Bright sparks light up city science festival

From the phenomenon of synaesthesia to sustainable energy, ants, and Murphy's Law, Sussex academics will be looking to "inform, convince, challenge and entertain" visitors to the sixth annual Brighton Science Festival, starting on Saturday 21 February.

Dr Jamie Ward, Reader in Psychology, will speak at a special one-off Café Scientifique event on Tuesday 24 February about his recent book The Frog who Croaked Blue: Synaesthesia and the Mixing of the Senses. For the price of a cup of coffee or glass of wine, visitors can explore this fascinating condition in which music can have colour, words can have taste, and time and numbers float through space.

On 24 February, Professor Gordon MacKerron, Director of SPRU - Science and Technology Policy Research, will join other UK energy experts in discussing the immediate climate change challenges facing the UK. The 'Too hot to handle' event at the Friend's Meeting House in Brighton city centre will focus on what the Government needs to do now to avoid catastrophe.

The eight day festival kicks off with the Bright Sparks Family Fun Day on Saturday 21, featuring futuristic interactive workshops from Sussex psychologists showing off interactive desks that 'talk back'. Stag beetles also make an appearance as Dr Peter Scott, Senior Lecturer in Plant Developmental Biology, answers all questions.

Next, the White Heat Family Fun Day (Sunday 22 February) includes a demonstration by the Department of Biochemistry on proteins found in shampoo and cheese, and a creative thinking workshop lead by Naser Sayma, Professor in Computational Fluid Dynamics.

On Wednesday 25, Sussex psychologist Dr Julie Coultas talks at the Catalyst Club about Murphy's Law and conformity - explaining how "when people are told they can do what they want, they all do the same". Lecturer in Education James Williams takes the microphone the following evening as he celebrates Charles Darwin's 200th birthday by laying into Creationism, Intelligent Design and the audience, "if they so much as blink".

The Physics and Astronomy department will mount an incredible demonstration of cosmic rays as part of the Big Space Show on 26 February.

The festival concludes on 28 February with Big Science Saturday. Dr Peter Scott makes his second appearance of the week talking about Darwin and flesh-eating plants and biologist Professor Adam Eyre-Walker explores the very high rate of harmful mutation in humans. Finally, Dr Paul Graham reveals the secrets of ant behaviour.

For more information on the Brighton Science Festival and to buy tickets, go to www.brightonscience.com
God and the Bard

One of the greatest mysteries about Shakespeare – his religion – is the subject of a new research project by a University of Sussex academic.

Brian Cummings, Professor of English, is to spend the next three years analysing the Bard’s greatest works to find out how his fictional characters speak the language of the Reformation, a period in which religion dominated political and social life and was subject to a series of volatile transformations.

Brian, who has been awarded £131,691 by the Leverhulme Trust to carry out the research, will be taking his quest to the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington DC and the Shakespeare Institute in Stratford-upon-Avon.

“Religion is the last great mystery of Shakespeare studies,” says Brian. “But it’s not a mystery that can be uncovered by biographical evidence, which is full of illusion and uncertainty. Instead I am going back to the plays - to the multiple forms of ‘confession’ which the plays include – and the voices of fictional others rather than the direct ‘voice’ of Shakespeare.”

Many of the most famous lines in Shakespeare are couched in religious language, but it is not easy to interpret this. Religion was so controversial that writers became used to censoring themselves to make sure they did not give too much away.

When Gloucester says in King Lear, ‘As flies to wanton boys, are we to the gods, / They kill us for their sport’, he was borrowing a figure of speech used in contemporary sermons to express horror at the idea of Calvinist predestination. Does God love us any more, he is asking.

The plays are full of such references, not only to theology, but also to basic rituals of birth, marriage and death, all of which were undergoing profound change and were the cause of acute social anxiety.

The impersonality of Shakespeare’s writing has been one of its most prized features. Shakespeare is “like a mirror”, Coleridge wrote. “He is in all his personages because all humanity is in him.” Central to Shakespeare’s claim to universality is the view that he writes with no religion; his work instead is a “secular scripture”, Harold Bloom famously stated.

