OH NO
IT'S THE
MILLENNIUM EDITION
PLOGIES for yet another mention of the 'M' word, but Happy New Millennium to you!

New Year celebrations are about so much more than champagne and a sing-song. This issue of Falmer has a reflective mood, and looks at recent changes and progress at the University. The main feature takes a light-hearted look at how the student experience has altered over the four decades of the University’s life. We asked current students and their alumni parents to compare the fashions and fads of their life on campus and in Brighton. Along the way, we managed to shock some of the students by revealing their parents’ wild stories (not all of which were printed!). Thanks to everyone who took part.

Alumni in the media will be interested to note an addition to the new look Alumni Society web pages. The Media Group, which enjoyed a lively evening at the Reform Club in November, will be publishing a searchable contacts directory designed to enable alumni with an interest in any aspect of the media to network effectively. Whether or not you believe the old adage “it’s not what you know, but who you know”, a bit of professional networking can only be good for your career. The pages are at http://www.sussex.ac.uk – follow the links to the Alumni Society Networking Groups and enter the username “alumni” and password “sussex”.

Although we are unable to publish everything you send us for Falmer, do keep your letters and articles coming. Anything suitable that we don’t have space for in the magazine will be put up on our website, where there are already several of your letters and trips down memory lane.

Finally, the observant among you will have noticed a change to the enclosed Membership Update Form. Please check all the details we’ve given you and let us know if your address, e-mail, phone number or business details are incorrect. We’re also keen to track down our ‘lost’ alumni, so let us know if any of your friends from Sussex aren’t on the Falmer mailing list!

Best wishes from Sussex for the 21st Century.

Rebekah.
**Monkey Business**

**Sophie Oliver (BIOLS 1992-95)**
Animal Records Officer, Auckland Zoo, New Zealand
olivers@akcity.govt.nz

I always knew I wanted to go into conservation, but found it difficult to get a paid job initially. After graduation, I volunteered with an environmental charity helping to look after city nature reserves, while waitressing to earn some money. When I moved to New Zealand, I started volunteering at Auckland Zoo animals. I was lucky to be offered work as a trainee keeper working in various sections for two and a half years. I really loved getting to know different animals’ antics. I have now moved into a more administrative role and, although I miss the hands-on work, I have more responsibility and assist in decisions which affect the Zoo’s future. I love learning about managing captive populations and being involved in release programmes for endangered native species like the kiwi and tuatara.

As Animal Records Officer, I am responsible for the computer records for all the animals in the Zoo, which is vital for keeping track of the genetics of captive populations for the Zoo to manage them in the best way for conservation purposes. I also deal with animal transactions, which means I am often at the airport collecting animals or sending them to other institutions as part of breeding programmes. The Australasian region has established a viable captive breeding programme. I do sometimes get out of the office to help out when sections are short-staffed, which is great.

Study at Sussex, and in particular my course in Advanced Conservation, instilled in me the belief that zoos can play an important role in protecting endangered species. I’m glad I have that ecology/conservation background, which gives me a firm base on which I base my beliefs about how zoos should be managed.

More and more, zoos are requesting graduates, and getting some voluntary work too can really make the difference if you’re interested in this field. Liking animals isn’t enough – you have to be able to get on well with people too!

**The Eurocrat**

**Christopher Burghardt (EURO 1992-96)**
Account Manager, Hill & Knowlton international communications agency, Brussels
CBurghardt@hillandknowlton.com

I left Sussex straight after my finals in May 1996 for the European University Institute in Florence where I followed a summer course in European Community Law and Human Rights. My next move was to Washington DC where I did an internship in the Delegation of the European Commission, my main task being to follow the 1996 presidential elections and report on meetings of the US Congress’ Foreign Affairs Committee.

Following this, I obtained an MA in European Political Studies from the College of Europe in Bruges, the oldest postgraduate institute for European Studies. The College is known in the ‘Brussels community’ as a stepping stone for a career in European Affairs as it provides an excellent preparation for a post within one of the EU institutions, in national administration or in private interest representations.

A friend alerted me to a vacancy at Hill and Knowlton and I was hired in May 1997. Here a typical day starts with reading two or three daily papers, marking articles of interest to colleagues as well as myself. During the rest of the day, I might find myself researching and analysing issues of interest to clients. Work on projects often involves telephone and air transport, often for lobby support on specific issues. As Brussels is host to the world’s second-largest press corps after Washington DC, I sometimes find myself talking to the media and devising public affairs strategies for clients in the areas of international trade, enlargement and road transport. My day usually ends at about 8 pm and weekend work is a regular occurrence during busy times.

This area of work is dynamic and fast-paced and I love working on a wide range of issues with a variety of clients. There is an exciting feeling that things are constantly moving around you. Having a Sussex degree is a good door-opener in Brussels because of its reputation. Sussex gave me a solid base in European Affairs and International Relations in a truly international study environment. Anyone interested in EU Public Affairs work here needs that academic knowledge, an open and sociable personality, as well as flexibility, creativity, and bags of enthusiasm!
SHOOTING STARS AT SUSSEX

A S IF having Brighton and Hove Albion training at Sussex was not endorsement enough of the University’s sports services, basketball team Brighton Bears are now regular users of the facilities. Stars such as Lormont Sharp (left), NCAA II Conference Player of the Year 1999, can be spotted pumping iron at the new Falmer Sports Complex, or slam-dunking hoops in the sports halls. The Bears, who play in the U.K.’s top league, returned to the Brighton Centre at the beginning of this season after playing at the Worthing Leisure Centre for 15 years.

In return for the use of Sussex’s sports facilities, the players are coaching students in the Sussex student team. Falmer Sports Complex Manager, Simon Tunley, says “Having the Bears on board shows the University Sport Service’s commitment to the local community and highlights the part it can play in promoting sporting excellence at a national level.”

Mikko von Lueders (EAM 1996-99), the University Basketball Coach, agrees. “The Bears have been able to use our facilities (arguably the best in Sussex!) and in return have offered us services such as coaching, refereeing and so on. It means that the entire basketball community of Brighton, regardless of their level, resides at Falmer. Whether a Bear, a Sussex student, or an alumnus like myself, home is in the Sports Centre Hall.”

Alumni are eligible for a special membership rate at the Falmer Sports Complex. You can telephone (01273) 877125 or e-mail sportservice@sussex.ac.uk for full details.

NEW LOOK FOR THE BOLTHOLE

The Library basement has always been popular with students seeking much-needed cups of tea and brain food between long study sessions. Now those breaks can be taken in stylish, stress-free surroundings. Over the summer, the ‘Bolthole’ underwent a major refurbishment and as well as boasting a groovy new colour scheme, is serving an enhanced range of food such as freshly baked baguettes and baked potatoes. For smokers, a special annex in the form of a conservatory has been added.

BARRISTER’S BEQUEST

A bequest made by the first woman to practise at the English Bar has fallen to the University “in gratitude for all that Brighton did to educate me.” Helena Normanton’s legacy, in excess of £400,000, will fund founding scholarships in the new School of Legal Studies.

Research by postgraduate student Jo Workman has revealed that Helena Normanton moved to Brighton in 1886, when she was four, and attended York Place school (now Varndean) from the age of 14. Helena initially trained as a teacher and was not admitted as a member of the Middle Temple until 1919, by which time she was in her late 30s. In 1922 she was called to the Bar, and was the first woman to practise as a barrister, notably in the Old Bailey.

