UFBA
FBUA
85th Re-union at Plymouth
15th - 18th May 2014
85ème Congrés à Plymouth
du 15 au 18 Mai 2014

Plymouth Reunion

15th - 18th May 2014

Programme

Thursday 15th May

12.30 Lunch 10th Floor Holiday Inn
14.15 Plymouth City Centre Introduction
14.30 Guided City Centre tour
16.30 Tea and AGM
17.45 Bursary presentation, Mathew Bell
18.45 Walk from hotel to Mayflower Steps
Board ferry to Royal William Yard
19.15 Arrive Royal William Yard
Introduction to Urban Splash
19.45 Dinner at River Cottage
22.00 Return to hotel by coach

Friday 16th May

08.45 Depart for Exeter by coach
10.30 Exeter Cathedral, guided tour, John Allan
11.05 Exeter old and new, guided tour
12.20 Meet at Guildhall for coach
12.45 Lunch at Reed Hall, Exeter University
13.30 Exeter Forum: Introduction, Stafford Critchlow director, Wilkinson Eyre Architects
14.30 Depart by coach for Castle Drogo
15.30 Introduction and cream tea
Tour of house, gardens and construction works by Inskip and Jenkins Architects
18.30 Coach across Dartmoor National Park
19.30 Arrive Kitley House for drinks and dinner
22.30 Depart by coach for hotel

Saturday 17th May

09.00 Depart by coach for Eden Project
10.15 Coffee and Welcome to Eden Project
Introduction, Jonathon Ball, Architect and co-founder
10.30 Guided tour of Eden Project
12.45 Lunch in The Core, Eden Project
15.30 Depart by coach for Plymouth
16.45 Arrive in Plymouth
18.45 Depart by coach for HMS Drake
19.15 Pre dinner drinks. HMS Drake
20.00 Gala dinner, HMS Drake
23.00 Return to hotel by coach

Sunday 18th May

10.30/11.30 Boat trip or Plymouth Gin
11.00 Tour of exhibition / Behind the scenes tour
11.45 Theatre Royal, Buffet lunch
12.30 Departures and Farewell

Plymouth Reunion

15th - 18th May 2014

Participants

BRITISH SECTION

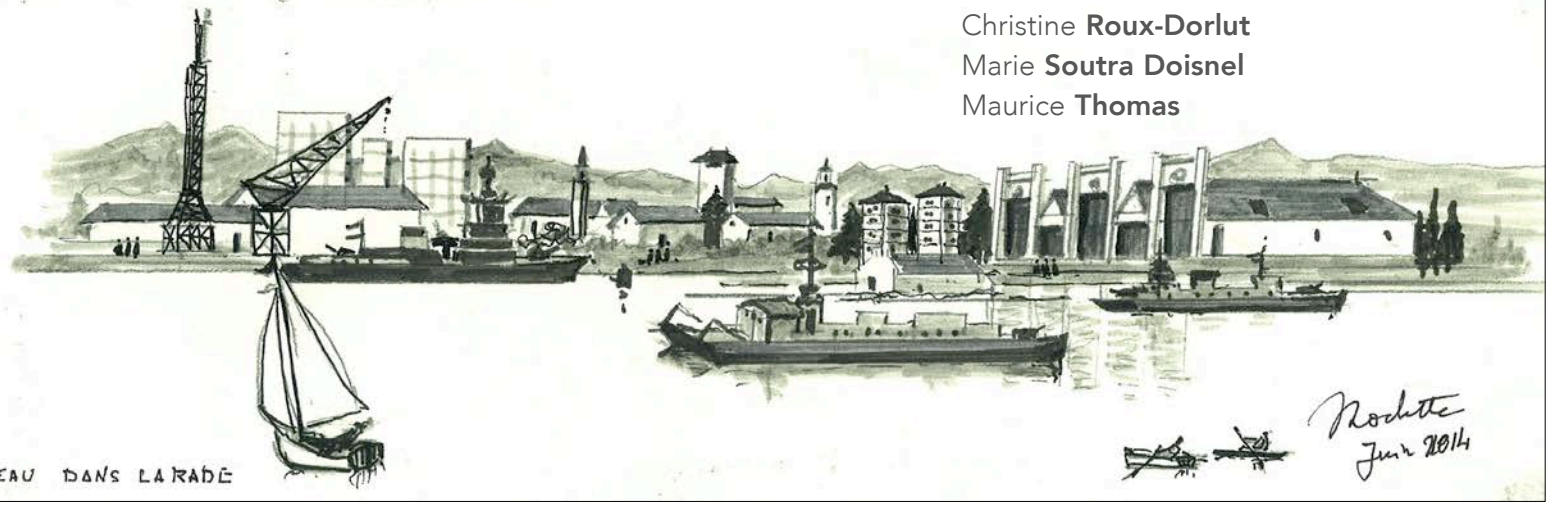
Ghada **Al Madfai**
Andrew & Meg **Arroll**
Allan **Baird**
Ralph & Jenny **Carpenter**
Veronique **Despreaux**
Johnny & Rachel **Devas**
Charles & Sarah **Dorin**
Jenny **Habib**
Mark **Harris**
David **Le Lay**
Andrée **MacCallum**
Richard **Meynell**
Cedric & Sandy **Mitchell**
Derek **Montefiore**
Michael & Catherine **Morrison**
Howard & Monique **Nash**
John & Gachou **Pletts**

