SNOVED OFF

Seen on a blackboard in Mantell the week the snow came back:
"The seminar on THE IMPACT OF CLIMATOLOGICAL CHANGE ON SOCIETY: LESSONS FROM THE LITTLE ICE AGE has been cancelled due to the weather."
(The Information Office will not be held responsible for the incorrect grammar used in the above quotation!)

PRIZE WINNERS

Dr. J.M. Owen, of the Mechanical and Structural Engineering Group, and his former research student, Dr. E. Billimore, have been awarded a Thomas Lowe Gray Prize by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, for a research paper entitled "Heat Transfer in Rotating Cylindrical Cavities". This is a major prize of the Institution.

£100,000 FOR CANCER RESEARCH

The research group led by Professor Robin Cole, Director of the Biology Division of the Sussex Centre for Medical Research, has been awarded two new grants totalling £100,000 for work on the assessment of potential cancer-causing chemicals in the human environment.

The Commission of the European Communities is to support a joint project with Dr. C. Arlett of the MRC Cell Mutation Unit which will concentrate on the use of animal cells grown in culture to detect environmental chemicals which can damage human cells in such a way that they begin to form tumours.

This project is part of the Commission's Environmental Research Programme, which coordinates work in major European laboratories on the long-term effects of toxic chemicals on human health.

The second grant is from the Medical Research Council for a three-year project which will examine the hazards involved in prenatal exposure to potentially carcinogenic and mutagenic chemicals.

It has been established that several treatments (now no longer used) when administered to pregnant women, increased the risk of cancer in their children, indicating that the tissues of the unborn child may be particularly sensitive to cancer-causing chemicals.

Professor Cole stresses that although these grants will allow a considerable acceleration of his group's research, the Centre for Medical Research (a registered charity) is still greatly in need of private donations to support its work in the prevention of disease.

MORE CHINESE VISIT SUSSEX

Last November we reported that a delegation from the Academy of Sciences, People's Republic of China, had visited the Low Temperature Physics laboratories as part of a programme organised by the Royal Society.

Another delegation from the Academy visited the Laser Physics laboratories on February 20.

Members of the delegation, which is in the U.K. until March 2, are visiting universities working on the applications of lasers in physics and chemistry, nonlinear optics, laser-chemistry and on new types of lasers.

The delegation of seven has divided into two groups for most of their visits to British universities but all seven scientists visited Sussex.

Dr. Les Allen acted as their host for the all-day visit during which the Chinese expressed particular interest in Dr. Allen's work on multi-photon absorption and in the dual-wavelength tuneable dye laser which has been designed and made at Sussex.

Following the Chinese visit to Low Temperature Physics, two graduate students have been accepted in that subject and it is possible that some more senior physicists will come to work with Professor Brewer's group.

Other delegations from China are being planned to take place later this session and it is hoped that they too will result in the acceptance of postgraduates, visiting research workers and faculty exchanges.

THE BULLETIN

The Bulletin is published fortnightly during term-time by the Information Office for the information of members and employees of the University.

Contributions to The Bulletin are welcomed. If you have any news items, feature articles, information or anything else you would like to see appear in The Bulletin, please contact Jennifer Payne or Alison Parsons in the Information Office, Room 330, Sussex House, internal telephone 05-123.

The next issue (and the last for this term) will be published on Tuesday, March 6, and copy for inclusion should reach the Information Office by noon on Tuesday, March 6.

Extracts from The Bulletin may not be published without the Information Officer's permission.
SPECIAL LECTURES

There will be three special lectures during March. The Vice-Chancellor will be speaking in the Great Centenaries series on EINSTEIN: THE GENIUS OF AN AGE at 6.30 p.m. this Thursday, March 1.

Next Monday, March 5, the

Non-Academic Vacancies

The Establishment Office has issued the following list of non-academic posts within the University which are to be filled. Job descriptions for all the posts listed are displayed on noticeboards. The list was compiled at February 20.

