



ASSOCIATION OF OPEN UNIVERSITY



## GRADUATES IN YORKSHIRE

NEWSLETTER 80

SPRING 2018

### **Saturday Meeting – February 17<sup>th</sup> 2018.** **Venue – Friends Meeting House, Friargate, York, YO1 9RL** **10.00 for 10.30am**

We will start the day by making the presentation to our YOUGET Award winner Leon Martindale. Leon achieved his degree in spite of even greater challenges than other students and it is a privilege to be able to recognise such students. I am really glad that Leon and his wife are able to join us in York.

After coffee and cake, we will discuss the Celebrations for our Pearl Anniversary and the Association's need to increase membership. We have posters that can be placed by members in appropriate places – your local library, community notice boards, etc. It would also be useful if we could find a way to attract a few more members to our AOUG in Y Committee. There will be a raffle and book sale. All contributions gratefully received.

After a 'Bring your own' lunch, we plan to walk across York to York Explore in the Museum Gardens in order to attend a lecture by Jill Liddington about the place of York in the struggle for women's suffrage. February 6<sup>th</sup> was the centenary of the historic legislation that allowed some women to vote. Tickets are £6 per person and must be booked in advance. If you search Vote 100 Events and then click on Jill Liddington Vote 100 Events you will be able to book and print your ticket/s. If you have a problem, please contact me, especially if you are not on line.

**Lesley Sleigh – Executive Representative**



#### **Recent Events**

Since the last Newsletter, we have enjoyed visits to the Yorkshire Wildlife Park, Goddards in York (apologies for the false information I gave), the Ferens Art Gallery in Hull, the West Yorkshire Playhouse to see 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' and eaten our lunch in York. Any suggestions for places to visit in 2019 will be gratefully received.

**Lesley Sleigh – Executive Representative**

## ***Can you help us award a Pearl Anniversary Bursary?***

The Executive Committee would like to offer a special Bursary to an OU Research Student to mark our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

- We need your assistance to raise the £1,000 traditionally presented.
- Bursaries go to exceptional final year PHD students, to allow them to undertake additional research, attend a related conference or publish papers about their research.

If you would like to contribute to this important aspect of our AOUG's charity work, please send a cheque made out to:

**'AOUG Foundation for Education (Bursary)'**  
to AOUG Office, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes MK7 6AA.

Thank you in anticipation for your support.

## ***We need to increase our membership and we need your help!***

AOUG has a supply of posters that might encourage OU graduates to join our Association.

- Do you go to your local library?
- Has your local supermarket a community notice board?
- Would you be prepared to place one of our posters on their notice board?

Your Executive Representative has a supply of these posters and can provide you with some.

If you have no current Executive Representative, you can contact the AOUG Office and they will post you some out.

Please remember to take in down if it gets damaged and replace it with a fresh one.

Thank you, in anticipation of your help!

## **It's Organised**

This is our thirtieth year, our Pearl Anniversary and the Annual General Meeting and Social Weekend promises to be a great celebration. A full forty eight hours of activities so you can socialise fully or take time out as you please. There is still time to book any of the following four options, however we are afraid that you will now have to pay the full price straight away because we have passed the deposit date.

- **OPTION 1:** Saturday meetings with tea/coffee and Saturday lunch      **£17.00**
- **OPTION 2:** Gala Evening - drinks reception, dinner, speaker, music      **£70.00**
- **OPTION 3:** Gala Evening as above plus Saturday night B&B      **£150.00**
- **OPTION 4:** FULL WEEKEND PACKAGE      **£280.00**

The hotel is very comfortable and provides excellent amenities. You can take the full package and stay in the Norton Grange Hotel, in Castleton, Rochdale or come just for the day time to join in any of the activities in the hotel or just to join on an optional excursion to Robinson's Brewery, the Museum, the Hat Works or the Lowry. You can read all about it in the Winter OMEGA. Remember friends and family are very welcome too.

So go on treat yourself, celebrate with us and enjoy good company. Contact AOUG Office now for more details. AOUG Office, Walton Hall Milton Keynes MK7 6AA - 01908 653316 - [aoug@open.ac.uk](mailto:aoug@open.ac.uk)

If you require accommodation or meals, please make sure you book with the AOUG Office before the end of March. Excursion only visitors can still book up to the end of April.

# Pearl Anniversary Celebrations

Since the Association of Open University Graduates was officially endorsed by the OU in 1988, 2018 is AOUG's Pearl Anniversary (30<sup>th</sup>) and so a perfect time to celebrate all the friendships that have developed and the great support that members give to each other and our university.

