



**RETIRED STAFF ASSOCIATION
(UERSA)**

**NEWSLETTER Issue 37
September 2016**

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

An apology for the late production of this Newsletter – with exquisite timing, the Editor’s computer irrevocably broke down last week and had to be replaced! It all took a few days, transferring files and updating software, and remembering where I was up to.

Editor’s Valediction

Everything comes to an end. For me, after 6 years, this is my last Newsletter as its Editor. It is an opportunity, though, to thank everyone who has helped with it. Those who have written reports of the wide, varied activities, those who have kept the web-pages up-to-date and who have let me extract information and, of course, you – the readers. I have enjoyed greatly the challenge and the friendship shown me. I shall miss the Committee Meetings (as if I didn’t miss enough when I was absent!) and the immense support shown to me.

We need to think through exactly what we need from the Newsletter in the future but it is interesting to learn that in spite of the number of members with computers there is a sizeable proportion who print it out. The printed word is not yet quite dead.

For me there is a special thank you to Jan Reynolds who has taken my inexpert offering, proof-read it and then formatted it for distribution. One of UERSA’s unsung heroes without whom the printed version would not be sent out – Thanks, Jan.

All that remains is for me to send you, as individuals, my best wishes, and every success for the future to UERSA.

Oh, and please see David Batty’s request for ideas - and an editor – in the advert below!

Rachel

*Rachel Kirby, (Newsletter Editor)
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Chairman’s Message for September 2016 Newsletter

Dear Friends

You’ll recall the Kitchener poster from the First World War, 'Your country needs YOU'. I’m not sure I’d look quite as authoritative in such a pose, but with UERSA’s AGM approaching, now is the time for one or two of you to step forward and join the Executive Committee! A number of its existing members are coming towards the end of their terms and we would welcome some fresh blood and new ideas to ensure the organisation is meeting the needs of the general UERSA membership as recent retirees join us. So it’s now time for two advertisements!

UERSA NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Rachel Kirby is giving up as the Editor of the Newsletter after the current edition and we thank her for all her work over several years in keeping us up-to-date with UERSA news. We’d love someone to join the Committee to take on this particular responsibility for the three editions a year. Are there ways in which you think you could enhance it? Can we use its electronic format to greater effect? How can we ensure that the general membership reads it? If you think you could help, please contact me or, alternatively, Rachel (who can tell you about the current editorial process). See our contact details on the attached Committee membership list.

UERSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Committee meets four times a year, usually in March, May, August and December. Besides keeping an oversight of UERSA's membership arrangements and finances, the Committee plans the events for the general membership such as the summer party, the Christmas lunch and the occasional outing, as well as offering support for the various special interest groups. Meetings are usually over within an hour! The constitution allows for four general members, as well as for those with specific roles (Membership Secretary, Treasurer, etc), so do please consider joining us to add your say on how UERSA should be run. Do please contact me if you think you'd be interested.

The fine summer of late has been a boon to the various special interest groups which focus on outside activities. The Walking Group, for instance, has not had to cope with excessive mud for a change, a couple of puddles only in the case of a recent 8-mile walk in glorious weather out of Lustleigh. When there has been the rare damp day, this has not necessarily been an inconvenience. The drizzle at the start of the recent UERSA trip to Wells and Glastonbury was no inconvenience to our members as they were taken on guided tours inside Wells Cathedral, while by the time we reached Glastonbury, the rain had stopped. Some of us were taken around the Abbey there by a young guide clad in suitable medieval garb who turned out to be an Exeter Archaeology/History student! But whether or not you've been able to join a recent UERSA activity, I do hope you have enjoyed what has been a surprisingly long spell of fine weather.

Inevitably, summer turns to autumn and a number of our special interest groups will be swinging back into action after a break. Table Tennis and Badminton would welcome new members (see the web site for information), while the active Wine Group has interesting evenings planned for 11 October (Madiran and other tannat-based wines) and 17 November (South African wines). Details are also included in this newsletter about the chance to try Modern Western Square Dancing. Jeremy Child, until relatively recently a member of the Finance Services Division, has been a keen local promoter of this activity which has been shown to have helpful health benefits. Do read about this initiative.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the AGM on Friday 14 October. And don't forget the traditional UERSA Christmas lunch at the Devon Hotel on Thursday 15 December – it's not too early to put that in your festive diary!

