From Russia with hate

Dr Stella Rock gets to meet some scary people in the course of her research into antisemitism and racism in Russia.

"The scariest interview I did was with the head of the Union of Orthodox Brotherhoods (rally pictured below), who were one of the first organised nationalist groups to emerge," says Stella, Research Fellow in the Centre for German-Jewish Studies.

"We arranged to meet in Pushkin Square and two of them turned up in black uniforms and boots and drove us through Moscow to a place with an armed Siberian Cossack on the door. This huge man with a big beard turned to me and said, 'So, where are you from and who do you work for?'"

Stella specifically studies how Russian Orthodoxy is being used to legitimise right-wing nationalist groups and the effect this has on contemporary Russian society. She gave the opening address at a conference on 'Christian Fundamentalism, Racism and Antisemitism' at Sussex on 10 April, which was attended by both UK and Russian researchers, and will be followed up by the creation of a study group on religious extremism.

Stella, perhaps unsurprisingly, knows of no other academic interviewing extreme nationalist groups in Russia, and organised the seminar in the hope of meeting others conducting similar fieldwork in other countries. She stresses that the emergence of these groups is part of a complex reaction to the collapse of the Soviet Union:

"Ordinary Russians have suffered appallingly in the last decade. Not only have people lost their financial security, they've also lost their pride, and been told that everything they believed is rubbish and that now what matters is Nike trainers," says Stella. "The nationalist groups that I have been interviewing I see as part of a larger backlash against everything Western, a reaction to the humiliation and despair that many people feel."

Stella works with Alexander Verkhovsky from the Panorama Research Centre in Moscow, which monitors political extremism, antisemitism and racism in Russia. The research into Russian Orthodoxy is funded by a Joint Activities Grant from the British Academy, and forms part of the Centre's work on nationalist propaganda.

This research has grown out of studies into antisemitism and racism on the internet, for which a separate conference took place 9 April, organised by Rebekah Webb, Research Fellow in the Centre for German-Jewish Studies. Speakers from Liberty, the Internet Watch Foundation, the Metropolitan Police, and academic researchers discussed the use of the internet by racist groups and the problems of trying to regulate and police cyberspace.

Stella would like to hear from students or faculty who are interested in this area of research.

Why learning landscapes need to change

A research seminar to discuss university architecture, from the new buildings of the 1960s through to the designs of the future, took place at Sussex last week.

Speakers at 'Building Universities: The 1960s and Beyond' included practitioner architects and architectural historians, who considered how built environments at universities have changed over the past 40 years and discussed the solutions that may be necessary to accommodate the needs of new generations of students and staff. Professor Nigel Llewellyn, Pro-Vice-Chancellor and one of the event's main organisers, said: "We are facing new circumstances which differ markedly from the challenges faced by Sir Basil Spence and the University's founders. Student numbers have grown hugely; we are employing quite different modes of teaching; our students have quite different expectations of their accommodation; and communication and other technologies are changing very rapidly. Briefings for future generations of university architects are likely to be set in a whole new language."

The event was held to mark the 40th anniversary of the first stone being laid for Falmer House (pictured above). Spence's award-winning design, which is the flagship for Sussex's set of 10 listed buildings and a leading expression of 20th-century architecture in the UK. Nigel added: "We brought together a remarkably knowledgeable group, including the country's leading experts on Spence, people who had worked on our own buildings and the designers of important current schemes in UK higher education."

Especially valuable were the study tours that took delegates to Falmer House, the Meeting House, Arts, Science and the Library, where History of Art students had assembled an exhibition drawn from the University collection. This is still on display in the Library foyer.
Removing the barriers to free trade

Sussex economists have been working on a study for the European Commission into improving trade in the southern Mediterranean region.

Dr Michael Gasiorek and Dr Peter Holmes from EURO have been working with David Evans from IDS and colleagues at the Centre d’Economie et Finances Internationales in France on the project for the last three months.

"Economists’ eyes tend to glaze over a bit when the subject of ‘rules of origin’ comes up as it’s quite complex," says Michael, who offers the following explanation.