Mark **Potter**
David **Richmond**
Tom & Elizabeth **Ryland**
Julian & Michiko **St Leger**
Jean **Symons**
John **Thacker**
Jessie **Waterhouse**
Robin **Wood**
Mathew **Bell**

SECTION FRANCAISE

Benjamin & **Francoise Mouton**
Laurence **David-Grant**
Noelle **De Lacharriere**
Luc-Regis **Gilbert**
Christian **Gimonet**
Franck & Annick **Hindley**
Daniel & Marie-Agnes **Imbault**
Regis& Laurence **Martin**

Yves & Dominique **Martine**
Alexandre & Dominique **Metro**
Jean Claude & Carmen **Riguet**
Phillipe & Annie **Rivoirard**
Jean Claude **Rochette**
Christine **Roux-Dorlut**
Marie **Soutra Doisnel**
Maurice **Thomas**



L'Union Franco-Britannique des Architectes

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The Franco-British Union of Architects

A message from the president

Re-union : Plymouth and the South West
Over the four days of almost unbroken sunshine, we were based in Plymouth but with forays to Exeter, Castle Drogo on Dartmoor and Cornwall (Eden Project). Devon and Cornwall cover a very large geographical area. There is potentially so much to see in the south west and regrettably we were only able to see a snap shot. Hopefully this inspired those unfamiliar with the delights on offer to resolve to return and spend more time.

Plymouth
Why Plymouth? It is the largest city/town on the south coast of Britain. Apart from being the launch place of the likes of Francis Drake, the Mayflower, Captain Cook and Charles Darwin, it has always been of huge strategic importance as one of Britain's main naval bases with its suberb natural harbour and south west location overlooking the western approaches of 'La Manche'. For the purpose of our Re-union, Plymouth was conveniently sited midway between Exeter and the Eden Project, both about an hour's driving distance.

During the Second World War, Plymouth, and to a lesser extent Exeter, were very severely bombed. The damage to the centre of Plymouth was such that only the complete re-planning and rebuilding of the city centre could be considered. There is therefore a direct synergy with Le Havre, which we visited three years ago. Le Havre, almost a mirror image of Plymouth on the French coast, was also destroyed and rebuilt under plans prepared by Auguste Perret. In 1943, Patrick Abercrombie and Paton Watson prepared their Masterplan for the centre of Plymouth, and which is still the most complete of the replanned cities in the UK. Many other famous architects of the time were involved such as Sir John Burnet Tait and Partners. (Abercrombie incidently was trained at the Beaux Arts).