David Batty

A reminder – please notify changes to personal email addresses to Chris King

It is important to notify Chris King, Membership Secretary, of any changes to personal email addresses so that she is able to update the UERSA group email lists. Please provide **your existing email address** together with **the new email address** in order to ensure continuity of your UERSA communications. A note about any UERSA groups that you belong to would also help to ensure that you are kept informed of activities.

Email changes should be sent to chrisandmikeking@gmail.com.

Personal Notes

We are sorry to record the deaths of several people who were, or were known to, our members. If you receive any such notification, please pass it on to Sue Odell – email : seodell@bavent.eclipse.co.uk

Please note that I have taken an Editorial decision to keep all of the notices short, as many are very brief, and I feel it is better to show the same respect to all. In some cases, we do not have the exact date. Ed

David Hobbs, retired Lecturer in Mathematics at St Luke's, died on 11 May after a long illness.

From Trevor Preist

Dr Gloria Borley, who died on 11 June 2016 aged 84, was an Honorary Research Fellow at the University.

From Sue Odell

Bessie Gray Shaban, wife of the late Professor Shaban, Arab and Islamic Studies, died on 19 July 2016, at the age of 92.

From The Express and Echo

Professor Robert Parker, Emeritus Professor of Accountancy, died during the weekend of July 23-24th

From Bob Parker's son

New Activity Suggestion

Here are details of a proposal from Jeremy Child to run a series of Modern Western Square Dancing sessions for UERSA – I suggest you watch the videos he mentions below to see what it's like. Looks fun. *Editor*

Come and try Modern Western Square Dancing (MWSD)! From Jeremy Child

What is MWSD? MWSD is immense fun, sociable, and for those that take it up it often becomes a lifelong passion. It is not "dancing" as you might expect as all the movement is walking, but beautiful flowing patterns combined with an intellectual challenge.

These videos will give you a good idea of what it's like:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qLhnIqjk2Tk>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SBfImn_ld4M

Why should I take it up?

Apart from being immense fun, with likeable people, it is very good for your health and wellbeing too!

Square dance is a low impact activity requiring constant movement and directional changes that help keep the body in shape and the mind sharp. It is also good aerobic exercise, raising your heart rate as you dance and laugh. It has significant physical and mental health benefits for people of all ages, with many continuing to dance well into their 70s and 80s. A study by Dr Arron Blackburn in the US showed that Square Dancing could add up to 10 years to your life expectancy.

How do I take it up?

Because of the need to know the moves being called, lessons are necessary. I say lessons but they're a dance and you have fun while learning - a lot of fun.

We will be putting on a weekly session, during the daytime, and somewhere in Exeter. The precise timing depends on what most people find suitable (MWSD tends to appeal to walkers, so we'd avoid clashing with the walking group). Cost would be £4 per session.

In order to keep on top of the various things you need to know, regular attendance is necessary. This doesn't mean every week, but an average of less than once every two weeks is not really enough. You needn't worry about missing anything if you can't make it – the program is taught in such a way that you can miss a week or two without any problem.

What do I do now?

We will hold a couple of taster sessions in the near future, precise timing and location to suit those interested.

For further information on these sessions or for any other queries contact:

Jeremy Child 01392 422 119 / 07969 297 633 / jeremy.m.child@gmail.com

Reports Section

General UERSA Events Reports

Wednesday 1st June 2016 at 7 p.m. Uersa Trivia Fun Quiz

Organised (as usual!) by Jan Reynolds

This event in June was well attended and very enjoyable (as reported to the Executive Committee on 24/8/16)

Thursday 9th June Uersa Trip to Sherborne & Castle

Organised by Mary Banks

A note of thanks from a member of the party, quoted from an email - "Hello Mary, just a quick message to say how much I enjoyed our visit to Sherborne today. Thank you very much for organising it. You even managed to organise for the sun to shine in the afternoon!"

