index.html>*

#### **Garden Group (Anne Mayes)** (Group Leader)

Highlights from the web reports on the Autumn visits:

**Bickham Gardens** - September 2012 ... a return visit to these lovely gardens ... new since last time was the Head Gardener's gardens and Koi carp pool. He kindly talked us through his South African border – we tried desperately to remember the names of the various and unusual plants. ... vast collection of nerines in the greenhouses, all very neatly set out, truly a labour of love.

**Stourhead** - October 2012 ... a staggeringly large array of plants in the pelargonium collection ... a warming bowl of soup ... off out again to find our own way round the grounds. ... the colourful acers and tulip trees, which looked particularly good in the brief shafts of sunshine that occasionally broke through.

(Full reports are on the web along with lovely photos and descriptions.)

#### **Music and Opera Group (Helen Pope and Alastair Logan)** (Group Leaders)

Our last expedition was to Touring Glyndebourne's Rusalka, with music by Dvorak, on 14th November 2012.

#### **Restaurant Group (Frankie Peroni and Liz Smith)** (Group Leaders)

We are a social bunch who enjoy the food, wine and chatter. Our thanks to everyone involved in organising the different visits.

Would anyone who is willing to organise a future lunch please contact Frankie Peroni or Liz Smith (contact details above) to discuss the venue and location, and to agree a date that does not clash with other UERSA events.

In 2012 the group made return visits to Rodean in Kenton, Tobias Bistro in Budleigh Salterton and the Manor Inn in Lower Ashton. We also enjoyed lunches at six new venues - the Redwing Inn in Lympstone, the Ship Inn at Cockwood, the Harris Arms at Lewdown, Il Casita in Crediton, the Bistro at Bickleigh Mill and the Magdalen Chapter in Exeter. Not only have we enjoyed the food, wine and chatter but it has been good to find some beautiful settings.

#### **Theatre Group (Susan Cousins)** (Group Leader)

No recent events to report

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

The very wet end of the year has threatened local villages and caused much anxiety to some of our members but fortunately, I believe, no serious damage. It has also taken its toll on the Autumn programme resulting in difficult conditions and two of the last six walks cancelled – something we have avoided in the previous years.

Nonetheless the walks have been well attended (particularly when lunch was on offer!). The total mileage is creeping up towards 15000 with over 2500 participants during the almost eight years we have been walking.

A taste of what walkers have enjoyed this summer:-

*For full reports and some great photos, do try to look at their website. Ed*

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

The final Wine Group tasting for 2012 took place on Tuesday 13th November at 21 The Mint. Diana and John Jacob gave an excellent presentation on New Zealand Wines from North to South, which was our best attended event of the year. Many thanks to Diana & John Jacob and everyone else who gave or organised an event during the year: Lesley & Jeremy Noakes, Rachel & Brian Kirby and Alan Leadbetter. Special thanks are also due to Sandi Ellison for providing the excellent venue.

## **Now, looking to the next few months!**

### **All Events Calendar for Spring 2013 (and beyond)**

Date	Time	Activity	Group
Wed 16th Jan	10.30 at the Quay	'Homestart' lunch	Walking Group
Wed 23rd Jan	11-12	Sports Hall	Badminton Group
Tue 29th Jan	10-12	Imperial	UERSA coffee
Wed 30th Jan	11-12	Sports Hall	Badminton Group
Wed 30th Jan	10.30 @ Fingle Bridge	Fingle Bridge	Walking Group
Wed 30th Jan	19.00-22.00	Clayden	Bridge Group
Wed 6th Feb	12.00 for 12.30	Côte Brasserie, Exeter	Restaurant Group
Wed 6th Feb	11-12	Sports Hall	Badminton Group
Wed 13th Feb	11-12	Sports Hall	Badminton Group
Thu 14th Feb	10.30@ Brampford Speke	Tom's Valentine's Day stroll	Walking Group
Wed 20th Feb	11 – 12	Sports Hall	Badminton Group
Tue 26th Feb	10-12	Imperial	UERSA coffee
Tue 26th Feb	10.30 @ Shobrooke	Shobrooke	Walking Group
Wed 27th Feb	11-12	Sports Hall	Badminton Group
Thu 28th Feb	19.00-22.00	Clayden	Bridge Group
Wed 6th Mar	11-12	Sports Hall	Badminton Group
Tue 12th Mar	10.30 @ Bennetts Cross.	Two Moors Way	Walking Group
Tue 12th Mar	19.30 @Thornlea	"Twelfth Night" - Drama Dept	UERSA
Wed 13th Mar	11-12	Sports Hall	Badminton Group
Wed 20th Mar	11-12	Sports Hall	Badminton Group
Wed 20th Mar	19.00	Judy Mead, Trenton, Matford Road. EX2 4PE (I.Smith Wines)	Wine Group
Tue 26th Mar	10-12	Imperial	UERSA coffee
Wed 27th Mar	19.00-22.00	Clayden	Bridge Group
Thu 28th Mar	10.30 @ Steps Bridge	Steps Bridge	Walking Group
Thu 4th Apr	19.15 @ Plymouth	The Cunning Little Vixen	Music Group
Tue 9 <sup>th</sup> April	19.00	Quiz at the Isca Centre, Exeter	UERSA
Thu 25th Apr	19.00-22.00	Clayden	Bridge Club
Tue 30th Apr	10-12	Imperial	UERSA coffee
Tue 28th May	10-12	Imperial	UERSA coffee
Wed 29th May	19.00-22.00	Clayden	Bridge Group
Thu 6th June	Summer Event	@The Hermitage(Laurie Burbridge,	Wine Group