Advisory/Applications Programmer Secretaries

(c) Computing Centre (1A)
(a) School of Social Sciences (1 or 2)
(a) School of English & American Studies (2 posts, 1 or 2)
(a) School of Education (1 or 2 temporary and part-time)
(a) Sussex European Research Centre (1 temporary and part-time)
(b) School of Mathematical & Physical Sciences (1 post 1, 1 post 1 or 2, 1 post 3)
(c) Estates and Maintenance (2)
(c) Science Policy Research Unit (12 posts, 1 or 2)
(a) Arts Research Support Unit (1 or 2)
(i) NRC Perceptual & Cognitive Performance Unit (part-time)
(c) University Bookshop
(a) Arts and Social Studies Office (1 or 2)
(e) School of Engineering & Applied Sciences (5)
(g) School of Biological Sciences (2 posts, 2B and 3)
(i) School of Mathematical & Physical Sciences (5)
(k) Library, Media Service Unit
(c) Isle of Thorns

Machine Operator

Clerk Typists

Technicians

Trainee Technician

Groundsforeman/woman

Computer Operator/Trainee

Computer Operator

General Catering Assistant

Supervisor

Assistant Steward

Porter

Cleaners

Cook

Information given after each post relates to the grade at which the vacancy will be filled.

The code given before each post indicates the person to whom applications should be sent:
(a) Miss C. Pratt, Arts and Social Studies Office, Arts D.
(b) Mr. M. D. Carr, Science Office, Sussex House.
(c) Mr. C. R. Kelley, Establishment Office, Sussex House.
(d) Domestic Bursar, Lancaster House.
(e) Laboratory Superintendent, School of Engineering & Applied Sciences.
(f) Mr. E. Godwin, Deputy Laboratory Superintendent, School of Biological Sciences.
(g) Mr. J. Burns, Laboratory Superintendent, School of Biological Sciences.
(h) Catering Manager, Refectory.
(i) Laboratory Superintendent, School of Mathematical & Physical Sciences.
(j) Business Manager, Refectory.
(k) The Director, Media Service Unit, EDB.
(l) Secretary, NRC Perceptual & Cognitive Performance Unit.

American Ambassador, Kingman Brewster, will deliver his lecture postponed from last month entitled CAN SOCIETY BE KEPT VOLUNTARY? He will be speaking at 5.30 p.m.

There will be a Professorial Inaugural Lecture by Tony Becher, Professor of Education, at 6.30 p.m. on Thursday, March 15. Professor Becher will take as his subject THE CURRENCY OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

The above lectures will be held in the Molecular Sciences Lecture Theatre, and are open to the public.

BEETHOVEN'S FIDELIO

A residential weekend school on Beethoven's Fidelio will be held at the White House, Isle of Thorns, from April 6 to 8.

There is currently great interest in Beethoven's only opera. The New Sussex Opera Company is to present it at Lewes in March and April, and there will be an important new production at Glyndebourne this summer.

The tutor on this course will be Michael Hall, Lecturer in Music at the Centre. The fee is £13.00 resident, £9.00 non-resident. Further information and application forms (to be returned by March 23) from the Centre for Continuing Education.

MEETING HOUSE

This evening there will be Corporate Communion in the Meeting House at 6 p.m. followed by a Shrove Tuesday party. Tomorrow, Ash Wednesday,

there will be Ecumenical Eucharist at 12.35 p.m.

A Lenten Course of four short talks and meditations on images and symbols dominant in the Old and New Testaments will be held on Thursdays at 5 p.m. beginning on March 1.

The Chaplaincy Dining Club meets on Wednesday, March 7, when the Editor in Chief of the Evening Angus, Mr. David Williams, will speak on "The Press and the Public". Further details from Barbara Barber, Room 3, The Meeting House.

SPANISH GOLDEN AGE LITERATURE

A course in Spanish Golden Age literature is to be arranged by the Revd. Colin Thompson, University Chaplain, for next term, mostly with exchange students in mind. Anyone interested should contact him in the Meeting House.

The course will deal with major prose, poetry and drama texts, in the original, e.g. Garcilaso, Fray Luis, San Juan, Céspedes, Quevedo, Cervantes, Tira, Calderón.
IN BRIEF

THE BARLOW COLLECTION
Eighteenth Century Porcelain is the subject of the second talk to be given this term by the Curator of the Barlow Collection, Dr. John Sweetman. He will be speaking at 1.15 p.m. on Tuesday, March 6, in the Barlow Gallery, which is adjacent to the University Library entrance.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
Amnesty International is a world-wide human rights movement which works for the release of 'Prisoners of Conscience' - non-violent individuals who are imprisoned for their political beliefs, religion or race. The Sussex University group's activities this year include participation in a Russian Christmas campaign as well as a current campaign in Uganda.