The resultant city is a mixture of a modern city, proud seafaring and naval traditions, and nteresting architecture spanning over several centuries. There is still much to be done and the city today is going through a further re-birth for the twenty first century. It has a School of Architecture where some were treated to a reception on the Wednesday.

We were fortunate to have Jeremy Gould, ex. Chief Architect/Planning Officer as our guide in a walking tour of the rebuilt city centre on Thursday. In the evening, we went to the Royal William Yard, a handsome Grade 1 Listed Georgian group of buildings which used to be the victualling yard, but is now a high class residential area developed by 'Urban Splash' with restaurants, workshops and so on. Dinner was taken at Hugh Fernley-Wittingstall's 'River Cottage' Restaurant. On Saturday, our Gala Dinner was held at HMS Drake, the land based Royal Navy Headquarters, and we were treated to an excellent bugle/drum salute by the Marine band. On Sunday morning there was more time to explore the city and particularly the Barbican area : A one hour boat trip around the harbour or sampling the delights of the Plymouth Gin factory were choice options.

We finished our time in Plymouth with Sunday lunch followed by a brief tour of the newly refurbished Royal Theatre (originally designed by the Peter Moro Partnership).

Exeter
Exeter is the prettier of the two cities. Exeter is the County Town for Devon and like the rest of Devon gained its wealth principally from wool. Despite its wartime destruction, there is still much of the medieval city remaining – including, of course, the superb cathedral which we visited. The Guildhall is the oldest municipal building in the country in regular use, and there is a charming Award Winning Museum. The quay area on River Exe with its handsome Custom House and wharf buildings is delightful and its University is highly regarded. We visited its new Forum Building, designed by Wilkinson Eyre Architects.

Castle Drogo
Castle Drogo was the last castle to be built in Britain. It was designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens for Sir Julius Drewe who had made his fortune from the Home and Colonial grocery stores. Lutyens was appointed in 1910 and one can argue that the castle has never been finished. . . It now belongs to the National Trust who are having to spend £11million over the next five years in a final attempt to waterproof the building and save it from disaster. We were fortunate to be able to see the works in progress under the direction of Inskip and Jenkins Architects. In addition there was an opportunity to walk through the superb gardens – and enjoy a cream tea!

Kitley House Hotel
Kitley House is a typical large country house in a landscaped park. It is situated 15 miles from Plymouth. An original 1710 house was extensively remodeled by George Stanley Repton (Younger son of Humphrey) between 1820 – 1825 for a Mr Bastard. It is a Grade 1 Listed property, quite modest in design with symmetrical elevations in a Jacobean style. Now run as a hotel where we were treated to an excellent meal on Friday night.

Eden Project
The Eden Project was a major 'Millenium' project. Originally conceived by Tim Smit, a businessman /entrepreneur and creator of the 'Lost Gardens of Heligan' and Jonathan Ball, a locally based Cornish architect, as a scheme for regenerating huge pits created by the extraction of china clay. It was funded principally from the millennium Lottery Fund. Jonathan was responsible for the 'Eden' name and for introducing Nicholas Grimshaw Architects who designed the famous 'biomes'. The objectives of the Eden Project were to provide for the collection and study of plants from all around the world and to act as a visitor centre in an economically deprived area. On both counts it has been enormously successful, although it is currently experiencing some severe financial problems. Jonathan acted as our host and explained the perils of being the architect/co-founder of the project.

