



ASSOCIATION OF OPEN UNIVERSITY GRADUATES in YORKSHIRE



EDITION 64

Summer 2012

Apologies!

There are many reasons why I am apologising to all our members in Yorkshire. Firstly, this Newsletter is weeks behind schedule. Secondly, it is only two pages long, instead of the usual four. Thirdly, it does not have as much information as usual. I hope that you will understand that, as it is my responsibility to issue the Newsletter, I have decided that it was better to send a curtailed edition rather than none at all. Where has this year gone? We are already more than half way through 2012 and the year seems to be flying by. I wish that the year would stand still briefly so that I can catch up. 2012 has been blessed for me by the arrival of two more great-grandchildren, both boys and both healthy.

Our AOUG Association AGM, held in Liverpool in May, was the usual combination of business and pleasure and, I hope, was enjoyed by all who attended. The Adelphi Hotel, where it was held, has a long history, (some of you may have seen the television programmes that were made there), and was an interesting building. The excursions were well planned and gave a taster of all that Liverpool has to offer.

The Yorkshire Committee continues to arrange monthly visits to places of interest and it would be great to meet more of our members at these events. (See Diary dates) I would especially draw your attention to the proposed trip to Amsterdam planned for November. We enjoyed the trip to Bruges last year and this one should be just as good! Any suggestions for 2013, AOUG's 25th Anniversary year, would be most welcome. Is there somewhere near you that we could visit? Please email, write or phone me with your ideas. At our Yorkshire AGM in June, Derrick Franks became new Chairman, with Malcolm White as the new Vice-Chairman. I was re-elected as Secretary, Joyce Johnson was re-elected as Treasurer and Jean Hertzog was re-elected as Newsletter Editor. Other Committee members elected were Carol-Ann Churm, Ramsey Hertzog and Peter Turvey. I would like to thank them all for their efforts and their support.

There are still many changes happening to our University. The rise in course costs and the ability of our new part-time students to apply for student loans in order to finance these costs, are just two. There have been changes at Regional Office and phone enquiries are now dealt with on a Faculty basis. All these changes must be very challenging to OU staff. My hope is that the University of which we are so proud, never forgets the reason why it was called The Open University and continues to welcome students who would never have gone down the traditional university route. AOUG is facing its own challenge in recruiting new members as our established methods are no longer available. We are looking at alternative ways, so, again, if you have any ideas, I would love to hear from you.

I look forward to seeing some of you at our next Saturday meeting at the Friends' Meeting House in York on October 20th 2012. For the moment, the rain seems to have stopped and I hope that we can now all enjoy a pleasant summer.

Lesley Sleight – Executive Representative

Diary Dates

DATE	EVENT
Sat 11 th August	Gilbert and Sullivan "HMS Pinafore" Nostell Priory, near Wakefield - gates open at 7.30pm. Adult £17 plus booking fee. Book own ticket on Tel: 0844 249 1895. Bring rugs or small chairs and picnic. Contact – Malcolm White
Sat. 25 th August	Trip on Settle/Carlisle Railway from Leeds to Appleby. Meet at Leeds City Station at 10.30am to catch the 10.49 train, arriving in Appleby at 12.42. Contact – Lesley Sleight
Sat. 22 nd Sept.	Meet at 11am at the entrance to Beaumont Park, Huddersfield for a Treasure Hunt followed by lunch arranged at a member's home. An indoor activity will be substituted if the weather is poor. Contact Carol-Ann Churm (welshcat@aol.com)
Frid 5 th Oct	AOUG Foundation for Education Research Awards Ceremony and Annual Foundation Lecture on OU campus at Milton Keynes - Tickets in advance £8 to include a buffet lunch from AOUG Office 01908 653316 aoug@open.ac.uk
Sat. 20 th Oct	Meet for coffee at 10.30am for Saturday meeting at the Friends Meeting House, York with an academic speaker at 11am Bring your own lunch. Discussion meeting in the afternoon. Contact Malcolm White.
Wed. 24 th Oct	Meet in the bar area of the Doncaster Dome Bowling Alley at 7pm for our annual tenpin bowling challenge against OUSA. No skill required, just a willingness to have a good time. Contact Derrick Franks
Early November	Join other members for a min-cruise to Amsterdam. Sailing overnight from Hull, with a full day in Amsterdam before the return overnight crossing. Contact Jean Hertzog jrhertzog@hotmail.com for all the details.
Sat. 17 th Nov	Meet in Café Rouge at 11am next to Sheffield Town Hall before touring Sheffield Millennium Galleries. Contact Jean Hertzog.
Sat. 1 st Dec	Meet 12 noon for Lunch in the West Yorkshire Playhouse restaurant prior to the matinee of 'Wind in the Willows'. Please purchase your own theatre ticket direct from the box office. Contact Joyce Johnson

Contact Details

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Walking Group	Ginny Feeney	8 Sandy Gate Hebden Bridge, HX 7 8HZ	01422 847008 ginnyf@talktalk.net

Did you receive this Newsletter by post? If so, do you have an e-mail address we may use? Please contact the Secretary, Lesley Sleight, with your details. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Disclaimer: The Newsletter Editor accepts no responsible for the necessity for the late distribution of this Newsletter, nor for its reduction in size, and will do all she can to ensure that the full Autumn edition is distributed on time. Jean Hertzog