

Retired Staff Association Newsletter

March 2020
Issue 45

WRSA Bursaries An Update

For some years the Association has awarded annually up to three bursaries which aim to support creative and cultural extra-curricular activities by Warwick undergraduate or postgraduate students. In recent years we have supported a range of projects including:

- ▶ **Photographic exhibition based on a project visit to Borneo**
- ▶ **Work experience in the 'Empty Quarter' of Oman**
- ▶ **Endangered Pasts: a Photographic Gallery of Mizo Photographs**
- ▶ **Literature translation and performance**
- ▶ **Multimedia Chinese-speaking website**
- ▶ **A screw water pump for the Allotment Society**
- ▶ **The living canal project**
- ▶ **The Barking and Dagenham Community Scheme**
- ▶ **An employability scheme for refugees and asylum seekers**

Interested students are invited to send a one page synopsis outlining their proposed activity and indicating how a WRSA Bursary would be used to help them. Timing and costing are requested, together with an indication of the extent to which the project may benefit the University and/or the wider community as well as the individual recipient. Ideally, the Association wants to provide 'pump-priming' money: projects that have already attracted considerable funding are generally not as favourably considered as those for which a grant from the Association might make all the difference.

A WRSA bursary enabled students to set up an employability programme for refugees and asylum seekers in Coventry.



A WRSA bursary enabled UniBrass to offer master classes for both children and adults.



'Tweaking' the scheme

Some years the sub-committee which oversees the process receives a healthy number of proposals; more recently there have been fewer applications and, to address this, the scheme has been 'tweaked' for the current academic year. There are two issues in particular which the sub-committee has looked at: firstly, how best to bring to the attention of the student body the existence of the bursaries, and, secondly, to take into account the timing of the proposed activities so that they can be better accommodated within a student's (hopefully!) busy year. The first is being addressed by working more closely with those parts of the University that have a direct line to the student body, in particular, of course, the Students' Union but also Warwick Volunteers. The timing issue is a difficult one - hard-pressed students may be put off applying if the work for their project might have a negative impact on their academic work. For this year, therefore, we have introduced an end of February deadline for submissions, so that the successful applicants are able to work on their projects over the summer term and summer vacation with completion and a final report by the end of February 2021.

Hopefully, the changes will result in a varied collection of submissions for us to consider - we will, of course, report back to the Association in due course. The only remaining challenge for the sub-committee is to find a way to ensure that final reports are submitted so that members can read about the projects in a future newsletter!

Russell Moseley

Bursary Sub-committee 2019-2020

Robert Dyson	robert.dyson@wbs.ac.uk
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George Raper	g.raper97@btinternet.com

With her bursary, medical student Cristina Psomdakos visited Cambodia to work with the charity Jeremiah's Hope.



A bursary enabled postgraduate student, Mantra Mukim, to undertake a poetic survey of the Grand Union Canal stretch from Leamington Spa to Birmingham.



Warwick after Brexit



On 30 January 2020, the eve of the UK's departure from the EU, Vice-Chancellor Stuart Croft wrote this personal message to the University:

Tomorrow at 11 pm the UK will be leaving the EU. It is not the outcome that I wanted personally. But it is to be our new reality, and we must do all we can to make the best that we can of that new reality.

The first element of that is to continue to be open to our staff and students that we are entirely committed to that future as a European- focussed University. I can announce today that we will establish a new programme of funding so that staff faced with visa or other immigration costs following Brexit, for themselves and their immediate family, can claim up to £5000 in support. More detail will be available in the coming days.

Our student numbers from the European Union are very encouraging, and we must continue to be open to those students in the future. And, of course, we must back Erasmus+ fully while also preparing for how we can not only maintain exchanges, but increase mobility options in the future for students across Europe even if the government eventually decides that the UK should not remain in Erasmus or its successor.

Second, we must find ways to support researchers across the continent. Research is, of course, not national: it is global. We have enormously strong research links across the continent, and we will continue to ask government to associate with Horizon Europe or, if not, to create straightforward funding

schemes to be able to work closely with our partners across Europe. This is particularly important for our early career researchers. We have around 200 such colleagues here at Warwick and they deserve to have access to these networks and research links in the future that so many of us have had in the past.

