



ASSOCIATION OF OPEN UNIVERSITY SOUTH EAST - REGION 13

EDITION 6

SPRING 2014

Hello to all our members in the South East. We are so pleased Marie Linwood is supporting the Eastbourne Group and appreciate her being a Local Contact and maintaining the monthly meetings in the area.

With this year came terrible storms and rain, I hope all our members have now recovered from these conditions and look forward to the Summer, though the heat is not quite apparent yet. We had the AGM at St. Albans in May and a weekend where members were able to renew friendships and make new ones during events such as the Gala Evening and the excursions to the many historical sites St. Albans is famous for. It is a Roman town and full of the remains of that ancient civilisation. I live in Newcastle which many people do not realise also as a Roman past, with parts of the Roman Wall along a main road which busy motorists pass every day without a second glance and of course the Roman Wall with the forts and fame is situated only a few miles out of the city. Write-ups about the AGM will appear in the Summer OMEGA.

I remember the AGM in Guildford not so long ago, a city acknowledged as part of The Canterbury Way, the route which the pilgrims took to see the great cathedral at Canterbury, and to visit the tomb of St. Thomas Becket. I saw a version of The Canterbury Tales by Chaucer at the theatre recently and was reminded of a visit to the Cathedral. It is a place full of peace and sadness to which time has been kind in that, though ancient, it is still as grandeur. Hope you have a lovely Summer.

Violet Rook - Development Officer.

South East Revival Meetings – Message from the Chairman

A revival meeting is to be advertised to encourage members in the South East, in regard to forming new groups and giving advice on being a volunteer as a Local Contact, or as the Executive Representative. Response has been very positive from members concerning encouraging activities and social events and therefore we hope to stimulate such ideas further. Please get involved and feel free to e-mail me if you would like to discuss putting your name forward to be the Executive Representative. Please complete the form supplied. Remember you can be co-opted too.

Margaret Stobirski - Chairman.

'Members only' AOUG Forum on the AOUG Website

The AOUG website is continuing to develop and last year we introduced a new-style Home Page, an on-line Membership facility and an on-line Trading section. Now we have taken it one step further with a Members Only AOUG Forum. AOUG does not endorse the use of Facebook or Twitter or other similar social media sites, in the name of AOUG, as they are impossible for a volunteer organisation to monitor and thus too greater risk to the reputation of AOUG. Obviously what individuals, who also are AOUG members, decide to do, is their own responsibility. However a Members Only Forum is within the Association's control and this can more easily be monitored and improper items can be removed or prevented. Since we want all members to have the confidence to take part, we are now including a step by step guide to registering and being authorised. We apologise to all of you who are very familiar with these things already. Once authorised the site will give you guidance on using the various features and if you have any problems at all you are very welcome to ask the Officers for help.

Step one: Ensure you have internet access on your computer, or equivalent, and log on in the usual way.

Step two: Type www.aoug.org.uk into the address line at the top of the page. The AOUG website should now appear with our logo clearly at the top left hand-side.

Step three: Click on the word Forum along the bottom of your screen. This will open a new window which you will need to enlarge to fill your screen

Step four: You will now be asked for your **Username** and a **Password**. Your user name can be your own name or a shortened version or nickname. Your password can be anything you like but we advise a mixture of numbers and letters about 12- 15 characters in length. Now click on the word **Register**

Step five: The screen will now show you the **Terms and Conditions**. Take as long as you like to read these but in order to progress you need to click on **Accept** at the bottom of the screen.

Step six: You will now be asked to complete a form with Username, e-mail address, password, (these must be the same as you used on the first page) first name and surname (These must be your names as used as a member of AOUG) PI Number (the number you used at the top of all those OU assignments!) your preferred Region or Nation, your gender and your birthday (day and month and year). Finally click on the word **Save**

Step seven: You will need to confirm your **password** yet again and copy a **Registration code** (to prove you are human!!!)

Step eight: Then you will need to come out of the website and go to your **own e-mail account** where you will see an **e-mail acknowledging** your application for the Forum.