I do hope Mary had many more such notes, after all the work she put into it. Editor

Thursday 30 June at 15.00 Uersa Garden Party

Our annual Summer Garden Party on Thursday 30th June was very popular (approximately 90 Members attended) though some members felt the catering could be improved. It was held at the posh new Cricket Ground pavilion of Exeter Cricket Club. The new pavilion was much admired, particularly the balcony.

Tuesday 2 August Uersa Outing to Wells and Glastonbury

This trip was very well received – feedback below from a member of the party.

An early start by coach, but it was a relief not to have to drive ourselves there - though there was a frisson of doubt looking at the coach with a diagonal crack across the driver's window. The weather was typical of UK summer - fine enough but not so fine that we did not want to pay full attention to the interior of the cathedral. After a quick coffee we split into two parties to be shown around by superb, well-informed guides who, with a

light touch, drew our attention to the architectural subtleties, the history and some amusing artefacts that some of us would have missed without their help.

Wells Cathedral was the first Gothic building in Britain and probably in Europe. The wonderful architecture was complemented by exquisite stone carvings, an extraordinary collection of fine misericords and some of the best early stained glass in Europe. After lunch and a quick visit to the Bishop's Palace with the bell-ringing food-begging swans, we reassembled for the short drive to Glastonbury town where most of us went to the ruined Abbey. This turned out to be more interesting than expected with the folklore of King Arthur and the story of the sacred staff of St James of Arimathea which turned into an uncommon species of hawthorn surviving to the present day.

Needless to say the outing renewed old friendships and made new ones. A highly successful day for which our Chairman - David Batty - and his wife - Catriona - deserve the thanks of us all. Is this a good lead for others to think up equally exciting trips?!!!

Brian Kirby

Coffee Mornings

New members may like to know that these 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. (Old members have been going for years!) They are very informal (not to mention noisy on occasion!) and an average of around 30 members attend. Just go along and introduce yourself – I'm sure you will find everyone warm and friendly. Thank you to Jan Reynolds for keeping it going!

Special Interest Groups Reports

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)
Cinema	Ruth Preist (e-mail: preist.exeter@blueyonder.co.uk) Sue Odell (e-mail: seodell@bavent.eclipse.co.uk)
Gardens:	Anne Mayes (e-mail: a.c.mayes@exeter.ac.uk)
Guided Nature Walks	Judy Mead (email: judymead@hotmail.co.uk)
Music / Opera:	<i>Hoping for a volunteer for this group!</i>
Restaurants:	Frankie Peroni (tel: 01363 773946) Liz Smith (tel: 01363 84667 e-mail: lizsmith15@icloud.com)
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) and where you will also find reports and photos from most of the groups.

If you are interested in participating in any of these groups, please contact the appropriate Group Organizer. Your contact details will be added to the relevant mailing list, and you will be sent all the information for meetings and plans as they evolve, usually by e-mail. *If you are unable to use e-mail, please make sure the Group Organiser knows this when you join the Group, so they can arrange to send the information by post.*

If you have a suggestion for any additional group (which you would be willing to organize?), the Committee would be happy to hear from you.

Now, 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. I have used my editorial freedom to write some of the commentaries – the reports actually sent by leaders have their name added.

Badminton (Jan Reynolds)

Seems to be trundling (maybe 'flying' would be better?) along well – no bad reports! Editor

N.B. a few more members would be most welcome!

Jan

The Bridge Group (Paul Ellison)

Due to a drop in numbers, there have been no meetings since the last Newsletter, but it is hoped that activities will recommence later in the year

Paul.

Cinema Group (Ruth Preist and Sue Odell)

Cinema – all quiet in the summer but the Ab Fab movie was absolute rubbish and a complete waste of money – needed a good shower to get rid of the effects! Ruth

It is up to any member of the group to say he or she intends to go to a particular film (with details of time & date!) and anyone to respond to say that they will join him/her. Then, have a chat over coffee before or after the film and enjoy the company of other UERSA members.

