Falling off the wagon

New research reveals the emotional costs of alcoholism

Alcoholics, especially those who relapse after frequent attempts to ‘dry out’, are damaging areas of their brain that recognise emotions, a Sussex study suggests.

Research on people’s responses to photographs of different emotional facial expressions shows that heavy drinkers who had previously tried to kick the bottle are more likely than either non-alcoholics, or alcoholics who had not previously experienced withdrawal symptoms, to read fear and sadness in all emotional expressions.

The study, by experimental psychologist Dr Theodora Duka (pictured) and research fellow Julia Townshend, has important implications for the treatment of alcoholics.

"If rehabilitation fails, we are left with alcoholics who are misinterpreting or exaggerating the emotions of those around them," says Theodora. "This can lead to more conflict in their environment, and more mental health problems."

The area of the brain that encodes the emotions of fear and sadness is the amygdala. Previous experiments using animals have shown that the repeated effects of alcohol withdrawal impair the functions of this area. For alcoholics with a history of detoxification, damage to the amygdala would result in them no longer being able to accurately interpret particular emotions.

The research also reveals that alcoholics in general are more likely to confuse the facial expressions of anger and disgust – emotions that are believed to be encoded in the basal ganglia and orbitofrontal cortex of the brain. This confusion, however, is not related to the frequency of alcohol withdrawal but is likely to be a symptom of long-term abuse.

Theodora’s study was carried out on 15 alcoholic inpatients attending a London clinic. The participants had abstained from alcohol at the time of the experiment. At least two weeks had passed since admission to the clinic and they had all been medically supported with standard, detoxification treatments. They had been free from all medication for at least one week before testing.

A control group of 15 social drinkers matched with the patient population were recruited from the postgraduate student and staff population of the University of Sussex.

Together with Professors Graham Davey and Dai Stephens, Dora is a director of the Sussex Centre for Research into Alcohol, Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (SCRAADA). This brings together diverse interests in addiction research and establishes links with hospitals and clinics in Sussex that treat alcoholics and addicts.

National Science Week starts today

National Science Week starts today (8 March) and there are a number of events taking place on campus to mark it.

This is the ninth annual National Science Week, which aims to promote science to the general public and in particular to young people. The week is organised by the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

Witfred’s in Crawley, Dr Gerry Lawless from CPES went to Skippers School in Tunbridge Wells, Dr Jon Loverday from CPES was at Oakfield Middle School, Dr Carlton Wood from BIOLS visited Bognor Regis Community College, and Dr Andy Cundy from CPES visited Uckfield Community College. The schools are now working on projects on a range of subjects such as sound, elements and molecules, the solar system, genetically modified food and renewable energy. Students from these schools will present posters of their work on campus on 15 March.

Also as part of National Science Week, Professor Ed Copeland (above) from CPES will give his Professorial Lecture, entitled ‘Exploring our Universe from particles to galaxies’, at 6.30pm on Tuesday (12 March) in Arts A2

More details of National Science Week events can be found on the British Association’s website at www.the-ba.net.
VC's voice

In my previous column, I wrote of the need for active academic planning for the next five-year period. We need to free up resources for expansion of activities with the best prospects of research performance, student recruitment and income generation. The Council of the University will be asked later this month to set up a small restructuring group to oversee the exercise. All members of the University should have ample opportunity to provide ideas and views so that we really do see this as a collective response to a shared challenge. I have already received a number of positive proposals for how the University can generate income, and I would welcome many more.

The Higher Education Funding Council will have issued its annual funding letter to universities by the time this column is printed. It is safe to predict that the news for many institutions will be difficult. We also know that student application numbers across the country are volatile, though applications to Sussex are strengthening. The uncertainties of the government’s student funding review, now not due to report until July, will add to the turbulence in the English higher education system. But if at Sussex we think strategically, act promptly and work together, we can face these challenges with confidence.

There are interesting developments in the vexed area of quality assurance. After months of negotiation between the interested parties, a deal is on Margaret Hodge’s desk for approval. It is a good deal. Universities are given back responsibility for managing their own quality and standards, and the role of the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) will be confined to periodic auditing of how well we are fulfilling these responsibilities. There will be less emphasis on regulation and more on improving the academic experience of our students (‘enhancement’ in the ugly jargon of the trade).