Third, of course, we are deeply embedded in the new EUTOPIA alliance. This is not to overturn existing links in departments and schools, but is instead a way of growing a partnership across the whole University in mobility, joint education, and joint research. EUTOPIA is one of the three European University Alliances with a British partner. It is an important platform for our future.

Brexit is a highly emotive moment for many of us. The past three and a half years of uncertainty have been difficult for everyone, whichever side of the Brexit debate you stand on. But not a day has gone by when I haven't been reliving the memory of when a public group in Stratford-upon-Avon asked me not to abandon Europe and the Europeans that call our University and our region home. And I can assure you now that I have no intention of doing so.

Although I recognise the inevitability of the UK's departure from the EU tomorrow, I also know that we have to make the best of this situation for our University and all of our staff and students, and also for our city and our region, and that is where I will be focussing my efforts in the future. It is possible to be a European university in a country outside the European Union, and we are going to prove that.



UNIVERSITY NEWS

High Rankings for Warwick

In a survey published in January, Warwick has been ranked as one of the UK's top three universities for 'high flier' graduates most sought after by leading employers. The UK Graduate Careers Survey by High Fliers Research Ltd - one of the largest annual surveys of the employment of final year students at the UK's leading universities - has consistently ranked Warwick in the top five of this table for several years, but this year the University has risen to third place.

And in the *Financial Times'* latest ranking, WBS's full-time MBA has climbed into Europe's top ten.

'Graduation' at Warwick for local primary school pupils



A special 'graduation' ceremony took place at Warwick before Christmas, marking the end of FOCUS, a five-day programme for Year 6 pupils from Frederick Bird School, Coventry, to introduce them to university-style learning and give them a sense of what higher education is about. This was the result of a partnership between the University and the national education charity, IntoUniversity: the IntoUniversity Coventry Centre is based in Hillfields and is run in partnership with the University, with philanthropic support from Warwick alumni and The Michael Marsh Charitable Trust.

Warwick students clean up Leamington canal

A group of Warwick students braved the weather on a rainy day last October to help clean up the canal in Leamington Spa. The volunteers pulled up shopping trolleys, bikes, road signs and tyres. However, their biggest find was a golf buggy which had to be removed with a crane a few days later!



Celebrating seventy years of crop research at Wellesbourne

Wednesday, 18 December saw a gathering of industry specialists, researchers and staff (past and present) at Warwick Crop Centre to celebrate seventy years of crop research at the Wellesbourne campus - originally the National Vegetable Research Station, now part of the School of Life Sciences, and the scene of many significant developments of benefit to UK agriculture.

We look forward to learning more about the work at Wellesbourne from Professor Rosemary Collier, one of the lead researchers at Warwick Crop Centre, who is to be our speaker at the WRSA Spring Meeting.



Using Artificial intelligence (AI) to detect low-glucose levels in the blood

Tracking sugar in the blood is particularly crucial for diabetic patients and currently requires needles and repeated finger pricks over the day. A new technique developed by Warwick researchers in the School of Engineering uses the latest findings of AI to detect hypoglycaemic events from raw ECG signals via off-the-shelf, non-invasive wearable sensors. The technology works with 82% reliability and could replace the need for invasive finger prick testing with a needle - particularly useful for child patients.

Science on the Hill - come and see for yourself!

'Science on the Hill' is a new and exciting programme of public engagement events at the Gibbet Hill campus, hosted jointly by the School of Life Sciences and Warwick Medical School. It's a chance to see some of the latest research: the event on 4 March looks at Warwick's ongoing research around developmental biology; on 19 May, there's an evening of Synthetic Biology, while the last event in this academic year on 23 June focuses on the journey from lab to real world application. These events are free to attend and take place between 18.00 and 20.00 hours on Tuesday evenings in the School of Life Sciences atrium. See scienceonthehill@warwick.ac.uk



WALKING GROUP NEWS



Come and Join Us!

Are you as fit as you would like to be?