Hope you find a reason to visit the Picture House soon!

Ruth

Garden Group (Anne Mayes)

Note from the editor – Anne has managed it again – the 4 visits this summer have been greatly enjoyed and no adverse comments about the weather. She has written a report of the visits (with photos) which you can see in the Gardens group section on the website. I have selected some comments to quote.

Summer Visits 2016

18th May – Thorn ... “definitely one of our best gardens. It was a cornucopia of delights, starting with the rare Abies Alba f. Pendula in the front courtyard and going through to the view of Newton Ferrers and the Yealm at the far end of the garden”.... Anne

21st June - Hestercombe House and Garden This sounds to me like a much larger garden than some, with many pleasures, but not quite so enticing as Thorn “What we did enthuse over though was the second hand bookshop” Anne

29th July - The Garden House and Wildside – Buckland Monachorum ... Anne wasn't able to go, but I've copied this from the website ... “The last visit was great, especially Wildside, and John and I remember going 14? years ago when they'd just started making the garden, and they're still taking in more land and going on now. I love the flowing lines of the banks of flowers, and the seeming randomness of it all.” (From Celia.)

18th August - Byes Reach, Sidmouth ... “Anyway, everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves, got plenty of inspiration and would like to thank our hosts for providing us with such a worthwhile visit.” ... Anne

Music/ Opera Group

The Committee is still hoping that someone (or more!) will step forward to take on this role.

Nature Walks (Judy Mead)

There were no events to report on over the summer.

Restaurant Group (Frankie Peroni and Liz Smith)

This summer the restaurant group visited the Cafe on the Green in Widecombe. On this occasion there was an opportunity for a pre-lunch walk with dramatic and wide ranging Dartmoor scenery. The final descent provided a clear view over Widecombe in the Moor. A Flower Festival provided a good opportunity to explore the lovely church with its distinctive ceiling. The Dartmoor trip was followed by a return visit to The Puffin Billy in Exeter, now under new management. A wide ranging menu included smaller portions for those with smaller appetites. Following the summer events, we are now asking for offers to host lunches this autumn and next spring.

Table Tennis Group (Ruth Preist)

Table tennis group THRIVES! Great activity, much laughter and happiness throughout every session!

Theatre and Shows: (Sue Cousins)

Guys and Dolls Theatre Royal, Plymouth. Sue was disappointed with the level of interest shown in going to this show, which was insufficient to cover the cost of a coach for the party. She tried to arrange a smaller group going by train, but again there was insufficient interest, so the plan fell by the wayside.

Walking Group (Trevor Preist)

A report and summary of the Summer walks is available on the UERSA website along with archival descriptions and photos of previous walks, including pictures taken on the two-day outing to Ilfracombe in June (where much conspicuous consumption seems to have occupied the time!)

If you think you might like to go for a walk with a sociable group of people, look at these and make sure you are on the Walking Group's mailing list for receiving up-to-date information about walks. Walks are of various lengths, so there's something for everyone.

Wine Tasting Group (John Carroll)

16-June Rosé wines (21 The Mint) by Lauren Hodgkins (Regency Wines Ltd)

All of you who attended this presentation by Lauren Hodgkins on Rosé Wines will now understand the "it's not all Candyfloss and tiaras!" bit in the title. Those of you who were unable to attend missed a superb evening of wine, wit, wisdom and some very tasty nibbles (Ticklemore 'rustic' Goat cheese, marinated olives, Matteson smoked sausage, Italian salami and sweet chili crisps, strawberries).

(Typical – I didn't manage to go to this one and look at all those nibbles – *Editor*)

NOW, LOOKING TO THE NEXT FEW MONTHS!