Step nine: Wait until you receive a **second e-mail** which will acknowledge you as authorised – (this may be within a few minutes or a few days, depending on if an Officer is currently on line to see your request) and then go back onto the **AOUG website** – click on **Forum** at the bottom of the **Home Page** and the forum will open and allow you to sign in with your **User name** and **Password** and then you can start exploring the instant communications possibilities.

Step ten: If you need more help just ask! **Have Fun !!!!**

Jean Hertzog – Association Treasurer

Open University News

New Chancellor - Baroness Lane-Fox of Soho has been chosen as our new Chancellor, succeeding Lord Puttnam who is stepping down after more than seven years in the role. Martha Lane Fox is part of the digital world, making her mark as one of the founders of LastMinute.com. For more than four years she served as the government's UK Digital Champion, leading a drive to get more people and services engaged with the online world. In 2012 she launched a charity – 'Go ON UK' – which aims to plug the digital skills gap among British adults.

New OU Pro Chancellor -Richard Gillingwater CBE is to be the new Pro-Chancellor, replacing Baron Haskins of Skidby who completes his Term of Office at the end of 2014 after ten years in the role. Richard is Chairman of Henderson Global Investors and also acts a non-executive Director for a number of organisations including WM Morrison Supermarkets and Scottish & Southern Energy. He is also a trustee of the Board of the British Council and has previously been Dean of the Cass Business School.

OU Degree Ceremonies in the South East

Every year The Open University holds Degree Ceremonies for new graduates and their family and friends to share and celebrate their success. I'm sure you will remember how special your Degree Ceremony was for you and how important some of those people looked sitting up there on the platform as you prepared to walk across the stage. Well now you have a chance to don an OU gown again and re-live all those very special feelings but as one of those very special people sitting up on the platform.

The AOUG have designed a new form to use in regard to nominations for these Ceremonies in which one can give one's preferences. The new form will be available for the ceremonies of 2015 information on them will be available later this year. We hope you will respond favorably and consider nominating yourself.

AOUG DEVELOPMENT IN THE SOUTH EAST

Please complete both sides of this response form and return to the AOUG Office, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AA or by email to aoug@open.ac.uk

Name. P.I. Number.....

My email address is

Telephone number Mobile number

I would be willing to write a Newsletter article about

DIARY DATES

EASTBOURNE GROUP

Wednesday 10.30am or 2pm every month.

A meeting for a meal at local pubs in the area.

Please contact Local Contact Marie Linwood for advice and information about travel information.

Executive Representative Meeting

25th - 26th July 2014 - OU Campus. Milton Keynes.

This is one of the four meetings, regarding the management of AOUG, that Executive Representatives attend. A Region 13 Executive Representative is sought to attend these meetings. Please contact the AOUG Office if you would like to be considered or discuss what is involved in the role, with the Association Chairman.

Being a Local Contact

A Local Contact is an AOUG member who volunteers to be a link between other local members within a small area of any Region or Nation. Their one responsibility is to arrange at least one event within their small area, three times a year and to pass all the details to their Executive Representative (or the Development Officer) before the OMEGA submission date so that it can be advertised in OMEGA and on the Website. Local Contacts do not have to stand for election or attend any formal meetings, nor do they need to write any formal reports or take on any additional responsibilities unless they wish to do so.

Association Contacts

Local Contact for Eastbourne: Marie Linwood 01323 722144

Local Contact for Hastings: Paul Emerson Email: paul@emerson84.freeserve.co.uk

AOUG Development Officer, Violet Rook, viola.rook@btinternet.com 07967622091

AOUG Office at Walton Hall, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AA. 01908 653316 aoug@open.ac.uk

Please complete both sides of this response form and return to the AOUG Office, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AA or e-mail to aoug@open.ac.uk

I am interested in attending a Revival meeting to develop the Region

I am interested in attending events in

I am willing to organise a single event.....

I am interested in becoming a Local Contact for.....

I am interested in learning more about the role of Executive Representative