Tue 25th Jun	10-12	Imperial	UERSA coffee
Thu 27th Jun	19.00-22.00	Clayden	Bridge Group
Thu 12th Sep	All day	Stratford	UERSA

### **FORTHCOMING GENERAL EVENTS (UERSA)**

*The newsletter editor\* would love to have reviews of any of the general UERSA events you attend – or, indeed, of any special interest group events though you may prefer to send them to the group Leader.*

*\*- Rachel Kirby, 3 Pennsylvania Crescent, Exeter EX4 4SF  
Tel: 01392 273536 E-mail: [r.m.kirby@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:r.m.kirby@exeter.ac.uk)*

#### **Coffee Mornings**

UERSA's Coffee Mornings will resume again at the end of January. Dates for this term are:-  
January (Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup>), February (Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup>) and March (Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup>).

As per usual, these will be held at the Imperial Hotel, New North Road, Exeter from 10 a.m. - 12 noon.

#### **Shakespeare performance at the Drama Department**

*From Jon Primrose (Technical Manager in the Drama Department)*

The next Shakespeare performance at the Drama Department will be an hour-long version of Twelfth Night to be performed on Tuesday 12th March at 7.30pm in the Alexander Building, Thornlea.

Jon is kindly putting aside 20 tickets for UERSA members. Admission Free.

*Please contact Rachel Kirby - Tel: 01392 273536 E-mail: [r.m.kirby@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:r.m.kirby@exeter.ac.uk)  
if you would like to book a ticket!*

#### **Quiz Evening**

UERSA Trivia Quiz: another of these popular events will take place on **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April, at the Isca Centre, Summer Lane, Exeter, at 7 p.m.** The cost will be £5.50 per person (which includes refreshments). Drinks can be bought separately at the bar. (see booking form at the end of this Newsletter).

#### **Visit to Stratford Upon Avon Thursday 12 September 2013**

**Bruce Coleman** has arranged a trip to Stratford on Avon next September 12<sup>th</sup> for the matinee performance of Hamlet. The production is directed by David Farr and Jonathan Slinger stars in the title role. As the 2013 season doesn't start until March, there are no reviews or notices to guide us.

Bruce has already made bookings for the coach, but theatre bookings are more complicated – see below. If you have not already registered an interest with Bruce and would like to get more details, please contact him.

Email: [bruce.i.coleman@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:bruce.i.coleman@exeter.ac.uk) or tel.01392 254142

*Bruce writes (Dec 2012) :-Concentrate on obtaining your own tickets. Seats are still available in the stalls, circle and upper circle, but seem to be selling fast, so don't delay. It is possible to buy tickets over the web, but I will be using the ticket hotline on 0844 800 1110. It seems to operate between 10am and 6pm on weekdays anyway. If you identify yourself as of pensioner age (I know, we don't look it - not over the phone anyway), you can claim the discounted tickets at £30. If you really don't want to obtain your own ticket, I can do so for you, so let me know, but remember that such bookings would not qualify for the discount. Please let me know promptly if you hit any problems.*

As there maybe a few seats spare on the coach, we could offer places to non-members who are friends or otherwise interested parties. If they are interested, let me have their names and email contacts, but do emphasise to them that they will need to get on and obtain their tickets..

#### **Other events being considered for this year include:**

##### **A Conducted Tour of the University's 'Revamped' Streatham Campus (including the New Buildings)**

It was agreed at the AGM that this Tour should take place - possibly during the Easter Vacation 2013.