The AGM in the North West will have extra celebratory features and all Regions and Nations are being encouraged to arrange their local celebrations. Our area is organising a meal on June 23<sup>rd</sup> in Hebden Bridge, in the evening – the actual Anniversary is June 25<sup>th</sup>. This is in the hope that some of the very loyal Walking Group members will be able to attend. Hebden Bridge is accessible by train and bus. If you are interested in joining us, please could you contact me so that I can book with accurate numbers. I will need to know by **May 1<sup>st</sup>**. It will be an opportunity for local members to join together to remember and celebrate. (See Diary Dates) We will also be looking to other ways to commemorate the Anniversary at our other events throughout the year. However in addition, AOUG is hosting an extra celebration based around Milton Keynes which will link with the annual Research Awards Ceremony and Foundation Lecture in the first weekend in October.

On the Friday after these traditional events, whilst the Executive Committee are holding their Workshop, other visitors will have the opportunity of a visit to either the OU Campus Observatory or the OU campus Library. Then whilst the Executive Committee have their main quarterly meeting, there will be walking tours around the campus's beautifully maintained grounds, including the Zen Garden and the Legacy Garden, whilst learning about the history of the campus's development and the varied geology of the stones used for buildings construction and on the way viewing the items on the campus sculpture trail. After a buffet lunch with your Executive Committee you can join a coach trip to Stoke Bruerne to visit a Blacksmith's Forge before a trip aboard a canal boat. On Saturday evening there will be a Celebration meal. Then on Sunday there will be another coach trip, this time to Bletchley Park. All aspects will be individually priced so you can do as much or as little as you please. Full details and booking arrangements will be in the Spring OMEGA, so do watch for this and book early as unfortunately places will be very limited.

## AOUG in Yorkshire Walking Group

The OU Graduates Walking Group started with the birth of the AOUG in 1988. Many of the original members still join the walks and numbers have swelled with the addition of new members, friends and families. Yorkshire is an excellent base for weekends away in any direction, and we usually have a longer holiday in the summer – last year as far away as Spain, where one member has taken us four times in the past. This year Cumbria, Northumberland and the North York moors feature in the programme as well as day walks a bit nearer to home. If you would like to join us you will be very welcome, so for more information get in touch with Ginny Feeney – 01422 847008.

**Ginny Feeney – Walking Group Organiser**

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**Please return this slip to: Lesley Sleigh, 6 Rockcliffe Mount, Luddenden Foot, HX2 6AJ**

Name ..... PI number .....

My current e-mail address is .....

My home phone is ..... My mobile is .....

I am interested in events near ..... or talks on .....

Date	Time	Event
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	10am for 10.30am	Friends Meeting House, Friargate, York.YO1 9RL YOUGET Award presentation followed by Pearl Anniversary Celebration discussion. Raffle. Book Sale.
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	2pm	Talk by Jill Liddington on Yorks's struggle for women's suffrage in York Explore in Museum Gardens
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	12noon	Meet at the Rose and Crown, 132, Knowl Road, Golcar Huddersfield HD7 4AN for lunch before visiting Colne Valley Museum a short walk away. If you need a lift from the station, please contact Carol-AnnChurm 01484 842094 (with answerphone)
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	11am	Meet in Café 68 at the Castle Museum, York YO1 9RY (behind Clifford's Tower) Look for a copy of OMEGA on the table. Admission is £10 per adult. Up to 4 children go free with each paying adult. Contact Lesley Sleigh
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	11am	Meet for coffee in Weatherspoons, Gowthorpe, Selby YO8 4HF, before exploring the centre of Selby, including the Abbey and the market Cross. The station and bus station are close by.

**Walking Group dates – Contact Ginny Feeney for all details**

Dates	Area
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Day walk in Forest of Bowland
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> May – Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Weekend walking around Alston, Cumbria

**Yorkshire Committee**

Please consider becoming a Committee member. We still need a Vice-Chairman and a Treasurer

Yorkshire Chairman	Derrick Franks	74, West Park, Great North Road, Darrington, Pontefract. WF8 3HY	01977 620192 <a href="mailto:Derrick7633@outlook.com">Derrick7633@outlook.com</a>
Executive Representative and Yorkshire Secretary	Lesley Sleigh	6, Rockcliffe Mount, Luddenden Foot, West Yorkshire HX2 6AJ	01422 883337 <a href="mailto:lesleigh@live.co.uk">lesleigh@live.co.uk</a>
Walking Group Co-ordinator	Ginny Feeney	8, Sandy Gate, Hebden Bridge HX7 8HZ	01422 847008 <a href="mailto:ginnyf@talktalk.net">ginnyf@talktalk.net</a>

**And finally** if you change your address, telephone number or email, please ensure you notify the AOUG Office (01908 653316) We do have members still paying their subscription but who can no longer receive OMEGA as we have no current address for them, so check you details now.

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**Please return this slip to Lesley Sleigh, 6 Rockcliffe Mount, Luddenden Foot, HX2 6AJ**

I am willing to arrange a Yorkshire event .....

I would like information about donating to YOUGET .....

I would like information about donating to the AOUG Foundation for Education .....