Regardless of whether the answer is 'yes' or 'no', you will be a little fitter if you join us on one of our walks. We aim to go on one walk per month: you can join us for one, or all. Also be aware that we reward ourselves with a well-earned pub lunch!

If this sounds like a great idea, just key in my email address: Colejoanm@aol.com and send me a message: 'Add me to the walkers' list'. There's no commitment to attend but now you can choose, as every month I will email you with the walk's start time and place.

Joan Cole Colejoanm@aol.com

WALKS REPORTS

Meriden Loop

15 August 2019

The walk was originally planned by Sue Beech who was then unable to lead it on the day so I stepped into the role of walk leader. Despite the changeable weather 23 walkers sent off from The Queen's Head, Meriden.

We walked along a quiet lane which led to a path through the Meriden shafts and on through woodland. We then started to circle, crossing the extremely busy B4102 on a blind bend...we all made it safely across once a kind white van man stopped to hold up the traffic! The homeward leg through woodland led on to a ridge with views south-west across rolling countryside. To our right the NEC was quite clearly visible.

After four and a quarter miles of mostly flat, if partially overgrown, walking we arrived back at the pub (thankfully dry as the rain which threatened most of the morning did not appear) to have a very enjoyable meal.

Carol Colclough



Franc Buxton



Franc Buxton

Waterways Wandering

26 September 2019

Sixteen Warwick wanderers set out on Thursday, 26th September, to explore the waterways around Nuneaton. It was a warm, dry, day and our first watery encounter was with Wem Brook, a small, trickling stream which traverses the surrounding meadows.

After a pleasant stroll across a few fields we reached the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Canal. Narrowboats sporting traditional roses and castle paintings along their sides rumbled past the group, their occupants giving us cheery waves as they continued on their way. Along the banks we sighted herons, mallards, swans, moorhens and coots all going about their business and providing us with points of interest. Joining the Coventry Canal we then circled back north to drop onto the Griff Brook which we followed to Red Deeps, a nature reserve, and returned to The Cedar Tree, a Mediterranean restaurant, in time for a very enjoyable lunch and more chatter.

Kay Rainsley



Franc Buxton



Franc Buxton



Franc Buxton

Shustoke

17 October 2019

A small but intrepid group met at The Plough Inn in Shustoke for our October walk. After what seemed like weeks of grey and rainy weather, it proved a beautiful day - bright and sunny - but even so it was quite difficult to persuade everyone to start the walk, as there was a fascinating aviary in the pub car park.

The walk took us close to Shustoke Reservoir and then over fields, beside a wood, over a brook, and past a farm before looping back to the pub. A substantial part of the route followed the Heart of England Way so was well way-marked, but, once left behind, the path was less obvious and we strayed off-piste a couple of times. Luckily, Franc's map app on his phone put us back on the right path, and everyone was remarkably generous and forgiving, despite having to walk over a mile more than anticipated!

A recce the previous week had been quite straightforward, if a little muddy in gateways, but we found that the ground had become much more waterlogged and slippery. Happily, no boots were lost in the mud and we all made it through the sticky bits without falling!

We were all glad to find our reserved table at The Plough, and we enjoyed a convivial and delicious lunch.

Sue Beech

The Last Walk of 2019

21 November 2019



Franc Buxton

The area around Rowington village is considered some of Warwickshire's best countryside. Its peaceful agricultural land, ancient woods, wildlife, canals, narrow boats and locks, as well as National Trust properties and country pubs make this region a popular destination for walking groups. Overlooking the Grand Union Canal, the longest canal in the UK (formed by amalgamating a number of waterways to link London to Birmingham) is the Tom O' The Wood pub. This is where the WRSA walkers met to start the winter November walk, the last one in 2019.

The rain had been heavy in the last few days before the walk and there had been several flood warnings but, although cold, the day remained dry. A short way from the pub's car park, the WRSA group of 19 walkers crossed over the road bridge and dropped down to the canal towpath. There were several slippery, muddy patches and puddles to avoid. We walked along the Grand Union Canal (a 'cut and fill' canal where the material, earth and rocks removed from its natural location were used to make the embankments and so reduced the need for so many locks). Across from the canal, we spotted a small fox racing over a large open field to gain cover in the hedge of the next field.