These external changes together with the changes in our own School structures create an opportunity for a shift of emphasis at Sussex from regulation to innovation, reducing the burden of bureaucratic paperwork, and giving academic units more control over their own affairs. I think universities can be trusted to take seriously their responsibilities to students without being subjected to the degree of external scrutiny there has been in the past. And in turn, I think that academic units should be trusted to take seriously their responsibilities to students.

Evening exit from science car park: Avoid the queue!

Cars leaving the University by the left-hand lane towards Lewes are advised to leave the Science car park via Estates Road (next to the Hastings Building) and to join the one-way system at the top of Boiler House Hill. The barrier from the car park into Estates Road is raised at 4.30pm for this purpose.

Staff in Estates apologise that the barrier has been closed for several days in recent weeks while work was completed on new road barriers. The new barriers in the middle and northern end of Estates Road onto Boiler House Hill will open automatically for cars driven slowly towards them from the Science car park.

Sussex wins funds for tomorrow’s technology

Sussex is the only university to receive two awards from a new multi-million-pound government fund that aims to revolutionise scientific research and innovation.

Two initiatives at Sussex are to be supported by the Basic Technology Research Programme, which is being managed by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) on behalf of all of the government-funded research councils in the UK.

A total of 229 outline applications were received, 26 of which were invited to submit full proposals and just eight of which are to receive funding.

Ed Hinds (above right), Professor of Experimental Physics, successfully bid for £1.3 million to develop a technology that should make possible a future generation of computers and sensors.

Ed and his team will use the laws of quantum mechanics to manipulate cold atoms and form extremely sensitive instruments known as ‘atom chips’.

This might permit increasing miniaturisation of electronics and will help to achieve computing power far greater than is possible in conventional computers, which use the motion of electrons down wires.

Terry Clark (below right), Professor of Physical Electronics, put in a successful bid of just under £1 million for a project that aims to make a revolutionary advance in the detection of electrical fields.

The non-contact electrical sensor that Terry is developing can be used in any area that has electrical activity, such as the human heart. He has already filed a patent application for a remote sensor that could allow doctors to monitor a patient’s heartbeat from a distance.

Other potential applications are as diverse as the imaging of single biological cells and geophysical surveying for oil and mineral deposits.

Basketball camps

For just £45, your children can enjoy three days of expert basketball tuition with coach Nick Nurse from the Brighton Bears. The Mid Season Mayhem takes place from 3 to 5 April, 10am to 4pm at the Sportcentre.

Nick will be back from 4 to 8 August with Steve Swanson and Bears captain Randy Duck. The summer camp costs £230 residential and £145 non-residential, but book before 30 April and the price drops to £210 and £130 respectively. A day pass costs £35.

Both camps are open to boys and girls aged 8 to 18. Email M.Denyer@sussex.ac.uk for a booking form or further details.
All in a day's work

Jacqui Bealing
Press Officer

20 February saw Dr John Haigh quoted on the front page of the Guardian, explaining how to make the date read the same backwards as forwards. "The date looks very nice," said John, Reader in Statistics in SMS. "But to make it a palindrome, February has to be written as 02," i.e. 20/02/2002.

Professor Lesley Fallowfield of the Psychosocial Oncology Group has been widely featured regarding her work on improving the communication skills of doctors. As well as appearing on BBC Breakfast TV, BBC TV South East, Radio 5 Live and various local radio stations, coverage included the Argus, local press all over the country and Hospital Doctor.

The Argus seems keen on psychology research at Sussex, with features on Dr Andy Field from COGS and his work on child phobias, as well as Dr Theodora Duka's research into the emotional impact of alcoholism. Dora also spoke to BBC Southern Counties Radio.

Mark Siater from CCE also appeared on Southern Counties Radio, giving tips on creative writing to a group of three budding writers. The publicity was quite timely for CCE, which is just extending its one-year Certificate in Creative Writing to two years and introducing an MA in Creative Writing and Personal Development.

