New plan for travel to campus

Main points
- Charge for car drivers to park on campus during working hours by introducing a permit system
- Ban students resident on campus (with a few exceptions) from parking on campus
- Set up a computerised car sharing scheme for staff and students
- Encourage walking through better maintenance of footpaths and roads and the provision of more, safer walking routes on campus
- Encourage cycling by increasing the availability of showers and lockers, installing additional cycle parking, and providing new and wider cycle lanes on campus
- Increase the number of motorcycle spaces available and improve security for motorcycles parked on campus
- Encourage bus travel by improving information provision and bus waiting facilities, negotiating better fare deals and reviewing bus routes
- Encourage train travel through negotiation with the train operator about the carriage of bicycles on trains and the use of student passes during peak hours
- Encourage campus visitors to travel by sustainable modes
- Reduce the need to travel by encouraging home-working
- Enable staff to plan their day more easily around transport alternatives available through operation of a flex-time system

Staff and students should get out of their cars and on to buses, bikes and trains, according to the University's Travel Plan published last week. They must face up to the need for radical measures to curb unnecessary car journeys, it says.

In order to reduce the impact of University-generated traffic on the environment and the local community, the Transport Manager, Linda Newman (pictured), is proposing a number of measures to encourage staff, students and visitors to use public transport and other sustainable ways of travelling. Alongside these she recommends disincentives for car drivers, in the form of a comprehensive parking strategy and increasing restraint on cars.

Work on the plan began in April 2000, before Linda's appointment as Transport Manager at the beginning of 2002. She presented the Travel Plan to senior management earlier this month and it will be discussed by Senate and Council at the end of term.

Introducing the plan, Registrar & Secretary Neil Gershon writes: “The chronic parking problem and peak-time queues to exit from the University are ample evidence of the high level of car use, particularly single use of the car for travel to and from campus.

“New developments in research and teaching, like the new medical school, which are essential for the survival and economic health of the University, will further exacerbate our travel problems. Yet our special location and local planning restrictions prevent any extension to car-park provision on campus.”

Potentially the most controversial aspect of the Travel Plan is the introduction of a Parking Strategy, including proposals to charge car drivers to park on campus. Linda recognises that this will be unpopular but argues that it is “the essential disincentive to car-use” in the plan, which aims to reduce travel by vehicles containing only one person by 10 per cent over three years.

Back in 2000 the proposal was to charge according to salary level, with a low charge for students. The plan now proposes a standard rate (equivalent to £300 per year for full-time staff), “There is no subsidy to public transport fares according to salary,” argues Linda. “And the cost of provision of a car-park space and the space needed per car is uniform.”

“I recognise that some initiatives will be unpopular and painful,” writes Neil Gershon, “but they should be seen as essential incentives to achieving the overall aim of the Plan. I hope that we are all prepared to make this real improvement to the environment in which we live, work or study.”

- The Travel Plan is available at www.sussex.ac.uk/transport.

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Forum debates academic freedom

Students and staff at an open forum on campus last week (23 May) discussed issues of academic freedom and academic power in the wake of a furor around the racist views of Professor Geoffrey Sampson.

Professor Sampson, from the School of Cognitive and Computing Sciences, had posted an item on his personal website called "There's nothing wrong with racism". Individuals both on and off campus have been split over Professor Sampson's right to express racist views. Speakers at the University-wide forum called variously for his removal from teaching duties, his resignation and his dismissal. Others defended his right to express personal views.

Professor Sampson has resigned as a councillor and as a member of the Conservative party. He has also removed the offending article from his website, saying: "I don't want to help groups which behave oppressively or violently by giving them a chance to claim there is a university professor who is on our side."

In the face of calls for Professor Sampson's dismissal, the Vice-Chancellor has reaffirmed both the University's dissociation from his racist views and his entitlement to communicate them. Professor Alasdair Smith told the Bulletin: "Academic freedom requires us to allow people to express views, however obnoxious or repellent the rest of us find them."

He added: "We are an internationalist and multi-ethnic institution and very proud of that, and we're not an institution that supports racism in any form."
**Bookmark**

New books by Sussex authors

Geoff Leigh (Emeritus Professor of Environmental Science, CPES) and N. Winterton (eds)
**Modern Coordination Chemistry, The Legacy of Joseph Chatt**
Royal Society of Chemistry, £89.99 (hardback)
The publisher says: “Co-ordination chemistry, as we know it today, has been shaped by major figures from the past, one of whom was Joseph Chatt. Intended as a permanent record of Chatt’s life, work and influence, this book may be of interest to lecturers, graduate students, researchers and science historians.”

