Books and images once deemed too shocking or subversive for public consumption are on display at the Library as part of this year's Brighton Festival.

Saucy tales by the grand master of pornography, the Marquis de Sade, homo-erotic photographs by Robert Mapplethorpe and a 1967 edition of Lady Chatterley's Lover are among the works selected for the exhibition, Subversion and Censorship, in the Library's foyer.

The display, which spans six centuries of censorship, also includes a 1939 copy of Hitler's Mein Kampf, a signed copy of Salman Rushdie's The Satanic Verses (signed the day before the fatwa was imposed), and an original issue of the underground press magazine 'School Kids' Oz, which became the subject of an obscenity trial for carrying a strip cartoon depicting a sexually excited Rupert Bear.

When not being exhibited, all these works, once considered by moral leaders to be too dangerous for the masses, are now either on the Library's shelves or available for viewing from the Library's special collections.

"We hope this exhibition shocks visitors into thinking about the damage censorship has caused over the past centuries," says Deborah Shorey, University Librarian. "Freedom of information is a fundamental human right that all libraries must strive to protect."

Tim Graves, Assistant Librarian and exhibition organiser, asks: "Is it the duty of libraries to act as religious, philosophical and sexual guardians? Or does their moral duty really lie in providing unbiased access to all information?"

Tim first came up with the idea after police attempted to prosecute the University of Central England under the Obscene Publications Act for loaning a book of Robert Mapplethorpe's photographs. The Crown Prosecution Service eventually decided not to go ahead with the case against the university, or the book's publishers, as it was acknowledged that the sexually explicit images could be defended as being "for the public good" as a contribution to art or learning. "It made the police look foolish," says Tim (pictured above).

The Internet is also brought into the debate, with a display of a PC running a Web browser. "The Internet may prove to be the winning blow in the struggle against censorship," points out Tim. "Existing outside of real space, it is not under the jurisdiction of any particular governing body. For the first time, information has broken free from the territories of the social elite."

- A musical work by Dr Julian Johnson, Lecturer in Music (CCS), also features in this month's Brighton Festival. The four-strong Ensemble Tozai will perform his piece, for piano and a Japanese woodwind instrument known as a shakuhachi, on Thursday (17 May) in the Music Room at the Royal Pavilion.

A unique and highly innovative study scheme is making it possible for able pupils from a local independent school to get a taste of university-level mathematics at Sussex.

Professor Charles Goldie, Dean of the School of Mathematical Sciences (SMS) attended Roedean School's assembly on Tuesday (8 May) to present transcripts carrying 12 Year 1 credits to four sixth formers who had successfully completed the Mathematics Advanced Study Scheme. "They have done exceedingly well," Charles says, "gaining really high marks in their exam."

A level students on the scheme take a term 1 undergraduate course in Algebra and Geometry. They attend weekly lectures and workshops, which Winifred Idigo, one of this year's participants, describes as "very challenging." Peter Tarbet, Head of Maths at Roedean, confirms that the girls find the course "challenging, relevant and rewarding". He adds: "As well as gaining a qualification, they are able to learn some mathematics that is not covered by the A level, that stretches them academically, and that will be relevant to their later studies."

The course also gives the students a taste of the university learning experience, campus life and the camaraderie of undergraduates. "It gave me an idea what university would be like," says Winifred.

Perhaps most importantly, the scheme raises the profile of mathematics within the school and helps to promote it as a university subject. According to Charles, "Teachers need help in convincing their students that if they enjoy maths and are reasonably good at it they don't have to study business or computing at university."

L-R: Owen Richards (Academic Registrar), Professor Charles Goldie (Dean of SMS) and Peter Tarbet (Head of Maths at Roedean School) with the four 'graduates' of the Mathematics Advanced Study Scheme.
Prime Minister of Mozambique addresses gender inequities in health

The Prime Minister of Mozambique was at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) on 27 April, discussing ways to develop inclusive health strategies that are responsive to the needs of both men and women.

As a qualified doctor and strong advocate of gender-sensitive health interventions himself, Prime Minister Pascoal Mocumbi (fourth from right, front row) visited IDS as a member of the new Gender and Health Equity Network. IDS researchers consider gender as a major cross-cutting theme in their work on household and institutional responses to health-system change. The Gender and Health Equity Network, in which IDS participates, co-ordinates a multi-country programme so that health and gender specialists who come from very different cultures but who share a common interest can gather to discuss good practice and learn from each others' experience.

Asked what he could learn from other members of the Network, the Prime Minister replied, "The gender equity process in Mozambique has started but it requires scientific evidence and elements of comparison with other countries, particularly those with different levels of development."