Staying local, winter graduation stories appeared in the Argus and Sussex Express. They focused on retired police officer Bruce Byrne, who completed his studies despite undergoing major heart surgery, and Mary Davies, graduating in creative writing at the grand old age of 81.

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

As National Student Employment Week draws to a close, Student Employment Officer Andrea Wall explains how the Career Development and Employment Centre (CDEC) can help students to find work.

"The National Student Employment Week highlights to employers that students are a valuable resource – many employers don’t know that student employment services exist – and to students that their work is valued and that it can benefit them in the long term.

The Employment Centre is used by lots of small to medium-sized enterprises who are looking for part-time staff, because it’s often a more cost-effective method than local newspapers. Many of the services that we offer employers are free, and the main agenda is that we want to find our students flexible and interesting jobs that have a decent wage.

Part-time work is a necessity for the majority of students but hopefully offers something else apart from their studies and makes their experience at Sussex more rounded. For more and more graduate jobs, you also need to demonstrate a wide range of skills. We advertise traditional bar work and waitressing – these are popular positions – but there are also students who want to take on work that’s more appropriate to their studies or their interests.

There are getting on for a hundred student employment services now in colleges and universities. Traditionally ‘jobshops’ were seen as just the place you went to get part-time work – and the connection between student jobs and graduate jobs wasn’t really seen.

We are one of the first universities to combine a student employment office and careers service as one unit, under one roof. The philosophy of CDEC is to offer students a complete service from day one at Sussex, combining vacancies and career planning.

So the Employment Centre here now advertises all vacancies. At the moment we’ve got approximately 200 jobs for finalists (graduate training schemes), 150 immediate graduate vacancies, 350 part-time vacancies each week, about 160 legal vacancies, and now we’re starting to receive vacation work – there are currently 180. The feedback so far, from students and employers, has been really positive.

We advise students to work no more than 15 hours a week in term time. That’s University policy, because various studies have shown that anything above that affects their studies. We won’t advertise anything over those hours.

The current National Minimum Wage is £4.10 per hour, and the Centre ensures that all vacancies meet current legislation requirements. We have our own Code of Practice for employers which must be met. It rarely deters them; they want to recruit, so they try to be flexible. Positions like computer programmers can pay up to £20 an hour as students with technical skills are in demand.

Quite a high percentage of part-time jobs are in hospitality and catering, as well as care work. They’re not as well paid, but the hours are often quite flexible.

There are many call-centre positions, because a number of the major players are based in Brighton and Hove. The jobs are usually in the evenings or at weekends, they pay well, and the training’s good in skills such as customer-service. Employers such as Amex look for students with languages.

We also get lots of teaching jobs: they tend to be for the Easter and summer vacations. English-language teaching is popular, especially for European nationals who can use their native language. And then there are lots of summer camp positions to work abroad.

Most part-time jobs are in the local area, of course. We’ve got jobs going out as far as Hastings, but most students want to work on campus or in Brighton.

We also act as a resource for any positions that staff on campus have available. We can find administrative help and lots of students have really good work experience, as secretaries or PA.s.

We also organise recruitment fairs for graduate jobs and part-time jobs, attended by local and national employers. The next Jobday is on 12 June and we’ll start organising that in April.

I manage two permanent members of staff and seven student assistants, who work for about 12 hours each. Apart from that, my day involves liaising with employers and internal units as well as talking to students at events such as Open Days and induction.

To build good working relationships in the community I meet with employers and attend various employment events in the local community. I also liaise with professional bodies, keeping up to date with employment law, tax and national insurance issues, and so on.

For the future I hope to expand the services we offer to local employers and the University, such as advanced vacancy processing.

But our main priority doesn’t change: that the students get worthwhile, interesting jobs paying a decent wage."
Dear Bulletin

While welcoming the new Widening Participation Officer (Bulletin 22 February), whom I have met and will be working with in the future, I would like to point out that the rest of the University's strategy does not seem to complement the 'widening participation' ethos.

Sussex is already in a difficult position to recruit students from marginalised backgrounds for a number of reasons. These include the general funding situation, with the lack of grant clearly putting off many people from attending for financial reasons, but also more specific reasons such as the rising cost of housing in the area, which is forcing local people out. Neither of these things are the fault of the University administration.