David Alan Mellor (Professor of History of Art, EAM)
**The Art of Robyn Denny**
Mud Dog Art Publishers, £19.95 (paper)

David Rudling (GCE)
**Downland Settlement and Land Use: The Archaeology of the Brighton Bypass**
Arcthegic Publications, £30.00 (hardback)
Between 1989 and 1991 a programme of archaeological rescue excavations was undertaken on the route of the new A27 Brighton Bypass. In addition to investigating an area, which had previously yielded an important assemblage of Mesolithic and later flintwork (Redhill), and a nationally important block of prehistoric fields (Eastwick Barn), the Brighton Bypass Archaeology Project located and recorded two important and previously unknown Later Bronze Age settlements (Mile Oak and Downview). It provides a significant advance in our understanding of the prehistory of the South Downs, and has much wider implications for areas beyond Sussex.

James Thomson (Reader in Economic History, EURO)
**A Distinctive Industrialization: Cotton in Barcelona 1728-1832**
Cambridge University Press, £22.95 (paper)
The publisher says: “This is a study of the development of Barcelona’s cotton industry from its origins in calico-printing in 1728 to its introduction of steampower in 1832. It thus describes the experiences of the leading industry of the city, and one which provides the only Mediterranean exception to the tendency of early industrialization to be concentrated in northern Europe.”

Christopher Wrigley (Emeritus Reader of History, AFRAS)
**Kinship and State: The Buganda Dynasty**
Cambridge University Press, £20.95 (paper)
The publisher says: “The precolonial kingdom of Buganda, nucleus of the present Uganda state, has long attracted scholarly interest. He has written an elegant, wide-ranging and original study of one of Africa’s most famous kingdoms.”

All titles are available from the University Bookshop. If you are a Sussex author and have a book coming out in June, let us know on ext. 8888 or by email at Bulletin@sussex.ac.uk.

**Future of the RAE**

The Trades Union Liaison Committee has invited Dr Ian Gibson and Dr Des Turner to speak about the Select Committee on Science and Technology report on the Research Assessment Exercise (RAE).

Dr Ian Gibson, MP for Norwich North and a former dean of Biological Sciences at the University of East Anglia, is the chair of the Select Committee; Dr Des Turner, MP for Brighton Kemptown, is a member.

Their report concluded that, “The RAE has had positive effects … but it also stands accused of distorting research practice, ruining academic careers and contributing to the closure of university departments. It has imposed a huge administrative burden on those assessed. The RAE in its present form is generally agreed to have had its day. We expect a number of ways forward and propose a new funding model.” See the report at www.parliament.uk/commons/selcom/thome.htm.

Discuss the future of the RAE with the two MPs on Friday 14 June at 12.30pm, in Pevensey 1A6.

**Government green energy plans flawed**

One of the main obstacles to this target, according to Jim, is the New Electricity Trading Agreement (NETA), which rewards companies that predict exactly how much energy they will supply and penalises those that fail.

With wind power, the amount of electricity supplied can vary according to the weather. This uncertainty could lead to fines for wind energy companies, making its generation more expensive.

Jim’s findings are that NETA will have to be changed to accommodate non-fossil fuels and that, while the sentiment of the Renewables Obligation is welcome, in practice much more needs to be done to stimulate innovation in the field of renewable energy.

**Research funding opportunities**

More details of these and other research opportunities are available from the Research Services Division. 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

**EPSRC – SUPERGEN**
In collaboration with ESRC, NERC and BBSRC, EPSRC is inviting expressions of interest from consortia that address the economic, social, environmental & biological challenges of achieving sustainable power generation in partnership with the engineering sciences.
**Deadline: 27 June**

**British Council – Italy**
This joint UK-Italian Programme provides travel and subsistence costs to new or recently initiated collaborative links between institutions. This year’s theme is Science & Quality of Life. Eligible subject areas are: human and animal biology; nanotechnology; and climate change.
**Deadline: 19 July**