If you are interested in learning more about Amnesty International, or wish to join, we invite students, faculty and non-academic staff to come along to our next meeting on Monday, March 5 at 7 p.m. in the Street Library, or contact us through the Amnesty, Union P/H, Palmer House.

HELP THE GRASS!
The grounds staff need your help to keep the University Park in good order. As you may have noticed, cars, vans and bikes have been driven over the grass causing a lot of damage which takes the grounds staff some time to repair. Please help by keeping off the grass.

This campus will also look better if you take your litter home and if the fences are left intact. Please also help by not parking in restricted areas.

And some good news ... Spring is on the way and the bulbs are coming up! So give the bulbs (and the grounds staff) a chance, and keep off the grass.

CHRIS THE GROUNDSPERSON

JAZZ
John Postgate (cornet) would like to hear from musicians interested in playing middle period jazz for kicks. Int. tel. 06-246.

GOLF TEAM
Four amateur golfers from the University are to enter the Batean Catering Silver Cup Golf tournament, the final of which will be played at Gleneagles.

Tony Fielding, Alan Weir, Geoff Chaffey and Tony Adams, a student in MMB, will compete against some 2,000 other teams entered by business houses, and professional and academic organisations.

STAFF SOCIAL CLUB
This year's staff dance will be held at Palmer House on Saturday March 31. Tickets are available from the Norwich House, Park Village and Refectory porters, price £1.50.

AND MORE ABOUT WINE...

Bravo home made wine lovers have a new vintage to sample – Chateau Piddle. Businessman Peter Dodgson has at last been told he can market the wine under the name of his choice. But it will not be included in the register of trade names because Piddle is not an accurate description of the contents of the bottle. Mr Dodgson named the wine in the time-honoured tradition of French growers – after his Worcestershire home North Piddle.
CUTS HAVE HIT RESEARCH

Vital British research projects have been badly hit by Government spending cuts.

In its third report, published last week, the Advisory Board for the Research Councils describes the financial difficulties faced by scientists and claims the nation’s future prosperity rests on an increased science budget.

The board lists areas of key importance which are in need of Government support.

These include microelectronics, which could transform industry; marine technology; the production of bigger and better crops from studies on photosynthesis; the study of social problems in inner cities; and microbiology, which could help conquer cancer and multiple sclerosis.

All the research areas on the list have potential social and economic benefit, says the board.

Lack of funds had already led to some important projects being abandoned between 1974 and 1978.

"This country has thus been unable to make proper use of the talents of the available manpower, or to offer the right opportunities to attract good young scientists into research.”

"An important part of a whole generation has been lost to science.”

Last month the Government announced that the science budget (£226 million this year) is to be increased by up to five per cent over the next four years.

FIELD DAY

The annual Sussex Federation of Students Field Day takes place on Wednesday, March 7.

Students from the University and 12 other colleges will be on campus to participate in all the usual sports and most of the funny ones (but not marbles this year!).

Events will take place at Falmer House, the Sportcentre and Sports Pavilion, from 12.30 p.m.

EVOLUTION DEBATE

Darwin got it all wrong. Man is not descended from the apes - he was created as a separate life form.

So says Dr. Duane Gish, American scientist and Director of the California Institute for Creation Research. And his news will come as a shock to those who believe in Darwin as firmly as the early Victorians believed in Genesis.

Dr. Gish, a bio-chemist, was recently invited to the University by the Campus Crusade for Christ. He gave a series of lectures, culminating in a lunch-time debate with geneticist Professor John Maynard Smith.

Dr. Gish’s beliefs are based on major flaws in the evolution theory. He says that:

* there are no fossil records of any intermediate life forms between species and groups
* 3,000 million years is too short a time for life to have evolved by the random processes of mutation and natural selection
* the Big Bang, when order appeared out of chaos, is contrary to the second law of thermodynamics and therefore impossible

* evolution has no witnesses and cannot be observed.