However, the University's increasingly exploitative attitude towards its students can only make things even more difficult for those underprivileged students who do make it here.

The plans to turn Bramber House into a corporate shopping mall may be appealing to some, but are likely to be highly exclusionary to many due to the high prices. Why do I think prices will be high? Because the University is determined to finance the venture with private capital that will be paid back, with interest, over many years, meaning that high rents will have to be charged to service providers in the building. These high rents will undoubtedly be passed onto students in the form of high prices.

Similarly worrying is the University's talk of raising rents on campus, to pay for maintenance work, as is the idea of putting the insurance money from the Sussex floods into online books rather than physical books – meaning that students will have to pay more for print-outs, and those without computers will be further excluded.

All these measures make the University's talk of 'widening participation' seem little more than rhetoric. I sincerely hope I am proven wrong.

Dan Glazebrook
USU President

Neil Gershon, Registrar & Secretary, replies:

Dan Glazebrook has brought together a number of issues that are of national importance. The paucity of state support for students and the continued underfunding of universities are issues that concern everyone in the sector. The high cost of living in London and the South East is creating major problems throughout public services as housing costs rise faster than salaries with the obvious impact on recruitment and retention.

To continue to attract staff and students to this university we have to provide facilities of the highest quality. All provision has a cost attached and creating good facilities requires investment. We simply cannot go on pretending that buildings put up in the 1960s, however architecturally meritorious, are fit for their purpose in 2002.

Therefore we have to invest significant capital sums in teaching and research infrastructure and in campus facilities. All capital investment has a cost and while the University has been able to borrow at reasonable rates to fund primarily housing developments, it is close to its permitted borrowing limit. This means that we need to seek alternative solutions that may include private-sector involvement.

However, the notion that the private sector means higher prices is just not borne out by local evidence. Most School common rooms are run by external contractors and the Students' Union itself has contracted out the food service in Falmer Bar. All these facilities are well used and successful.

More than half the current retail provision in Bramber House is externally run and there seems to be no shortage of custom.

The University is very sensitive to the local rented market for accommodation and endeavours to ensure that students receive good value for money from University provision. Increasingly, exit surveys demonstrate that students want better facilities, more en suite rooms, better social facilities and so on.

Delivering those costs money and for many years the university sector has had to balance its residence and catering accounts without subsidy from general university funds provided for teaching and research. Maintenance costs of residential accommodation have always been a charge on rents and the only issue is how quickly we respond to student-led demand for higher quality provision.

The Librarian is committed to restoring the knowledge base lost in the Lewes flood. In this day and age it would be astonishing if that did not include a major element of electronic provision. The issue here is how we ensure that all students have access to computing facilities and we are addressing that through the development of a Managed Learning Environment.

Widening participation is about raising the aspirations of people who have traditionally not seen higher education as a goal and ensuring that as much of our provision as possible can be made available through part-time or non-conventional modes. It is not about the price of a cup of tea.

I’ll have my tea with milk, danke

Peter Nickel (pictured) is an Erasmus exchange student from the University of Tübingen in Germany, working with Dr Andy Smith’s protein engineering group in BIOLS.

Before I came to Sussex, I was convinced that I would never do such a disgusting thing as to have tea with milk. But this was only one of my errors. I also feared I would have trouble communicating with English native speakers, and might be looked down on because of my problems with their language.

My worries soon turned out to be baseless. I found that I was part of an exceptionally international research group, with students, postgraduates and postdocs from France, Spain, Canada, the US, Vietnam and Wales. The anticipated language barrier proved no serious obstacle. I have learned that a streaker is not just a device used for spreading bacterial cells. And, after spotting a bird outside the office window, I now feel less awkward referring to long-tailed, blue or great tits in public.

Despite the overall similarities between the British and German ways of life, I have noticed distinct cultural differences, especially when it comes to tea. I now take pleasure in the English custom of having two tea breaks per day instead of only one brief German coffee break. The conversation at tea time has covered a wide range of topics, from the possible colonization of the planet Mars to shocking details of English stag nights. This tradition of double tea breaks is admirable and has had a largely positive effect on my motivation.