In 1956 a fund was established to create a new university in Sussex. Helena Normanton was the first recorded donor to the fund, with a gift made to Brighton’s Director of Education at the time, William Stone. She died in October 1957 and is buried with her husband in Ovingdean churchyard.

Today her only surviving relatives are distant cousins, who live in Sussex. “The barrister was a very, very strong woman,” said 79-year-old Sybil Ford, who lives in Hove. “She attracted a lot of attention wherever she went. Helena was a social commentator of her time and has paved the way for thousands of women to have a right to stand at the Bar.” Jo Workman agrees: “Helena had a strong desire to see women recognised as individuals who had an equal right with men to actively participate in all facets of life. She invested an enormous amount of energy in working to remove prejudices against women.”

In her will, Mrs Normanton left £20,000 worth of shares in a trust to her niece Etelie Cannon, who died in January 1999. The share portfolio, now valued in excess of £400,000, then passed to Sussex.
NEW REGISTRAR  

Neil Gershon marks the start of the new millennium by taking up the post of Registrar and Secretary at Sussex. Neil, 48, joins the University from the Institute of Psychiatry, King's College, London, where he served for 20 years, including almost a decade as its Secretary.

FACTS AND FIGURES  

Some interesting facts and figures from last year at Sussex:
- Students came from 116 different countries
- 25% of the student body came from outside the UK
- 64% of international students were from Europe, 18% from Asia, 14% from the Americas, and 4% from Africa
- The number of international students at Sussex has increased by 68% since 1991

TEACHING AWARDS 1999  

The third annual Alumni Society awards for excellence were made in 1999 to three outstanding teachers. The Awards Panel, which includes the Vice-Chancellor and Libby Lines (AFRAS 1964-67), selected Brian Bates, Social Psychology in CCS, for his inspirational teaching which draws on research, and his development of the research skills of students, who expressed great enthusiasm for his courses. Former student Angela Jacklin is Deputy Director of USIE and was recognised by her students and colleagues for her support of trainee teachers in mathematics. Positive feedback from students confirmed the award to Mike Tribe, teacher of Environmental Sciences in CPES, who was congratulated on his student-centred approach, the priority he gives to innovation and particularly the use of educational technologies.

UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS  

Sussex continues to be very popular amongst applicants - nearly 12,000 applications were received for the 2,000 undergraduate places available in 1999. Some of these applicants applied for deferred entry (i.e. to start in October 2000) which seems to be an increasingly popular option amongst school leavers.

The Sussex Liaison and Progression Accord was set up in 1998 to encourage local people to consider applying to their local institution. At the last count there were 36 schools and colleges in East and West Sussex signed up to the Accord as well as the three local Higher Education institutions (the Universities of Brighton and Sussex and Chichester University College). Conditional offers (or in some cases interviews) are guaranteed to applicants from the Accord institutions for most of the degree programmes at Sussex. This has proved popular for local applicants and we hope the scheme will grow in the future.

As well as providing opportunities for local applicants, Sussex also has an active recruitment policy which aims to attract a diverse community of undergraduates. We receive applications from all over the world and have some special admissions schemes set up in a range of different countries including Cyprus, Greece, India and Nigeria. So, keep on telling your friends and relatives about Sussex!

POSTGRADUATE ADMISSIONS  

The year 1999 has also been good for postgraduate admissions. In an increasingly competitive market, the latest figures indicate that we have managed to increase our overall intake by some 3 per cent.

We have recruited particularly well amongst overseas students; our overseas taught intake has increased by 18% and our overseas research intake has increased by 53%.

We have enjoyed a spectacular increase from 22 to 30 in the number of students who were successful in the AHRB (formerly British Academy) Postgraduate Awards Competition. The University is now one of the largest recipients of such awards across the entire sector.

Sussex remains among the top dozen UK universities for the excellence of our research and offers a range of over 100 taught masters and 50 research degree programmes.

The University is committed to further increasing its share of the postgraduate market and new initiatives include distant learning research degree programmes.

The University is now one of the largest recipients of such awards across the entire sector.

THE PULSE WINS AGAIN  

Yet again, Sussex student magazine The Pulse has been recognised as the Best Student Magazine in the country. The magazine beat off strong competition from a shortlist of magazines from Oxford, York and Liverpool John Moores to take top prize in the NUS/Independent National Student Journalism Awards in November.

The magazine also came out top in the 21st Century Guardian student media awards, taking the Shoestring Award (for excellence on a limited budget). UK Student's Paula Shutkever, one of the two judges for the Shoestring Award, said: "The winner impressed the panel with the care and attention it paid to content and design. The budget was half that of its nearest rival for magazine of the year and yet it attained the same journalistic levels".

Psychology student Owen Davies was nominated by both the Guardian and the Independent for Student Photographer of the Year for his work for The Pulse.
SCHOOL NEWS

AFRAS  School of African and Asian Studies
BIOLS  School of Biological Sciences
CCE  Centre for Continuing Education
CCS  School of Cultural and Community Studies
CDE  Centre for the Comparative Study of Culture, Development and the Environment
CGJS  Centre for German-Jewish Studies
COGS  School of Cognitive and Computing Sciences
CPES  School of Chemistry, Physics and Environmental Science
CulCom  Graduate Research Centre in Culture and Communication
EAM  School of English and American Studies
ENGG  School of Engineering
EURO  School of European Studies
GRC:SS  Graduate Research Centre in Social Sciences
Hums  Graduate Centre for the Humanities
IDS  Institute of Development Studies
SEI  Sussex European Institute
SLS  School of Legal Studies
SMS  School of Mathematical Sciences
SOC  School of Social Sciences
SPRU  Science and Technology Policy Research
TCMR  The Trafford Centre for Graduate Medical Education and Research
USIE  University of Sussex Institute of Education

CCS

● More than 100 guests paid tribute to Dorothy Scruton for her 32 years service to History of Art at Sussex, at a party given by the Subject Group in her honour on 8th October. As Slide Librarian in the Image Archive since its inception, Dorothy has, almost single-handedly, built the collection of slides from next to nothing to over 95,000. In addition the Archive now houses the Bridson collection of photographs, CD ROMs, electronic images and much more.

No History of Art student will have passed through Sussex without knowing Dorothy, so it was particularly gratifying that over 50 alumni from as far back as the 1970s were able to meet her again at the celebration. As Craig Clunas, Subject Chair, highlighted in his address to the guests, Dorothy has long been regarded with affection by both students and staff not only for her professionalism but also for her warmth and generosity – she always made time to cheerfully share her knowledge and expertise with users of the Image Archive.

Among the alumni who returned to Sussex for the occasion were: Jeremy Aynsley (CCS 1975-78) now a Professor at the Royal College of Art; Simon Carter (EAM 1987-91), Curator at the Geffrye Museum in London; Elizabeth Clear (EURO 1991-95), IT Officer in the Library at University College London; and Briony Fer (EURO 1975-79), now Reader in the History of Art, also at UCL. Others have chosen different career paths – Abigail Barker (EAM 1982-86) is a successful local artist and illustrator of children’s books, while Clare Pumfrey (EURO 1979-84) and Susan Pasquelle (CCS 1981-84) are both practising ceramics conservators. More recent alumni joining the celebrations were Simona Pizzi (EURO 1994-98) who works at Bonhams auction house, and Valerie Franklin (CCS 1994-97), who has just secured a job as PA to the Director of Education at the Royal Academy of Art. Also among the guests was Professor Norbert Lynton, Emeritus Professor of the History of Art since 1992.

