



ASSOCIATION OF OPEN UNIVERSITY GRADUATES IN SCOTLAND

EDITION 4

SUMMER 2013

Hello to everyone and congratulations to our AOUG members in Scotland, Lewis McKay and Tom Nisbet, who will know by now that they have been awarded Honorary Life Membership of AOUG. These Awards were proposed by the retiring Chairman, Ramsey Hertzog, and agreed at the Association AGM in Walsall in May 2013. All the Awards were agreed unanimously and it was stated that those not present at the AGM would receive their certificates at the October Event in Milton Keynes. The Chairman was also surprised to discover that he too had been awarded the honour. This was announced by Malcolm White, the retiring Vice-Chairman.

The Gala Dinner at the AGM welcomed special guests the Mayor and Mayoress of Walsall, OUSA representatives and Lucian Hudson, Director of Communications at The Open University, who brought a message from the Vice-Chancellor, Martin Bean. At the end of the evening Mohammad Motawalla, the Executive Representative for West Midlands, handed the pennant to Jean Grout, the Executive Representative for Region 06, East of England, where the AGM will be held at St Albans in 2014.

Also during at the AGM weekend, Margaret Stobirski was co-opted as Chairman, Lesley Sleight was co-opted as Vice-Chairman, whilst Malcolm White was re-appointed as Platform Administrator. Rosemary Hammick for Region 01, Jean Grout for Region 06 Derrick Franks for Region 07, Peter Williams for Region 08 and Jean McKenna for Region 09, were all elected or re-elected.

Revival Meeting in Scotland

Scotland is without an Executive Representative at present, but the Officers of AOUG are going to do their very best to ensure that you have the opportunity to meet up or to communicate by email. You do have one Local Contact who is continuing to arrange activities in the Edinburgh area and in the meantime, the Development Officer will continue to support him and all members as much as possible. Working as a single unit is sometimes difficult to achieve and so we aim to try to create several small local groups that will make travelling to events easier, and in areas where even this is difficult, we could try to set up email correspondence groups.

The Development Officer, Violet Rook, is therefore inviting any Scottish member to join her at a Revival meeting to be held on Monday September 23rd at the Buchanan Hotel Restaurant, Glasgow, (near Queen's Street Railway Station), between 3pm and 5pm.

Please R.S.V.P. to Violet Rook, email viollettrook@btinternet.com, mobile 07967622091 by September 14th.

AOUG Silver Celebration – 4th and 5th October 2013

You will have seen the write-ups on our 25th Anniversary AGM and Social Weekend in the Summer OMEGA and, even if you were not able to attend, you will get a flavour of the wonderful celebration. And the celebration continues over the first weekend in October. On Friday October 4th, AOUG's Foundation for Education will be presenting its Faculty Awards and the Olga Camm Bursary. Then our new Honorary Life Members will be presented with their certificates. After lunch we will enjoy our annual Foundation Lecture. The celebrations will be extended into Saturday with various campus tours and a visit to Bletchley Park on their special 'Are You Listening?' day. This recognises communications through Bletchley Park's history, from the Post Office and carrier pigeons to radio waves and the first televisions to the age of computers and the internet.

Then, keeping the best until last, we offer our Silver Celebration Anniversary Dinner. For this silver themed meal in The Open University campus VIP restaurant we ask you all to dress smartly and to wear something silver – necklace, cuff links, outfit – the choice is yours. There is only room for fifty so confirm your places quickly. Twenty-five years for a voluntary Association is certainly an achievement, so make sure you are part of it. A booking form is included with this Newsletter so check your diary and book now.

Please complete the attached booking form and return to the AOUG Office Walton Hall, Milton Keynes. MK7 6AA by 20th September

AOUG's 25th Anniversary Trading

In this our 25th Anniversary year, AOUG have had special celebration merchandise produced in silver nickel. You may have seen these items pictured in OMEGA but the photographs cannot do them justice and they really need to be seen to be appreciated. These special items – a badge, a stick pin, a tie pin and a pair of cufflinks, can be ordered via the order form in OMEGA or by phoning the AOUG Office, but if you attend the Silver Celebration weekend in October you will be able to see for yourself just how good they really are! Be sure not to miss out on these elegant souvenirs. When they are gone – they're gone! So order now and wear your AOUG logo with pride.

