



## ASSOCIATION OF OPEN UNIVERSITY GRADUATES in THE SOUTH WEST

EDITION 2a

SEPTEMBER 2010

### South West Regional News September 2010

Welcome to the September edition of the SW Regional News. So far, I have not had any suggestions for future inclusions. Nevertheless, membership across the Region is holding steady: we lose some and gain some! I have booked a visit to Truro on the 15<sup>th</sup> October, where I hope to recruit a new contact for the Cornwall Group to replace Frances, who is not able to continue for a while due to family circumstances. On October 30<sup>th</sup> I am going up to Bath to have lunch with members there. I am also planning to visit the Wiltshire group in February 2011.

#### HOWARD'S WALKING HOLIDAY

Howard and his wife, who won the walking holiday in the AGM gala dinner raffle, report that they had an excellent time, walking and visiting national trust properties in the area. Sue, who gave the prize, was an ideal hostess, and they could not have wished for anything.

Details of Sue's website can be found at [www.whitehorsewalking.co.uk](http://www.whitehorsewalking.co.uk) It is worth enquiring, there may be a discount for AOUG members!

#### JENNIFER'S SOLO WALK



The photograph shows the Palestine flag which Jennifer, a member of the Exeter group draped around her walking staff as she walked solo 62 miles, (one mile for each year the Palestinians have been losing their land), along the Wat's Dyke Heritage Trail, raising money on the way for the children of the West Bank village of As-Saweya, now twinned with Llanidloes in Wales. Some donors had requested that their money go towards the Cadeleigh Village Hall. Jennifer is passionate about Palestine and gave a talk to the Exeter Revivalist Group on 'Napoleon's Incursion into Palestine in 1799'. Although defeated in this battle, he left a legacy of French influence in the area.

#### PAM'S FRIEND

Pam Pearce, the Bristol contact, has recently donated a copy of an anthology of poetry by Joyce Williams, to the Alumni section on the OU Library. Joyce was an OU graduate, who, as Pam's friend attended AOUG events, until her death earlier this year. The title is "**OPEN WINDOW**", further details of which can be viewed on <http://www.silverwoodbooks.com/item.asp?cid=89> Perhaps those of you who have entered the AOUG poetry competition will one day have an anthology published!

## **FUTURE PLANS FOR REGION 03.**

My term of office as Executive Representative for this Region ends at the 2011 AGM which is to be held in Guildford, Friday May 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday May 8<sup>th</sup> official notice of which will be published in the OMEGA which is due for distribution on November 29<sup>th</sup>. This edition will contain nomination forms which will need to be returned early January 2011. Candidates for Executive Committee require three assenters from the 03 region, all of whom must be fully paid up members throughout the election process. If you feel that you would like to serve the AOUG on the Executive Committee and would like more details, please ask, and, I am willing to help the future representative to settle into the post.

## **NEWS OF NEW REGIONAL DIRECTOR.**

From October 1<sup>st</sup>, following the retirement of Linda Brightman, the new Open University Director will be Andy Nelson, who is currently Acting Regional Director in the North West. His appointment will run until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011, by which time decisions of the future role of OU Regional Directors will be in place.

I enjoyed my June picnic on the park with members of OUSA, and was very interested in the meeting which I attended. It is clear, that big changes are afoot within the OU and OUSA. Alison has written a piece for the OU Student Magazine about the AOUG, and Jean Hertzog gave a presentation at this year's OUSA Conference called "OUSA to AOUG: the natural progression." I hope that I will have the opportunity to meet Andy before early in 2011.

## **FUTURE DIARY DATES**

### **EXETER GROUP**

Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> September: Lunch at the Countess Wear restaurant, Exeter, meet at noon for 12.30

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November: **Festive lunch at the Rougemont Hotel** in Exeter, pre-booking essential. For menu choices for the £15.95 three course meal, please contact me asap.

### **REVIVALIST MEETINGS at home of John Eaton-Terry.**

Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> October: Jill Hopkins on Food and Cookery

Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> February 2011: John Rockey on Story-telling and what went wrong.

### **BATH**

Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> October: Lunch at The Pavilion, Victoria Gardens, Bath, where I hope to meet at noon, with Roger Galea and other members.

Contact me for further details.

### **CORNWALL**

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October: Lunch at Try Dour, Lemon Quay Truro, and I will be there from noon.

### **BRISTOL**

Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> September

BAC 100 Exhibition, Bristol City Museum and Art Gallery. It celebrates the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of aviation innovation in the West of England.

details from [pjandmspearce@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:pjandmspearce@blueyonder.co.uk)

## WILTSHIRE

**A LUNCHTIME WALK AND TALK:  
Two white horses, the Kennet and Avon Canal  
and the Wessex Ridgeway**

SUNDAY 24 OCTOBER 2010 11:00am – 2:00pm  
Details from  
[sue.melvin@fiscali.co.uk](mailto:sue.melvin@fiscali.co.uk)

If any member, in any part of the Region would like to organise a get together in their locality, I am willing to make contact with other members for you, with your permission and theirs. Who knows, you could form a group of like minded people to share lunches and outings. From little acorns.....! Also, AOUG members are welcome to travel to other parts of the Region to attend events.

If you change your e-mail address please let me know.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT FROM 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER MY EMAIL ADDRESS IS:**  
[mount.devon@btinternet.com](mailto:mount.devon@btinternet.com)

Do send in ideas or reports for inclusion in a future newsletter, which I anticipate I will be sending out in January 2011.

In the meantime, ..... Can you guess where this OU Kollege is?  
Sue Field took this photo on a recent visit to .....! Nothing to do with THE Open University apparently!



Elizabeth Mount.