I receive occasional smirks when talk turns to last year’s World Cup qualifying match between the German and English football teams but otherwise we have felt very comfortable and welcome in England. Above all, I am never going to have my tea without milk again.
The Partnership Office

The Partnership Office is responsible for links between the University and its nine partner institutions. These are: Chichester College of Arts, Science and Technology; Crawley College; Croydon College; Hastings College of Arts and Technology; Ravensbourne College of Design and Communication; Roffey Park Institute; Sussex Downs College; Trinity College of Music; and West Dean College.

Nikki Barnes and Jonathan Lamley are the partners who comprise the Partnership Office, based in Sussex House. On this page the Bulletin features what they get up to in their spare time.

Marathon man

"It said they were still looking for runners. I have always wanted to do the marathon, but never got round to it until I saw the article." His late entry means that Jonathan also got off to a late start with his training, which now involves two or three lunchtime jogs per week of about 45 minutes, with a longer run at the weekend.

Couch potatoes may wonder what the attraction is, especially as Jonathan has also had to cut down on his alcohol intake, prefers other sports and has never run seriously. Although he's doing the Hastings half marathon on 17 March as preparation, the farthest he's ever run until now is 10 miles.

Mencap is a very worthy cause, of course. (He needs to raise a massive £1,500, so give him a call on ext. 8235 or email j.n.lamley@sussex.ac.uk) But most importantly, says Jonathan, "I'm sure the sense of achievement at running 26 miles will be huge." Couch potatoes will drink to that.

Despite a record number of entries for the London Marathon in April, Jonathan Lamley (pictured above) managed to sneak in at the last minute.

"I saw a magazine article about a month ago that said Sam from 'Coronation Street' was running for Mencap," says Jonathan, Assistant Registrar in the Partnership Office.

First class

Lady Attenborough, the University's Chancellor, has been elected as the third President of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA). After making his stage debut in 1941, Lord Attenborough has gone on to either act or direct in over 70 films including 'Brighton Rock', 'Oh! What a Lovely War', 'Cry Freedom' and 'Gandhi', for which he won two Oscars. Two of Lord Attenborough's children -- Jane and Michael -- were students at Sussex in the 1970s. He has been Chancellor since 1999.

Professor Calestous Juma, who did a DPhil in SPRU 1983-86, has been made Chancellor of the University of Guyana. A Kenyan national, he is Director of the Science, Technology and Innovation Program at Harvard University's Centre for International Development.

Professor Jörg Monar, Co-Director of the Sussex European Institute, has been appointed Specialist Adviser to the Select Committee on the European Union of the House of Lords, for an inquiry into European Union measures on tackling illegal immigration.

Long-term study into short-term contracts

In these days of tuition fees and student loans there are many students who work as well, to help pay their way through their degree. Being a university student is a small but sizeable number of staff who burn the midnight study oil to further their careers or simply to extend their intellectual horizons.

At Sussex they include Nikki Barnes, Head of the Partnership Office, which oversees the University's relationships with partner institutions such as local colleges.

Not content with working and bringing up a young child, she is also midway through a PhD in the business school at the University of Brighton (having previously spent three years studying part-time for an MBA).

It was during her MBA that Nikki first became interested in the subject of her doctoral research: staff in higher education who work on fixed-term contracts.

"I started doing a pilot study, and I was staggered by the anger and unhappiness that came out of it, and by the impact on organisational behaviour -- how people could feel less motivated and less committed to their university. It's very powerful stuff and I feel passionate about it. The motivation was to try to make a difference for other people."

Estimates put the numbers of staff in higher education on fixed-term contracts at up to 80,000 -- many of them researchers. Nikki's study is based on interviews with 40 such academics at four different institutions: Brighton, LSE, Cambridge and Sussex.

"Some people are fine about being fixed-term but I interviewed a guy who had been on the point of committing suicide, and I've interviewed people who feel they've been driven to a nervous breakdown."