We crossed the bridge at the Stratford Canal junction and continued along the towpath to the third bridge where we climbed up to the road. At the signpost to Baddesley Clinton, we followed the drive to the National Trust house. Baddesley Clinton is a moated manor house, which has priest holes, an old chapel and lovely gardens. Turning left, we were now on a tree-lined path to St Michael's Church. The Church's towers are called 'The Towers of Atonement'. They were constructed by the then Lord of the Manor, Nicholas Brome, in remorse for killing the rector, after he found him stroking the chin of his wife. At the small door of the church, the group photo was taken.

Turning right and along the lane leading to Rowington village, we passed the old Rowington watermill, now converted into a house. During the Great War, it was used as a prisoner of war dormitory. A little further down the lane is Shakespeare Hall, once owned by the Shakespeare family and where, it was rumoured, William Shakespeare wrote *As You Like It*.

The Tom O' The Wood pub, named after a local corn mill and modernised in the 18th century, was now in sight. After a 4.75 mile walk, everyone was ready for lunch in the pub's conservatory.

Marie and Barry Lucas

Hunningham to Offchurch

27 January 2020

Seventeen of us gathered for the walk. It should have run as follows:

Within a short driving distance from Leamington Spa, this easy circular walk starts from The Red Lion pub near the village of Hunningham, Warwickshire. For the first half of the walk, you will enjoy the delights of The Millennium Way, then return from Cubbington to join the River Leam, leading you back to our starting point.

However, having done a trial run on Saturday, I found it very muddy indeed, so I recommended that we leave this one until the summer and take the lane walk from Hunningham to Offchurch. Having shown Saturday's photos to the group, I found that we were all agreed! On the day, we were blessed with beautiful sunshine and after walking for just four miles, we all retired to The Red Lion for welcome ale and lunch.

Joan Cole



Thanks to Kay and Joan

For the past seven years, Kay Rainsley has been our Walks Co-ordinator, putting together a programme that has ensured an interesting and healthy walk every month, followed by a convivial lunch. These events are greatly enjoyed by WRSA members and we thank Kay for all her hard work; it's good to know that she will continue to lead walks for us. Thanks also to Joan Cole for taking over from Kay: we look forward to many more enjoyable walks to come!

FORTHCOMING WALKS 2020

Wednesday 26 February - time and place tbc, led by Kay Rainsley

March - date and place tbc, led by Bob Cooke

June - date and place tbc, led by Godfrey and Caroline Carr

Other walks will be led by Helen and Stanley Ireland, Eleanor Nesbitt and Carol Colclough; dates and places tbc.

VISIT TO YORK 19 November 2019



With a slight delay to our planned start time due to a minor error on my spreadsheet to record payments and numbers - I thought I should have had 48 members whereas my mistake meant that we had the correct number at 47 - we set off at about 08.50.

The morning was a bit dull and chilly but as we struggled through the traffic out of Coventry from Memorial Park, it started to brighten up. We arrived at Union Terrace Coach Park just north of the Minster at about 11.45am. We had learnt, via Helen Ireland, that, unfortunately, the Minster would be completely closed due to York St John's University deciding to have their Degree Congregations on 19 and 20 November, which was a big disappointment.

I suspect most members headed for an eatery or at least a coffee house. Jill and I had previously booked a table at a rather nice French restaurant, The Rustique, down near Clifford's Tower in Castlegate - an excellent choice, it turned out.

After lunch we explored the Christmas Market. The trouble with York is that there is so much to see and whilst everything is relatively close together, there just is not enough time to see it all. The main attractions for members appeared to be: a walk by the river, the Christmas market, the Shambles, the York Castle Museum, the Jorvik Centre, and the National Railway Museum. However, I understand that a few members made a beeline for the shops, in particular, Marks and Spencer. I shall not mention names. A long way to go just for that!