"Suppose Country A and Country B sign a free trade agreement saying there will be no tariffs on trade between them," he says. "But those two countries may still have differing external tariffs to the rest of the world, for example Country A’s could be 10 per cent and Country B’s could be 20 per cent."

"What you want to avoid is other countries shipping goods into the country with the lower tariff and then transferring them across – rules of origin are designed to prevent that by requiring proof of where goods come from."

"Now suppose instead that Country A and Country B both have separate free trade agreements with Country C," he continues. "If Country C exports intermediate goods to Country A, which then transforms them in some way and sends them to Country B, tariffs are liable despite the free trade agreements. Cumulation of rules of origin is designed to prevent this happening."

The European Union (EU) has a number of trade agreements with southern Mediterranean countries, such as Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Cyprus, Malta, Egypt, Jordan and Israel. There is no cumulation of rules of origin except between Morocco and Tunisia.

"The aim of this study was to ask what would happen if we allowed cumulation in these countries and how would this promote regional integration," says Michael, who visited Egypt and Morocco as part of the research.

"What we found was that trade between these countries could be at least 40 per cent higher if what is known as the pan-European system of cumulation was adopted."

The group’s interim findings were presented at the Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Trade in Toledo last month, at which the principle was agreed of including the EU’s Mediterranean partners in the system of pan-European cumulation.

Individuals, ants and the computers of the future

Steve Pollard
Human Sciences finalist, BIOLS

What makes an individual? This is a fundamental question in evolutionary biology and one that could help to improve the design of computer systems, says Alex Penn (pictured), a DPhil student in the University’s Centre for Computational Neuroscience and Robotics.

How do we arise, as individuals, from collections of cells? And what changes take place when ants form colonies? A relatively small number of key changes during the evolution of life have resulted in dramatic increases in the complexity of organisms. Cells in multi-cellular organisms and ants in colonies have changed from separate, autonomous, individuals to parts of larger single entities. This involves a trade-off between loss of individuality at one level and the formation of new individuality at a higher level.

We could argue endlessly about natural selection and the evolutionary advantages of such changes, but Alex is more interested in the mechanisms by which these changes take place. In particular, what set of rules or dynamics allows an organization of entities to interact with the world as a single individual?

Alex is using computer simulations to model the processes by which specified ‘lower-level’ individuals evolve into a single individual. She can recognise that the lower-level individuals are working together when they produce behaviour that is very difficult to explain or predict from the properties of separate individuals. For example, human behaviour is virtually impossible to predict from the properties of our cells acting separately.

So why should we be interested in this? Well, life depends on interactions and on the emergent properties of linked simple processes. Alex is looking at the ways in which her ‘simulated agents’ interact to produce new levels of organization and complexity and maintain these ‘emergent’ properties under disturbance. She hopes eventually to be able to specify the sort of properties lower-level individuals must have if they are to interact to produce particular properties at a higher level.

Her research is funded by BT in the expectation that the same principles can be applied to computer systems. At present, these tend to be hefty and liable to crash. Simpler programs or agents, interacting together like cells or ants, could give us systems that are more robust and elegant.

Research funding opportunities

More details of this and other research opportunities are available from the Research Services Division (RSD), please contact your Research Support Officer for more information. For an extensive listing of funding opportunities, see REFUND on the RSD website, www.sussex.ac.uk/units/research/refund.shtml

EU Sixth Framework Programme 2002-2006

In preparation for the Sixth Framework Programme (2002-06) for Research and Technological Development, the European Commission has launched a call for ‘Expressions of Interest’ (EoI). ‘Integrated projects’ and ‘networks of excellence’ are new instruments for the Sixth Framework Programme.

The submission of an EoI is by no means obligatory; however, you may wish to optimise your chances of having a particular topic included in an early call by submitting an EoI.

Submitting an EoI

- download the forms and related guidance documentation from www.cordis.lu/fp6/eoi-instruments.
- email the completed form and five-page summary document to fp6-eoi2002@cec.eu.int.

Further information

A guide for submitters, addresses of help and information desks and further information relevant to this invitation to submit EoI can be found at www.cordis.lu/fp6/eoi-instruments. For general information, see www.ukro.ac.uk/subs/era_fp6/FP6/Eoi.htm. The RSD is organising a series of School briefings about the new Sixth Framework Programme. For further information, please contact your Research Support Officer.