##### **Visit to Swindon GWR Museum**

Sue Cousins confirmed that apart from a viewing of the GWR Museum, there was also an out-of-town Shopping Centre available for those who were not particularly interested in the Museum. Details to follow.

##### **Tour of the Lifeboat College, Poole, Dorset**

The Chairman asked the Members present at the AGM how many were in favour of such a trip taking place - only half a dozen were in favour. If you are interested, (and not one of the half dozen), please let us know. It will only happen if there is a volunteer willing to take over the organization,

### **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. Sessions booked for the coming weeks commence on Wednesday 23rd January, through to 20th March. See the Events Calendar for the actual dates.

*(Message from Jan: "We are a very friendly Group of eight members but if there are others who would be interested in joining us, please give me a ring on 01392 271204").*

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

The Bridge Group is currently meeting in a Music practice room in Clayden, which is the building to the rear of Knightley. We tend to play Chicago most evenings, but occasionally are able to play rubbers. We start at 7.0 pm, stop for coffee/tea and biscuits mid-session, and aim to finish around 10 to 10.15pm. To be able to access Clayden, we have registered as 'Music Associates' and have bought a small batch of Associate cards.

#### **Schedule for 2013**

We did not have the opportunity at the meeting before Christmas to determine the schedule of evenings for the first six months of 2013, so below is the list that we *think* is reasonable. If they cause anyone a problem, please let me know as soon as possible.

- \* Wed 30th January
- \* Thu 28th February
- \* Wed 27th March (Good Friday is the 29th March)
- \* Thu 25th April
- \* Wed 29th May
- \* Thu 27th June

*If anyone wants to talk to me about joining, then I can be phoned on 01626 867999*

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

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

#### **Programme for 2013**

The detailed programme for the first half of the gardening year is still work in progress (as usual!). Don't forget that all our previous visits are on the web (see the Newsletters page) so you can look back at past achievements. I am toying with the idea of a visit to Hidcote in May/June, generally seen as the NT's best garden and one which has undergone a recent refurbishment to replant with the original plants from when it was first laid out. It is a 2.5 hour journey (+ loo/coffee stop), so a long day. I'd appreciate feedback from members as to whether you would be interested.

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

### **Music / Opera: (Helen Pope and Alastair Logan)**

#### **The Cunning Little Vixen by Janacek - Welsh National Opera Thursday 4th April, 2013 at 7.15pm.**

*As payment was required by January 16<sup>th</sup>, I expect your only chance of going with the group is if anyone has to cancel ..... I have included a resume of the arrangements below .. Ed.*

Seats are booked at The Theatre Royal, Plymouth, for the Welsh National Opera's production of The Cunning Little Vixen, on 4th April, 2013. On this occasion a Circle seat will cost £44.50 and an Upper Circle seat £24.50. (Easter Sunday falls on 31st March, 2013.)

We have been able to book the Mezzanine Restaurant in The Theatre Royal for supper, though we have no costing for the meal yet. Travel is as usual by coach from the Devon and Exeter Squash and Cricket Club. We will leave Exeter at 4.00 pm. The cost of the coach will be £8.50.

Payment is requested by 16th January please, as the Theatre Royal has to be paid in full by 1st February.

Cheques should be made payable to The University of Exeter. In case of any problem or query please contact Helen or Alastair.

#### **Advance notice for Autumn 2013**

Touring Glyndebourne will be returning to Plymouth in the autumn (3rd - 8th December, 2013). They are bringing 3 operas out into the provinces L'Elisir D'Amore by Donizetti, which a great many of us went to see in 2008; Humperdinck's Hänsel und Gretel, an old favourite; and Britten's Rape of Lucretia. If you have any strong feelings about the choice of work perhaps you could indicate where your preference would lie. I should personally go for the Britten, but there may be members who have other ideas. Helen.

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

#### **2013 Programme**

The first Restaurant Group lunch for 2013 will be at the Côte Brasserie, 19-21 Cathedral Yard, Exeter on 6th February 2013 at 12.00 for 12.30. Alan Leadbetter is organising this event. Other events are still at the planning stage.