Therefore, he reasons, every life form must have been created individually. Unfortunately he fails to specify whether he believes in the Adam and Eve version of creation, or something a little more sophisticated.

And this, because undoubtedly there are gaps in evolution theory, proved to be his downfall in the debate with Professor Maynard Smith.

After listening to Dr. Gish’s opening address, based on stock lecture notes, the professor either produced instances contradicting the evidence cited by Dr. Gish, or demonstrated flaws in his opponent’s arguments.

He also expressed a serious disappointment with Dr. Gish’s presentation. Although the debate was creation theory versus evolution theory, the doctor had not explained what his creation theory was.

Given no suitable alternative, said Professor Maynard Smith, he would take it that Dr. Gish believed the Bible story. And if that was so, could he explain why God had created the world with a 5,000 million year past?

Dr. Gish chose not to answer.....

Cricket

It is proposed to organise a limited over 11-a-side cricket league this summer, to be played during weekday evenings from about 6 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. with teams drawn from each Area or School.

Roger Suffolk, MOLS pigeon holes (Int. tel. 06-462) would be interested to hear from anybody prepared to run a team from their area.
RESEARCHERS DEVELOP NEW PACEMAKER

Dave Woolons and Mike English aim to put heart patients back in the pink - literally.

For their research into pacemakers has produced a prototype which helps the heart function normally. Patients on standard pacemakers may sometimes go "blue around the edges" because of bad circulation, but once on the new machine they improve almost immediately.

"They turn pink", said Dr Woolons, who works with Dr English in the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences. "You can see it happen!"

Why does this miraculous change take place?

The heart has four chambers, a large one and a small one on each side. They pump blood into the lungs and out to the body. An electrical system in the heart produces impulses which make the heart beat first in the top chambers. This forces blood into the lower chambers which then beat, forcing the blood out.

These impulses are controlled by the nervous system so the heart beats according to the demands of the body - slow when sleeping, fast when running.

But sometimes the electrical system fails. The lower chambers do not receive any impulses, the heart stops and death occurs in just three short minutes.

Those familiar with television hospital dramas know a doctor can make the system work again by skillfully massaging the patient's chest. This compresses the heart mechanically and causes blood to be pumped.

Alternatively, electrical impulses can be introduced into the heart from an external generator. The impulses stimulate the muscles and they start to beat. A smaller version can later be put into the patient's chest and he returns home to lead a normal life.

Or does he? The trouble with today's pacemaker is that it has a fixed rate - the heart beats at the same speed whether the patient is sitting down or running for a bus. Also, the top chambers continue to beat at their own rate, while the lower ones beat at the rate determined by the pacemaker.

This makes little difference to a person with a healthy heart, but a person who has had a heart attack needs the synchronised action to get maximum efficiency from his weak heart. Without it, symptoms like bad circulation start to appear.

But the new pacemaker developed by Dr Woolons and Dr English, with help from Dr Douglas Chamberlain, of Brighton's Royal Sussex County Hospital, seems to have solved both problems.

It synchronises the heart beat by picking up the impulses from the top chambers, feeding them through an amplifier and back into the lower chambers. So the variable heart beat is restored, together with the co-ordinated function of the heart.

Because of its size, the prototype is at present limited to bedside use at four hospitals including the Royal Sussex County. But a commercial firm is now at work on producing a smaller model which can be implanted in the patient's chest. The team hopes it will soon be available for further experiments.

"The real benefits will come from implantable pacemakers", said Dr Woolons. "We need to gain knowledge of how well they will operate when a person is leading a normal life. At present we only have experience of how they work when a patient is in bed."

The team has been working on the new pacemaker for the past five years, aided by grants from various industrial companies and the Department of Health and Social Security.

SUSSEX UNIVERSITY BOOKSHOP

The bookshop's GREAT ANNUAL SALE continues until March 2 and many bargains are still available. All books in the sale are at half the published price or less. Watch out on the last two days (this Thursday and Friday) for special bargain offers.