Deadline

5pm on 7 June
VC's voice

The higher education system has now had time to absorb the results of the 2001 Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) and to think about the implications for the future. At the end of last term, Senate and Council, after long and constructive discussions, approved the proposal to set up a group to make proposals on restructuring to take forward the University's academic strategy. That group is now in the process of being set up and will shortly get down to work.

In planning for the future, we need to be aware of the external context. The outcome of the 2001 RAE has raised some issues that will need to be addressed by the funding councils.

The most striking outcome was the large increase between 1996 and 2001 in the proportion of submissions receiving the two top grades of 5 and 5*. This overall increase in grades has meant that all grades other than 5* have been under-funded. Most of the grade increase is due not to grade inflation or to selective submission strategies. Universities have genuinely become better at producing high-quality research. As a result, although the RAE exercise grades research on a seven-point scale, most of the funding is now allocated to the top two grades and none at all to the bottom three. It would not be sensible to run this system unchanged in 2006, when doubtless further increase in grades would run still further ahead of the available funding.

One option would be to abandon the dual-support system of research funding, and let all research funding be allocated by the research councils. This change would create serious distortions between subjects, especially in the humanities and social sciences. It would also make the planning and funding of long-term research infrastructure even more difficult than it is at present. It is better to retain a significant role for the funding councils in the allocation of research resources, and public accountability then requires some form of periodic peer assessment of research quality like the RAE.

A second option would be to abandon grading, and simply rank submissions in each subject, with a proportion of the available funding being allocated to the top 10 per cent, less to the next 10 per cent, and so on. This would recognise the reality that the RAE is fundamentally a mechanism for distributing a more or less fixed pot of money, and would reduce the scope for tactical game-playing with submission rates. However, an assessment system based solely on rankings could no longer be used to provide evidence that UK research was increasing in quality and deserved more funding.

I think there is much to be said for a radical revision of the grading system. Panels could be asked to report for each submission the proportion of research that was of exceptional ('international') quality, the proportion that was of good ('national') quality, and the proportion that was of lower quality or was not submitted for assessment. Funding based on the amount of research in each category rather than on grades would remove the difficulties currently associated with the broad definition of grade 5 and the rather arbitrary distinction between 5 and 5*. It would remove all incentive for tactical non-submissions, and it would provide a smoother relationship between research quality and research funding.

Whatever decisions are made nationally about the future shape of the RAE, the right research strategy for the University of Sussex is to strengthen our ability to produce research that will be assessed as of exceptional quality.

VC puts case for competition in higher education sector

In a speech last week to the annual conference of the Association of University Administrators, Vice-Chancellor Professor Alasdair Smith proposed a free market system for higher education funding.

"A more competitive system in which funding followed students would be a more diverse system and would also better match supply and demand," he said.

Government money would be allocated to universities according to their student numbers. Such a student-led system would, he argued, encourage universities to do different things, rather than all chase the same funding.

Sport at Sussex

Dance and Movement Festival
Enjoy a weekend of dance and movement classes including yoga, tai chi, trance, ballet, pilates, kung fu and salsa, on Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 May from 10am to 5pm at the Sportcentre. Weekend tickets for an unlimited number of classes (subject to availability) cost £12 for students and staff, £18 for the public. Day tickets are £10 for students and staff, £12 for the public.

Mixed doubles tennis tournaments
Prepare for Wimbledon on Wednesday 15 May at 5.30pm or on Sunday 9 June at 2pm (playing for the O'Reilly Cup). Each tournament costs £2.50 per pair, with a maximum of 12 pairs.

Intra-mural soccer
Not the World Cup, but the Brian Barnett Cup: 6-a-side on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-8pm at the Falmer Sports Complex (outdoors). £20 per team plus £20 loyalty deposit.

Nutrition therapy
New for this term is a six-week nutrition course on Mondays from 1-2pm. Improve your health with practical ways to eat well and avoid common symptoms such as tiredness, digestive problems, colds, allergies, skin irritations, and aches and pains. You can also book an individual appointment on Mondays from 9am to 1pm.

For tickets, entry forms or appointments, call the Sportcentre Reception on ext. 8228.