After years of war and several ecological disasters in Mozambique, Prime Minister Mocumbi is confident that new health-care systems will stand up to any future disruption. "The most important thing we have to do is to empower the local communities. They should perceive the health-care system as an initiative from the state which is aimed at enabling them to take care of their own, through their attitude towards how they live and their own health status."

Cash boost for science research

Multidisciplinary research by a group of scientists in BIOLS is among 14 projects at 12 universities across the country to receive a share of a €24 million fund.

In the fifth and final round of grants under the €750 million Joint Infrastructure Fund (JIF), Professor Jonathan Bacon, Dr John Armstrong and Dr Chris Ford put in a successful bid for £1.6 million to establish a Sussex Centre for Advanced Microscopy.

Jonathan said: "This was very much a joint effort. Our application proposed work from ten different groups in BIOLS, including studies of human cancer, neuronal signalling in the snail brain and yeast membrane trafficking."

He added: "A series of recent technical developments has greatly expanded the range of experiments that can be accomplished with laser and electron microscopy. The grant will provide new state-of-the-art microscopes in a central, refurbished laboratory facility with supporting full-time research officers and specialist workshop facilities to allow novel, pioneering research with customised microscopes. The facility generated will rank with the best in Europe."

Research funding opportunities

More details of these and other research opportunities are available from Debbie in the Research Services Division (RSD), ext. 3812 or email D.Foy-Everett@sussex.ac.uk. For an extensive listing of funding opportunities, see REFUND on the RSD website, www.sussex.ac.uk/Units/research.

Royal Society – Conference Grants

Grants are awarded to UK-based scientists presenting their own work, or chairing a session, at an overseas conference, where conference participation is the main purpose of the visit. Covers travel, subsistence and registration costs.

Deadline: 1 June

Foresight LINK Awards

Aims to promote collaboration between universities and industry and is run on a 50%-matched funding basis. The four key areas are: nanotechnology; mobile wireless communication; biomaterials; and sustainable energy. Bids in the range of £2-3 million are encouraged.

Deadline: 12 June

New – AHRB Grants for Innovation

This scheme provides one-year grants of up to £50,000 to support innovative research projects that seek to challenge existing models, perceptions, research methods or modes of thought.

Deadline: 31 August

EPSRC – Realising Our Potential Awards

Awarded to researchers who have developed links with industry and received substantial cash support for research. A ROPA is expected to be a feasibility study of up to two years' duration.

Typically a proposal will be in the range of £40k to £150k.

No deadline

Nuffield Society Grants

Grants of up to £3,000 intended for self-contained research projects in the social sciences, including pilot studies. Funds cost of research assistance, research materials, data collection and analysis, and travel and subsistence in this country and overseas.

No deadline

Fifth annual SPRU DPhil day

Doctoral students from Science and Technology Policy Research Unit (SPRU) will present their work at a one-day colloquium on 22 May.

This is the fifth year that the event has been held and this year 23 students will present work relating to four themes – Information and Communication Technologies; Innovation and Complex Product Systems; Environment and Risk; and Capabilities, Networks and Technology.

The idea of the day is to encourage the exchange of experience between research students and to provide practice in making presentations. Organiser Vicente Ortiz-Lopez explains, "Students in their first year of research will present their research question and methodology; second years will present initial results and changes to their methodology; and third years will present result and initial conclusions."

Faculty from SPRU, the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) and the University of Brighton's Centre for Research in Innovation Management (Centrim) will be present to offer feedback. Students from the Universities of Oxford, Reading, Rome and St Petersburg, the Max Plank Institute in Germany and the Norwegian School of Management will also participate.

The day runs from 8.45am until 5.30pm and takes place in the Terrace Room in Bramber House. If you are interested in attending, contact Vicente in SPRU on ext. 6758 or email vb.ortiz-lopez@sussex.ac.uk.
'Motion' picture

A new film about homelessness in Brighton, directed by CCS music and media student Tom Clay, will be screened at the Duke of York's cinema on 20 May.

Motion follows the trials and tribulations of Don, a homeless man, as Christmas approaches in Brighton. Tom, who is currently interminning, says about the character of Don, "I wanted an audience to ask the question, 'Why should we empathise with this man? Why should we care?' This is a film that exists to provoke feeling and thought. If you don't find either in Motion then I shall concede defeat."

