



ASSOCIATION OF OPEN UNIVERSITY GRADUATES THE SOUTH WEST

EDITION 2b

FEBRUARY 2011

South West Regional News February 2011

Welcome to the February edition of the SW Regional News. Sorry that I did not manage to send it out in January, but as the EC meeting was in February, I decided to wait until after that meeting, so that I could give the latest news regarding proposed changes within the Open University. The Open University is in the process of a structural reform, part of which involves the role of Regional Director, being replaced by a Head of Student Services in each Region. All current Regional Directors will have retired or moved to other posts by August 1st 2011. Andy Nelson, is currently Acting Director in our Region until July 31st. These changes will have an impact on the relationship between the OU and the AOUG.

Andy was very helpful when I was trying to organise a venue for the first round of the EGGHEADS competition, in offering the use of a room at the Offices in Bristol free of charge. However, although I was fortunate to have found a team willing to take part, due to the fact that other Regions and Nations, apart from one, were unable to raise a team, it has now been decided by the Development Officer, that the EGGHEADS event at the AGM will be between two teams of attendees at the AGM who will be selected by the Development Officer. It is not too late to book for the AGM weekend as there are still vacancies, so if you have a desire to be considered for a team, book now and let Patricia Cowling on cowling@wanadoo.fr know that you would like to be included in one of the two teams.

FUTURE PLANS FOR REGION 03.

As I said in my September newsletter, my term of office as Executive Representative for this Region ends at the 2011 AGM which is to be held in Guildford, Friday May 6th to Sunday May 8th. I am very pleased to say, that Pam Pearce, currently the contact for Bristol, has been nominated for election to become the next Executive Representative. Voting papers will be issued in the forthcoming OMEGA and I would urge you please to cast your vote for her. There may only be one candidate, but I know from experience that it is good to know that one has the backing in the form of a YES vote, from members in their Region!

FUTURE DIARY DATES

EXETER GROUP

REVIVALIST MEETINGS at home of John Eaton-Terry.

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

LUNCH AT COUNTESS WEAR RESTAURANT EXETER

Friday, 25th March Meet at noon to eat at 12.30pm

BATH

Saturday, 26th February: Lunch at The Pavilion, Victoria Gardens, Bath. This group meets on the last Saturday of every month.

Contact me for further details.

CORNWALL

Monday March 7th: Lunch 12.30 at Indaba on the Beach, Swanpool, followed by a walk.

Saturday March 12th: Visit Trewithen Gardens, Grampond, meet at 1pm

Wednesday March 16th: Book Club Inaugural Meeting 7.30.

For details of venue contact Liz Ashcroft: taitailizash@gmail.com

Please contact Liz for further details on any of these events, and if you would like to join her and other members from Cornwall.

BRISTOL

DIARY DATE:

Saturday, 9th April 2011 at 10.30am: Bristol Hippodrome Theatre Tour (tickets must be bought in advance, please contact Pam Pearce)

http://www.bristolhippodrome.org.uk/prod-productions_details.asp?pid=1678&VenueID=90

Pam Pearce pjandmspearce@blueyonder.co.uk for details.

WILTSHIRE contact sue.melvin@tiscali.co.uk

Currently, Sue is busy preparing her business for the coming season, and there will be updates on the AOUG website of future activities as they are arranged.

AOUG WEBSITE

With the appointment of a new Web Editor and continued training of Officers and Clerical Staff, the AOUG website is currently being updated and is worth a visit.

Obviously, this medium is the easiest and quickest way of informing members of news and future events, not only in their own Region but around the Regions and Nations. Members are invited to attend meetings in other Regions and there is an interesting programme of events planned in the 02 South Region which may be of interest. Information on these events can be accessed via the www.aoug.org.uk website on the Diary Pages of South 02 Region pages, as well a diary pages on all Nation and Regions pages.

Again I say, 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.....!

If you change your e-mail address please let me know and the AOUG Office know.

mount.devon@btinternet.com

As this is my last newsletter to you all, I would like to thank all of you who have supported events around the region during the past four years, and trust that you will support Pam, if elected, as she continues to promote the AOUG in the South West.

Elizabeth Mount.