The University Golf Society plays matches between April and June each year. In 2002, five 27-hole matches are likely to be played against the Dyke, Ham Manor, Hollingbury, Lewes and Piltdown Golf Clubs. The format is four ball, better ball with four pairs on each side. The Society also holds a 27-hole club championships day at the beginning of July to compete for scratch and handicap trophies. For more information contact the captain, James Hirschfield, on ext. 8080 or jwhp@sussex.ac.uk, or the secretary, Tom Sinclair, on ext. 3526 or t.sinclair@sussex.ac.uk.

More for 'Fore!'

Bulletin 19 April 2002
Students excel at the art of science writing

A writing fellow at Sussex says that he has been amazed by the ability of second-year undergraduates on a course about 'The Art of Science Writing'. Todd Kingsley-Jones - the author of many novels, plays, short stories and poems - gives a creative-writing seminar and workshop as part of the optional Arts/Science course, which is taught by Janet France.

Arts/Science studies at Sussex have been an integral part of a science student's degree since the University was founded and count for up to 7.5 per cent of the marks.

Chris Perrin from CPES chose the course because he really wants to write science-fiction novels, and says that Todd brought a different perspective "and a sense that we were actually talking to a 'writer'".

The course is designed to expand students' experience of different types of scientific writing, for different purposes and for varied readings. It aims to develop not only writing skills but also skills in group work, time management, editing, research and critical reading.

These skills are undoubtedly valuable, but the best thing for Chris was "finally being able to write something creative rather than chemical reactions and loads of equations". And the worst thing? "The seminar is scheduled at 9.15am."

If Love Were Space-time

He
As comet travels at increasing pace.
Speding through.
Blasting the path of those that circle the centre of attention.

As he approaches intercep,
The tail, a display full of eccentric energies,
Excited by corresponding wavelength,
Illuminates the dark.

And yet, though collision seems
Imminent,
Fate acts as gravity.
Cast away on an obtuse orbit back into the void.

Warmed only by the heat of proximity,
And the reality of his eventual return.

She is the star and her light will blaze,
Though he moves on through different days.

Chris Perrin

Cool poster wins prize

A chemistry postgraduate at Sussex has won a cash prize for her poster presentation at the House of Commons last month.

Sharon Curtis was taking part in a parliamentary showcase of research by Britain's younger scientists, engineers and technologists.

"I was extremely encouraged by my poster's reception," she says. "It didn't offer a cure for cancer, or a new revolutionary material for industry, just a really neat new way to investigate atoms and molecules."

Sharon is a physical chemist and uses something called a helium droplet apparatus - the first such machine to be built in this country - to study the structure and behaviour of atoms and molecules at extremely low temperatures.

Her poster described the experiment, what she and the rest of the research group in CPES have been able to investigate so far, and what they hope to achieve in the future.

Sharon is pictured at the House of Commons receiving her prize from Alistair Strycharz of GlaxoSmithKline.
Dear Editor

A topic related to alcoholism (see Bulletin 8 March) that is equally worrying is the increase in smoking, in particular, among young women. No amount of adverse publicity seems to deter them.

In the early days of Sussex, selling cigarettes on campus was not allowed but this ban was abandoned, as I recollect, due to pressure from the Students’ Union. We now actually have a shop in Bramber House run by the Union that sells cigarettes.

Should the Executives of the Students’ Union reconsider their involvement in this trade, not only in view of the health risks posed by tobacco, but the exploitation of the developing (and developed) countries by the tobacco industry?

Professor B.V. Jayawant
School of Engineering and Information Technology

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Pass the goldfish please ... it’s the Iranian new year

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Genome Damage and Stability Centre opens

Eight teams of cancer researchers have moved into the first research laboratory to be built on the University campus for 30 years.

Researchers in the purpose-built Genome Damage and Stability Centre are working on the human body’s most precious possessions – genomes – which contain the genetic blueprint that tells every part of the body how to function.

“Long strands of DNA are being damaged continually inside the body, for example by sunlight or by traces of carcinogens in food,” explains the Centre’s chairman, Professor Alan Lehmann. “Repairing this damage is vital to protect us from cancer, but people with some hereditary diseases can’t repair damage in their genomes, so they are up to 1,000 times more susceptible to getting cancer than normal individuals.”