All Events Calendar for September 2016 onwards

Date	Time	Activity	Group
Wed 7th Sep	11:00 till 12:00	Main Campus Sports Hall	Badminton Group
Thu 8th Sep	10.30 – 12.00	Sports Park, Studio 3	Table Tennis Group
Mon 12th Sep	14.00 at the Garden	Burrow Farm Gardens	Gardens Group
Mon 19th Sep	TBA	Walk 4 or 6 miles of the Exeter Green Circle	Walking Group
Wed 21st Sep	11:00 till 12:00	Main Campus Sports Hall	Badminton Group
Thu 22nd Sep	10.30 – 12.00	Sports Park, Studio 3	Table Tennis Group
Tue 27th Sep	10:00 to 12:00	Imperial	UERSA coffee
Wed 28th Sep	11:00 till 12:00	Main Campus Sports Hall	Badminton Group
Thu 29th Sep	10.30 – 12.00	Sports Park, Studio 3	Table Tennis Group
Wed 5th Oct	11:00 till 12:00	Main Campus Sports Hall	Badminton Group
Thu 6th Oct	TBA	Tedburn	Walking Group
Tue 11th Oct	19.00 at 21 The Mint	Madiran wines	Wine Group
Wed 12th Oct	11:00 till 12:00	Main Campus Sports Hall	Badminton Group
Thu 13th Oct	10.30 – 12.00	Sports Park, Studio 3	Table Tennis Group
Fri 14th Oct	18.30 Henderson Room, Xfi Building (Streatham Court, Lower Rennes Drive, University of Exeter	Annual General Meeting	UERSA
Wed 19th Oct	11:00 till 12:00	Main Campus Sports Hall	Badminton Group
Tue 25th Oct	10:00 to 12:00	Imperial	UERSA coffee
Wed 26th Oct	11:00 till 12:00	Main Campus Sports Hall	Badminton Group
Thu 27th Oct	10.30 – 12.00	Sports Park, Studio 3	Table Tennis Group
Thu 27th Oct	TBA	Scorhill, Dartmoor	Walking Group
Wed 2nd Nov	11:00 till 12:00	Main Campus Sports Hall	Badminton Group
Wed 9th Nov	11:00 till 12:00	Main Campus Sports Hall	Badminton Group
Thu 10th Nov	10.30 – 12.00	Sports Park, Studio 3	Table Tennis Group
Wed 16th Nov	11:00 till 12:00	Main Campus Sports Hall	Badminton Group
Thu 17th Nov	19.00 at 21 The Mint	South African wines	Wine Group

Wed 23rd Nov	11:00 till 12:00	Main Campus Sports Hall	Badminton Group
Thu 24th Nov	10.30 – 12.00	Sports Park, Studio 3	Table Tennis Group
Tue 29th Nov	10:00 to 12:00	Imperial	UERSA coffee
Wed 30th Nov	11:00 till 12:00	Main Campus Sports Hall	Badminton Group
Wed 7th Dec	11:00 till 12:00	Main Campus Sports Hall	Badminton Group
Thu 8th Dec	10.30 – 12.00	Sports Park, Studio 3	Table Tennis Group
Wed 14th Dec	11:00 till 12:00	Main Campus Sports Hall	Badminton Group
Thu 15th Dec	12.30 for 13.00	Christmas Lunch at Devon Hotel	UERSA

FORTHCOMING GENERAL EVENTS (UERSA)

There are 2 events planned. We hope as many people as possible will join in.

Friday 14th October at 18.30 UERSA Annual General Meeting
Henderson Room, Xfi Building (Streatham Court, Lower Rennes Drive, University of Exeter).

The Agenda for this meeting is attached to this Newsletter.

Please try to come (and you will be rewarded with drinks and nibbles!)

Thursday 15th December 12.30 for 13.00 UERSA Christmas Lunch - Devon Hotel Regency Room
 Sue Cousins will circulate menus and booking form when they are available.

And, of course, our regular entertainment for all members:-

Coffee Mornings - Imperial Hotel, New North Road, Exeter

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

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

Dates for Meetings in 2016/2017 will be :

2016	27th September	25th October	29th November	(None in December)
2017	31st January	28th February	28th March	25th April
	30th May	27th June		(None in July or August)

Resume again in September.

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

Suggestions for future events

There are 2 suggestions on the table so far, dreamed up by our hard-working Committee members. We would love to have suggestions from other members too.