But why should this be? "If you're part-time, you're visibly different -- you're not here some of the time -- but if you're fixed term you're ostensibly the same. Actually you're not, in all sorts of ways, and it's unpicking what that does for people and the way that they behave in an organisational context that fascinates me."

With another two years until completion of her PhD, it's too early to say what comes next. (Nikki already has journal articles and two book chapters to her name, as well as a book in the offing.)

"I don't know. But I can't imagine taking that buzz and intellectual stimulus out of my life. I really enjoy my work as an administrator, but when you're with people who are passionate about the same issues, it has a real lift that writing committee papers just doesn't have."
Cancer doctors learn how to listen

A major study by a Sussex psychologist into specialist communication training for cancer doctors looks set to influence government policy.

Medics who attended Professor Lesley Fallowfield's intensive three-day training courses became much more empathetic towards their patients. As a result, the patients felt their doctors cared more about them - which is a crucial element in how patients will respond to treatment.

Now the Department of Health is looking into implementing the training model on a national scale. Lesley, who carried out the research on behalf of Cancer Research UK and published the results in the Lancet last month, is currently in discussion with Professor Mike Richards, the government's National Cancer Director.

"This is enormously exciting, and especially good news for the University of Sussex," says Professor Fallowfield, who runs the Cancer Research UK Psychosocial Oncology Group on campus. "We will be seen as a centre of excellence in teaching communication skills."

Some 160 doctors from 34 cancer centres in the UK and 4,000 cancer patients were used for the study. These included health professionals at the Royal Sussex County Hospital and more than 100 local patients.

The study involved observing doctors with patients in their clinics both before training and afterwards. It was found that those who had attended training courses were better at asking their patients open-ended questions, allowed their patients to tell their own story, and involved the patients more in discussions and decisions about their treatment.

The patients commented that they felt their doctors really cared about them and had given them much more time. In fact, the consultations were of the same length as previously, but the time had been used more efficiently.

In brief

Orchestra concert
This term's concert takes place tomorrow (Saturday 9 March) at St Bartholomew's church in Brighton. The University orchestra will be playing a programme by Shostakovich, Sibelius, Mussorgsky and Potter from 7.30pm.

Sussex Archaeology Symposium
On Saturday 16 March the Centre for Continuing Education (CCE), in association with the Sussex Archaeological Society, will be holding its annual Archaeology Symposium. The day includes illustrated lectures on sites at Barcombe Villa, the Bishopstone valley, Boxgrove, Hastings High Street and Streatham Manor. For more information, call ext. 8040.

Robin Lee Poetry Competition
Robin Lee was a student at Sussex in the 1960s. On his death his mother set up and funded an annual poetry competition, which is open to all students and non-teaching staff. Entrants for the 2002 competition may submit up to four poems, totalling not more than 100 lines. Contact Elaine Saunders in Arts B239, ext. 7303, for an entry form. The closing date is noon on Friday 31 May. Cash prizes are awarded to the winner and the runner-up.

Easter language courses
Brush up your speaking and listening skills with a two-day intensive A level course in French, German or Spanish from 4–5 April. Cost £55. Contact the Open Course Assistant on ext. 7258.

Staff and students on heat
Thirty staff and students took part in a fire walking event on 27 February and raised £500 for the charity Action for Blind People. Clubs and Societies Co-Ordinator Victoria Ornelas said, "Everyone who took part said it didn't hurt and that standing on the cold grass was worse!"
**Bulletin board**

Details of events also on the web at www.susx.ac.uk/USIS/now/events.cfm

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**Lectures, seminars, colloquia**

**Mon 11 Mar**
11.30am–1.00pm
**IDoS Special Seminar:**
Martha Nussbaum (Chicago), Constitutions and capabilities: Sen and social justice. IDoS Room 221.

12.30pm–1.50pm
**Continuing Education Research Forum:**
Julia Disdaille, Community Voice. Listening to the learners and hearing what they say. Arts D310.

1.00pm–2.00pm
**Experimental Psychology Monday Luncheon Seminar:**
Alan Garnham (Sussex), Focusing, pronoun interpretation and the informational load hypothesis. EP Seminar Room 4D13/4D14.