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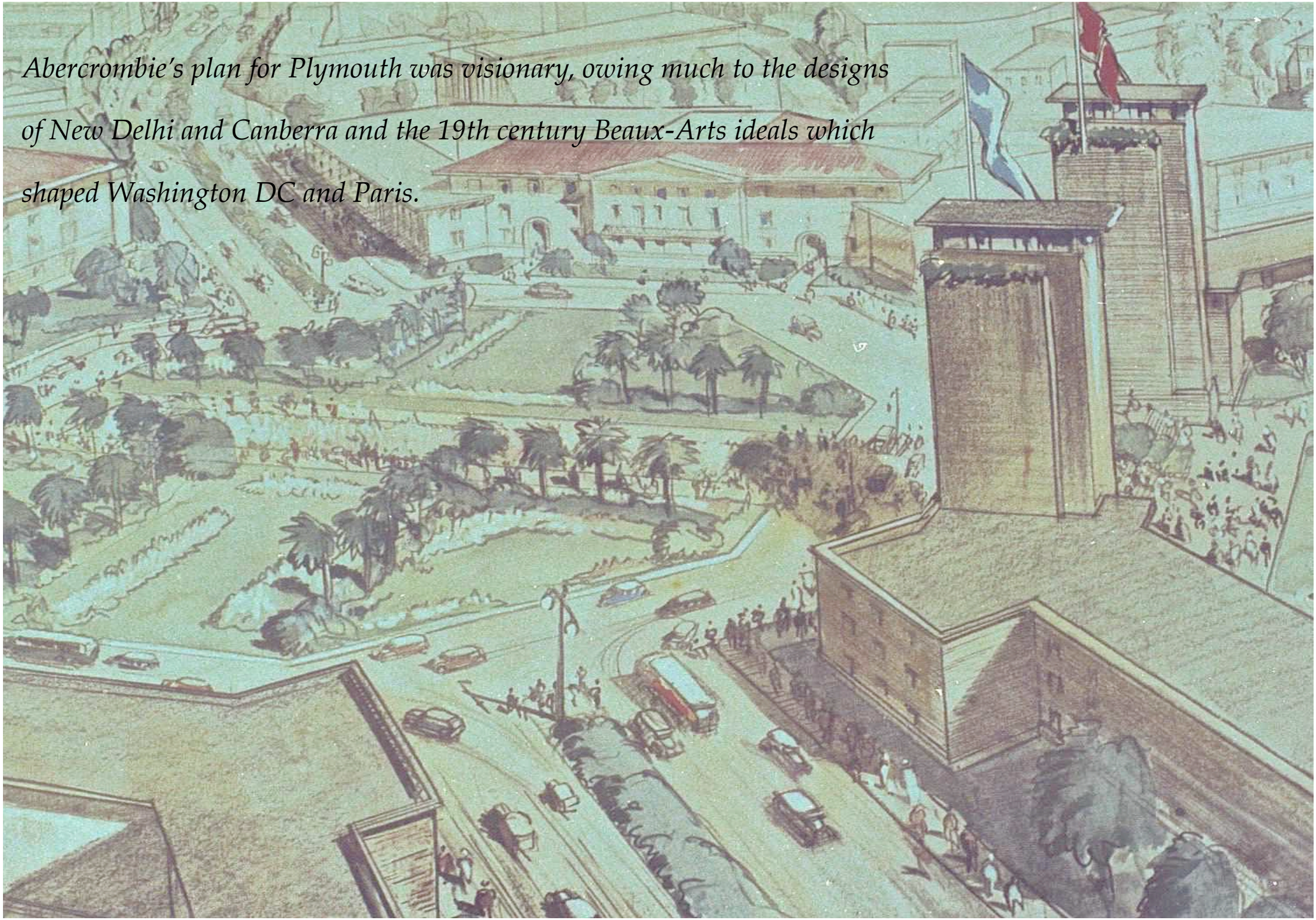


Abercrombie's plan for Plymouth was visionary, owing much to the designs of New Delhi and Canberra and the 19th century Beaux-Arts ideals which shaped Washington DC and Paris.

Jeudi 18 mai - Thursday 18th May

PROPOSED CENTRAL LAYOUT

Lunch at the Holiday Inn with an introductory talk from Tom, followed by an introduction to Plymouth city centre and walkabout with Jeremy Gould as our guide.