The film was made on a budget of just £3,000. "This was an exercise in guerrilla film making," says Tom. "But it's not a bad thing to not know what you're doing." Using a compact digital video camera, filming could be done quickly and in often very low light. Sometimes the camera would be concealed completely so that the actors could be filmed in real locations without either the equipment or film crew distracting passers by. The film's producer Joseph Lang says, "From the outset, Tom and I made the decision to fund and produce Motion ourselves ... A combination of loans and private investors provided enough to buy the basic equipment needed." Tom adds, "Low-budget film making is quite a slog, especially in Britain, but also very rewarding."

Actors from the Academy of Creative Training in St James' Street worked unpaid on the film, which also stars Hove-based ex-Neighbours actor Mark Little.

The soundtrack to the film is influenced by the music of modern 20th-century composers such as German electronic music pioneer Karlheinz Stockhausen (1928–), to which Tom was introduced in the course of his studies in music in CCS.

The world premiere of Motion took place at the British Independent Film Festival in Berlin last month. The screening at the Duke of York's cinema takes place at 11am on Sunday 20 May, with proceeds going to Brighton Housing Trust and the Big Issue Foundation.

Have your say on staffing

Philip Willatt
Acting Personnel Director

The University is considering important changes to the ways it deals with staffing matters and is inviting views from all staff about a proposed new strategy.

The Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) has asked Sussex, like other universities, to produce a human resources strategy and will provide a total of more than £3 million over three years to enable its implementation.

The aim is to provide the University with a plan to organise, manage and develop its staff to achieve the aims and objectives set out in the corporate strategy (see www.sussex.ac.uk/Units/planning). The HEFCE requires Sussex and other institutions to identify objectives, describe how the money will be spent and set specific targets in six key areas:

- Address recruitment and retention difficulties.
- Meet specific staff development and training objectives that not only equip staff to meet their current needs but also prepare them for future changes, such as using new technologies for learning and teaching. This would include development of managers, including their management of budgets, staff and recruitment.
- Develop equal opportunities targets, with programmes to implement good practice. This should include ensuring equal pay for work of equal value and using systems of 'job evaluation', which is a method of assessing the levels of responsibility in each type of job.
- Undertake regular reviews of staffing needs, reflecting changes in market demands and technology. The reviews would consider overall numbers and the balance of different categories of staff.
- Undertake annual performance reviews of all staff, based on open and objective criteria, with rewards connected to the performance of individuals including, where appropriate, their contribution to teams.
- Take action to tackle the poor performance of individual staff. The University intends to launch a procedure enabling managers to identify any performance problems, communicate them effectively and take appropriate action in the absence of improvement.

The University's response is detailed in the draft human resources strategy. Call ext. 7769 for a hard copy or read it online at www.sussex.ac.uk/Units/staffing.

To make sure your voice is heard, please submit any comments to IA.William@sussex.ac.uk by 17 May. The final draft will then be considered by senior managers and submitted to the HEFCE. Senate and Council will also consider the strategy at their summer meetings.

In brief

Publishers' exhibition

All teaching staff are invited to an exhibition of new and forthcoming textbooks from leading publishers, on Tuesday (15 May) from 12 noon to 7pm in the Terrace Room, Bramber House. Editors and marketing personnel from more than 15 leading publishers will be present and canapés and drinks will be served from 4pm.

Summer job on campus

The Sussex Language Institute wishes to recruit one full-time and one part-time student social and welfare organiser to assist overseas students attending its summer courses (July–September). For details, contact the Student Employment Office in Falmer House, ext. 6146; or Linda Gunn, Executive Officer, Sussex Language Institute, ext. 3234.

Making e-learning easy

Crucially important but technically complex? A new report from the Institute of Employment Studies (IES) on campus aims to make e-learning easy to understand. It examines the key issues – including benefits and pitfalls – that face organisations considering and developing e-learning. The report brings together information from an array of current research and commentary.

Sticky problem

Estates and Facilities

Management are currently experimenting with a technique to remove unsightly and anti-social chewing gum from campus. The operation involves breaking down the gum with a water-based chemical, followed by a high-pressure hot wash to remove any residue and clean paving slabs. Staff and students are asked to dispose of chewing gum and other rubbish in one of the many bins dotted around campus – including an additional 20 that have recently been installed.
All in a day's work

Jacqui Bealing
Press Officer

The media's appetite for elephant stories is insatiable, as Dr Karen McComb in BIOLS discovered last month. The behavioural psychologist's research findings on how the matriarch of an elephant group relies on her social memory to protect her family was covered by the Daily Telegraph, Guardian, Independent, BBC TV Breakfast News, Newsround, the Discovery Channel (Canada), Radio 4's Today programme, BBC Ulster, BBC Wales, Johannesburg Radio and BBC Southern Counties Radio. Karen spent three days talking about her work to the world's press and was delighted to see that most of the journalists had reported her findings accurately.