Alan Leadbetter writes:-

We need to confirm numbers a week in advance so please let me have your booking no later than Monday 28th January. At lunchtime there is a special short menu with 2 courses at £9.95 and 3 courses at £11.90, as well as the usual large a la carte selection. The a la carte menu and the wine list may be found on the web site ( [www.cote-restaurants.co.uk](http://www.cote-restaurants.co.uk) ) but the special lunch menu is changed every two weeks so will not be available until around the end of January. They have promised to email this to me as soon as it is available. If we are more than 20 in number they would like to have our selections at latest the day before so when I send out the menu I may be pressing you for a quick selection. For more information and payment details please email Alan at [leadbetter.a@sky.com](mailto:leadbetter.a@sky.com) or tel.01392 254855.

If you are interested in knowing about the rest of the Restaurant programme when it becomes available, please make sure you have joined the group.

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

Watch the website for news or send suggestions to Sue Cousins (Tel.No. 01392 432309 or E-mail: [scousins@talktalk.net](mailto:scousins@talktalk.net). )

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

The new programme contains a number of easier and shorter walks which is probably wise if the uncertain (or certainly wet) weather continues. There are compensations, for example, the first ended at the Homestart Soup fund raiser!. – DO JOIN US in the following walks

**10.30 am Wed, 30:01:13 Fisherman's and Hunter's Path, Fingle Bridge: 5 miles**  
**Led by John B**

Meet 10.30 in the car parking area on the road to Fingle Bridge Inn.

I suggest the walk from Fingle Bridge upstream on the Fisherman's path and back either via the Hunters path or on the other side of the river depending on conditions. Lunch at the pub. About 2 hours.

**10.30 Th 14:02:13 Tom's Valentine's Day stroll: 7 miles**  
**Led by Tom** **PACKED LUNCH REQUIRED**

Start at Brampford Speke, near the Lazy Toad/church. Down Sandy Lane to Starved Oak Cross, then Great Oak Cross and eventually Berrybridge and Thorverton. Back to BS via Yellowford and Willowpark then Fortesque. If it is dry enough the return from Thorverton could be through fields via Netherexe Barton. About 7 miles.

**10.30 Tue 26:02:13 Shobrooke: 6 - 7 miles.**  
**Led by Roger** **PACKED LUNCH ADVISED / Possible late pub lunch**

Start at Shobrooke (OS Landranger 192 or Explorer 114, GR872014) and proceed to Stockleigh Pomeroy - Chilton -Cherlton Cross - Westwood Farm - Shobrooke, 6-7 miles, with a voluntary extra loop (1 mile+) south of Shobrooke for those who would like a slightly longer walk. Be prepared for wet and muddy conditions. Some space for parking in the road at the start of the walk, otherwise 200 yards further up the village. I don't think the occasional bus service is an option but if anyone is stuck for transport, if they can get themselves to Thorverton by 10.00 we could offer a lift. Anyone wanting this option should email me.

**10.30 Tue, 12:03:13 Two Moors Way circular walk: 7 - 8 miles**  
**Led by Tom** **PACKED LUNCH REQUIRED**

Start at Bennett's Cross (OL28, GR 681817) and walk clockwise to West Coombe, then Moor Gate, Lepra Cross, Lettaford, Jurston, Lingcombe, Hurston then back to Bennett's Cross. About 7 or 8 miles with no steep ascents. If it stops raining soon it should be ok by March.

**10.30 Th 28:03:13 Steps Bridge (Daffodils?): 4 – 5 miles**  
**Led by Jarka**

Meet at the car park at Steps Bridge. This is a mainly flat 4 – 5 mile circular walk along the Teign to Clifford Bridge and back via Cod Wood. Lunch is possible at Steps Bridge or Longdown.

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

A provisional schedule of events for 2013 and beyond has been drawn up as follows:

Wed 20th March:	Iain Smith Wines	hosted by Judy Mead, Trenton, Matford Road. EX2 4PE
Mid May:	Devon Wine School	at Dart's Farm
Thu 06th June:	Summer Event	hosted by Laurie B at the Hermitage
Mid October:	Majestic Wines	

w/c 18th November: World Wines at 21 The Mint  
Early 2014: Alsace Wines at 21 The Mint

Most of these events are too far into the future to have made firm dates and times. If you are interested in going to any of the wine tastings, please make sure you join the group by emailing or writing to John Carroll so you can be put on the mailing list. He would also be very pleased if you think you might like to host a tasting yourself.

***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 from around the University**

**£10 million, teaching and research facility opens at the Cornwall Campus**

A £10 million investment in innovative learning, teaching and research facilities at the Cornwall Campus has been formally opened by Professor Anne Carlisle, Vice-Chancellor of Falmouth University (Falmouth) and Professor Mark Overton, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Exeter (UoE).