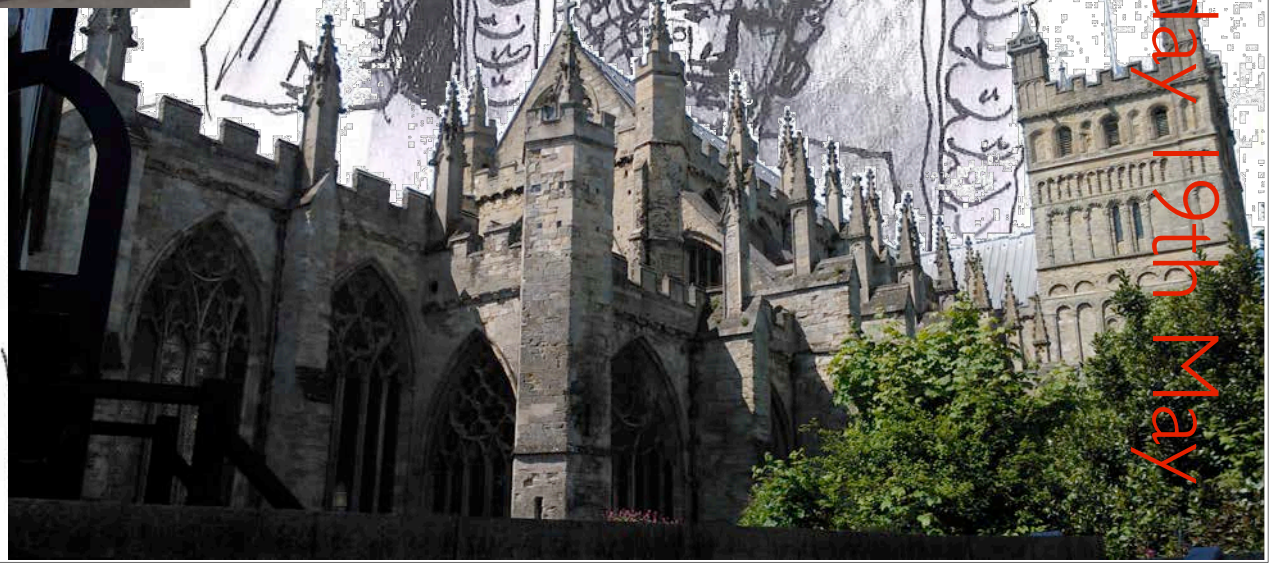
Our new president gently takes over from his predecessor

A boat trip to Williams Yard a former naval stores and a then dinner at River Cottage

Vendredi 19 mai - Friday 19th May

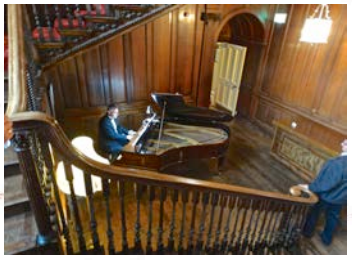
Friday morning began with a visit to Exeter Cathedral followed by a tour of the city with our red coat guide.

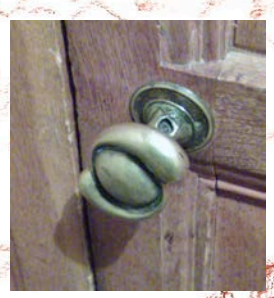
Lunch at Reed Hall followed by a tour of Exeter University with buildings by Wilkinson Eyre Architects