Professor Dai Stephens in BIOLS also saw a surge in media interest in his work when he announced that he and two other researchers at the Sussex Centre for Research into Alcohol and Alcoholism and Drug Addiction, Dr Lynne Mayne in the Trafford Centre and neuroscientist Dr Jane Davies, had received a grant for £1.2 million to identify genes activated by alcohol. As well as news stories appearing in the Daily Express, Glasgow Herald and The Publican, there was interest from the Sunday Mirror and the Press Association, Radio 4's The Material World has also lined up Dai and Jane to take part in a live broadcast on 17 May.

On 27 April millions of TV viewers all over the world will have seen various members of the academic community - including Dorothy Sheridan, head of the Library's Special Collections, and University chaplain Dr Gavin Ashenden playing his flute in the Meeting House. They were featured in a documentary about the University made by British Satellite News, which transmits to 400 overseas broadcasting companies.

Announce your research findings to a wider public: call ext. 7437 or email J.A.Beaing@sussex.ac.uk.

Spring is in the air and a certain fevered hush has descended on campus. Snatches of overheard conversation in corridors concern coursework and revision. Urgent whispers of deadlines and exams echo round the Library. With six assessments to be completed by the end of May, Music and Media finalist Jam Master (CCS) is up against it.

The worst thing about arts subjects is, by the time you get to the assessment in the third term you've forgotten about everything you learnt in the courses in the first term.

In the first term I did a course called Music, Film, Video. I've got to hand in a piece of video footage with an alternative soundtrack. It's only about five minutes long, but that takes ages to put together properly.

I've got to hand in an audio tape for another course. We have to compose and produce a piece of our own music for the radio. Recording it is the bit that takes the time: you have to book time in the studio and get people in to play for you.

And that's to go in with an extended essay for the same course. I'm just about to hand that in. That's what I prefer: handing stuff in when it's done, rather than doing it all in one go. Mentally I can move on and not worry about it. My top tip is to get stuff done as early as possible, although I don't do it myself that much.

I've also got a composition portfolio to hand in. It's a portfolio of six or seven pieces, one more substantial than the rest. It's a lot to listen to, each piece is around the five- or ten-minute mark. It takes time to score each part by hand.

I usually study alone. For composition, a friend and I show each other what we've done, because we're doing all the same courses apart from one. There isn't really much stuff you can work on together unless you write your essays and dissertation on the same subjects, which we're not.

For my dissertation, I'm writing about musical theatre and society. It'll be done at the end of this week, hopefully. I've just got to sit and type more than I need and then take out stuff that's irrelevant or not focused.

I'm quite lucky, I've got a computer. One thing I would recommend to any second year is to get their own printer, because trying to get anything printed at uni anywhere near week 5 in the third term is just ridiculous. I've got a really old, basic computer but it's fine just for typing out essays.

By 21st of May the whole lot have got to be in. And then I've got one exam at the end of May - just the one. We had one big exam in the second year, and I struggled a bit with that. But I managed to get quite a good mark, so I should be alright.

I haven't done any revision yet - I'm going to leave that until all the coursework is in. The exam's on another course that I did in the first term. You've got to write three essays in three hours. At uni you don't write for three hours with a pen in your hand, ever, and it starts to hurt after about half an hour.

One of my flatmates is in his second year of a Neuroscience degree and he seems to have as much work as I do in the third year. I think he's got something ridiculous like ten two-hour exams.

My friends are coping fine as far as I know. It's stressful at the moment but a lot of us have found if you talk about it to other people who are doing the same course, you suddenly realise you're not the only one who's been messing about all holiday and not done any work at all.

There's no point getting worked up about it, although it is your degree and what you do in these couple of weeks makes an impression on the rest of your life. I think the second year works out to 50 per cent and the third year 50 per cent. The first year isn't assessed at all.

I'll be quite happy with a 2:1 or above. I've got a good 2:1 for the second year assessment, so I could push it to a first if I work hard. Really, either you've got a BA after your name or you haven't.
Tutoring and Mentoring Awards

Students who spent time in local schools acting as tutors and mentors received certificates yesterday (10 May) to mark their achievement.

BIOLS student Eleanor Moffatt worked with seven- and eight-year-olds with special needs at Castleman School. "It was brilliant, really rewarding," says Eleanor. "I want to be an educational psychologist, which requires teaching training, so this experience helps me with that - I'd definitely recommend it."