1. The Royal Mint in Cardiff. Sue Cousins will visit the Mint and report back to the Committee at the December meeting as this may be an interesting venue for a UERSA visit.
2. A vineyard trip. John Carroll will investigate the possibility of a vineyard trip.

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 University's Main Campus Sports Hall. Sessions run from 11:00 till 12:00, with time for a coffee and a chat afterwards.

As mentioned in previous Newsletters, a few more members would be most welcome to join our friendly group! For further details, or if anyone is interested in joining, please contact Jan Reynolds. New members are always welcome.

As from the beginning of September we will resume our regular Wednesday Badminton Club Bookings.

Autumn Term 2016

7th,	21st,	28th	September 2016	(Not 14th)
5th,	12th,	19th,	26th	October 2016
2nd,	9th,	16th,	23rd,	30th
				November 2016

7th, 14th December (Not 21st or 28th)
Spring Term 2017
11th, 18th, 25th January 2017 (Not 4th)
1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd February 2017
1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th March 2017
5th, 12th, 19th, 26th April 2017.

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

Bridge: (Paul Ellison)

The Bridge Group is in abeyance at the moment so no meetings are planned. There are a few people who would come if the group started again, but not enough to get a regular quorum. Anyone who is interested and would want to attend on a reasonably regular basis, please contact **Paul Ellison on P.A.Ellison@ex.ac.uk, or by phoning 01626 867999**".

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

Cinema: (Ruth Preist & Sue Odell)

How it works

There is no formal programme for this group - arrangements are made, usually by email, and it is up to any member of the group to inform the group that he or she intends to go to a particular film (with details of time & date!) and anyone to respond to say that they will join him/her. Have a chat over coffee before or after and enjoy the company of other UERSA members.

Ruth Preist (email: preist.exeter@blueyonder.co.uk)

Sue Odell (email: seodell@bavent.eclipse.co.uk)

Gardens Group: (Anne Mayes)

The last meeting for this year! (Group now going into hibernation)

I'm sorry this info is too late for you to join - I have had Computer Problems! Editor

Monday 12th September - Burrow Farm Gardens, Dalwood, Axminster EX13 7ET [OS 193 243994]

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

Meet at 14:00hrs. Burrow Farm is signposted off the A35.

Thirteen acres of sweeping lawns and colour themed planting. There is always something to delight you here, where the lawn sweeps down past the ancient oak to the small lake. From the summer house the vista stretches beyond the gardens over the wider landscape. The colours change throughout the year culminating in a blaze of autumn splendour. There are different gardens within the whole, a nursery and a café/tea room. Many might choose to have lunch there. Admission is £7

For all visits please let me know by email first. a.c.mayes@exeter.ac.uk

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

Guided Nature Walks (Judy Mead)

No walks have been organised yet. Our walks leader has been taking an extended break but I am hoping to organise a walk in Exeter shortly.

Judy Mead at judymead@hotmail.co.uk

Music / Opera:

No plans for the Autumn – awaiting a volunteer to lead the group

Restaurants (Frankie Peroni and Liz Smith)

We are looking for suggestions on venues and offers to host restaurant group visits in the Autumn. If you are interested in organising a lunch but would like more information on what is involved or would like any assistance, please contact me as soon as possible. To date we have nothing fixed for these months

Many thanks

Frankie

If anyone has any NEW venues they would like to suggest please let us know. Liz and I have been organising the restaurant group for a number of years now so we thought it would be a good idea to have some feedback to see if there are venues that people might be keen to revisit. Please email if you would like a list of venues we have attended in the last four years.

Frankie Peroni (tel: 01363 773946)

Liz Smith (e-mail: lizsmith15@icloud.com)

Table Tennis (Ruth Preist)

Session dates for Autumn 2016:

The table tennis group is looking forward to starting up again in September after the usual two-month break. The usual day, time and place; Thursdays as before 10.30 – 12.00, Sports Park, Studio 3. All equipment supplied.