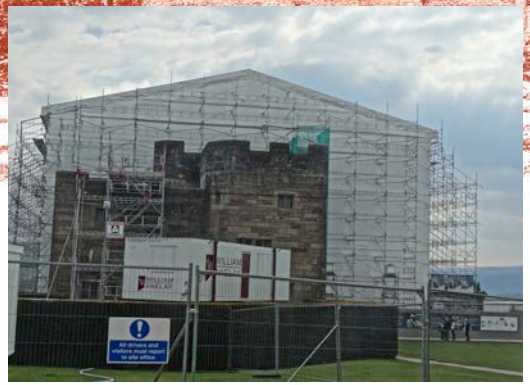
Détails Exeter

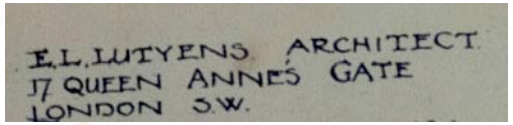
Vendredi 19 mai - Friday 19th May

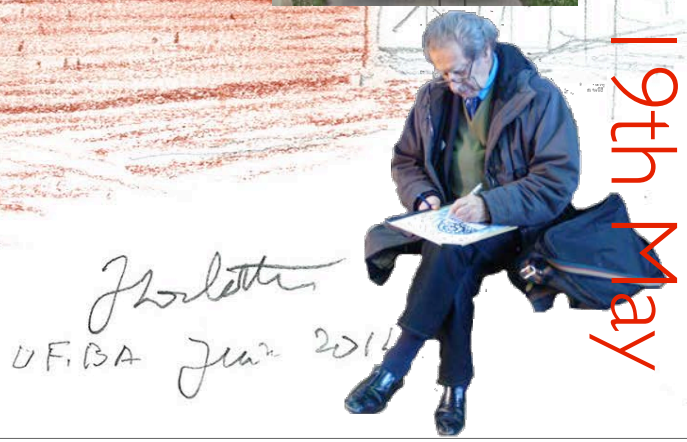




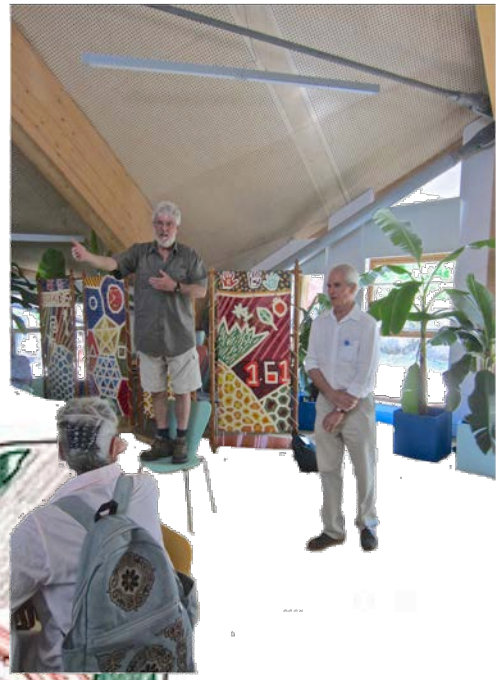
Friday afternoon brought us to Castle Drogo, Lutyens' interpretation of a castle with restoration works by Architects: Inskip and Jenkins. We rounded off the day with a wonderful dinner ar Kitley House Hotel.