Anna Hamilton, a history finalist in CCS, worked as a mentor to a sixth former at Blatchington Mill School in Hove. "I've got a place to do a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) at Homerton College in Cambridge, so this was definitely good preparation for that," says Anna.

Three other Sussex students as well as Anna - Kaita Augustin (IDS), Marsha Ferguson-Yarde (SLS) and Georgie Wiseman (SLS) - acted as mentors at Blatchington Mill School. Ray Sinclair, Head of Sixth Form at the school, says: "They have been extremely useful in helping students with their work at pressured times. The feedback from our students has been positive, and they were very good role models."

AFRAS undergraduate Jenny Knight worked with Year 3 children at Carlton Hill County Primary in Brighton. "Seeing how the national curriculum works in practice was really interesting - it's so different to when I was at school," says Jenny, who has a place on a PGCE course in Norwich to take up in 2002. "I worked one-to-one with an autistic child, as well as taking group activities, and I really enjoyed it."

Carlton Hill teacher Jacqui Taylor says having Jenny in the classroom was "fantastic, a real bonus." She adds: "Jenny did a lot of computer work with the children, which was really helpful as I have a class of 30 to deal with so it's hard to give individual attention."

If you are interested in taking part in the scheme next year, contact Student Development Coordinator Caroline Lehany on ext. 8460 or email c.lehany@sussex.ac.uk.

Modernising governance at Sussex

Neil Gershon
Registrar & Secretary

Many readers will recently have received a letter and nomination form inviting their involvement in the election of a member of the non-academic staff to Council. Academic and research staff will shortly be receiving a similar letter. These are just two of the changes to the composition of the University Council that will, subject to formal approval from the Privy Council, take effect from 1 August 2001.

The Council is the governing body of the University and is established under the University's Royal Charter. It has a range of powers that put the responsibility for the proper governance of the University squarely on its shoulders. The Charter also establishes the Senate with a range of responsibilities for academic issues. Council has established a range of sub-committees to deal with specific matters, such as Planning and Resources, Estates and Trading Services. The management of the University is, under the Charter, entrusted to the Vice-Chancellor, who is appointed by the Council.

The composition of the current Council was determined in the early 1960s, although obviously the membership has changed since then. It was very similar to most of the new universities of that era and included representatives appointed by local authorities, independent members, Senate members and students - a total of 45 members.

So why has the University decided to change? The main driver was the realisation that the Council was simply too large to enable effective debate and discussion in an age when the pace of change had rapidly increased. This had been recognised by Council, which established a Group on Governance to advise Council on its effectiveness and propose such changes as might be beneficial to the efficient governance of the University. The remit included not just the effectiveness of Council but also the balance between governance and management in the University and the extent to which the Council was able to reflect the views of the whole University community.

Following an extensive consultative process, including interim reports and discussion at Council, the Council agreed to change its composition and to reduce to 25 members. It was concerning to ensure there was widespread representation from the University community as well as from the wider community in which we live. To achieve these aims the new Council will be made up of:
- Fifteen independent members (six elected by Court and nine appointed by Council);
- Four academic members elected by the Senate;
- Two academic members elected by cross-campus ballot;
- One non-academic member elected by cross-campus ballot;
- President of the Students' Union;
- Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

Elections will be taking place this term for the University representatives on Council. Independent members, who must be in the majority, were appointed by the current Council or elected by the Court as appropriate, at the meetings on 23 March 2001. Details of the new members will appear in future issues of the Bulletin.

The new Council is meeting in July to elect a Chair (who must be an independent member), and will be taking up the reins formally on 1 August - although until the Privy Council makes its formal decision there remains a frisson of doubt that all will go according to plan.

Anyone who would like further information is very welcome to contact me on ext. 3814 or N.J.Gershon@sussex.ac.uk.
Small ads

HOUSESHARE: In cottage in Friston, would suit mature professional. Available end May. Tel. 483395 or 77187 40715. £395 pcm plus bills.

FOR SALE: Rover 114 GTE, red, 41,000 miles, M reg. (1995), immobilizer, airbag, sunroof, alloy wheels, tax and MOT. £2,500. Contact Alison on a.m.chisholm@Sussex.ac.uk; tel. 07696 454902.

TO RENT: Lovely 4-bed house in Lewes, totally refurbished; available any period of time. £1,500 pcm. Tel. 474813, email m.j.boice@sussex.ac.uk.

WANTED: Short-term rental of furnished 1-bed flat in Bognor/Hove for June. Pref. seaview with phone connection and parking. Contact F.J.Way@Sussex.ac.uk.