Pay £2.50 for individual sessions as before or £14 for 7 Autumn sessions 22nd Nov to 8th Dec

Just watch the September dates carefully! From 29th September onwards it is fortnightly and we finish on Thursday 8th December – thereby avoiding the clash with the UERSA Christmas lunch which is on Thursday, 15th December.

Exercise Studio 3, Thursdays 1030-1200.

8th, 22nd, 29th September 2016
13th, 27th October 2016
10th, 24th November 2016
8th December 2016

Ruth Preist (email: preist.exeter@blueyonder.co.uk)

Theatre and Shows: (Sue Cousins)

No events are planned for this Autumn. *Sue is understandably frustrated by the lack of fruition of her projects for the last few sessions, and would not be upset if anyone else wished to take over this group. Please do get in touch with her if you are interested. Editor*

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

Walking (Trevor Preist)

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

Forthcoming Meetings

The current walking programme (July-Sept) has one remaining walk on

Monday 19th Sept. along part of the Exeter Green Circle (4 or 6 miles)

The first two walks of the new season will be

Thursday 6th Oct - Tedburn

Thursday 27th Oct - Scorhill, Dartmoor

The new programme will be available on the website in the last week of September.

Wine Tasting (John Carroll)

Tuesday 11th Oct 2016 Madiran and other Tannat-based wines by Roger Camble

(19.00 @ 21 The Mint)

Note - form for this meeting at end of Newsletter

This will be presented by Roger Camble at 21 The Mint, and promises to be interesting as it introduces a grape variety and an appellation **Madiran** (check the spelling, it is not Madeiran) (plus other Tannat-based wines) Roger says that Tannat, the focus of this presentation, is a robust red grape variety, but the tasting will also include two white wines from the Southwest corner of France.

There is more on Madiran and Tannat on Wikipedia at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Madiran_wine

If you would like to come along and discover all, fill in the slip at the end of the Newsletter.

Thurs 17th Nov 2016 South African wines (19.00 @ 21 The Mint) by Laurie Burbridge

Early 2017 TBA, by Lauren Hodgkins from Regency Wines

If you would like to join one of these events and are not yet a member of the group, please contact John so that you are kept informed.

John Carroll (e-mail: carroll595@btinternet.com) (01392) 876048

Reminder for all Groups

N.B. IMPORTANT FOR ALL GROUP ACTIVITIES

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.



RETIRED STAFF ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Friday 14th October 2016 at 6.30 pm
Henderson Room, Xfi Building, University of Exeter

AGENDA

1. **To note the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting of UERSA held on 2nd October 2015**
2. **Chair's Report**
3. **Treasurer's Report (attached)**
4. **To confirm the subscription rate for 2016/17 – it is proposed that the rate should remain the same i.e. £6.**
5. **Election of Officers and Committee for 2016/17**
The following Officers and Members of the UERSA Committee have offered to serve a further year:
John Carroll will become **President** for a year from the AGM 2016
Sue Odell will become **Immediate Past President** for a year from the AGM 2016
David Batty (Chair)
David Smith (Treasurer)
Julie Orr (Secretary)
Chris King (Membership Secretary)
Susan Cousins (Social Co-ordinator)

Vacancy (Newsletter Editor)

Linda Hale (Committee Member)
Roger Coles (Committee Member)
Ann Corbin (Committee Member)
Robin Turner (Committee Member)
(**Tony Wragg's** term as **Immediate Past President** will cease at the AGM)

Election of President-designate for 2016/17
The following nomination has been put forward and agreed, for approval at the Annual General Meeting on 14th October 2016:
Frankie Peroni be elected as **President-designate** for 2016/17
6. **Special Interest Groups**
To receive any reports on the activities of the Special Interest Groups (many of which are included in the September Newsletter)
7. **Suggestions for future activities and events**
8. **Any other business**

N.B. –We do not require you to fill in a form this year.

After the AGM, wine and nibbles will be available for Members

RETIRED STAFF ASSOCIATION

Treasurer's Report for 2015/16

The UERSA account is held within the general University financial system, and is audited as part of this system at the close of each financial year on 31st July. I am extremely grateful to Mrs Lynda Swallow of Finance Services for being such a helpful and efficient point of contact with that system.