Towards Clifford's Tower



The shop that must not be named ('Harry Potter' connection)

Jill and I eventually arrived back at the Minster and heard the wonderful Great Peter bell which was first cast and rung in 1845 and then recast in 1927. Personally, I would have loved to have heard the Great Organ, which dates back to 1850, with its 5403 pipes, the tallest of which is 10 metres, whilst the smallest is the size of a pencil. Next year it will be silent for its once in every 100 years' service!

Next stop was a very hurried visit to the National Railway Museum for a cup of tea and a whizz around the exhibits before it was time to get back to the coach. If I have a criticism of the museum, it is that it is very dark and, in all honesty, one cannot see the fine detail of the magnificent steam engines. It also meant my little compact camera could not flash brightly enough for some decent photographs.

A very pleasant, if rather cold day and at least it was dry. I think everyone enjoyed themselves because there were so many things to do. The only attraction that I didn't hear mentioned was walking the city walls. That would have been really cold.

I was last in York 35 years ago and my recollection of that visit was that it was a quiet city. Whilst the traffic is now kept away from the centre, the number of pedestrians seems to have increased by a huge amount. I suppose it is no different from anywhere else.

Denis Welchman



The Mallard, National Railway Museum



Traditional enamel signs, National Railway Museum



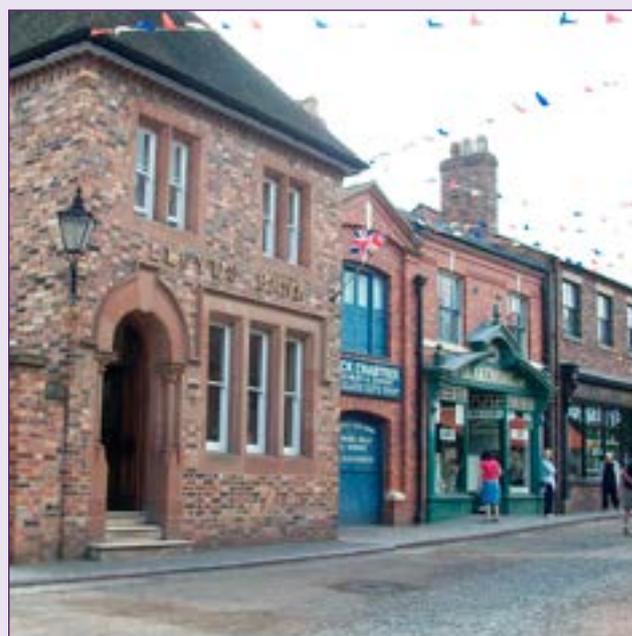
Market stall



The Shambles

Proposed Visit to **Blists Hill Victorian Town,** Tuesday 12 May 2020

Denis Welchman is planning a visit to Blists Hill Victorian Town for WRSA members in May. Blists Hill Victorian Town is part of the Ironbridge Gorge Museums. It contains authentic Victorian cottages, shops and workshops, all in operation, as well as an amazing 18th century feat of engineering, the Hay Inclined Plane. There are several places to eat and drink - or you might like to sample take-away fish and chips cooked in the traditional way in beef dripping! The coach will leave from the Park and Ride area of Coventry Memorial Park at 08.30, departing back to Coventry at 16.30 hrs. An application form is enclosed with this copy of the *Newsletter*.



What's on at Warwick Arts Centre

Warwick Arts Centre continues to offer a broad and diverse programme of theatre, dance, music, comedy, and visual arts throughout the year – and here is just a selection of upcoming performances and shows that we hope will be of interest to you.



Classical Music

City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra

Fri 6 Mar 2020 7.30pm

Šerkšnytė *De Profundis*

Tchaikovsky *Piano Concerto No 1*

Brahms *Symphony No 3*

In 2019 **Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla** made history when she became the first female conductor to be signed by Deutsche Grammophon. That came as no surprise here in the Midlands, where her partnership with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra has been creating sparks since 2016: still, picture the energy when she teams up with pianist **Gabriela Montero** – the Venezuelan virtuoso whose extraordinary gift for improvisation put creativity back at the heart of classical performance.