**British Academy – Joint Activities**
Funds are available to support international joint activities, involving UK scholars in collaboration with overseas partners in one or two other countries. Grants of up to £2,500 p.a. for up to 3 years will support travel and maintenance, workshops and symposia.
**Deadline: 30 September**

**AHRB Innovation Awards – 2nd round**
Grants of up to £50,000 for up to one year are available to support innovative and/or speculative research projects which seek to challenge existing models, perceptions, research methods or modes of thought.
**Deadline: 30 September**

**Royal Academy of Engineering**
International travel grants provide part funding for conference attendance and for visits to research institutions and/or industrial sites for up to 2 months. Applicants should submit their application at least 2 months before the proposed trip.
**No deadline**
University of Sussex gets gold for health and safety

Sussex has become one of only two universities in the country to win Gold in the Occupational Health and Safety Awards from the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA). Clive Parkinson, Director of Health and Safety (pictured right), received the award on behalf of the University at a glittering ceremony in Birmingham on 15 May.

The Gold Award is given to organisations that can show real improvements in health and safety procedures and policy over a period of several years. “Three years ago, when I arrived at Sussex, the University would have struggled to get any sort of external award,” said Clive. “It was all very piecemeal but no one was looking at the bigger picture across campus.”

Clive’s team set about changing the culture at Sussex: “We put together a health and safety plan asking where we were and where we wanted to be in three years’ time. This was then endorsed by Council and implemented.”

Consequently, over the last 18 months every unit has had to reassess its safety-management systems and a termly newsletter now goes out to all staff informing them of health and safety matters.

Nationally, over a million people every year are injured at work and 10 million days are taken off sick through back problems and other aches. This all adds up to an £18bn cost per annum to the UK economy.

As part of the RoSPA award, Sussex staff have managed to reduce the number of accidents at work to below the average for educational institutions. Outdated furniture, some of which dated back to the University’s inception in 1961, has been thrown out and replaced with back-supporting chairs and desks that allow computers to be the proper distance away from users.

“Now, if you want a wrist rest, a special chair or a footrest, it’s not a problem, whereas in the past it might have been seen as unnecessary,” explained Clive.

One of the innovative projects implemented is mandatory health and safety inductions for first year students. When freshers meet staff from the Computing Service, the Library and the like, they also meet Clive, who explains the procedures relating to health and safety on campus.

Together with CJ Lee, Students’ Union Sports and Activities Coordinator, Clive held sessions with 80 student clubs and societies to stress the importance of safety. After all, you can make campus as safe as possible, but if a student society has an expedition off campus it has to be aware of the risks and how to overcome them.

For Clive, though, it’s all in a day’s work. This is in fact the second RoSPA Gold Award he has won, achieving the gong at his previous job with the Wellcome pharmaceutical company.

For more information on health and safety, see www.sussex.ac.uk/Units/safety.

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Levelling the playing field

Disabled students at Sussex

September 2002 sees the introduction of the Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001, which will have a major impact on the provision universities will be expected to make for students with disabilities. In the second of a series of articles highlighting disability issues, Bulletin spoke to Wayne Green about his experiences at Sussex.

Wayne Green (pictured right) didn’t even know he was dyslexic until he reached the age of 38: “At school I was simply told I was dim, and I believed that.”

“The best way to describe dyslexia is heightened awareness,” explains Wayne. “When I look at a piece of paper I see the letters, the lines and the paper itself, which is simply too much information.”

The condition manifests itself in other forms: “When you think of something you can usually write it down straightforward. With dyslexics this link between the thought and the expressing of it is often lost.”

After he was diagnosed, Wayne realised that a whole support network was available to deal with dyslexia and he embarked on an International Relations degree, which he is about to complete.

One of the reasons Wayne chose Sussex was because of the establishment of the Assistive Technology Centre (ATC) in Lancaster House: “I cannot fault the ATC. They’re fantastic and need all the support they get,” he says.

Resources at Wayne’s disposal include a computer program that automatically corrects spelling errors as he types, an electronic dictionary, a dictaphone to record lectures, and the services of a mentor to check his work.

In his seminars, Wayne feels he has been treated in a helpful and open manner. However, he is scathing of some tutors’ attitudes: “A lot of people still seem to see dyslexia as a made-up disease – once, when I explained to a lecturer that I had dyslexia, he told me ‘no excuses!’”