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Looking ahead, there are many interesting books appearing soon in paperback, for which we are now recording orders. Please let us know if you would like to reserve copies of any of the following:

THE OXFORD PAPERBACK DICTIONARY - an entirely new Oxford dictionary containing words and phrases most likely to be met in everyday use, including many colloquial expressions and the basic vocabulary of the sciences and technology. Also hundreds of notes on usage and grammatical points, including comments about words that are easily confused. It will be available on March 29 at £1.75.

Tolkien's THE SILMARILLION. If you are not one of the million and a half who have the hardback edition, the opportunity comes on March 12 of buying Tolkien's last work in paperback for only £1.25.

DANIEL MARTIN, the latest novel by John Fowles, appears in Panther paperback on April 5. Over 600 pages for £1.50.

Just published in Fontana are two new titles of the Child Development series: EARLY LANGUAGE by Peter and Jill de Villiers (£1.25) and LEARNING DISABILITIES by Sylvia Farnham-Diggory (£1.50). Other new Fontanas include IN SEARCH OF IDENTITY by Anwar el Sadat (£1.50), STALKING THE WILD PENDULUM by Izhak Bentov (£1.25) and CANNIBALS AND KINGS by Marvin Harris (£1.50).

Carl Sagan's THE DRAGONS OF EDEN will be published on March 19 by Coronet at 95p and THE OPIUM WAR by Brian Inglis appears at the same time at £1.50.

SUSSEX UNIVERSITY BOOKSHOP
The 1973 Autumn Season, arranged by my predecessor, was in full swing when I first arrived, and one of the great highlights of it was a production, from the Royal Court Theatre in London, of Athol Fugard's play SIEWE BANZI IS DEAD.

It was naturally a great success and played to packed and enthusiastic houses for the whole week.

This exciting and controversial author has since become a household name in the theatre, not just for his anti-apartheid convictions, but because of the strength and dramatic content of his writing.

The Royal Court subsequently produced four more of his plays and Janet Suzman appeared at the Kings Head in his HELLO AND GOODBYE.

BOESEMAN AND LENA, one of his best known plays, is presented this week at the Gardner by the Horseshoe Theatre Company.

First produced in 1970, this new production is directed by Guy Slater and stars Michael Turner, who was with the National Theatre Company until recently, and Penelope Lee who played Lady de Grey in the recent successful TV series LILLIE; last year she was nominated for the Radio Actress of the Year award for her one-woman play AWAY DOLLY.

BOESEMAN AND LENA is playing every night this week, except tonight (Tuesday, February 27) when the company have a night off to make way for the CHILINGIRIAN STRING QUARTET, our Quartet-in-Residence (pictured on this page).

The programme for this concert, which begins at 7.45, consists of three quartets by Beethoven, Britten and Brahms.

Incidentally, we are delighted to be able to report that the Chilingirian have agreed to extend their residence here for a further year. They have already made a considerable impact and this extension of their contract must come as marvellous news to all music lovers both on and off campus.

One of the features of their residencies is the concerts they give off campus in other parts of the region. These concerts are promoted by the South East Regional Arts Association.

Next Sunday (March 4 at 7.30) sees the first of four performances of John Gay's THE BEGGAR'S OPERA. A company of singers from the Glyndebourne Touring Opera Company are directed by Stephen Lawless and conducted by David Osmond-Smith.

This is a rare and welcome treat for opera fans and all the performances are already heavily booked.

CLIFFORD CURSON is to give his long-awaited piano recital at the Gardner on Wednesday, March 14. Sir Clifford, who has received an Honorary Doctorate from this University, will include Mozart's Sonata in C Minor, and Schubert's Four Impromptus in his programme, and booking for this important musical event is also open now.

From Thursday, March 8, for a week, the Sussex University Dramatic Society is presenting HUIS CLOS by Sartre and Lorca's BLOOD WEDDING. These plays will run in repertoire until the 15th.

In the Gallery, the exhibition of Ken Kiff's paintings continues until March 9.

Nigel Stannard
Administrative Director

LUNCHETIME CONCERTS

On Fridays in the Meeting House:

March 2 Lucy Burns (soprano)
Timothy Day (harp)
March 9 John Birch (organ)

On Tuesday in the Gardner Centre:

March 13 Sally Haines (piano)

All these recitals begin at 1.15 p.m. Admission is free.