Tchaikovsky's First Piano Concerto is a white-knuckle ride at the best of times, but this should be in another league altogether. Gražinytė-Tyla frames it with a striking modern masterpiece from her native Lithuania, and Brahms's gorgeous Third Symphony: music of stormy emotions and quiet secrets.

<https://www.warwickartscentre.co.uk/whats-on/2020/city-of-birmingham-symphony-orchestra/>

Family

The Tiger Who Came to Tea

A musical play adapted and directed by David Wood, based on the book by Judith Kerr.

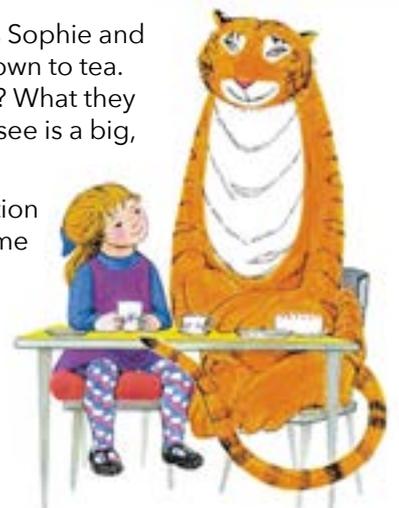
Thu 9 - Sun 12 Apr 2020

Age 3+

The doorbell rings just as Sophie and her mummy are sitting down to tea. Who could it possibly be? What they certainly don't expect to see is a big, stripy tiger...

A stunning stage adaptation of the classic tale of teatime mayhem ... Expect to be surprised!

<https://www.warwickartscentre.co.uk/whats-on/2020/the-tiger-who-came-to-tea/>



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Theatre

Actors Touring Company

Amsterdam – the UK premiere of a strikingly original and audacious play

written by Maya Arad Yasur, directed by Matthew Xia

Mon 27 - Wed 29 Apr 2020 7.30pm

A violinist. Living in her trendy canal-side Amsterdam apartment. Nine months pregnant.

One day a mysterious unpaid gas bill from 1944 arrives. Someone slides an envelope right under her door and then just walks away. It awakens unsettling feelings of collective identity, foreignness and alienation. Stories of a devastating past are compellingly reconstructed to try and make sense of the present.

<https://www.warwickartscentre.co.uk/whats-on/2020/amsterdam/>



Words & Ideas

Craig Revel Horwood

The All Balls & Glitter Tour

Sat 23 May 2020 8pm

The star of BBC1's *Strictly Come Dancing* is taking to the road with his debut solo tour!

Join Craig Revel Horwood as he talks about his life from Australia to the West End to *Strictly*, reveals a wealth of backstage gossip with his trademark wit and candour, and gives a very special performance of some of the music which has been the soundtrack to his career.

Book now for a fabulous evening of entertainment.

<https://www.warwickartscentre.co.uk/whats-on/2020/craig-revel-horwood-the-all-balls-and-glitter-tour/>



Comedy

Phil McIntyre Live Ltd.

Baker & Harris: *Backstage Pass*

Sat 30 May 2020 8pm

Bob Harris & Danny Baker, two of the nation's best broadcasters, have unparalleled experience of witnessing the great names of modern music up close. They have been back stage, front stage, at home and on the road with virtually every legend in the business. Fortunately they both have great memories. Harris & Baker's *Backstage Pass*. Hang onto your hats, kids. It's a rocking ride...

<https://www.warwickartscentre.co.uk/whats-on/2020/baker-and-harris-backstage-pass/>

Music

Jools Holland and his
Rhythm & Blues Orchestra

Sun 24 May 2020 7.30pm

As the UK's most popular pianist and bandleader, **Jools Holland** OBE has performed and recorded with some of the most talented musicians and songwriters in the world. Jools is respected not only as a performer, but also an authority on all music.

The 20-piece Rhythm & Blues Orchestra features, at its helm, former Squeeze drummer, Gilson Lavis. Lavis has been drumming with Jools Holland for over 25 years, since their Squeeze days. They are joined by Ruby Turner and Louise Marshall, who are sure to deliver true rhythm and blues boogie-woogie with their show-stopping vocals.