However, Shakespeare was writing during a period of violent and profound religious polarization, not dissimilar to the modern state of religious conflict.

“These factors make the current moment an exceptionally propitious one for the study of Shakespeare’s religion,” says Brian. “My subject is not the religion of Shakespeare the man so much as the place and meaning of religion within his writing.

“My proposal is to write a book called The Confessions of Shakespeare that will redraw the boundaries between biography, history, literature and religion. It will be concerned with understanding how the ritual, doctrinal and social effects of the Reformation leave deeper marks than an individual’s religious affiliation.”

Paintings unwrapped in Brighton art gallery

Art historian Professor Maurice Howard is to give a lecture this month as part of events supporting an exhibition at Brighton Museum & Art Gallery.

‘Paintings Unwrapped’, an exhibition of 30 pairs of paintings chosen from Brighton & Hove Museums’ collection of fine art, is based on an initial selection by Maurice’s former colleague, Professor Norbert Lynton, and is dedicated to his memory. Norbert taught at Sussex from 1975-89. In 2005 he agreed to curate an exhibition drawn from Brighton & Hove Museums’ art collection that was to be specifically about looking.

He said: “My aim would be, by putting works from different categories side by side and drawing attention to the ways in which they harmonise or conflict or enlarge on each other in a sort of dialogue, to get people to notice the uniqueness of each.”

When Norbert realised that he would not live to see the exhibition finished, he requested that it be completed by curator Hilary Lane, who in 1982 had put together an early precursor, ‘Room for Thought’, that was shown at the Gardner Arts Centre on the Sussex campus.

In the gallery you can see video interviews with Norbert, who died in 2007, on his ideas for ‘Paintings Unwrapped’.

Maurice’s lecture on 28 February, at 2.30pm in The Old Courtroom, Church Street, is about the Tower of Babel in Dutch and Flemish painting. His talk will end in the exhibition galleries with a look at ‘Building the Tower of Babel’, attributed to Joachim Patinir and painted about 1550. The work has been paired with another oil painting, a view of Watergate in Cornwall, by John Brett in 1881.

Maurice said: “In the spirit of an exhibition about the ways in which we look at paintings, my lecture will focus on the particular ways in which artists of northern Europe used the medium of oil paint to depict worlds beyond which the eye could actually see.”

‘Paintings Unwrapped’ runs until 13 April.
Sussex to hold event for external engagement: Curious?

On the 24 March Sussex will hold Curious, a signature event to showcase its research knowledge to national funders and regional partners and their respective business sectors. The aim of the event is to create partnerships with external organisations that will lead to knowledge exchange, especially through channels such as Knowledge Transfer Partnerships and research collaboration.

The event will help to dispel any ‘ivory tower’ myths and show how academics work on real world problems and are relevant to the private and public sectors. It will also show how Sussex can help equip the region’s major players with the skills and knowledge needed to take advantage of future upturns in the economy.

The event has been developed in collaboration with South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) and the content has been developed in response to a “creativity café” event last December with Sussex’s key regional economic partners.

These partners include SEEDA, the City Council, Wired Sussex, Creative Brighton, Enviro Business, Rural Research Partnership, SEHTA, Business Link, Farnborough Aerospace Consortium and the NHS.

At the December event, the organisations chose those areas of our expertise for the March event that would most interest their particular constituents.

The event is organised by the Regional Development team within Research and Enterprise and it will also feature a showcase area for the regional partners, the research themes and Sussex’s Research services to show participants the toolkit of assistance available to make their funding bid or work placement happen.

The wider scope of Sussex’s research will be displayed in an interactive experience in the InQbate space. We will also offer ‘Curious’ that give a window on some more unusual or intriguing aspect of research, such as our social insect research or the Quantum Computer lab.