**New specialist maths Free School to be regional centre of excellence**

Our new specialist maths Free School approved by Education Secretary Michael Gove will be a regional centre of excellence preparing students for rigorous degrees.

**Students vote in inaugural Fruni lectures**

Hundreds of Exeter students have voted for the research they think everyone should know about in the first ever Fruni events at the University.

There are so many University activities and such different interests of UERSA members that this is simply a taster. I do recommend having a look at the University's webpage – I'm sure you will find something of interest to you, Ed.

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## Contact details for Members of the UERSA Executive Committee 2012/13

PRESIDENT 2012-2013	Mary Banks 8 Saint Hill Close, Exeter EX2 9JE Tel: 01392 669239 E-mail: <a href="mailto:alanandmary@blueyonder.co.uk">alanandmary@blueyonder.co.uk</a>
PRESIDENT ELECT 2012-13	Alan Leadbetter 23 Hillcrest Park, Exeter EX4 4SH Tel: 01392 254855 E-mail: <a href="mailto:leadbetter.a@sky.com">leadbetter.a@sky.com</a>
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	Anne Mayes E-mail: <a href="mailto:A.C.Mayes@exeter.ac.uk">A.C.Mayes@exeter.ac.uk</a>
CHAIR	Alastair Logan 168 Pennsylvania Road, Exeter EX4 6DX Tel: 01392 434715 E-mail: <a href="mailto:a.h.b.logan@exeter.ac.uk">a.h.b.logan@exeter.ac.uk</a>
TREASURER	Wojtek Krzanowski 3 Lark Close, Pennsylvania, Exeter EX4 4SL Tel: 01392 426945 E-mail: <a href="mailto:W.J.Krzanowski@exeter.ac.uk">W.J.Krzanowski@exeter.ac.uk</a>
SECRETARY	Jan Reynolds 77 Rosebarn Lane, Exeter EX4 5DG Tel: 01392 271204 E-mail: <a href="mailto:janandmikereynolds@gmail.com">janandmikereynolds@gmail.com</a>
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	Judy Mead Trenton, Matford Road. Exeter EX2 4PE Tel: 01392 425571 E-mail: <a href="mailto:JudyMead@hotmail.co.uk">JudyMead@hotmail.co.uk</a>
SOCIAL CO-ORDINATOR	Susan Cousins 21 Chantry Meadows, Alphington, Exeter EX2 8FT Tel: 01392 432309 E-mail: <a href="mailto:scousins@talktalk.net">scousins@talktalk.net</a>
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Rachel Kirby 3 Pennsylvania Crescent, Exeter EX4 4SF Tel: 01392 273536 E-mail: <a href="mailto:r.m.kirby@exeter.ac.uk">r.m.kirby@exeter.ac.uk</a>
COMMITTEE MEMBER	Frankie Peroni Franklyn, 4 Belle Parade, Crediton EX17 2AA Tel: 01363 773946 E-mail: <a href="mailto:F.Peroni@exeter.ac.uk">F.Peroni@exeter.ac.uk</a>
COMMITTEE MEMBER	John Carroll 8 Tophayes, Elm Grove Road, Topsham EX3 0BW Tel: 01392 876048 E-mail: <a href="mailto:carroll595@btinternet.com">carroll595@btinternet.com</a>
COMMITTEE MEMBER	Linda Hale 39 Howard Close, Exeter EX4 2LX Tel: 01392 210498 E-mail: <a href="mailto:linda39howard@blueyonder.co.uk">linda39howard@blueyonder.co.uk</a>
COMMITTEE MEMBER and Web Editor	Roger Coles 38 Higher Kings Avenue, Exeter EX4 6JP Tel: 01392 270151 E-mail: <a href="mailto:roger.coles4@btinternet.com">roger.coles4@btinternet.com</a>



**UERSA**

**TRIVIA FUN QUIZ**

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2013  
7 p.m.

at

The Isca Centre, Summer Lane,  
Exeter

(a very pleasant venue, with plenty of parking)

Cost: £5.50 per person  
(which includes light refreshments - drinks can be bought  
separately at the bar)

*Please Note: the closing date for receiving applications is 31<sup>st</sup> March.*

Please complete the slip below and send it to Jan Reynolds, (Secretary)

77 Rosebarn Lane, Pennsylvania, Exeter, EX4 5DG Tel.No. 01392 271204

I/We would like to come to the Trivia Quiz on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April

Name(s).....

Address(es).....

Tel..... Email.....

Number attending.....

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

Please remember that if you are booking more than one event we need a separate cheque for each event.