● Also retiring from CCS in 1999 was the much-loved and respected Professor Willie Lamont. Willie came to Sussex in 1966 as Lecturer in History and Education, and he was promoted to Reader in 1970. Space does not allow here for full justice to the wide range of posts held by Willie over the years which include Dean of CCS and Chair of the History Subject Group, in addition to membership of most university committees at some point. He has been referred to by colleagues as resembling an enthusiastic Father Christmas, a keen (to put it mildly) Arsenal fan, and as irritated by date-stamping of essays! Current Dean of CCS, Dr Brian Short, paid tribute to Willie as “a man of great integrity and decency, and intense loyalty to Sussex University and to scholarship more broadly, to CCS in its manifestation as a school and as a collection of colleagues, and to History both within and beyond the academy. He has been a tremendous inspiration to all students and staff who have worked with him.”

CPES

● In July 1999, Professor Phil Parsons took over as Dean replacing Professor John Murrell who retired from the University having worked here for more years than he probably cares to remember. The whole School wishes him well; he has been a pivotal figure in the School’s development and leaves it in a very strong position, not least because of the recent new faculty that have been appointed in all three subject groups. They are: Dr M Ramsey and Dr J Zhou (Environmental Analysts), Dr G Rowlands and Dr J Love (Inorganic Chemists), Dr T Wright (Physical Chemist), Dr M Coles (Organic Chemist), Dr J Sanderson (Bio Organic Chemist), Dr H Cox (Theoretical Chemist). In Physics and Astronomy, Dr A Liddle (Imperial College) has been appointed as Professor of the Astronomy Centre and two further lectureships are currently under offer in Astronomy. The School was very successful in the 1999 fellowships round: Professor E Hinds (Optical and Atomic Physics) has been awarded an EPSRC Senior Research Fellowship; Dr H Cox and Dr B Gehrhus (Inorganic Chemistry) have received two of the seven EPSRC Advanced Fellowships awarded this year; and Dr P Thomas (Astronomy) has received one of only two PPARC Lecturer Fellowships awarded. Over £1.2m in new grants have been received during the course of 1999.

Dorothy Scruton and her successor as Image Archivist, Simon Lane.
● The students have also enjoyed considerable success in their own right. Tamsyn Montagnon and Iain Simpson received a highly prestigious Final Year Award of £4000 each, from Astrazeneca, one of Europe’s leading pharmaceutical companies, for their research in organic chemistry.

**ENGG**

● Last year Falmer reported that a team in the School of Engineering, led by Professor Jay Jayawant, was working with NASA and its American industry partner PRT Advanced Mag-Lev Systems to use magnetic levitation and propulsion for assisting the launch of spacecraft. This is a part of the NASA Advanced Space Transportation Programme, which aims to reduce dramatically the cost of getting into space. With conventional rocket launching, an enormous amount of fuel is used at the beginning to get the craft off the ground. The idea of magnetic launch assist is to accelerate the craft to about 400 mph before the rocket engine takes over. A prototype using a 12-ft track was demonstrated in the Sussex laboratories last year, leading to the design of a 50-ft track that has been built near the Marshall Space Flight Centre in Alabama and was successfully demonstrated last month.

The pictures show a 5-ft model of a new design of reusable spacecraft, on top of a carrier that is levitated and propelled along the track by magnetic forces. Covers have been removed from part of the track to show the coils that levitate and guide the carrier. In a full-scale system there would be two tracks, one on each side of the spacecraft, and they would be much smaller in proportion to the size of the craft. The demonstration track uses a novel design of linear motor based on concepts proposed by the late Eric Laitihwaite (Visiting Professor at Sussex until 1997). Eric Laitihwaite’s work on magnetic levitation and linear motors fired the imagination of engineers at NASA, which led to the University’s involvement in the project. The next phase will use a twin track 200 ft long, carrying a load of 1000 lbs - ten times the capacity of the 50-ft track.

Picture 1: Aristotle’s impression of a maglev system for space launch
Picture 2 & 3: Testing the prototype

**SPRU**

● SPRU has become involved with the debate over genetically modified organisms. A team led by Erik Millstone argue in Nature that the idea that GM plants would be chemically the same as conventionally bred plants is “pseudoscientific”. They claim that genetically altered crops cannot be regarded as safe until they have passed the toxicity tests used for pharmaceutical products. A member of that team, Sue Mayer of GeneWatch UK, has co-authored with SPRU’s Andy Stirling a report entitled Rethinking Risk: A Pilot Multi-criteria Mapping of a Genetically Modified Crop. The report uses multi-criteria mapping to create a map of the debate surrounding the GM crops. “Multi-criteria mapping” says Andy, “shows that difficult policy choices are not just about ‘sound science’ - they are about people’s values and interests as well.” The Politics of GM Food: Risk, Science and Public Trust is a report produced by the ESRC Global Environmental Change Programme based in SPRU. It pulls together evidence on the GM food debate and calls for scientists to be frank about the limits to their knowledge in order to overcome the public mistrust of GM food.

● SPRU’s Centre for Information, Networks & Knowledge (INK) is increasingly involved with the study of information technology and social development. A recently completed project for the Department of International Development (DFID) assessed the potential of software applications for supporting economic and social improvements at the community level in developing countries. A second proposal to DFID’s Globalisation and Poverty Programme takes up the issue of comparison of scientific researcher use of IT in India and the UK. Professor Robin Mansell is also working with the British Council and with the International Development Research Centre in Ottawa to support a major conference, ‘Global Knowledge II’, to be held in Malaysia in March 2000. The conference will produce an Action aimed at improving access, empowerment, equity and governance through the use of ICTs in ways that are responsive to local and regional development goals.

● SPRU alumni who are not registered with SPRU’s own alumni association may be interested to know that they can access a registration form on-line at http://www.sussex.ac.uk/spru/Alumni/index.html or email their details to Betty Skolnick at B.P.Skolnick@sussex.ac.uk

**USIE**

● The Centre for International Education and the University of Sussex Institute of Education GRCE, welcome the arrival of 10 curriculum developers from the National Institute of Education in Sri Lanka, historically known as the island of serendip, hence serendipity! Dr Fiona Leach and Dr Yusuf Sayed have negotiated a tailor made programme leading to a Masters degree for this group. The group will be studying alongside the other Masters in International Education students.

The CIE has had links with NIE dating back to 1987 when Professor Keith Lewin advised on the establishment of its research division. The University of Sussex has many other links with Sri Lanka including those of the South Asia scholars in AFRAS and IDS, the support programme for the University of Batticaloa, and Sussex awarded an honorary degree to the former President. All those interested are invited to meet the group whilst they are here.
OVERSEAS NEWS

BRUSSELS

The Brussels Alumni Group goes from strength to strength. Over the summer, 30 students on the M.A. in Contemporary European Studies programme at the Sussex European Institute visited Brussels and made useful future contacts among a large group of former Sussex students. Sharon Norton (EURO 1988-91), a Financial Co-ordinator in International Co-operation within DG 12 of the European Commission, welcomed students and alumni and, with Andrew Houghton (MAPS 1970-73), Scientific Officer, DG 13, spoke about careers in the Commission, gaining a Stage, and getting in through alternative routes. Christopher Burghardt (EURO 1992-96), a Public Affairs Consultant at Hill and Knowlton in Brussels, talked about careers in Brussels involving close work with the Commission. Further speakers illustrated the range of careers available in Brussels and some even invited those present to speak to them about possible job opportunities. The students commented that it was invaluable to talk to others who had been through the same experiences as them. The entire party moved from the offices of the South East Partners Office to a nearby pub, Sin é, where the conversation continued over fine Belgian beer.