To register your interest in this event, suggest invitees or to find out more go to www.sussex.ac.uk/curious

Developing Sussex research

The planning conference takes place today (Friday 6 February) with academic managers and members of the professional services at Sussex. The first part of the day will focus on managing and growing our research – both quality and volume.

Research has been the wellspring of Sussex’s knowledge capital for 40 years and the Research Assessment Exercise has confirmed us as one of the UK’s leading research institutions once again.

The event today will help us collectively to understand what the detailed results from the RAE are telling us about research at Sussex – and look forward to the Research Excellence Framework which is the new Government measure for research activity in the UK.

We now have a pretty complete analysis of the RAE, the implications for the next planning round, and a better understanding of the funding implications for the years ahead.

Ian Carter the new Director of Research and Enterprise, and I, together with Jane Summerville will be leading that presentation and discussion today.

But it will be our academic teams, lead by our new heads of school, and their academic colleagues, who will develop their plans for their research ambitions and goals within the new schools, and then manage and deliver that activity over the months and years ahead.

In developing these plans, we of course have a vast stock of material and knowledge on which to draw – with the RAE submission material being the basis, but not the limit, of our potential.

And the approach we are taking to developing research will be grounded in subject disciplines, but to be most truly effective and in the spirit of Sussex it will be addressing issues and tackling problems which range across many disciplines.

As we say within the University strategic plan, a key part of research development will therefore be around the development of our research themes.

Those themes will be an important part of setting out Sussex’s research identity nationally and internationally, vital as we approach our 50th anniversary in 2011 and look ahead to the next 50.

The Research Themes have been in development over the last year or more, encompassing the breadth and depth of the work carried out at Sussex. Senate in summer 2008 confirmed the establishment of themes covering Citizenship and Democratisation, Environment and Health, Digital Media, Heritage and Culture, Global Transformations, and Mind and Brain.

I am particularly grateful to a number of colleagues involved who have shown real academic leadership in their work on shaping the themes. We will now be formally identifying theme leaders from inside the University who can help us take these ideas forward.

Part of what will make the research themes really fly will be partnerships with major national and international institutions. Initiatives such as those with Kew and more long-standing ones with American Express are leading examples of what we should be looking for.

As part of fostering and strengthening external engagement, I am pleased to note that we will be holding another major research dinner in June, and in the coming months, the “Curious” engagement event in March which will showcase some of our leading work responding to real external interest.

I am looking forward to these discussions and work continuing in the months ahead. They will be a vital part of the research identity of our new schools and the Sussex identity over the next 50 years.
Students feel the need for speed

For the inauguration of President Obama, Dr Clive Webb and Professor Robin Kolodny did stints on BBC Southern Counties Radio (20 Jan). Robin talked about the preparations in Washington, while Clive helped to provide commentary as Obama took the oath.

Later in the month a group of Sussex students occupied the Asa Briggs lecture theatre on campus to raise awareness of the humanitarian consequences of the Israeli bombing of the Gaza strip. Their action, along with similar protests at several other “elite” universities, received widespread coverage in The Guardian (23 January), as well as locally in The Argus (22 January). On home territory, Dr Barbara Allen was interviewed by BBC South Today about the increasing misuse of English grammar.

But the continuing worries over the global economic downturn are still dominating the news agenda. Following a national report that graduates would find it tougher this year, head of CDEC Linda Buckham gave a positive view on BBC Southern Counties Radio (21 Jan) of how the University is helping those who will be job-hunting in the summer.

Indeed, there has been a glut of media inquiries on the credit crunch. Unfortunately, we have a dearth of academics who feel able to explain the situation.

Prof Brian Short appeared on the BBC South ‘Inside out’ programme and BBC Radio Solent (both 28 January), talking about Second World War farming in Hampshire and the tragic case of Ray Walden, a farmer who was shot dead by police after refusing to quit his farm near Winchester.

There are a few sunny rays amid the doom and gloom. The Argus devoted four pages to coverage of the University’s winter graduation (30 January). And an exhibition put together by Drs Kanwal Mand and Katy Gardner at the V&A Museum of Childhood, looking at how British Bangladeshi children view their heritage, has been featured on Sylhet TV in Bangladesh, the East London Advertiser (22 Jan), East End Life (19 Jan) and is due to be a BBC Online feature later this week.