Several of the research groups in the new Centre work with cells from patients who cannot repair their genomes properly, in order to try to understand how the repair processes work and what goes wrong in patients with those diseases.

However, some questions are too difficult to address using human cells and it is necessary to use other organisms as ‘models’. Remarkably, the genome protection processes are almost identical in all organisms. This means that instead of using animals as models, the Centre’s researchers are able to find answers by working with a very simple micro-organism, the fission yeast.

This yeast – somewhat different than that used to make bread – has a distinguished history at Sussex, having been studied here in the early 1980s by a young Research Fellow called Paul Nurse. As Professor Sir Paul Nurse he received the Nobel Prize for Physiology and Medicine last year and is now Director-General of Cancer Research UK.

Four of the research groups at the new Centre are following in his footsteps and attempting to unravel the mysteries of cancer using fission yeast.

The Centre was funded by grants totalling £5.75m from the Joint Infrastructure Fund and the Wolfson Foundation. It has got off to a flying start with five major research grants from the Medical Research Council, together with project grants from the BBSRC, European Union, Leukaemia Research Fund, Cancer Research UK, Department of Health and the Wellcome Trust, among others. These grants will bring in a total of about £9 million over the next three to five years.

The laboratories are large and open-plan to foster interactions between research groups. The location of the building immediately adjacent to the School of Biological Sciences will increase the already strong links with faculty in the School.

It is anticipated that similar research links will be developed with the new Brighton and Sussex Medical School.

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Focus on virtual learning

A focus group has been set up to investigate the possibility of implementing a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) within the University to improve and enhance the learning experience of students.

“A VLE is a personalised online study environment,” explains Tom Browne from the Computing Service, who is chairing the group. “It offers a combination of learning and assessment materials together with new methods of communication with peers and tutors.”

The VLE would be implemented in conjunction with the Managed Learning Environment (MLE) being developed to keep integrated student records.

Using individual log-in names, students can use the system to receive information that is customised to their courses and university lifestyle without having to search the Sussex website to find it.

Lecturers can provide students with internet-based learning material and then monitor their use of the materials. They can also communicate to groups of students without the use of email lists.

One of the goals of the focus group is to evaluate the need and/or desire of academic faculty for a VLE. A brief questionnaire (plus further information) at www.biols.susx.ac.uk/vle asks four questions and the group would be grateful if as many teaching staff as possible could spare a few minutes to answer them.
Welcome Rob

It’s all change this month in External Relations and Communications.

Rob Read (pictured above), who previously held senior policy and communications roles in the Civil Service, started work on 1 April as the new Director of External Relations and Communications.

Rob has direct responsibility for the Press and Communications Office, Publications Office, Schools & Colleges Liaison and the newly renamed Web Team (formerly USIS). He also manages the Alumni and Development Office, which has moved structurally from the Finance Division but remains physically based in Bramer House.

Speaking of his new role, Rob said: “This is an exciting time to be joining the University and I am pleased to have the opportunity to help raise the University’s profile and improve communications on campus. I am looking forward to meeting staff and students to understand all the new initiatives and get to know the key issues here at Sussex.”

To contact Rob, call ext. 8109 or email r.k.read@sussex.ac.uk.

- With Press Officer Jacqui Bealing now on maternity leave, the Press and Communications Office welcomes a temporary assistant. Readers may remember Benedict Brook from his former incarnation as the Students’ Union Communications Officer (responsible for student media such as URF, the Badger and Pulse) for 2000-2001.

Research Services Division reaches out to Arts A office

The Research Services Division (RSD) opened a new office in Arts A this week, in a bid to improve communication with Schools and Subject Groups in the arts area.

Staff from the Pre Award Office of the RSD are now available for three days a week in Arts A121 (on ext. 2028), where faculty can visit for advice on and support for research applications.

Small ads

TO LET: 3 fully furnished rooms (2 bed, 1 lounge with balcony) in refurbished shared house in Saltdean. All mod cons. PG/mature students/staff preferred. Phone Steph on 307405.