As Falmer went to press, details were being confirmed for a very special event for alumni in Brussels taking place early in 2000. Guest speakers will be NATO spokesman Jamie Shea (EURO 1973-77), and the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Professor Alasdair Smith. Invitations will be sent to all alumni who know we are living in Belgium, but if you do not receive news soon, please e-mail Christopher at CBurghardt@hillandknowlton.com or Sharon at sharon.norton@cec.eu.int

JAPAN

The UoS Alumni Association, Japan, is undergoing some exciting new developments. In October 1999, alumni who live too far away from Tokyo to attend most events were invited to join Meryl Dean of the School of Legal Studies at Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto, Kansai. Hosting the event was Professor Masahide Nakamura, visiting fellow of IDS 1984-85, who announced at the end of the party that he would be happy to become Chair of the Kansai Branch of the Association. Those gathered were delighted, and expressed thanks to Professor Nakamura and to Meryl Dean for her continued interest and involvement with alumni activity in Japan. So much interest was generated at the Kansai party that alumni offered to help Meryl at Sussex’s desk at the Osaka Study Abroad Fair. According to the President of the Alumni Association in Japan, Ms Sachiko Okumura, “chairs at the Sussex desk were always hot!” The Japanese Association is outstanding in its support of Sussex, and thanks must go to Sachiko and her band of well-organised volunteers, including Shinichi Kondo (MOLS 1980-83) who keeps track of more than 300 members of the Association in Japan, alongside a successful career with an electric company and family responsibilities.

If you would like further details about the Japanese Alumni Association, please contact the group at sussex@geocities.co.jp and visit their website at http://www.geocities.co.jp/CollegeLife/7245/

KOREA

In September, British Ambassador and former Sussex student Sir Stephen Brown (AFRAS 1966-69) hosted an enjoyable party for alumni in Korea at his residence. More than fifty guests gathered over a buffet and drinks and were welcomed by the Ambassador. Professor Yang Chin David Chi (DPhil Social Work 1985-91), President of the Alumni Society in Korea, then addressed the party. He thanked Stephen Brown and commented that “this event will help us unify the alumni society to activate our friendship, cohesiveness, interdependence and mutual co-operation, and further in the future will accelerate us to contribute our efforts to the development of the University of Sussex we all attended.” The party was then entertained by musicians playing the Korean folk flute, drums and marimba.

NEW YORK

Following last November’s event at the Rockefeller Foundation, alumni in the New York area were invited to another high profile event in New York City, thanks to Ken Fujimura (AFRAS 1966-69) who hosted an evening at the United Nations. As well as alumni, current and prospective students were invited along to find out more about study at Sussex or a career with the UN.

Speakers included Richard Jolly (Director of the Institute for Development Studies at Sussex, 1972-81, now Special Advisor to the Administrator, UNDP and Principal Co-ordinator, Human Development Report), Ken Fujimura (Senior Advisor on South-South Co-operation, Special Unit for TCDC, UNDP), Ran Kim (former SPRU research fellow, Expert on Public Policy Analysis)
Following the event, volunteers Paul Bennett (ENGG 1975-83) and Sada Aksartova (SOC 1995-96) wrote to all alumni on the Alumni Centre database with the aim of building an efficient network of alumni in the NY area. If you did not receive a letter from Paul and Sada, drop them an e-mail or give them a call. Paul can be reached at paul_bennett@acm.org or by phone at (212) 349-3309 and Sada at sada@princeton.edu or on (609) 252-9087.

SWITZERLAND
Our first meeting was held in Bern on the 18th September and was attended by Tony Murdoch (SOC 1962-65) and his wife Mexja, Nicole Schneider (V&E in CLS 1995-96), Bettina Muller (MA International Economics 1996-98), Zhou Tian (DPhil Engineering 1993-97), Gunnar Paulsson (DPhil Economics 1979-90), Supian Zainuddin (ENGG 1981-84) and his wife Anita.

It was a small but wonderful evening at an Italian restaurant in Old Town Bern. It was very cozy and informal and we exchanged our experiences at Sussex. We were a beautiful mix of races and cultures all brought together by the University. Everyone was enthusiastic about the first alumni meeting and we elected ourselves as the founder members of the Swiss Alumni Club and hope to get more response for our next event. Tony Murdoch, Gunnar Paulsson and Supian Zainuddin will conjure up further interesting activities and events and with luck will persuade all 38 alumni so far registered with us to attend!

The next meeting will definitely be more informative and we hope to invite faculty and prominent alumni. The date has yet to be determined but for those interested in joining the merry club, please contact us at:

Tony Murdoch
murdoch@constellation.int.ch
Gunnar Paulsson
gunnar.paulsson@bluewin.ch
Supian Zainuddin
zainuddin@akros.ch, tel 0041 323380766/0041 323420029

INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL OPENS AT SUSSEX
Summer 1999 saw the opening of the first International Summer School at Sussex. Our first group of students was small but diverse, coming from Europe, Asia and North America. Courses included Shakespeare’s plays and the Elizabethan Theatre, Issues in International Political Economy, Post Modernism, Post War British Women’s Fiction, Microeconomics, General and Organic Chemistry, and Introductory Physics. The small numbers meant making a virtue of necessity – very individual attention took us back to the earliest traditions of the Sussex tutorial!

Nowadays the Sussex campus is almost as busy in the summer as during the school year – we have conference visitors from the local area and around the world as well as Open University summer sessions and many students improving their English at the Sussex Language Institute. So there was plenty of social life for the summer students, and some events were shared with the Language Institute group. Most of the students also managed to do some travelling around in the UK while they were here – the London theatre and music scenes were especially popular. For one week the Summer School group were joined by the participants in the Sussex Science Experience – the Science at the Cinema evenings, where we viewed and discussed movies such as 2001: A Space Odyssey and Jurassic Park, were among the most popular events.

In September we had the second Sussex in September session, mostly for visiting and exchange students studying at Sussex in the autumn term. This had expanded greatly since its introduction in 1998, with some 40 North American students taking courses on the EU, local history and literature, or issues in the environment. Next year courses on local archaeology, and the British political system will be added. These North Americans were joined by a group of 30 English major students from continental Europe on the English in the vacation Programme, designed for students to improve their language skills, and to study British literature. Again lots of social events, movie evenings, and trips – including Stratford and Chichester, took place.

The new summer programmes in Sussex provide an excellent opportunity for alumni to reacquaint themselves with the campus, and see just what has been happening since they left. They also provide very real educational opportunities - whether for career advancement or redirection, or simply personal interest. We hope to see some of you here next year. For further details, e-mail summer@sussex.ac.uk

Penny Chaloner
Events / Bookshelf

Launch in London

The long awaited re-launch of the University of Sussex Society London Club on August 18th saw more than seventy alumni packed into a central London pub on a sultry summer evening for drinks, food and chat. Though the group was very mixed in ages, 1960’s students mingling with this year’s cohort, people found plenty in common and were enthusiastic about future London Club events. The London Club is a social and professional group for people living and working in the capital. Please contact Claire at the Alumni Centre (alumni@sussex.ac.uk, tel. 01273 678258) if you would like to be included on the mailing list for future events.