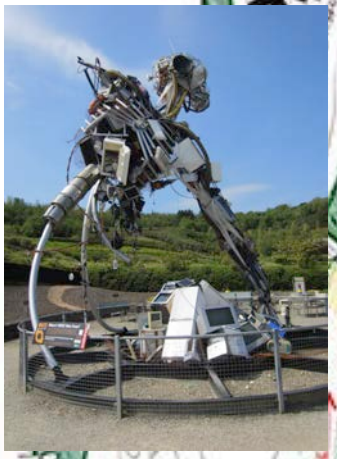


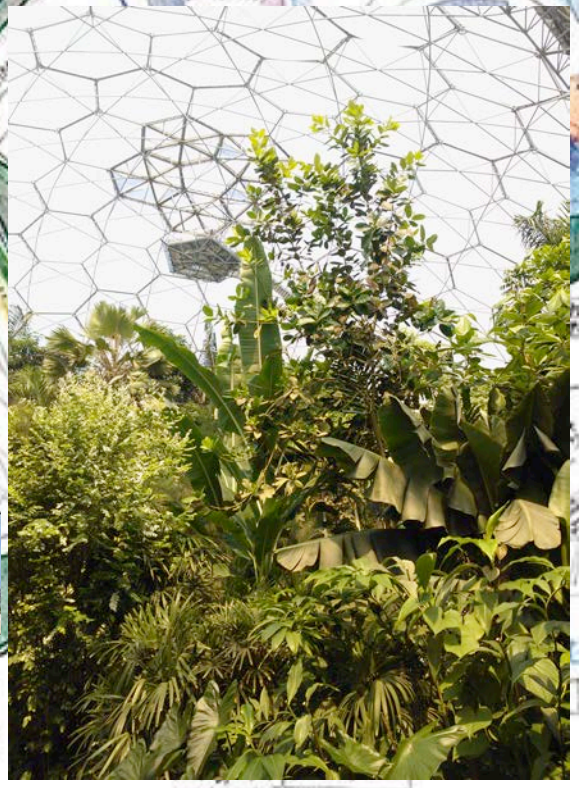


Samedi 20 mai - Saturday 20th May



Saturday brought us after a long coach trip to the Eden Project where we were given a superb introduction by Jonathan Ball one of the two people who conceived this project designed by Nicholas Grimshaw Architects. We visited the two principal biomes, one tropical and one Mediterranean. Constructed from tubular steel with mostly hexagonal external panels made from lightweight thermoplastic.





Samedi 20 mai - Saturday 20th May

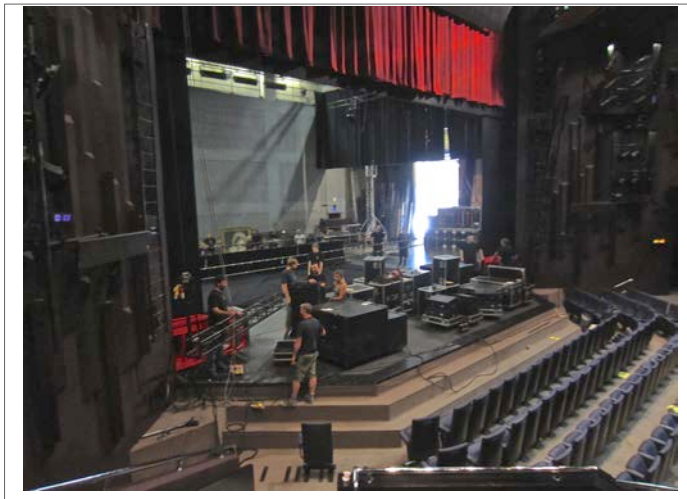
The gala dinner was held in the ward room of HMS Drake, courtesy of the Royal Navy.HMS Drake is today one of the UK's principle submarine bases. Within the Officer's Mess compound there is much memorabilia and many pictures commemorating the history of both victories and disasters, and the men and women involved.

The base is named after Sir Francis Drake famous not only for his part in the defeat of the Spanish Armada but also for for his circumnavigation of the world in 1577 aboard his ship Pelican, later re-named the Golden Hind. The Queen's recognition was slow and he was not knighted until 4th April 1581.

St Nicholas Island in Plymouth Sound was re-named in the 18th century Drake's Island. The Royal Dockyard was begun in 1691and was much expanded in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Plymouth naval Dockyard became increasingly important in the 20th century supplying many of the escort ships for the Atlantic convoys.

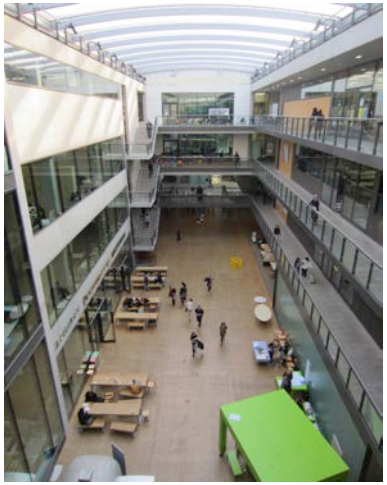
Dimanche 21 mai - Sunday 21st May



Sunday morning. Some did another boat trip while the rest did a tour of Plymouth Gin. This was followed by a tour of the Theatre Royal and so, sustained by a good buffet lunch we said our goodbyes till next year at Nantes.