FOR SALE: Sony laptop, 600Mhz, 12gb HD, 128 Mb RAM, 1kg, fax/modem card and built-in video camera. £1,080. Email prp5@sussex.ac.uk

TO LET: 2 rooms on ground floor of big house. Shared bathroom and kitchen. Suit professional academic with interest in music and/or creative technologies. Own phone line. £499 pcm/excl bills. Phone 07887 863153.

TO LET: House share in Firle. £375 pcm + bills. Available soon. Tel 48395.

TO LET: 3-bed furnished house in Lewes (prison area). Garden, patio. Email czechdays@totalise.co.uk or tel. 474738 (eves).

TO LET: Loft conversion room in family house. Own cooking facilities and TV, share bathroom and use of w/m. 2-min walk to London Road station, easy parking, suit female. £70 p/w incl. Tel. 385168.

FOR SALE: Large oak dining table and 4 matching chairs, £75. Email E.A.A.Groen@ sussex.ac.uk or call ext. 8373.


FOR SALE: Mahogany-coloured bookcase in good condition. Approx. 6’ x 3’ x 18”. 4 fixed and 3 adjustable shelves. £40. Ext. 7466 or email S.Goodwin@sussex.ac.uk.

FOR SALE: Flat 17 votes hardback. Offers to n.r.anson@sussex.ac.uk.
Spring school

Students stranded in Palestine return home

Eight Sussex students became caught up in escalating violence in the Middle East this month, after undertaking a trip to the West Bank city of Ramallah despite Foreign Office advice warning against travel to the area.

The students, who travelled with the Students’ Union Palestine Solidarity Society, were trapped for more than a week after Israeli troops moved in on the area in response to a series of suicide bombings. Soldiers besieged the headquarters of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and declared the city a closed military zone.

The students left Britain on 27 March, before the siege began, for what was intended as a two-week visit to establish links between Britain and Palestine. They were due to join up to 200 activists from across Europe on a series of visits to clinics, refugee camps and universities.

After the military campaign in Ramallah began, the students were among activists who offered themselves as human shields, in the hope that their presence would deter the Israelis from striking civilian targets.

Three of the students then made a dramatic escape, travelling through the streets in the back of an aid-agency ambulance.

Speaking from the relative safety of East Jerusalem, Human Sciences student Salma Karmi told the Agua about her experiences in the besieged city: “It was very frightening. We were constantly watching for shells and bullets. We couldn’t leave the house because we were 100 metres from Arafat’s compound. There were tanks and soldiers everywhere.”

Hove MP Ivor Caplin criticised the students for putting their lives and those of others at risk. He described the trip as “foolish” and said it would not achieve anything for the people of the region.

However, Dr Julian Saurin from the School of African and Asian Studies accused Mr Caplin of misrepresenting and belittling the efforts of the Sussex students. In a letter to the Agua, Julian said they “went to Ramallah to provide effective solidarity to ordinary Palestinians”.

In a press statement on 2 April, Registrar & Secretary Neil Gershon said: “A number of University of Sussex students have chosen to travel to the West Bank against the advice of the Foreign Office. We are concerned for their safety, but we recognise that they are adults and able to make a choice as to how they spend their vacation.”

All eight students returned safely to Britain on 7 April. Students’ Union President Dan Glazebrook, who was among the party, said that he wanted to return to the occupied territories in the future.

Sociologists of the future visit University of Sussex

Over 500 A level sociology students will attend a conference on ‘Contemporary Developments in Sociology’ at Sussex today (19 April).

Luke Martell, Senior Lecturer in Sociology, who is organising the event, says, “This conference aims to give the students an insight into current developments in sociology and also a taste of what studying the subject at university is like.”

The students will hear talks on topics in sociology such as the family, education, gender and postmodernism. Current students at the University will also address the A level students to answer their questions on university life.

Housing workshops

The Students’ Union and Housing Office are running a series of advice sessions for any student moving into private-sector accommodation. They look at finding accommodation, contracts and how to avoid problems.

Sessions will be held in Lancaster House Common Room on Thursday 25 April, from 6–7pm; Tuesday 30 April, 1–2pm; and Thursday 9 May, 6–7pm.