World land speed record breaker Richard Noble OBE visited Sussex students building a racing car on Friday 30 January.

Mobil 1 Team Sussex will race against student built cars from around the world in the prestigious Formula Student competition in July. Team Marketing Manager Chris Henderson said: “We were all really excited about this visit. Richard is one of the UK’s foremost experts in building fast cars so his advice could be vital to winning the competition at Silverstone this year.”

Mr Noble visited the team before the University of Sussex graduation ceremony where he received an honorary Dr of Science degree. The team was also visited last December by Harry Shibli, Motor Sport Director of headline sponsor Exxon Moli. The multinational petrol and oils giant is providing the team with week by week training, assistance, marketing advice and financial assistance.

Also visiting the team was Lance-Corporal Johnson Beharry, of the 1st Battalion Princess of Wales’s Royal Regiment, who was awarded the Victoria Cross, the highest military decoration for valour in the British and Commonwealth armed forces, for twice saving members of his unit from ambushes on 1 May and again on 11 June 2004 at Al-Amarah, Iraq.

The students have been working full speed since last summer on their 2009 entry - usually teams enter the non-racing elements of the competition in their first year but the Sussex 'petrol heads’ worked right through the summer to enable them to get a race-ready car by July.

These hands-on students will need to use their business acumen too. The competition is not just about building a race a car, but also to develop and present a viable business plan to the judges. The students are required to seek sponsorship, develop their own marketing and communications strategy and ensure the whole project is professionally managed.

Features of Mobil 1 Team Sussex’s entry include a Yamaha 600cc four-cylinder injection engine, with a 20mm restricted airpipe, Mobil 1 oil, F1 quality sensors from KA sensors, electronic paddle shift mechanism - just like an F1 racocar and an Exxon Mobil painted carbon fibre bodyshell.

The engineering students Mike Andrews, Adam Wilton, Mike Preston, Steve Landsdowne, Stan Smith, Jack Bergquist, Angelos Masouras, Charidemos Levadiotis, Daniele de Anna, Mina Samaan, Martin Jones, Alex Balbastro, Paolo Corsini, Tom Williams and Chris Henderson, along with product design undergraduate Anna Dugard, manufacturing supervisor Martin Rayner and microbiology student Hannah Newey have entered the 2009 Formula Student competition being held at Silverstone on Thursday 16 - Sunday 19 July 09.

Formila Student is run by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (iMechE), in partnership with the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) and the Institution of Electrical Engineers (IEE).
Speed and sound applauded at Winter Graduation

Graduands at this year’s University of Sussex Winter Graduation ceremonies shared the stage with a ground-breaking composer and a record-breaking scientist.

Nitin Sawhney, who has received 15 national awards for his music albums, has worked with the likes of Paul McCartney and Sting and is regarded as one of the cultural pioneers of his generation, was made Doctor of Music at the morning ceremony at Brighton’s Dome Theatre on Friday, 30 January.

Richard Noble OBE, who set the World Land Speed Record with his machine, Thrust2, and is developing the technology to produce a vehicle with a speed of 1000mph, was made Doctor of Science at the afternoon ceremony.

More than 1,800 students celebrated their success this year.

Inspiring: Nitin Sawhney (top) addresses graduands at this year’s Winter Graduation ceremony at Brighton Dome, whilst land speed record-breaker Richard Noble accepts his honorary doctorate from the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Michael Farthing (bottom).