Class of 1974: Reunion refused to be rained off!

When the new students of 1974 first arrived at Sussex little did they imagine that 25 years later they would be returning for their reunion on the brink of the new millennium! Over one hundred former students brought cheer to a gloomy autumn day when they were reunited on campus for the weekend of 18th/19th September.

The day’s agenda included informal chats in School groups with a reception hosted by the Vice-Chancellor. This was followed by dinner, an entertaining version of the Sunscreen song from speaker John Wellington (SOC 1974-77) and a spot of time travelling with an authentic 1970’s disco. Any hangovers were soothed by light jazz and brunch at the Gardner Arts Centre on Sunday morning, when farewell were bade and promises made to keep in touch over the next twenty-five years.

Media “Lunch”

More than 150 alumni working in the media gathered for the fourth media “lunch” on the evening of 12th November. This fourth event was perhaps the most glamorous in the history of the event, requiring everyone to dress up for drinks and speeches at the famous Reform Club in London. The co-ordinator of the Media “Lunch” Committee, Rosalind Gold (EAM 1965-68), dedicated the event to two members of the Committee who had sadly died since the last event, Barry Jackson (MAAPS 1966-70) and Christopher Griffin-Beale (EURO 1966-69). Special guests included former Vice-Chancellor Sir Alan Briggs and the current Vice-Chancellor Alastair Smith, both of whom referred to the outstanding record of Sussex alumni in the media.

Class of 1975: Reunion, 8th and 9th April 2000

Plans for the reunion for the intake of 1975 are shaping up nicely. Check out the website of 1975 starter Steve Upstone (http://www.ayles.demon.co.uk/sussex.html) for anecdotes and snapshots of Sussex in the seventies. You will also get the latest on Steve’s musical project for the reunion, 0 ver the Hill - a live band featuring the music of the era. Steve and co. are still looking for a drummer for the night so if you can help please email upstone@ayles.demon.co.uk or call Steve on 01494 676161 (daytime) or 01296 424410 (evening).


The Alumni Centre is planning a large reunion on campus for the intake of 1970 and 1971 next year. Further details will be sent out in the Spring, but for now we recommend that the former students of 1970/71 start calling each other, think about what they would like from their reunion and prepare to get into the party spirit! If you have lost contact with a friend, and we are still in touch with them, we are happy to pass messages on. If you are interested in helping to organise this special reunion, Claire at the Alumni Centre will be delighted to hear from you.

Meeting of the University of Sussex Society Science Group, Spring 2000

Following two highly successful meetings of the University of Sussex Science Group in recent years, a third is proposed for Spring 2000. Previous lectures have dealt with chemistry and evolution theory and we hope to deliver a subject as diverse and interesting at our next exclusive meeting. If you have an interest in science and would like to be mailed about the Science Group in the New Year, please contact the Alumni Centre.

Annual General Meeting

The 2000 General Meeting of the University of Sussex Alumni Society will take place on campus in Brighton on Thursday, 3rd February. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. in the Alumni Centre M eating Room, Bramber House (formerly known as the Refectory Building). All Sussex alumni are welcome to attend and voice their views on alumni activity. Please get in touch with the Alumni Officer if you wish to attend.

Publications by Sussex Alumni

Jad Adams

(CCS 1973-6)
Madder M usic, Stronger W ine
The Life of J. M. D. Swain, Vita rian D emocrat
I.B. Tauris, 1999

Janey Antoniou

(BIO LS 1975-78)
Genie, genie
(Vol. 88, 8-9 of Op en M ind, 1998

Catherine Brian

(EURO 1981-85)
In Pursuit of Parenthood
Laurence D oublier, 1998

Brian Butterworth

(M A Philosophy 1967-68)
What I am a To m: How E ven B rain Is And how it works for M ath
The Free Press, 1999

Peter Chapman

(AF RAS 1972-75)
The G aleskeeper’s H istory of Sussex: B ritain
Fourth Estate, 1999

Francesca Clements

(CCS 1976-79)
Big Girls D on’t C ry
Plakuss, 1999

Saul Cowen

(EAM 1998-91)
The G irl F ounder, Anti -F ederalism and the D escent of a N ation in Amer i ca, 1783-1828
The University of North Carolina Press, 1999

Philip Cowley

(MSc Psychology 1985-86)
Memory and Learning A Practical G uide for Teachers (with ) B riston and B Daines
David Fulton, 1999

Mustapha Dharra

(AF RAS 1974-77)
Warriors and W orkers: How G uineas W as R eally S et F ree
University Press of Colorado, 1993

Chris Gill

(ENG 1967-71)
W hile in Sk i
and Snowboard (Edited with D W att)
Thomas Cook Publishing, 1999

Charlotte Hardman

(AF RAS 1968-71)
In the N ew Re ligions (Edited with S Palm er)
R utgers University Press, 1999

John Helmer

(EAM 1974-77)
M ets Tongue O ur W orld
Harwood, 1999

Diana Holmes

(EURO 1967-71 & DPhil D irecting Film
in the F rench 1972-76)
Francois T ruffaut in the F rench F ilm D irectors Series
(Editors D iana H olmes and R. A. Ingr em)
Manchester University Press, 1998

Huw Jones

(PGCE 1964-65)
A G uide to the S econd An nual B r w ar 1897-1898
and (with M Jones)
The Military Press, 1999

Matthew Huntbach

(M A Cognitive Science 1983-
BU & DPhil Computing 1990)
A gen-0 rental Program ming from P rolog to G ured B ite
Clinical Reviews in Artifical Intelligence, 1630, 1999

Jean Mance

(AF RAS 1974-77)
The Spirit of C are: The eig ht -h un dred -year story of S t John’s H ospital, B ath
St John’s Hospital, 1998

Hazel Plunkett

(EURO 1983-87)
N i nagara: A G uide to the P eople, P olitics and C ulture
Latin America Bureau, 1999

Chris Richards

(EAM 1970-73 & M A American Studies 1973-74)
T een S pirit S piri ts: M usic and I dentity in M e X ico
U CL Press, 1998

Elizabeth Rouse

(AF RAS 1970-73)
Understanding Fas hion
Blackwell, 1999

Nicky Stanley

(EAM 1973-76)
Institutional A use: P erspectives A cross the L ife C ourse
(Edited with M. A nthony and B Penhale)
Routledge, 1999

Richard Vellman

(BIO LS 1972-75)
R. K. & R. Reliance: A dults w ho were t he C hildren of P roblem D rinkers
((with O ford)
Harwood, 1999

Sara Yeo mans

(EAM 1961-64)
M is B ugle Saw G od in the Cabbage
Plakuss, 1999

The Alumni Centre would be pleased to receive copies of your books to add to the Alumni Bookshelf in our reception area.

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Falmer 32 pre-pdf 11/1/00 2:14 pm Page 11

He history
Professor Röhl dedicated much of his academic career to the multi-volume biography of Kaiser Wilhelm II, receiving the Wolfson Prize for history in 1994 and a research grant of £95,000 in 1999. It was a spin-off from this life’s work which led Röhl to research with geneticists into a rare and incurable disorder which inflicts periods of derangement and a host of terrible physical symptoms on its sufferers. The disease, porphyria, has been traced through the royal families of Europe with some fascinating results.