Alumni reunited

The 25th-anniversary reunion for the student intake of 1977 last week (13–14 April) seems to have been a rip-roaring success. Jessica Norrie, who studied French Literature in EURO, said: “It was a wonderful weekend, and there was a real sense of personal hospitality warmly offered. The group of friends I was (reunited) with found it a very enjoyable and rather moving experience.”

The event follows an equally popular event last month for more than 110 alumni from the 1961 and 1962 intakes.

Those who can, teach

A free taster course for up to 20 potential secondary school teachers is on offer at the Institute of Education (USE) next month. The course runs from 20 May, with two days in a local school and one day on campus. For more details contact Gill Carroll on ext. 7023 or email usie.otle@sussex.ac.uk.
Lectures, seminars, colloquia

Mon 22 Apr
1.00pm Experimental Psychology Monday Lunchtime Seminar: Philip Fine (Buckingham), How do singers sing music they've never seen before: Cognitive aspects of sight-singing. EP Seminar Room 4D13 / 4D14.

TUE 23 APR
1.00pm Islam, Crisis and the Future of Development Seminar: Nancy Lindstrom, Some thoughts on anthropology, imperialism and the new world order: The Afghan case. IDS, room number 110.

Wed 24 Apr
1.00pm IDS and University of Sussex Special Seminar: George Saitoti (Vice-President of Kenya), The challenges of economic and institutional reforms in Africa. IDS 221.

Thu 25 Apr
1.00pm Resisting 'Development'? Protest and the pursuit of alternatives: Marc Brown and Natja Thordarelsen (Reclaim the Streets), Grassroots resistance: The trials, tribulations and inspirations of building a worldwide direct action network. IDS 221.

Fri 26 Apr
4.00pm Bourke Lecture: D J Nesbitt (Colorado), In search of simplicity: Single frequencies, single collisions, single molecules. PEVI-1A6.

Mon 29 Apr
1.00pm Experimental Psychology Monday Lunchtime Seminar: Abigail Hartfield (Sussex), The microstructure of ingestive behaviour in rats following antipsychotic drugs. EP Seminar Room 4D13 / 4D14.

Tue 30 Apr
1.00pm IDS Seminar on Islam, Crisis and the Future of Development: Najim Jarrah (freelance journalist), Media and dissent in the Arab world. IDS 221.

2.15pm SEI Research-in-Progress Seminar: Valsamis Mitsilegas (Legal Adviser, House of Lords), The scrutiny of EU legislation by the House of Lords and the House of Commons. Arts A71.

4.00pm Experimental Psychology Colloquium: Sandra File (Kings College London), Soy supplements improve memory and frontal lobe function. EP Seminar Room 4D13 / 4D14.

6.30pm Professorial Lecture: Mike Hutchings (Sussex), Plant behaviour in a patchy world. Arts A2.

Wed 1 May
5.00pm Migration Research Seminar: Khalid Kosier (UCL), Reconciling control and compassion: Human smuggling and asylum-seekers. Arts D630.

Thu 2 May
1.00pm Resisting 'Development'? Protest and the pursuit of alternatives: Charles Abubare (Integrated Social Development Centre), Distributive effects of economic policy. IDS 221.

Performance

Sat 20 Apr
8pm Yat-Kha
A unique opportunity to listen to the rich musical and vocal traditions of the Tuvan, Khakass and Mongolian nomad peoples.

Thu 25–Sat 27 Apr
8pm Shoot 2 Win! A sharp, sassy new play set in the world of ladies' netball.

Cinema

Sun 21 Apr
5pm La Strada (PG)
7.30pm Atanarjuat (The Fast Runner)

Exhibitions

24 Apr–2 June
Photoworks – Bridges
Julie Galler’s personal journey to town and school as a child in south London.

Gardner Arts Centre
Box office: (01273) 685961
www.gardnerarts.co.uk

Bulletin

The Bulletin is written and produced by Alison Field and Peter Simmons. We welcome any news, story ideas, letters or small ads from staff and students of the University. The next issue will be out on 3 May, with a copy deadline of 1pm on 26 April. Please contact the Press and Communications Office in Sussex House on ext. 8888 or email bulletin@sussex.ac.uk.