A la prochaine!!

London Joint Committee 14th, 15th March2014



The joint committee meeting was held this year at the RIBA. Prior to the committee meeting we had lunch at 6, St Chads Place and then we walked through the new concourse at Kings Cross station to the Kings Cross Visitor centre. Tour of new St Martins College of Art and Design by Stanton Williams Architects.

The evening saw a lecture at the RIBA by James Dunnett on Erno Goldfinger who was much influenced by Le Corbusier, Mies Van de Rohe and Auguste Perret. After the lecture we walked through the new BBC Broadcasting House on the way to the restaurant.

The morning of Saturday was taken up with a visit to the Cross Rail at Canary Wharf site.The tour included Foster designed roof under construction, some of the pavilion structures at park level, the retail zones, the ticket hall and the platforms 28m below the dock.

Paris Joint Committee 24th,25th October 2014

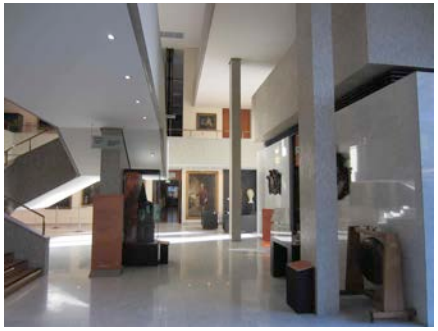
The joint committee meeting was held this year at the SFA, rue Saint Jacques on the Saturday morning. The event began on Friday afternoon with a site visit to the new Philharmonie de Paris by Jean Nouvel. In the evening Benjamin Mouton gave a presentation and tour of l'Hôtel de Beauharnais

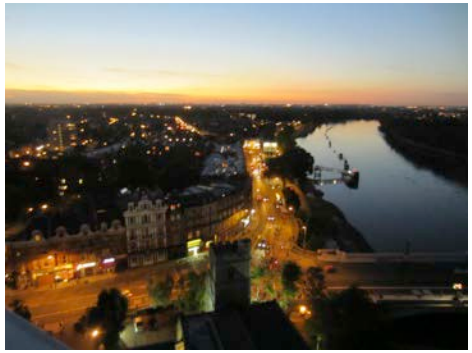
After the committee meeting on Saturday morning we moved on to visit la Grande Pagode de Vincennes where we were given a presentation by Pierre Antoine Gatier, the architect responsible for the restoration of the structure and facades.

After lunch we went on to visit the Zoo de Vincennes recently re-opened after a five year restoration where we were entertained to a presentation by the architectural office of Bernard Tschumi and the landscape practice of Jocelyne Osty.

The visit ended with a cocktail party at the SFA.

London Joint Committee 13th, 14th March2015





The joint committee meeting was held at Denys Lasdun's Royal College of Physicians building, courtesy of Jean Symons who is an honorary fellow. This was preceded by lunch, a tour of the development at Paddington basin and by barge from Little Venice to Regent's Park , and then a brief walk through the park encompassing the Nash Terraces. The committee meeting was followed by tours of the building and a drinks reception for the members. Dinner was at Villandry restaurant.

On the Saturday morning, we had a tour of the Olympic Park, including inside Zaha Hadid's Aquatics Centre and Michael Hopkin's Velodrome. After lunch in the Cow Pub overlooking the park, some took a trip up the ArcelorMittal Orbit Observation tower, while others explored the Westfield Shopping Centre.

In the evening, the committee members were treated to an excellent dinner hosted by Charles and Sarah Dorin in their fabulous new flat overlooking the River Thames at Putney.

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