It has now been proven that King George III of England went down in history unfairly as the King who lost his mind. The pattern of George III’s ‘insanity’, coupled with his physical complaints, was first blamed on the presence of porphyria by researchers McCann and H unter in the 1960s. But both researchers died before they could satisfy their critics with hard scientific evidence to substantiate their hypothesis. However, this original research had enthralled a young Alan Bennett, who later turned the story into a stage play and award-winning film. Professor Röhl teamed up with geneticists Martin Warren and David Hunt when interest in the porphyria debate was revived with the release in 1995 of Bennett’s film The Madness of King George. The film portrayed symptoms of the disease including the King’s discoloured urine, lameness, abdominal pains, skin rashes and bouts of dementia. Further proof came in the form of DNA samples from the exhumed bodies of Charlotte, and of her daughter Feodora. The grave of Charlotte was opened by the research team, who were delighted to find it undisturbed, and saw Charlotte’s perfect skeleton clutching flowers to her chest. A sample of her bone marrow was analysed and revealed that Charlotte carried the genetic mutation, as did Feodora. This confirmation that Queen Victoria’s granddaughter and great-granddaughter carried the porphyria gene, together with the historical accounts of their symptoms, meant just one thing: the gene was passed down through the Royal Family Tree, including that of whether Queen Victoria was affected.

The unique collaboration between history and science has traced the disease through the Royal Houses of Europe as far back as Mary Queen of Scots (1542-1587) and forward, to the cousin of Elizabeth II, Prince William of Gloucester, who perished in a plane crash in 1972. A number of fascinating questions arose through the tracing of the disease’s progress through the Royal Family Tree, including that of whether Queen Victoria was affected.

“Queen Victoria is thought to have had the symptoms, but mildly. Interestingly, Prince Albert is recorded as fearing she might develop the illness of her grandfather, George III,” says Professor Röhl – not an unreasonable worry in the light of recent discoveries. Proof of this suspicion could be found if Victoria’s descendants were shown to have carried the disease.

The theory led Röhl to the private correspondence of Queen Victoria’s grand-daughter, and the Kaiser’s sister, Charlotte, which to Röhl’s trained eye were highly revealing. “Charlotte wrote letters to her doctor describing mysterious and terrible symptoms which clearly are those of porphyria,” including the discoloured, often purple urine (hence Purple Secret) and blistered skin.

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The historical and political implications of such discoveries vary in magnitude. “British monarchs throughout history are really only constitutional so, while presence of porphyria here is intriguing, it has not had a huge impact on our history,” says Röhl. “However, it would be a totally different story if, say, the Kaiser himself had porphyria because the German monarchy had tremendous power and influenced millions of lives.” Frustrated by lack of access to Royal corpses to collect DNA samples, the research team are unable to prove their latest inklings just yet.

A chilling example of the implications of Röhl’s findings appears in a new chapter in the paperback edition of Purple Secret, which discloses the team’s belief that the last Tsarin Alexandra had porphyria. The gene could go some way to explain the fall of the Romanov dynasty in the Russian Revolution, because Alexandra had such control over her husband, the Tsar Nicholas. “He made such bad decisions that one could argue that this little gene had terrible consequences in our century.” The good news for the Royals is that increased awareness of the disease means those affected by porphyria in future should escape the stigma of insanity which overshadowed King George III’s reign.


His research into the Kaiser had sparked Professor Röhl’s interest in the porphyria theory. It was clear to him that the Kaiser was an “oddball” and Röhl wondered whether he might have been mad. “Suddenly it clicked,” he says, “that he was the great-great-grandson of George III. I was aware of the porphyria theory, and wanted to find out more.”

M adness and Royalty proved an irresistible combination for the media and public alike when Professor John Röhl’s recent research came to light.
Four families of Sussex students fondly reflect on their university experiences from the radical, swinging sixties, to the vibrant social scene of today.

ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS that touched Helen Reynolds (EAM 1982-85), when she arrived at Sussex, was the friendly, laid back atmosphere. Much of her social life revolved around the communal kitchen. Otherwise, time was spent at the Union Bar, pop concerts, and attending the University's Film Society. This sense of community continued even after moving into Brighton. “It was very pleasant living in the centre of Brighton and we did enjoy walks by the sea and going shopping in the Laines. Two Sussex lecturers happened to live in the same building and I particularly remember are long and interesting discussions about their love-lives!”

On the down side, Helen was very hard up: “In fact I arrived at Sussex for my first term with 50p, and my grant cheque did not come through for two weeks. My children cannot believe that I didn’t spend my entire weekend I had to dash home to deal with domestic affairs, so I was hardly a typical student and there was no time to discover drinking haunts (a pity).” Regardless of these limitations, she declares “my most lasting and gratifying memories of Sussex were of a very warm welcome and acceptance. I could have happily spent the rest of my life there.”

Despite acknowledging the financial worries of his mum, Thomas Mellen (SOC ’97- ) thinks that student life is more stressful now. “Back then, student life was more about being a student, rather than having to work and support yourself through it all! I think perhaps it was a little more of an experience in that one actually got stuck into the University, but maybe I’m romanticising it!”

For Thomas, social life is about engaging and communicating with other people, not necessarily going out drinking. “I do go to the pub, once or twice a week, but it’s not a focus for my social life. It’s expensive and I’d much rather buy some red wine from Sainsbury’s and sit around drinking it with my mates at home.” He does go clubbing to places like The Shrine and The Jazz Rooms, but argues that too many students are manipulated into believing that a worthwhile social life can only be had through spending vast amounts of money.

Thomas sees Brighton as diverse, yet easy-going – a place where he feels comfortable and where his Sussex experience is similar to his mum’s, but the mentality has altered somewhat.

As the first of three generations to set foot on the Sussex campus, little did Alfred Ansell (M.A. Education 1966-67) realise the tradition that was to ensue. Unlike the majority of students, Alfred enrolled with a family of a wife and four children in tow. “I had comfortable lodgings in Coldean but at weekends I had to dash home to deal with domestic affairs, so I was hardly a typical student and there was no time to discover drinking haunts (a pity).” Regardless of these limitations, he declares “my most lasting and gratifying memories of Sussex were of a very warm welcome and acceptance. I could have happily spent the rest of my life there.”

In contrast, the experiences of Alfred’s son, Martin Ansell (ENG 1968-71), were infinitely more vibrant. “Arriving on campus hard on the heels of the anti-Vietnam red paint incident with the American ambassador, I was struck by the casual atmosphere on campus.” Martin often attended the Art College basement disco on Friday evenings where six pints of Guinness were the norm. The freaky light show was based on two cellophane sheets with ink squirted between them, rotating in a projector unit. When the cellophane burst into flames the next psychedelic transparency was inserted!

Ironically, most of the student body was very upper middle class, one affluent fellow student owned a Lotus Elan. In contrast, I worked in a café, cooking fried eggs and chips, and my transport was a battered old racing bike. I really got into my social stride in the second year when I shared a house in Waterloo Street with seven other Sussex students. We played football every night on Hove Lawns at 11 pm under the promenade lights.

Other good memories were late night bridge sessions in smoky flats and Maxine’s enormous, super-value, fried meals in Kemptown. Sussex certainly prepared me for life and I enjoyed three excellent years in Brighton.”