Wayne thinks that all teaching staff should have to attend a short course explaining what dyslexia is and the simple measures that can be taken to make it easier for students to learn. He also thinks that all written material should be provided in a dyslexic-friendly format.

Exams are another niggle for Wayne: “In some exams, dyslexic students’ work is flagged so those marking concentrate on the content of the argument rather than appearance or grammar and spelling. However, some exams are not flagged so tutors could potentially mark you down unfairly.”

In the Library, Wayne suggests book codes should be more clearly printed, while a system based on colours could identify genres.

Next month Wayne is due to present a paper to a conference at the University of Oxford on globalisation – not bad for the teenager who left school because he was too dim.

- Exhibition of enabling technology for visually impaired students: Thu 13 June, 10am–4pm, Lancaster House Common Room. Organised by the Assistive Technology Centre.
Transport issues on campus

Work starts on construction of new A27 underpass

Years of pressure from the University have finally paid off, it seems, with the first signs that a new underpass between Falmer station and the University campus is really going to be built.

Sub-contractors for Southern Water and NTL are shifting the water main and rerouting data cabling, as they undertake enabling works in preparation for the construction of a new subway under the A27.

However, various land issues at the south end of the underpass appear to have delayed the start of construction itself. The Highways Agency’s initial plan had been to commence work in early July and finish before the end of the summer vacation, but the start has now been pushed back to 9 September.

The construction team will use the triangle of grass between the A27 and the Sportcentre as a building site to make the underpass in sections. They will then shut the A27 while they install the completed structure over a long weekend.

Falmer House Road (at the main entrance to campus) will be closed during the eight weeks of the contract, but it will be open for University traffic every day from 8-10am and in the evening after 6pm. In addition, Rob French, Special Projects Manager in Estates, is expecting a positive response to his request that the road stay open for the whole of the freshers’ weekend from 5-6 October.

The new £1 million subway will be three times the width of the existing one, with improved drainage and lighting. It will also incorporate a cycleway and CCTV security cameras. Drawings will be on display at the launch of the University Travel Plan on 11 June.

Summer’s almost with us, so it’s time to get that rusting old bike out of the shed and search for those shoes that were made for walking.

The University is marking two national initiatives – Green Transport Week from 8-16 June and Bike Week from 15-23 June – with a series of events on campus. (And don’t forget to cheer on Sussex staff and students taking part in the annual London to Brighton bike ride on 16 June.)

- Tue 11 June: Travel Plan launch, including 1-3pm public display on transport, plus Linda Newman (Transport Manager) available to answer questions informally on the Travel Plan, Meeting House Quiet Room.

- Thu 13 June: 1-2pm environmental walk from Meeting House, led by Amanda Hastings (Environmental Officer).

- Fri 14 June: 8.30am group bike ride to campus from Halfords in Lewes Road, Brighton. Possibly also from Woodingdean and Lewes. 8-9.30am free breakfast in the Meeting House for cyclists. Bike Doctor available.


- Wed 19 June (Bike2Work Day): 8.30am group bike ride to campus from Halfords in Lewes Road, Brighton. Possibly also from Woodingdean and Lewes. 8-9.30am free breakfast in the Meeting House for cyclists. Bike Doctor available.

Med School building works

Building work on the new Medical School started this week and will continue for about a year.

The pavement along Biology Road and half of the road itself will be within the building site, which is next to BIOLS. One bay’s width of parking spaces in the BIOLS car park will be closed to maintain two lanes of traffic in Biology Road and a pathway on the car-park side.

Contractors’ lorries will access the site from the Knights Gate campus entrance via the Southern Ring Road and Biology Road. They will turn in Biology Road near the entrance to the Biology loading bay.

Campus traffic lights unlikely

Permanent installation of traffic lights at the exit from campus is unlikely to go ahead, report staff in Estates & Facilities Management after consultation with East Sussex County Council (ESCC).

In an effort to try to improve congestion at peak times, the University had been pressing both the council and the Highways Agency for several years to experiment with the use of traffic lights at the exit during peak periods. A one-week trial, funded by the University, finally took place in November 2001.

Now consultants for the council are exploring other options, after concluding that the installation of traffic lights would be likely to cause disruption on the A27 trunk road. However, perhaps for the first time, they have recognised that traffic congestion at the junction is a significant problem.