The position at audit for the immediate past and three preceding years is given below. "Events" are those that have been advertised in newsletters for all members, while "Activities" are those held within special interest groups. It was agreed by the Executive Committee some years ago that the latter should aim to break even but the former could be supported from general funds; events that benefited in this way in 2015/16 were the refreshments after the AGM, the Christmas lunch, and the summer Garden Party. "Administration Costs" cover printing, photocopying, postal charges and general running expenses, while "Disbursements" comprise donations approved by the Committee. These were to Wonford Methodist Church, who had supplied crockery for use at the previous Garden Party, and to Exeter Cricket Club who had made available the pavilion for the Garden Party as well as parking space throughout the year for members attending events. A donation for the summer 2016 garden party will appear in the 2016-17 accounts

	31-07-16	31-07-15	31-07-14	31-07-13
	£	£	£	£
Surplus Brought Forward	6,669	6,474	6,519	6594
Subscription Income (note 1)	1355	1,382	1,308	1,404
Administration Costs	-114	-160	-138	-333
Events				
- Income	2126	1,539	2,146	1,603
- Expenditure (note 2)	-3487	-2,823	-3,143	-2,438
Activities (note 3)				
- Income	2026	6,031	6,781	6,728
- Expenditure (note 4)	-2154	-5,594	-6,820	-6,858
Disbursements		-180	-180	-180
Surplus Carried Forward	6421	6,669	6,474	6519

Our balance is still very healthy and the Committee has once again proposed to maintain the subscription at £6.

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

David Smith (Treasurer)

Notes: (1) one member paid a subscription of £5; the hassle of correcting this was not judged necessary, but this is not a licence for all to follow suit.

(2) 2015-16 figure includes £60 for an event in 2016-17

(3) Activities which generated income and caused expenditure in 2015-16 were: Gardens, Wine-tasting, Nature

(4) 2015-16 figure includes £329 for an activity in 2014-15

Contact details for Members of the Executive Committee of UERSA, 2015-16

PRESIDENT 2015 – 2016	Sue Odell E-mail: seodell@bavent.eclipse.co.uk
PRESIDENT ELECT 2015 - 2016	John Carroll 8 Tophayes, Elm Grove Road, Topsham, EX3 OBW Email: j.c.carroll@live.co.uk Tel: 01392 876048,
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	Tony Wragg 2 Wallace Avenue, Whipton, Exeter EX4 8DB Tel: 01392 466129 E-mail: wraggster1@hotmail.co.uk
CHAIR	David Batty The Old Coach House, North Street, Topsham EX3 0AP Tel: 01392 874719 E-mail: D.F.Batty@exeter.ac.uk
TREASURER	David Smith 25 Matford Avenue, Exeter EX2 4PL Tel: 01392 275159 E-mail: davidandtina@endfield.org.uk
SECRETARY	Julie Orr 6 Hammond Croft Way, Alphington, Exeter, EX2 8FZ Tel: 07974 665643 E-mail: julie.orr@blueyonder.co.uk
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	Chris King 19 Hillcrest Park, Exeter EX4 4SH Tel: 01392 255533 E-mail: chrisandmikeking@gmail.com
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COMMITTEE MEMBER	Linda Hale 39 Howard Close, Exeter EX4 2LX Tel: 01392 210498 E-mail: linda39howard@blueyonder.co.uk
COMMITTEE MEMBER and Web Editor	Roger Coles 38 Higher Kings Avenue, Exeter EX4 6JP Tel: 01392 270151 E-mail: roger.coles4@btinternet.com



UERSA Wine Tasting

Tuesday 11th October 2016

From: _____

I/we would like _____ tickets (£10 each) for the tasting of Madiran and other Tannat-based wines at 7pm on Tuesday 11th October 2016 at 21 The Mint.

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 4th October 2016.

John Carroll
8 Tophayes
Elm Grove Road
Topsham
EX3 0BW