Victoria Ansell (BIOLS 1998- ), Martin’s daughter, perceives the period her father was at Sussex as “pretty cool and very liberal”, with a more close-knit student community. She suggests that, with the thriving club culture, students nowadays tend to migrate into town for their social activities, rather than becoming actively involved in campus and Student Union life. However, Vicky does admit, “I used to spend a lot of time in East Slope Bar in my first year. I liked Park Village Bar, and Falmer Bar for the Wednesday sports night-out... It’s funny how each of the pubs do attract completely different students!”

Now living in Brighton, Vicky’s social life remains primarily in town. “In the evenings we tend to go to pubs and occasionally I go to the Duke of York’s Cinema. I’m really into Drum ‘n’ Bass so I go to most of those big nights. My favourite clubs would have to be The Beach and The Zanzibar.” However, Vicky identifies with many
of her father’s escapades and believes that if she had been at university in his time she would have done similar things to him and vice versa – the only difference being that there is more choice now.

Dr Ray Oliver (MSc Chemistry & DPhil Chemistry 1970-73) and Dr Jane Singleton (DPhil Philosophy 1971-74) both came to Sussex as postgraduates and Ray affectionately remembers Sussex as “the calm before the storm!” They lived together with a mass of mainly overseas postgrads. Jane recalls, “One of the students was from Switzerland and he left notes around the kitchen reminding us to keep it clean. Once, he left a note over the small Belling cooker which said, somewhat incongruously, ‘Have you cleaned the range?’ ”

The couple married in October 1972 and spent the last two years at Sussex in a married flat in Park Village. Despite professing not to have enough money for a wild social life in Brighton, Jane and Ray filled their time attending concerts and plays at the Gardner Arts Centre and other such treats. “Most Saturdays we had lunch at a cheap Chinese restaurant called Cheungs. Otherwise, second-hand bookshops were favourite haunts.” As Jane concludes, “Life as a postgraduate student is much more concerned with work than it ever was as an undergraduate!”

Dr Ray Oliver

Pamela Shimell (EURO 1965-68) found a return visit to Sussex rekindled many warm memories of time well spent. “The smell of Harveys was an old memory which came flooding back when we took Simon to Sussex for the first time. There was only one bar when I was there and Virginia Wade (MAPS 1963-66) was often found there, building up her tennis muscles with pints of the stuff! The whole place seems like a town now – when I went there it was not even a village. It was very left wing and outrageous at the start with someone hoisting a double bed to the top of the towers in the Arts Building.” Pamela too experienced this fun-loving atmosphere when she found herself dumped in Falmer House Moat after being elected Vice President of the Students Union. “I also remember hitch-hiking to Scotland and back in twenty-four hours with a fellow student in aid of charity. I needed a good bath by the time I got home, where I slept for another twenty-four hours!”

Pamela’s son, Simon Shimell (SLS 1999- ), was slightly shocked by some of his mum’s antics but reckons it wasn’t always like that. “From some of her stories I guess that time was a very classic university period where students sat around drinking coffee, discussing their subjects and studying more!” Simon argues that there is a much more socially diverse group of Sussex students now, which attracted him to the University and has led to a thriving social scene. “I didn’t think I’d be going out as much as I do. Every night you meet someone new and a lot of students end up at the same places.”

His first impressions of the campus are similar to Pamela’s most recent. “I thought the campus was massive, it resembles a mini town.” This sense of community is reminiscent of his mum’s time here and lives on through infamous communal pasta meals and swift pints in numerous campus bars. Simon concludes, “I’m sure I’ll get up to the same sorts of things as my mum, but my time will be different... I can’t say how, but I’ll tell you in three years!”

Simon Shimell

Written by Clare Stephenson
In the News

Home, James

Adrian Oxaal (EAM 1984-88) is the guitarist with pop combo James, famous for hits too numerous to list, including ‘Sit Down’ and ‘Born of Frustration’. The group’s current album ‘Millionaires’ reached number 2 in the UK charts and has been met with such critical acclaim that Q magazine wrote “Parklife, Urban Hymns, Everything Must Go, OK Computer and What’s The Story Morning Glory. These are the albums that, if there is any justice, Millionaires will be cited alongside when the great British rock records of this decade are counted.”

Despite fame and fortune, Adrian appears to have kept his feet on the ground, and his roots firmly in Brighton. The band, fronted by Tim Booth who moved to Brighton two years ago, filmed the video for their single ‘Just Like Fred Astaire’ on the West Pier and seafront last year. Adrian appeared on the front page of the Evening Argus quoted as saying, “I came to Brighton to meet musicians and that’s how I ended up here. I spend quite long periods away on the road now but Brighton is a good place to come back to.”

A Laugh A Minute

Slotted in on a Friday night between Friends and Frasier, the first series of Smack the Pony was thrust into the limelight last year. Its blend of surreal comedy sketches and all-female stars proved a winning combination, and the show was hailed a hit by viewers and the media alike. The show, produced by comedy experts Talkback Productions, was so successful that Channel Four commissioned a second series only half-way through the first.

Delighted by the show’s warm reception was Vicki Pile (EURO 1974-78), who made her début as producer on Smack the Pony. Of the show’s bizarre title, Vicki says, “We think the phrase embodies a full range of meaninglessness!” but the show itself is a thoroughly thought through and well-executed half-hour of belly laughs.

Vicki went straight from Sussex onto the Edinburgh comedy scene, winning the Perrier Award for comedy in 1982 with Writers’ Inc, a team of writers who met at Sussex, who beat the famous ‘Footlights’ team with its revue.

The second series of Smack the Pony will be shown on Channel Four in Spring 2000.

In Famous Footsteps

Following in his famous father’s footsteps in 1999 was Hilary Benn (EURO 1971-74), son of Tony Benn. Hilary secured a seat in the House of Commons after winning a by-election in the safe Labour seat of Leeds Central.

Hilary is pictured here on the campaign trail with his father and with his ‘Squire’ team-mates (formerly Dougall’s Dynamoes) during the football season 1973-74. Hilary is the tallest in the back row and, according to an old team-mate, he was an excellent goalie!

FRS for Founder Member

One of the original members of the University of Sussex Alumni Society has been appointed as a Fellow of the Royal Society, which is recognised worldwide as a sign of the highest regard in science. Peter Knight (MAPS 1965-68), Professor of Quantum Optics at Imperial College, London, was a member of the founding Alumni Society, along with Paddy O’Reilly, Walter Simon (CCS 1964-67), Penny Spelling (ENG 1968-71) and Steve Carter (MAPS 1965-68), to name a few. Peter has also received an honorary doctorate from INAOE in Mexico, and the Thomas Young Medal and Prize from the Institute of Physics in recognition of his achievements in quantum optics in all its aspects.

Peter’s work centres on the way atoms interact with light which, he says, he got into during his third year at Sussex through a project supervised by Professor Ken Smith. When he wasn’t in the lab, Peter was involved in Student Union activities, arranging bands to play at Sussex. “I still have nightmares about getting the Who, Clapton and Pink Floyd on stage in what is now Mandela Hall, and I still find it pretty weird that I built a stage for the Muddy Waters Chicago Blues Band to perform in the Chemistry Lecture Theatre. The Hendrix gig in the Refectory was a high spot!”