Some members of the University have suggested altering the bridge over the A27 to add an extra lane southbound (i.e. in the direction of Woodingdean), by taking out the eastern pavement. Rob French, Special Projects Manager in Estates, understands that the consultants are investigating this possibility, although he has received no confirmation.

“Even if that were not possible,” says Rob, “the road on the southern side of the bridge could be widened to two lanes between the bridge and the roundabout.”

On the buses: Your views sought

Brighton & Hove Buses report that the 86 service (University, Hollingbury, Fiveways, Preston Circus and return to University via London Road and Hollingbury) is well-subscribed.

Unfortunately, the 84 service (Universities of Sussex and Brighton, Woodingdean, Race Hill, Royal Sussex County Hospital, Whitehawk and return to universities via Woodingdean) is not well subscribed. Only one journey at each end of the day is used sufficiently to justify the costs of this service.

The University continues its subsidy of the 84 and 86 peak-hour bus services, for which routes and times were last altered in summer 2001. The Transport Manager, Linda Newman, is carrying out an informal survey of users’ views and alternative route proposals. Please contact Linda on l. newman@sussex.ac.uk or ext. 3408 if you have any comments or proposals for the 84 service.
Dear Editor

Being a wild-orchid enthusiast, I have taken pleasure from observing the progress of the one or two small populations of naturally occurring orchids that have appeared within the University grounds over the years. There has been a small colony of white helleborines growing at the top of the science car park for at least two years now. These orchids grow in association with the young beech trees planted there. I believe it was the University grounds staff who used to place small wire cages around them for protection against accidental damage by walkers and of course, grass cutting.

One lunchtime last week, I walked down from the top entrance to find that all of the plants had been mown off, just as they were about to come into flower! Has there been a change in policy or is this yet another by-product of the contracting-out of jobs?

If people within a university aren't aware and concerned about wildlife conservation on their own campus, then what hope is there?

Phil Meek
CPES

Paul Kelly, Maintenance Manager, replies:
I met with Phil to discuss the problem, firstly to dispel any thoughts that the grounds staff are not motivated about the quality of service they provide and secondly to prevent this re-occurring.

The area where the Helleborines were has recently been dug up for the installation of a temporary electrical supply and consequently cannot be mown because of stones laying on the surface. This area was therefore stripped. Due to Health and Safety legislation safety goggles must be worn and these restrict the wearer's view. As the plants were not in flower the stems were lost in the grass.

To prevent this happening again I would ask everyone with an interest to contact me with the location of important unguarded flora so that protection can be afforded.

It is certainly not the case that "people are not aware or concerned about wildlife conservation on campus". Indeed, a mature horse-chestnut tree was recently relocated at considerable expense because of its proximity to the new medical school building and Amanda Hastings, the University's Environmental Officer, has received a letter from an arborial consultant praising the aftercare given to the tree by the grounds staff.

Dear Bulletin

I have heard that a charge of £300 is to be made to have permission to hunt for a parking space come January 2003. I would not normally object to this kind of charge myself, if I thought that the money raised would be earmarked for parking and road improvements.

But I strongly suspect that this will not be the case, and that the charges, like the reduction in the University's contribution to our pension scheme this year, is just a device to make money so that the books can be balanced.

Where will this stop I wonder... will we be charged for the wear and tear on the floors and surfaces we walk on?

Mick Henry
CPES

Dear Editor

I was initially impressed when I read the Travel Plan - until I read the reference to "possible charging for motorcycle parking". Now I, too, am becoming sceptical about the aims of this scheme. Is it really all about reducing pressure on parking spaces and looking after the environment, or rather a cynical attempt at clawing in a bit of revenue?

So far as I am aware, solo motorcycle and scooter parking is not chargeable anywhere else in this area. Here are just some of the reasons why:

1. It is possible to park 6-7 motorcycles in the same space required for two cars.

2. The average engine capacity of motorcycles/scooters sold in the UK last year was 310cc. This is around one-quarter of that for an average car, resulting in substantially lower fuel use per single occupancy and thus lower gas emissions.

3. Motorcycles and scooters cause very little damage to the road surface, take up less road space, and improve vehicles-per-hour flow rates.