Healthy campus news

Sussexexport have developed a new healthy campus newsletter and calendar, building on the success of the initiative in 2008 when Sussex was named the ‘healthiest workplace’ at the Brighton Business Awards. The first issue of the healthy campus newsletter – which will be out each term – features info about the mini health check weeks, active staff survey and exercise ideas. Both the newsletter and the calendar can be downloaded from www.healthycampus.com

NSS now live

The National Student Survey 2009 went live for Sussex finalists on Monday 2 February. The internal communications team still has a supply of postcards, posters, pens, post-it notes and PowerPoint presentations for any staff who are involved in promoting the survey to students. These can be ordered by emailing internalcomms@sussex.ac.uk. Students can complete the survey online in just five minutes by going to www.thestudentsurvey.com

Criminal damage to vehicles

After a recent spate of criminal damage to parked vehicles behind the Sports Centre, just into Stanmer Park area, the police are advising staff and students not to park vehicles at this location. Please report any incidents and suspicious behaviour to Sussex Police (0845 60 70 999) and inform security (ext. 8234).

Good turnout for Open Day

480 visitors attended the Postgraduate Open Day on 28 January. The feedback from visitors was very positive with all those who responded to a questionnaire indicating that the event had met their expectations and that they were more likely to choose Sussex as a result of their visit. Prospective students particularly liked being able to talk to current Sussex students, who were on hand to answer questions throughout the day.

All articles are also featured on the internet at www.sussex.ac.uk/press_office/bulletin
Obituary

John Simmonds, one of the founder members of the University, died at his home in Piddinghoe on New Year’s Eve 2008.

John was appointed Senior Lecturer in Social Studies in 1964 and occupied a variety of posts, including Dean of Cultural and Community Studies, from 1971-76 until his retirement in 1997.

He came to Sussex from the London Probation Service with the remit to set up a professional social work education course.

He believed passionately that professional training had to be firmly rooted in research and theory, and created a course that combined two days a week of academic study with three days practical experience in local fieldwork placements.

This formula was so successful that the Sussex course quickly became one of the pre-eminent courses in the country and the pattern of combined academic study and fieldwork was adopted by the Sussex Postgraduate Certificate in Education.

John was one of a small group of academics who established, against the prevailing orthodoxy, the place of social work education nationally as a university postgraduate subject.

To his close associates he was a charismatic man with exacting standards of professionalism and a clear vision that guided his educational practice.

While to more casual acquaintances his trademark ruminative silences could be daunting, the students he taught will remember him as having made a significant difference to their lives and their professional expertise, and as providing much needed personal support in the stressful enterprise of learning to help others.

John Jacobs and Carol Kedward

Trial of breast scanner to aid cancer research

If you are over 50 years old and have had a clear mammogram in the last year, you are invited to participate in a pre-clinical study of a novel medical imaging device.

This state-of-the-art technology is pioneered by the Biomedical Engineering team (Department of Engineering & Design) at Sussex, who are investigating its application to breast cancer.

Dr Balaji Ganeshan, who is conducting the trial, said: “This device is non-invasive, requires no exposure to ionising radiation and minimises patient discomfort. There is no breast compression required.”

A specialised team of female radiographers will perform the breast scanning.

If you are interested in participating in this ground-breaking trial please contact Dr Ganeshan (b.ganeshan@sussex.ac.uk) for an informal chat and further details. Participation will be kept confidential and rewarded by a minimum of £25 (per visit) to a maximum of £150 (6 visits).

Audit of teaching space

The Student Systems Office will be carrying out an audit of (GTS) General Teaching Space rooms on campus the week commencing Monday 9 February.

The aim is to assess whether the University is making best use of the stock of teaching space at its disposal, to inform plans to improve it.

Student helpers will check on each room and the number of occupants on an hourly basis. They are under instruction to observe where possible from outside the seminar room. However, on occasions they will have to enter the room and will be as unobtrusive as possible and cause minimum disruption to lectures and seminars.

Student Systems thanks students and staff in advance for bearing with any inconvenience caused.
Sussex under snow

For the first time in years, the University was closed because of heavy snow.

As staff worked from home on Monday 2 February, the snowy scenes on campus provided plentiful picture opportunities – see below.