FOR SALE: Rover 414S, 1997 (P reg.), silver metallic, 40,000 miles, excellent condition, one lady owner, FSH, electric window/sunroof, £4,250. Tel. 01323 896101.

TO LET: Room in central Lewes, flatshare with Sussex graduate. Would suit mature non-smoker. £280 pcm inc. bills. Tel. 480077.

HOLIDAY LET: Mobile home on Côte d’Azur, close to beach and St Tropez, sleeps 6, pool, restaurant on site. Available w/c 16 June for one week (€220), all Sept from £150 pw. Contact David on 685669 or 07966 448760.

SMOKERS WANTED: To complete an established scopolamine drug study, which pays £20 for 2-3 hours of your time. Drug administered via a (tiny) injection under the skin. Must be native English speakers. Contact Trudi Edginton, EP, ext. 8916 or email trudi@biols.sussex.ac.uk.

FOR SALE: Black ash effect furniture. Coffee table £10, nest of 3 tables £12, extending entertainment centre £20, bookcase £28, 8-piece storage unit £15, foldaway dining room table with 6 foldaway chairs (stored within table) £30, storage unit £15, display dresser £40. Or the whole lot for £130! Contact Ian on 01267 761880 or email bellyup@ic24.net.

WANTED: Room to rent for member of staff. Tel. Pete on ext. 8209 or email P.J.Simmons@Sussex.ac.uk.

New Teaching and Learning Development Fund

The University’s Teaching and Learning Development Fund (TLDVF) provides funding for improvements and innovations in curriculum design; learning, teaching and assessment methods; and skills development.

Following a review of the TLDVF guidelines, a new set of documentation has been produced and was approved at Academic Policy and Standards Committee (APSC/99/11). The new documentation endeavours to make the bidding process more transparent and to ensure that the fund is used in line with the University’s learning and teaching strategy.

The documentation includes: revised Teaching and Learning Development Fund guidelines; a new proposal form; a new mark sheet for applications; and a new project evaluation proforma. Electronic versions are available and will soon be appearing on the TLDVF website: www.sussex.ac.uk/Units/TLDVF/guide.html.

You are invited to put forward proposals for the next round of funding: the deadline is Friday 8 June.

For more information, copies of the documentation or advice when preparing a bid, please contact Linda France in the TLDVF, ext. 8714, email L.France@sussex.ac.uk.

Obituary

Marie Jahoda

M arie Jahoda, Emeritus Professor at the University of Sussex and an outstanding social psychologist, died on 28 April. She was born in Vienna in 1907 and in her long and eventful life as a researcher, writer and teacher she inspired successive generations of students and colleagues with her humanistic ideals, her kindness and her devotion to scientific methods in social research. Throughout her career she focused on social issues, such as nationalism, anti-Semitism and the impacts of poverty and unemployment.

Marie was no armchair philosopher. As a staunch anti-fascist and Social Democrat she came into collision with the repressive Austrian government already before Hitler’s Anschluss. This led to a period of imprisonment between 1936 and 1937 but, fortunately, she was released on the condition that she left the country. She came to England and after the war, she emigrated to the United States, where she established herself in academic life and became a Professor of Social Psychology at New York University.

She proved an ideal person for the University of Sussex to recruit in the early 1960s. For nearly 40 years, she remained the embodiment of the Sussex ideal of interdisciplinary research and teaching and played a full part in the academic life of the University and of its governance. After her official ‘retirement’ at the age of 65, Marie began a new period of very active creative work, choosing to participate in the inter-disciplinary research of the Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU). She made major contributions to research programmes on social and technological forecasting and in another programme, she was able to return to the problem that was her first love as a young researcher: the social psychological consequences of prolonged unemployment.

Her work was recognised with the prestigious Kurt Lewin Memorial Award by the American Psychological Association and she was belatedly honoured by the German Social Democratic Party and by the Austrian Social Democratic government. The University awarded Marie an honorary degree in 1973 and she was made a CBE a year later.

Chris Freeman
Adult learner nominee wants to be a teacher

I never thought I could get a degree.

Pete considered himself academically unable until he won an essay-writing competition when he was 21. This boosted his confidence and inspired him to return to learning. While working in a variety of jobs, from cinema projectionist to script writer for a cable TV company, Pete went on to take A levels in English, politics and media studies. Five years ago he began the part-time BA in Cultural Studies at the Centre for Continuing Education (CCE).

