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May 2009

MartiansReunited

Newsletter

Hello Lis

Welcome to the Martians Reunited monthly newsletter. This month we are especially pleased to tell you about some new functionality for the site - and quite a bit of new content too.

Current Martiansreunited.com membership figures:

Active members	Current associates	Former associates	Countries represented	Gender balance
1597	454	1143	39	66%m 34%f

New Features of the site

This month, as promised, we have completed the new [Member Search](#) function. This means that it will now be much easier, not only to find out who else is a member and make contact with them through the site, but also to search for members with particular interests or characteristics (see below).

The **Standard Member Search** allows you to search for a particular person. Insert a first name or a surname in order to see links to all profiles of all members with that name. You can also scroll through the whole list of members and then click on a particular members name to link to their profile.

If you want to find people from the same country or the same function - or even people who share the same interests, you can go to **Advanced Member Search**, click on various characteristics and even insert some free text to refine your search further. For example, if you are looking for members who play golf or tennis or who worked on a particular project or product, then just type the relevant word in the free text box and click Search to get links to profiles of these members.

You can access the new People Search facility from the [Home Page](#), the [Members' Home](#) page, or direct by using this link: [People Search](#).

There is one catch, however, to this new search functionality: the fact that quite a few people haven't yet completed their profiles since the time they first registered, and so some of this information may not yet be available to other members on the site.

If you are one of those people who keeps forgetting to update their profile, please do take this opportunity to upload a photograph, add your contact details and to fill in some more information about what you are doing at the moment, both professionally and in life more generally. All you have to do is click on Member Profile at the top of the Home page or to use this link - [Edit Profile](#) - on the [Members' Home](#) page.

If you are concerned about the security of information, let us reassure you: we have worked very hard on making sure that the site is well protected and that your information is safe (see our [Privacy Policy](#)). It is certainly a great deal safer than it will be on the paper or pdf directories that are still circulated!

News

There have been a number of additions to our [News Archive](#) in the last few weeks. These include: a notice of [Mars Russia's first-ever press conference](#) and a dossier on Belgium; a couple of items about India - how Mars India is helping street children and how Pedigree vegetarian dog food has just been relaunched, and information about an exciting project on Sequencing the cocoa genome; news of another award for Mars

GCC (for Galaxy quality this time) and items on Mars inventiveness in saving energy and reusing packaging.

Please also check out the news about [The health benefits of chewing gum](#) and an article from Ralf Meyer de Groot in the [Building a Business](#) section which gives some background on the Wrigley's Extra Success Story. On the people side there are a couple of articles that might interest you: an item celebrating Mars, Incorporated's longest-serving associate, Audrey Cook, who has clocked up 65 years working at Mars and is still going strong.

And there's another in our occasional series of interviews with current and former Martians who are doing interesting things - this time it's [Peter Jacobs talking about Cove Park](#), the Arts residency centre that he and his wife founded ten years ago.

You may notice, by the way, that so far everyone we have interviewed is a Brit. The only reason for that is that we have to use our limited resources on developing the site, not on travelling, fun though it would be. But if there is anyone out there who would like to do some interviews for us of Martians in other countries, that would be great - please drop us an email and we'll be delighted to work with you.

Other Features

I don't know how many people will have found their way to the [Forum](#) yet. Do have a look if you have time - there are quite a few interesting topics including the suggestion of a Martians Reunited factory visit. Guillaume Deprey is looking for a family who could help his daughter learn English and Richard Fisher is looking for members of Rotary. Do please respond, either through the Forum or direct, if you think you can help.

Hope you have a good month

All best wishes
Mike and Lis

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