<https://www.warwickartscentre.co.uk/whats-on/2020/jools-holland-and-his-rhythm-and-blues-orchestra/>

Visual Arts

Walking Through Time: An Art and History Trail

The Good, The Bad and The Ugly, by Jake and Dinos Chapman, is a group of three corten steel dinosaurs, each measuring more than eight metres in length and towering up to seven metres high.

From October 2019, *The Good and The Bad* are on loan to the University for one year and form the focus of a new art and history trail leading across the campus. This incorporates a number of new and existing sculptures from our Art Collection and provides some fascinating and, at times, gruesome, facts about the history of the site.

<https://www.warwickartscentre.co.uk/mead-gallery/get-involved/walking-through-time/>

Helen Cann



FREE LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

Thursdays, 1.10pm, Ensemble Room

5 March 2020: Ann Martin-Davis (piano)

12 March 2020: University of Warwick Chamber Music and Concerto Competition Winners

23 April 2020: Johnny Graham-Hall (tenor)

30 April 2020: Tala Tarang

7 May 2020: Katie Stillman (violin) and Simon Lane (piano)

14 May 2020: Jack McNeil (clarinet) and Clare O'Connell

21 May 2020: *A Merrie Noyse*

28 May 2020: *My First Concert*, designed specifically for babies and young children: **Helen Martin Studio**

4 June 2020: Peter Malinson (viola) and Lynn Arnold (piano)

11 June 2020: University of Warwick Small Band

18 June 2020: University of Warwick Scholars

25 June 2020: Sophie Lawson (saxophone) and Susie Bentley-Taylor (piano)

The WRSA COMMITTEE, 2019-2020

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Our Spring Meeting Speaker: Professor Rosemary Collier, Warwick Crop Centre



The Horticultural Research Institute at Wellesbourne (first the National Vegetable Research Station, then Horticultural Research International) became part of the University of Warwick in 2004 as Warwick HRI. It was merged with the Department of Biological Sciences in 2010 to become the School of Life Sciences. The plant and crop scientists within the School of Life Sciences now work on both the main and Wellesbourne campuses, undertaking a mix of research and teaching. This talk will look at some of our past achievements and then focus on our current contribution to the production of food in an environmentally responsible way.

Rosemary Collier trained as an entomologist and her main research interest is in the development and application of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategies for horticultural crops, including the development of pest monitoring and forecasting systems. She is Chair of the UK Insecticide Resistance Action Group, a member of the Royal Horticultural Society Science Committee, Co-ordinator of the IPM Working Group of the European Vegetable Research Institutes' Network (EUVRIN) and one of the Academic Leads for Warwick's Food GRP.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

The University of Warwick Retired Staff Association (WRSA) is open to all retired University employees. We currently have about 240 members, who each pay an annual subscription of £15 to cover costs; a proportion of any surplus funds goes towards providing Student Bursaries. We have a variety of activities, including monthly walks, cultural visits to places of interest (recent examples of which are National Trust Tyntesfield near Bristol and the city of York), Spring and Autumn meetings with guest speakers, and the annual Christmas lunch at Scarman House. The WRSA is an excellent way to keep in touch with former colleagues and friends; members are entitled to access certain University amenities, including the Library and Sports Hall. Partners and friends are also welcome to attend all functions, without a separate subscription.

We would especially encourage members who live locally to come to the April and October meetings, with free parking at Scarman for lunch, and talks on diverse aspects of University research and projects.

Full details of how to join can be found at <https://warwick.ac.uk/assoc/rsa> or email membershipwrsa@gmail.com for more information.

Helen Wollerton

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Walks - see page 7 for details

Monday 6 April 2020

Spring Meeting: speaker: Professor Rosemary Collier, Warwick Crop Centre, followed by lunch. 11.45 for 12 noon, Scarman House

Tuesday 12 May 2020: Visit to Blists Hill Victorian Town - see page 9

Monday 12 October 2020

AGM and Autumn Meeting, Scarman House

warwick.ac.uk/assoc/rsa