AOUG Foundation for Education Awards for the Regions and Nations

AOUG's own charity is offering one Award in each of the thirteen Regions and Nations, plus an extra one for Europe and another for the Rest of the World. These Awards are given to a new graduate who has gained their first OU degree during the last twelve months whilst overcoming adversity of some kind, over and above that of the average student. They cannot apply themselves, but nominations can be accepted from students, other graduates or any OU staff, so maybe you know someone worthy. Information, and an application form, is available on our AOUG website if you would like to nominate someone. Just go to our AOUG website page entitled <http://www.aoug.org.uk/awards/application.html> to read all the details.

Diary Dates

Friday 27th September 7pm.

‘Edinburgh’s Landscape’ – Talk by Dr Angus Miller at the Quaker Meeting House, 7, Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh. EH1 2JL. Dr Angus Miller of the Edinburgh Geological Society and the Scottish Geodiversity Forum is a well-known geological tour guide. This talk will look at events going back hundreds of millions of years that have formed Edinburgh’s varied bedrock, and the ways this has been shaped by rain,rivers and ice to create the stunning cityscape of today, with its strong influences on the development of Edinburgh. Entry – £5.00

Monday 7th October 2pm

Edinburgh Woollen Mills Warehouse, Bankend North, Edinburgh Road, Jedburgh, TD8 6EA Meet in the car park for tea in the Mill.

Wednesday 9th October 10.00am

Hermitage of Braid Walk. 69, Braid Road, Edinburgh. EH10 6JF Join us for a walk along the Braid Burn to the Hermitage of Braid. The walk lasts about 90 minutes with an optional shorter walk. Enter from Braid Road at the Toll House and meet at the Visitor Centre (about 500 yds). Continue afterwards to the Braid Hills Hotel for tea. Charge for walk - £3.00

Wednesday 13th November 1.30pm

Visit to Torness Nuclear Power Station, Torness, Dunbar, EH42 1QU Join us for a pre-arranged tour of Scotland’s newest nuclear power station. Security is, by necessity, strict and attendees must provide personal details as well as photographic proof of identity – preferably a passport. The tour is booked in advance and all members will be subject to some security clearance processes. Please book in advance with Local Contact.

Monday 18th November 2pm.

Jedburgh Christmas Lights Meet in the free car park at the Information Office near the Abbey, TD8 6BE. Stroll up the High Street to see the shops and decorations.

Tuesday 17th December 4pm.

Christmas Concert at the Assembly Rooms, 54 George Street, Edinburgh. EH2 2LR

The Scottish Chamber Orchestra will perform their Christmas concert. Meet at 4pm for soup and cake at Judith’s, 62, Queen Street, Edinburgh before a short walk to the Concert which starts at 6pm. The program includes music by Bach, Handel and Corelli. Tickets £10 in advance (0131 2204348) or £12 on the door.

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

Saturday 25th January 12.30pm

Annual Lunch - Royal Overseas League, 100 Princes Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AB

The lunch will be in the Robert Louis Stevenson room and the price for three courses, including coffee, is £19 (drinks and tips not included) – a significant reduction on the normal cost. Lunch will be served at 1pm.

Wednesday 19th February 10.30am

Exhibition – J.D.Fergusson – Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, 75, Belford Road, Edinburgh. EH4 3DR (MOD2/Dean Gallery) The final show in the Scottish Colourist Series is a major retrospective of the work of John Duncan Fergusson – the longest lived and most international of the group. He was born in Leith, but spent years in Paris. In 1913 he married Margaret Morris, the inspiration for much of his work. Meet in the ground floor foyer/café/shop area. Exhibition admission £7.00, Concs £5.00, 'Friends of the National Gallery', free on production of member-ship card.

Saturday 15th March 11am

AGM and Lunch with a Speaker. The format of the AGM will continue to be a lunch time event at the Quaker Meeting House, 7, Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2JL with a speaker. Members can have lunch at a nearby venue after the meeting. Admission £5.00.

Local Contacts

Edinburgh Chairman: Tom Nisbet, 11 Jeffrey Avenue, EH4 3QY (0131 332 8313)

Edinburgh Programme Coordinator: Lewis McKay, 100 Oxfords Road, EH10 7AZ
lewis.mckay1@btopenworld.com

Edinburgh Treasurer/Events Coordinator: Diane Day, 38/8 Littlejohn Road, EH10 5GJ
Friends and partners are welcome to all events.

Refunds can usually be given for Edinburgh events if you inform one of the Edinburgh Local Contacts that you cannot come. Cheques for Edinburgh events should be made payable to 'Edinburgh OU Graduates', please and sent to Diane Day. All other Edinburgh event enquiries to Lewis McKay unless otherwise stated

Association Contacts

AOUG Development Officer, Violet Rook, violettrook@btinternet.com 07967622091

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

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I will / will not be attending the Glasgow revival meeting

I am interested in attending other 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