I highly commend motorcycling as a means of commuting to work. My journey time from Lewes is substantially lower on average than that of car-driving colleagues, and is relatively unaffected by traffic jams. Fuel, road tax and insurance are strikingly cheaper.

However, these advantages must be weighed against downsides such as the weather, and this balance may be a fine one when it comes to persuading single-occupancy car users to switch to two wheels. Tip the balance further with punitive charges and an opportunity will have been lost (even if a short-term fast buck might be earned).

Dave Booth
BIOLS

The final countdown

Monday 20 May saw the annual five o'clock run – a performance that is fast turning into University tradition.

Every year Arts finalists are required to hand their coursework into Falmer House by 5pm sharp on deadline day. Rumour has it the security guards on duty ruthlessly slam the doors shut to Falmer House on the dot of five, whether or not students are still to arrive.

The fear of this happening is such that from 4.50pm almost every student still to hand work in darts from Library Square to Falmer House, cheered on by hundreds of other finalists who by this point have already submitted their papers.

This year Falmer Bar put on a DJ to add to the festive atmosphere. Meanwhile, the usual bevy of 'fake runners' melodramatically charged towards Falmer House, most at the last minute spectacularly tripping up and sending their 'coursework' flying. This year someone even dressed as a chicken to do the run. One student bravely refused to run to Falmer House despite the booping of inebriated finalists baying for her to start sprinting.

AFRAS students said of the run: "It's one of the few times on campus where you feel like a real community of students who've all battled and made it. Sitting here, having a beer and watching the runners is a like a reward for all the hard work you put in."

Another student, from CCS, said: "It's about students expressing their deep-seated solidarity for one another in this time of intense stress."
**Obituary**

Joe Townsend

Joe Townsend, former Mayor of Brighton and active member of SPRU from the 1960s to the early 1980s, died on 13 May at the age of 76.

Joe had one over-riding passion: collecting data on significant innovations. He started doing this in a project in the 1960s and went on doing it even when the money ran out, until a research council grant in the late 1970s enabled the construction of the SPRU Innovation Data Bank (‘Significant innovations in Britain, 1945–82’).

This has subsequently become famous internationally as the basis of a variety of papers—in SPRU and elsewhere—on sectoral patterns of technical change, the size structure of innovating firms, technology and corporate strategy, etc. It also became an international exemplar in further developments in the measurement of innovation.

However, when we at SPRU were asked to update the UK Data Bank, we were reluctant to do so. It would be difficult to find anyone uniquely dedicated to collecting data on innovation as was Joe.

He was also a colourful and entertaining character. Although sympathetic to the thoughts of Karl, he was much closer to Groucho in looks, wit and general lack of discipline.

He was a Labour councillor, who became Mayor of Brighton in 1991, and enjoyed attending the 25th anniversary of SPRU resplendent in dark suit and ceremonial chains.

Joe’s funeral took place on 23 May at Woodvale crematorium in Brighton.

Keith Pavitt
R. M. Phillips Professor of Science and Technology Policy

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**First class**

The Academy Europaea—an international association of scientists and scholars—has awarded this year’s Erasmus Medal to Professor Sir Harry Kroto from CEPES. The medal is awarded annually for the greatest contribution to the advancement of science (in the broadest sense) in the European context. Sir Harry will receive his medal at the Academia Europaea’s annual meeting in Lisbon from 9–11 October.

Noel Sladen from Management Accounts has been elected to serve for one year on the Council of the Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT), a national and international body for the training of support staff in accounting. Noel was previously elected to the Council from 1989 and became its President in 1997/98. He left the Council at the end of normal service in May 2000.

Professor Jörg Monar has been appointed a member of the Selection Board of the International Doctoral Theses Competition 2001/2002 of the Committee of the Regions of the European Union. The board will select the best doctoral thesis on the contribution of regions and cities to trans-European co-operation, which will then get a prize of 2000 Euro and a publication grant.

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**Strategic restructuring**

The process of strategic restructuring at Sussex has taken a step forward following approval at Senate and Council last term.

The Strategic Restructuring Group has now been established and had its first meeting on Tuesday (28 May). The Group, which includes academics and members of Council, is chaired by the Vice-Chancellor. Information about the review is available from a new website on the intranet (www.sussex.ac.uk/Units/strategicreview).

In a new development, questions about the review can be emailed to the site and answered by the Group or the Vice-Chancellor.