A walk on the wild side ↓

In our last column we reported on the birds we had seen during the Christmas closure. This seems to have prompted the Press and Communications Office to acquire a pair of binoculars. Their inaugural session yielded “a Blackbird, a seagull and a small bird that might have been a Wren”, but the highlight was the sight of a Red Fox lollipping across the lawn outside Sussex House at nine o’clock in the morning.

Last November we mentioned how regular fox sightings on campus had become in the evenings, but over the last month they have been regularly reported by day as well. Many of these sightings seem to be of the male from the North End of campus, who is a magnificent beast with an unusually extensive white tip to his tail or “brush”. Most campus foxes have few white hairs at the tips of their tails.

A second fox that has been seen by broad daylight on several locations on campus is even more distinctive; about two-thirds of its tail is missing and limps on its left hind leg. “Hoppity” is of unknown sex because there are desperately few diagnostic differences between male and female foxes. Even their behaviours overlap: for instance both sexes can either squat to urinate or cock their leg. We are only confident that “White Tail” is male because we saw him mating in early January.

“There are desperately few diagnostic differences between male and female foxes.”

One of our correspondents has asked about the string of glossy orange berries festooning the base of one of the yew trees at the end of the North-South Road. The plant is Black Bryony, Tamus communis, a non-woody climber that is a familiar autumn sight draping hedgerows, especially on moist well-drained fertile soils. It is an unusual plant for a number reasons. First, it is the only British member of the Dioscoreaceae, a pan-tropical family to which the yams belong. Tamus is the one exception to this generalisation, as it is primarily a Mediterranean genus with our own plant getting into England and Wales, but not making it as far as Scotland or Ireland.

The flowers are small and greenish, and borne in long tassels and like the yams, it has a massive black underground tuber. The berries are poisonous, which explains why they survive the winter longer than most other berry crops, although birds, like Blackbirds, will take them once other alternatives have been exhausted. The tubers contain steroidal saponins, much used in the pharmaceutical industry.

The plant was well known to the herbalists and its local Sussex name is poison-berry. It seems to have been used as a purgative of last resort as Culpepper described it as a “furious martail plant, the roots purging the belly with great violence”. More benignly, the 1st century Greek physician, Dioscorides, claimed that the berries would remove freckles!
Academic events

MON 9 FEB
12.30pm Cancer Research UK seminar: Kate Jenkins (Salisbury Hospital). A training package for healthcare professionals to improve the detection and management of psychological distress in people with cancer. Cancer Research UK (Library).

3pm International Relations seminar: Scott Thomas (Bath). The global resurgence of religion and the transformation of international society. Arts C233.

4pm Languages and linguistics seminar: Robert Piazza (Sussex). A multimodal analysis of Antonioni’s Attempted Suicide. Arts A71.

TUE 10 FEB
12.30pm Life history seminar: Barbara Holler (Sussex). An anthropology of Mousateomb. Arundel Building 1b.

1pm Development seminar: Gabriela Guerrero Serdan (Royal Holloway). The effects of the war in Iraq on nutrition and health. IDS room 221.

2pm SEI seminar: Kenneth Armstrong (Queen Mary). Europeanising social inclusion. Arts C233.

4pm Cognitive science seminar: Zoltan Dienes (Sussex). Do amnesics learn quickly and happy people slowly? Peynesey 1 A7.

6pm Early Modern


6.30pm Barlow lecture: Rosemary Scott (Christie’s). Chinese porcelain in the Yuan dynasty - were the Mongols a help or a hindrance? Asa Briggs lecture theatre (Arts A1).

WED 11 FEB
4pm Art History seminar: Michelle O’Malley (Sussex), Botticelli, Ghirlandaio and Perugino and the road to the Sistine Chapel. EDB 317.

5pm American Studies seminar: Bruce Baker (Royal Holloway). Military justice, freedpeople’s testimony, and the contest over the end of the civil war. Bramber House 235.

5pm Politics seminar: Havi Carel. Explaining wellbeing within illness. Medical School lecture theatre.

5pm Migration research seminar: Debbie Phillips (Leeds). Negotiating housing welfare and neighbourhoods in areas of new migration in Britain. Arts C233.