“T’ve squashed a six-year course into five years to get through it more quickly,” says Pete. “And now I want to become a secondary school teacher because I feel I have a lot to offer school children. I think I can make classes interesting. I know teachers are unhappy with their profession, but I’ve been on the other side, working in jobs with short-term contracts and very little security. I feel confident about my reasons for wanting to be a teacher.”

Peter was nominated for the Adult Learners’ Award by his course tutors in CCE. Gerry Holloway, course convener, says: “Pete is a truly gifted adult learner. He has made it clear from the beginning that, ultimately, he wanted to become a teacher. Studying at the University has allowed him to realise this ambition.”

A panorama of the University

Gholam Reza Sami Gorgan Roodi
GRC Humanities

The sun plays hide and seek the trees bloom behind the buildings the birds satiate the sky a wisp makes love to a flower an aeroplane cuts the blue butterflies whirl in confusion the squirrels feel randy a rain-drop lands on someone’s head naked arms adorn the lawns two lovers blend with ecstasy lips part in sweet sorrow some eyes meet briefly some heads nod in recognition

A walk on the wild side

David Harper and David Streeter BIOLS

Cuckoo-pint or Lords-and-Ladies must be one of the best-known spring plants. It is common along woodland edges on campus and is now in full flower, although on casual inspection it appears to have no flowers! The large cow-like bract, or spathe, cradling the deep purple rod-like spadix has inevitably given rise to vernacular names referring to an obvious phallic-symbolism, such as Priest’s Pilly and Dog’s Dilly, whilst ‘pint’ itself is a shortening of ‘pintle’.

To uncover the secrets of the plant’s sex life it is only necessary to unwrap the base of the spathe when the petal-less flowers will be revealed at the base of the spadix. At the bottom is a cluster of female flowers surmounted by a ring of male flowers, the whole topped off by a crown of stiff hairs.

During the afternoon the spadix heats up to 30°C, vapourising a whole cocktail of amines and other evil-smelling compounds, such as putrescine and skatole, which attract small moth-flies by the smell of rotting flesh. The flies fall through the ring of stiff hairs, aided by the slippery surface of the spathe. As the female flowers mature first, any flies carrying pollen will cross-pollinate. The male flowers then ripen, shedding their pollen onto the trapped flies. The ring of hairs collapses, allowing the flies to escape aided by the now corrugated surface of the spathe!

By August the vivid orange berries of Cuckoo-pint, which are the point of this amazing sex life, provide food for ground-foraging birds, especially juvenile Blackbirds. There should be plenty of the ginger-coloured youngsters this year as the campus Blackbirds are enjoying unusually high breeding success. The earliest of the females, which are mottled brown rather than jet black like the males, started nesting in late February.

One of our favourites, nicknamed Tilly, has already reared eight chicks and is now incubating her third clutch. She started her third nest while she was still brooding her chicks at night to keep them warm. Her mate, Atilla, now has all the work of feeding the four chicks that are noisily hopping around the planted borders near Brighthelm. If all goes well, he will still be feeding them for about a week after the next four hatch! That will not be the end of Atilla’s labours, as there will be time for at least one more nest.

Blackbird chicks on campus this year are growing unusually fast and fewer nests are being found by predators than is normal. We suspect that the wet weather means that the parents can find earthworms easily and that well-fed broods are quieter, and thus harder for predators to find, than starving broods. Whatever the reason, the campus Blackbirds demonstrate how songbirds can thrive alongside nest-predators such as Crows and Magpies as long as food and nesting cover are abundant.

These monthly articles are available on the Bulletin’s web-site with links to pictures and additional information.

Below: Cuckoo-pint or Lords-and-Ladies, one of the best-known spring plants.
Lectures, seminars, colloquia

Mon 14 May 12.30pm–1.50pm
Comparative Education Research Forum: Nick Walters (Surrey) and Sarah Le (Capacity Unlimited), Community regeneration and empowerment-realities in the discourse. Arts D310.

1.00pm–2.00pm Experimental Psychology Seminar: Agnes Chan, title TBA. Engineering 3, Room M16.

2.00pm–3.00pm Particle Physics Seminar: Pedro C. Ferreira (Oxford), Heterotic, open and unorientated strings from topological membrane. Pevensey 1 D02.

3.00pm–4.50pm International Relations and Politics Research-in-Progress Seminar: Zdenek Kavan (Sussex), The problem of the past under postcommunism. C219.

5.00pm Seminar in Literary and Intellectual History: Helen Small (Oxford), Chances are: Risk and realism in the late 19th century. Arts B211.

Wed 16 May 12.30pm–2.00pm USEI Open Seminar: John Parry (Sussex), The mediating effect of information technology in relation to an environmental education project at both primary and secondary school level. EDB 302.