The new Communications Director, Rob Read, hopes that this approach can be adopted for other new issues, providing better ways of keeping staff informed about developments on campus.

**Staff vacancies**

Apply by 6 June

Student Advice Centre Manager, Students’ Union (ref 368)
Finance Supervisor, Students’ Union (ref 369)
Secretary, CRC Psychological Oncology Group (ref 096)
Apply by 7 June

Research Fellow, CPES (ref 095b)
Assistant Housing Officer (ref 370)
Apply by 14 June

Journal Administrator, Brighton and Sussex Medical School (ref 371)
Apply by 17 June

Chair in Philosophy (ref 364)
2 x Lecturer in Sociology (ref 365)

Lecturer in Music (ref 369)
Lecturer in International Relations (ref 367)

For further details, see www.sussex.ac.uk/Units/staffing/personnel/vacancies or contact Staffing Services on ext. 8706, fax 877401, email recruitment@sussex.ac.uk.

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**Small ads**

**TO LET:** Lovely flat, suit quiet academic (single/couple), GCH. Sea views, gardens, 5 mins Brighton station, shops. £700 pcm. Tel. 0131 6682632.

**TO LET:** 2-bed house in Hanover. Rear patio, unfurnished, available now. £775 pcm. Tel. Chris or Sarah on 607539.

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**For sale:**

**SALE:** Medium-size Diamondback mountain bike, 21-speed Shimano, V-brakes. £1996 model but as new. Was £350 new, now £175. Ext. 8709 or email a.young@sussex.ac.uk.

**SALE:** 3 Iomega Jaz 1Gb cartridges — £15 each. One. Email bcurro@central.sussex.ac.uk or phone 246936.

**HOUSE SHARE:** In 3-bed Victorian house with front and rear gardens on Elm Grove. Suit staff or pg £351 pcm excl. Bills. No pets. Vegetarians welcome. Email lanzy2002@aol.com or ring 07855 988621.

**TO LET:** Large room in shared house near Preston Park. Suit PG / staff / mature student. Dishwasher, w/m, garden. £300pcm incl. Tel. 273846 or 07976 431897.

**LOST:** Golden watch, on campus Tue 21 May. If found email D.H.Mihang@Sussex.ac.uk or call Daphney on 07799 791416.

**WANTED:** Native French speaker for one-to-one conversation classes with member of staff. Contact Marina on ext. 2334 or email M.Pedreira-Vilarino@sussex.ac.uk.

**FOR SALE:** Four brand-new matching suitcases (large, medium, trolley and vanity unit), all with built-in locks. Store inside one another. Contact Mrs S. Richards on ext. 3228 or 589197.
Café culture

The Bulletin guide to eating and meeting on campus

Bolthole Express

This is Catering Services’ furthest flung and possibly busiest outpost, serving up to 700 customers a day. It is run by native Brummie Roger Southwell, with a mainly student staff keeping the coffee flowing.

Location

Turn right as soon as you enter the Library, go down the stairs and follow the students, deep into the growing bowels. If there are no stairs, stop: you’ve gone to the Barlow Gallery by accident.

Ambience

Refurbishment two years ago did much to turn a dreary and dark canteen into a surprisingly light and airy basement café. Modern art and pastel shades are designed to soothe away the stresses of students with essay deadlines. Lots of chatter and Southern FM on the radio give the place a relaxed feel. For the World Cup and Jubilee, Roger is planning an England theme, deck ing the Bolthole out in large crosses of St George.

Clientele

The Bolthole caters almost exclusively for students – tea in one hand, pen in the other, while they pore over their books. Groups of students sit around tables trying to forget they have to return upstairs at some point. However, Roger says that many are “a bit spaced out, especially as big deadlines loom. I’m amazed at what they leave behind: mobiles, wallets, bus passes.”

Menu

The café offers a good selection of hot and cold snack food and light meals (“filling snacks at reasonable prices”), as well as the usual crisps, chocolates and hot drinks including lattes (from 55p). Croissants and other pastries are served warm in the mornings. The most popular food is baguettes (£1.75), which come in a variety of flavours including chicken, cheese and brie. Vegan baguettes are also available in flavours such as tomato, olive and pepper and Mexican bean. Bagels come in £1.25, pizza slices £1.15 and jacket spuds at £1.75.