1.00pm–2.30pm
**IDoS Seminar on Islam, Crisis and the Future of Development:**
Fred Halliday (LSE), September 11th and the new politics of West Asia. IDoS Room 120.

**Tue 12 Mar**
12.30pm–1.30pm
**Graeme Hogarth (University College London),** Media-mediated carbon-nitrogen bond formation. Chichester 3R 143.

12.30pm–2.05pm
**Centre for Life History Seminar:**
Marie Demboué & Emily Haslam (Sussex), Victims cut short: Turning personal traumatic memories into legal evidence of war crimes at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. Library Meeting Room.

3.15pm–5.15pm
**Biochemistry and Genetics Development Seminar:**
John Messinger (Cambridge), Neural correlates of colour change in cephalopods. Ancillary Lecture Room (ALR) BIOLS.

5.30pm–7.00pm
**USIE Open Seminar:**
Pat Drake (Sussex), Testing teachers: Perspectives on a QTS skills test in numeracy. EDB 341.

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**Small ads**

**FOR SALE:** For sale: 200 secondhand gold ball. £40. Contact Alice in Pevensy porter's lodge, ext. 7133 or 3200.

**TO LET:** Room in 4-bed B'ton house with garden. £55 pcm, sharing with 3 friendly, suitable for PG/mature students. Available 20 March. Tel. 560814.

**FOR SALE:** AMD Duron 700mhz PC, 128mb Ram, 20GB HD, 17" monitor, Windows ME, 56k modem, Soundblaster Audio. Only 12 mths old. £450 (cost £900 new). Contact Andy Mead on ext. 2763 or email andy@biols.sussex.ac.uk.

**EASTER SUBLET:** Furnished 1-bed flat in central B'ton available for all or part of 13 Mar–19 Apr, for faculty of visiting scholars only. Email annapaska@hotmail.com.

**TO LET:** Fully furnished room in Islingword Rd, B'ton. Available now for 3–9 mths. £54 p/w excl. bills. Half rent over the summer. Tel. 812987 or 07813 968723.

**TO LET:** Room(s) in 2/3-bed B'ton house. Available now till June/Sept (negotiable). Ideal for couple or two quiet, mature and tidy friends (M or F), sharing with Sussex student. £65 p/w + bills. Call Chris on 07815 800 501.

**FOR SALE:** 2 adjustable desk lamps, £5 each one. 2KW electric fire, with brass surround and artificial logs, £20 each. 14" brass light fitting, suitable for illuminating picture or lectern, £8 each. White MDF bedroom chest and kneehole drawer, 37"l worktop across both, £34 each. Email abberer@pact.cpes.sussex.ac.uk.

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**Gardner Arts Centre**

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

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**Performance**

**Fri 8–Sat 9 Mar**
Fri 10.30am and 1.30pm, Sat 11am and 2pm
Book of the Banshee
Anne Fin's witty comedy of growing up, messing up and making up – adapted for the stage.

**Tue 12 Mar**
2.30pm
Random Dance – Nemesia
Extra-curricular dance meets reality TV.

**Thu 14–Sat 16 Mar**
Thu 7.30pm, Fri & Sat 2.30pm and 7.30pm
Young Vic – Monkey!
The tale of the roguish Monkey and his exploits on a fabulous journey to India. The first five Bulletin readers at the box office get a free pair of tickets, worth £24.

Wed 20 Mar 8pm
Trev & Simon's Circus of Evil

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**Exhibitions**

**Until 17 Mar**
**Photoworks – It's Wrong to Wish on Space Hardware**
A group exhibition based around space and space travel, including the work of contemporary photographers, archival photographs from NASA, and astrological images from the 19th century.

**Sun 17 Mar**
5pm Annie Hall (15)
8pm The Piano Teacher (18)

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**Bulletin**

The Bulletin is written and produced by Alison Field and Peter Simmons, with regular contributions from Jacob Bealing. We welcome any news, story ideas, letters or small ads from staff and students of the University. The next issue will be out on 22 March, with a copy deadline of 1pm on 15 March. Please contact the Press and Communications Office in Sussex House on ext. 8888 or email Bulletin@sussex.ac.uk.