THU 12 FEB
1pm Development seminar: Jim Watson and Tao Wang (Sussex). China’s future emissions scenarios in the 21st-century. IDS room 221.

1pm Geography seminar: Philippe Bourbon (Geneva). Policy approaches to environmental migration. Arts C175.

4pm Moths seminar: Daniel Laughlin (Birmingham). Discrete interpolation norms with applications. Mantell 2A01.

4pm History seminar: Chris Warne (Sussex). Bazooka, punk, and the quest for radical change in 1970s France. Arts A155.

4pm Psychology seminar: John Weinman (Kings College). Stress and wound healing. Peynesey 1, 1A7.

5pm Development lecture: Saleemul Huq (IIED). The role of adaptation and the developing countries in the UN climate change process. Chichester lecture theatre.

FRI 13 FEB
1pm Biochemistry seminar: Alessandro Bianchi (Sussex). Regulation of telomerase action at chromosome ends. JMS lecture theatre.

1.30pm Freeman Centre seminar: Angela Cassidy (Norwich). UK stakeholder knowledge of food chain risks. Room G24/25.


MON 16 FEB
4.30pm German-Jewish studies seminar: Christian Wiese (Sussex). Politics of memory and the temptations of anti-Semitism. Arts D730.

TUE 17 FEB
4pm Cognitive science seminar: Robert Clowes (Sussex). The cognitive role of language. Peynesey 1, 1A7.

WED 18 FEB
1pm Education seminar: John Lauglo (Oslò). Revisiting the vocational school faculty. Arts E406.


4pm Law seminar: Neville Harris (Manchester). Special educational needs and additional support needs in England and Scotland. Room tbc.

4pm Sexual Dissidence seminar: Brighton Rotel (London). Gender trouble and postcolonial French cinema. EDB 121.


5pm Migration research seminar: Andrea Rossi (Harvard University). The impact of migration on children. Arts C233.

7pm Archaeology talk: Duncan Brown (Southampton City Council). Saxon Southampton on display. Arts A1 lecture theatre.

THU 19 FEB
1pm Geography seminar: John Stewart (Natural History Museum). Ice age refugia revisited. Arts C175.

2pm Physics seminar: Nick Devenish (Sussex). MINOS. Bramber House 230.

4pm Maths seminar: Thomas Hargreaves. Approximation by polyharmonic kernels. Mantell 2A01.


4pm Psychology seminar: Nick Rawlins (Oxford). Genetic discretion of memory systems. Peynesey 1, 1B3.

FRI 20 FEB
1pm Biochemistry seminar: Gian Tartaglia (Cambridge). Predictions of solubility, aggregation propensity, and toxicity in E. coli and D. melanogaster. JMS lecture theatre.

2.15pm Freeman Centre seminar: Mark Casson (Reading). A theory of knowledge-based imperialism. Room G24/25.

Small ads


For sale: Electric guitar, black, Squier Telecaster Custom: £120. Electro-acoustic Westfield guitar: £80. Contact Simon at s.topping@sussex.ac.uk or 07808 503668.

Indexer wanted: Graduate student, with fluent English, wanted to index 180k word book on land reform. Proofs arrive 21 Feb. Index must reach publisher by 18 March. Professional indexing costs about £282 but I’d rather pay a student involved in the subject. E milton@onetel.com or T 01273-682065.

Arts events

Wed 18 Feb
1.15-4.15pm
Continuing Arts – Exegesis

Wed 18 – Sat 21 Feb
7.30-10pm
Fame
Sussex University Musical Theatre Society presents Fame at the Old Market Theatre, Hove.

Bulletin board

The fortnightly Bulletin is written and produced by Alison Field and James Halkner. The next issue will be out on 20 Feb, with a copy deadline of 1pm on 13 Feb. We welcome any letters or small ads from staff and students of the University and can advise you on ways to tell people about your news or story ideas. Please contact us on ext. 8888 or email internalcomms@sussex.ac.uk.