1.00pm–2.15pm IIS Seminar: Niall Kabeer (Sussex), Gender and public/private accountability, globalisation, labour standards and women’s rights. IDS Room 221.

2.00pm Queer History Seminar: Jan Marsh (Sussex), The prison problem and other issues of terminology in writing the intersexual life story of sculptor Flore di Henriques. Arts A11.

2.30pm History of Art Research Seminar: Fintan Cullen (Nottingham), Union and display in 19th century Ireland. Arts A103.

5.00pm–6.30pm Sussex Centre for Migration Research Seminar: Nicola Mai (Sussex), Media, imagination and migration: Italian media in Albanian migration to Italy. Arts D 630.

5.30pm English Graduate Colloquium: Gabrielle Konstantz (Konstanz), Sexuality and Ephorism in A.S. Byatt’s fiction. Arts D640.

Thu 17 May 10.00am–2.30pm Sonja Boazk (Sussex), Challenging dominant models of sexuality in development: Social activism and personal identity in South Africa. IDS Room 220.

1.30pm–3.00pm SLS Research Seminar: Anne Barlow (Aberystwyth), The Human Rights Act 1998 in family law. A71.

1.30pm–4.00pm Economics Research-in-Progress Seminar: Steve Redding (LSE), title TBA. Arts DS10.

1.30pm–5.00pm Physical History Work-in-Progress Seminar: Richard Whatmore (Sussex), The Genevan contribution to the French Revolution. Arts A155.

Fri 18 May 10.00am–11.30am Pattern Recognition Seminar: Mahesh Niranjani (Sheffiled), Analysis of microarray gene expression data. Arundel 404A.

Mon 21 May 12.30pm–1.50pm John Field (Warwick), Access or enclosure? Towards a social analysis of participation and non. Arts D310.

12.00pm–2.00pm USEI Open Seminar: Niall Kabeer, Racism and identity in South African education. EDB 302.

1.00pm–2.00pm Experimental Psychology Seminar: Eleon Ziori (Sussex), The effect of prior knowledge on implicit and explicit learning. Engineering 3, Room M16.

3.00pm–4.50pm International Relations and Politics Research-in-Progress Seminar: Mick Dunford (Sussex), Globalisation and inequality. C219.

Exhibitions

Fri 18 May 10.00am–5.00pm Discovering Japan

An interactive exhibition that explores Japanese culture through seven themed sections, from trying on a kimono to having your fortune told at a Shinto shrine.

Tue 22 – Sat 26 May (24th May at 2pm)

6pm Northern Stage in George Orwell’s 1984

Gardner Arts Centre

Box office: (01273) 685861
www.gardnerarts.co.uk

Performance

Until Sat 12 May

6pm dreamthinkspeak – Who Goes There?

An atmospheric, promenade version of Shakespeare’s Hamlet incorporating film and live action and a specially commissioned soundscape.

Thu 17 May 6pm Romeo Lee – Passage

A fascinating mix of live dance and film, choreographed by Romeo Lee. Drink is a solo for teenager Tom Evans, who at the age of nine featured in the film Boy, which now plays alongside the performance. Passage features an extraordinary group of 13 dancers ranging from ten to 70 years old, who perform against a bleak and open winter landscape. The first 10 Bulletin readers at the box office get a free pair of tickets.

Fri 18 May 6pm Biosphere / Fennex

Hazard – Touch Two

Thousand and One

6pm Almost Famous

Sun 19 May 6pm John Shuttleworth – One Foot in the Gravy

Star of the TV hit show 500 Bus Stops, Sheffield’s King of the Yamaha brings his hilarious stories and brilliant stories to the Gardener.

Sun 20 May 6pm Susana Baca

This unique blend of Spanish, Andean and African music is delicious and sultry.

Fri 21 May 6pm Northern Stage in George Orwell’s 1984

Orwell’s stark portrayal of the totalitarian regime of 1984 has been updated to encompass the 21st century paranoia of a world of mass surveillance, CCTV cameras and email screening.

Sun 13 May 5pm Meet The Parents

12pm Almost Famous

Bulitin

The Bulletin is written and produced by Alison Field and Peter Simmons, with regular contributions from Jacqui Bealing. We welcome all news, story ideas, letters or small ads from staff and students of the University.

The next issue will be out on 24 May, with a copy deadline of 1pm on Friday 20th May. Please contact the Press and Communications Office in Sussex House on ext. 8888 or email Bulletin@sussex.ac.uk.