Most popular dishes

“About 160 tuna mayonnaise baguettes fly out every day,” says Roger. The most popular hot spud filling is cheese and beans.

Facilities

The Bolthole’s biggest asset is what is known as the ‘smoking greenhouse’. Added during the refurbishment, this concrete conservatory expanded the café’s size while providing a rare refuge for smokers. Roger says it’s most popular in the winter. “When the weather’s crap it’s standing room only.” Out of hours a Coke and hot drinks machine are available.

Opening hours

Mon–Thurs 9am–7.30pm, Fridays closes at 4.30. The busiest day, apparently, is Thursday. During vacations open 9am–4.30pm weekdays. Shut at the weekends.

A walk on the wild side

David Harper and David Streeter BIOLS

Hedgerows and wood margins

are at their best at this time of year, with Cow Parsley having replaced Alexanders as the major insect-attracting umbellifer and Hogweed waiting in the wings to take over the role in early June. Meanwhile this white backdrop is enlivened with the reds and pinks of the familiar Herb Robert and Red Campion.

We have had several enquiries about the apparent colour variation of the campion. Red Campion is a typical plant of woodland clearings and hedge margins, with a preference for fertile and calcareous soils. The pale pink plants that are catching people’s attention are almost certainly hybrids with the White Campion, a widespread arable weed of dry calcareous soils and noticeable around here on roadside verges. Because of their habitat differences the two rarely meet, but when they do they form fertile hybrids of intermediate colour.

Herb Robert is an attractive little geranium with a characteristic ‘mousy’ smell to the crushed leaves. It features prominently in English folklore as a result of its association with Robin Goodfellow, the house goblin, and hence its vernacular name. Geoffrey Grigson in his Englishman’s Flora lists no fewer than 111 local names, a sure sign of an ancient association with myth or medicine. Also flowering at the moment in the short grass on campus is a tiny relative, the Dove’s-foot Crane’s-bill, with delicate pink flowers, the petals no more than a few millimetres long.

One of the characteristic butterflies of woodland edges and clearings is the Speckled Wood. The ‘chocolate-and-cream’ adults can be seen from late March until early October. They usually feed in the tree canopy on the sweet ‘honeydew’,
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Lectures, seminars, colloquia

Tue 4 June
5.00pm Creative Writing Open Seminar: Bernardine Evaristo reads from her work and discusses the art of verse narrative. Meeting House Quiet Room.

Wed 5 June
1.00pm IDS Special Seminar: Alexander Johnston (Natal, South Africa): Western expectations and African restraints. IDS Room 221.
2.00pm Query Seminar: Richard Dyer (Warwick). The culture of queers. Arts A103.
4.30pm History of Art Research Seminar: Rupert Shepherd (Sussex). The politics of magnificence in 15th-century Italy. Arts A103.
5.00pm Migration Research Seminar: Elle Vasta (Oxford). Community, the state and the deserving citizen: Pacific Islanders in Australia. Arts D630.

Fri 7 June
2.15pm SPIRU Friday Seminar: Staffan Jacobson (Sussex). Transforming the energy sector: The evolution of technological systems in renewables. EDB 121.
4.30pm Philosophy Society: Jesse Prinz (Washington St. Louis). Are emotions thoughts or feelings? Arts A155.

Mon 10 June

Tue 11 June
12.30pm Centre for Life History Research Seminar: Nick Oxomund and Peter Richards. The making of an oral autobiography, process and product. Library Meeting Room.
2.15pm SEI Research-in-Progress Seminar: Annike Bergman (Sussex). An assessment of diversities and similarities in Sweden's and Denmark's EU policies. Arts A71.

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

Performance

Thu 6–Fri 7 June
7.45pm Union Dance – Imagining the Invisible Image, sound and live action combine to starting effect as Union's dancers tread the fine line between the real and the imagined.

Cinema

Sun 9 June
7pm The Believer (15)
Mon 10 June
6pm Blue Velvet (18)

Bulletin

The Bulletin is written and produced by Alison Field, Peter Simmons and Benedict Brook. We welcome any news, story ideas, letters or small ads from staff and students of the University. The next issue will be out on 14 June, with a copy deadline of 1pm on 7 June. Please contact the Press and Communications Office in Sussex House on ext. 8888 or email Bulletin@sussex.ac.uk.