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I had been teaching for more than ten years when I came to Sussex, but I often feel that my education began only then. I had come to Sussex because I liked the curriculum, and soon realised that I was a true Sussex man, at least as interested in teaching the interdisciplinary contextuals as I was in being a specialist in my own subject. There were fascinating discussions about setting up the Modern European Mind course, which set me to reading Marx and Freud and Nietzsche thoroughly for the first time. The students seemed eager, well-read and challenging; the atmosphere was happy and creative. And Sussex would open the gate from time to time and let me out to visit other universities, so that I spent a couple of semesters teaching in France, one in Illinois, and two years in Munich – since I was in the European School, my colleagues encouraged me to be a real European. Most exciting for me was the joint teaching: I would sit exchanging ideas with learned and stimulating colleagues from history or philosophy. Sometimes I thought the students were like the spectators at Wimbledon, watching the ball being batted to and fro by teachers for whom they were just spectators; and it was not unknown for students to complain that the tutors were more interested in discussing with each other than with them (I would answer that they were getting plenty of personal attention in their tutorials, and that a different kind of intellectual experience would add to their education).

All this makes me look back on the sixties as the most exciting time in my academic life, but of course I am not simply nostalgic about this. I realise that academic life has changed: first through the student rebellions of 1968 and onwards; then through government cuts and increased student numbers; above all, for a teacher of literature, through new intellectual movements that sometimes seem challenging and exciting, and sometimes seem deeply anti-literary. When I left Sussex to spend my last years teaching in America I knew I would miss the long arguments with my colleagues about how far there is a concealed political agenda behind literary arguments, how far a literary critic needs literary theory, and whether theorising involved the danger of losing touch with literature itself. Of course I went on having these arguments, in slightly different form, in America and, later, in Vienna. Though it all, I have remained conscious that teaching literature is a wonderful privilege; never for a moment have I felt there is a contrast between the work I have to do and the intellectual activity I love doing. Even the drearier activities – such as attending Senate meetings – had their interest: you saw a new side of your colleagues, and learnt about political behaviour, how the cleverest people can be silly and the dull ones shrewd. There were two colleagues I thought invariably perceptive and constructive on Senate, and whenever either of them spoke I felt like applauding – until I noticed that they hardly ever agreed with each other!

When one retires the impulse to look back on it all is irresistible, and for a writer this means a temptation to write a memoir. Arthur Koestler divided the impulse behind autobiographical writing into two, the Chronicler’s urge, and the Ecce Homo motif: the fact that you have witnessed great historical events, and the wish to explore your own inner life. I decided that I didn’t quite fit either of these, but that it would be worth writing a memoir if I could be a chronicler, not of great events, but of one of the central activities of the twentieth century, which is surely teaching. So I wrote Wandering Professor not as a book about myself, but about the intellectual life that has swirled around me as I led my privileged, interesting life. It is full of discussions of education, but there is no educational theory; it is full of literary criticism, of politics, of international comparisons, but all told through anecdotes. I have enjoyed writing it as much as anything I’ve ever written; whether readers enjoy reading it is of course not for me to say.

Wandering Professor (ISBN 0 9536307 0 6) is published by Caliban and is available from your bookseller, or from Book In Hand, 20 Shepherds Hill, London N 6 5AH, e-mail caliban@publicn.freeserve.co.uk price £ 8.95 + p&p.
Annual Fund

To those who have given to the Annual Fund we send heartfelt thanks on behalf of the many students who have benefited. To those of you who have yet to make your gift, here's what your £25 can help us do.

Library
As you will appreciate from your own experience, a good library is critical to a university education. The Annual Fund is supporting the library service with a gift of £40,000, which will improve access for students to essential course materials.

Student Welfare Services
The crèche and nursery doesn't make a profit; it is run as a service to parents, in particular to student parents. Money is always tight. The nursery playground had reached the end of its life and kids were being hurt falling on it. The Annual Fund recently provided £15,000 from credit card royalties (see below) for a modern playground surface.

Assistive Technology Centre
The Centre assesses students with problems ranging from severe physical disabilities to dyslexia, identifies solutions, and provides specialist training. Originally located in the Health Centre, the number of students making use of the facilities it offers has increased dramatically, and the Centre has had to be relocated to Lancaster House. The Centre has developed an interactive web site to support students with disabilities, upon which many students now depend. The Annual Fund has made a grant of £12,000 to enable the Centre's computer systems to be fully networked at its new location.

Jubilee Scholarships
The Annual Fund has also contributed £5,000 towards the target of £250,000 that the Jubilee Scholarships, administered by the University, are trying to raise to meet current needs. The Scholarships assist school students with severe physical disabilities throughout East and West Sussex to study for university entrance.

Hearing Loops
The Annual Fund has provided £4,000 to put induction hearing loops into three more lecture theatres, and into the University post office.

Catastrophe Fund
£5,000 has been put into a fund to help students caught in catastrophe. A recent case is a student whose family home and possessions were lost in the Greek earthquake. There was no insurance compensation – an earthquake is an act of God. The family lost everything. We will keep the fund topped up. The University is being asked to contribute to it with rent and fee waivers.

Scholarships
The Annual Fund supports a range of scholarships. The Cunliffe Bursary, worth £1,000, is awarded annually to a postgraduate student in American Studies, and celebrates the life and achievements of Marcus Cunliffe, a founding member of faculty in ENGAM who subsequently moved to George Washington University. The Bursary provides a student with access to the Library of Congress plus supervision support from GWU. This year’s recipient was Gail Danvers, who writes: “One highlight of my trip was meeting John Sedlins (DPhil Contemporary European Studies 1974-84), who works in DC. It was very refreshing to meet a friendly face in a foreign city. I wish to express my deepest thanks to alumni for providing me with this wonderful opportunity.”

Annual Fund

Falmer House
Falmer House is a Grade I Listed Building - putting it on a par with St Paul's and Canterbury Cathedral. The past forty years have taken their toll on this controversial building, but now the Higher Education Funding Council of England have awarded Sussex £900,000 - half the cost of the external repairs and redecoration - leaving the University to find the other half. The Annual Fund is trying to raise £25,000 as a contribution towards the costs.

During the next few months you should receive an appeal from the Alumni Society for a gift of £25 to the Annual Fund. Without your support, the causes listed above will simply collapse. We're not asking for a lot, but if enough of you are prepared to make a gift of just £25, we can achieve so much. Please support us!

Affinity Card
The University of Sussex Affinity Card is run by the Bank of Scotland. The Card competes with other credit cards on the market, but the Bank pays the University a royalty when a card is first used, and thereafter a royalty on total use of University-branded cards. Such income is earmarked for student welfare services. Since we first introduced the idea six or seven years ago, fees and royalties from the Card have raised almost £50,000 for student welfare services.

You’ll find further details in the enclosed leaflet. Just think how virtuous you’ll feel using it at the January sales.

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A NOther NEW YEAR at Sussex began in September and for the University, kicked off as we intend to continue. The University has moved to a programme of holding a welcome week, rather than the welcome weekend format that is more familiar to most of us. This is the second time that ‘Week Zero’ has been held, and this year the University completely packed the programme out with a vast range of events such as tours of Lewes Castle, picnics, Hothouse nights, talks on money management, fresher’s fairs, dance workshops, coffee mornings, barbecues and so on. The Fresher’s Ball sold out and 900 students were treated to a night of Brighton’s top musical talent in Falmer House. The theme for the ball was ‘space’ and many dressed up for the occasion, adding a touch of glitter to the proceedings. By the time Week One came around, the new students were well and truly introduced to the Sussex lifestyle!

Over the summer, Falmer House began a two million pound renovation programme to seal the leaky roof, replace the thirty year old electrics and heating and to introduce a permanent network. I am glad to say that this work has already made a huge difference to the atmosphere in Falmer House, making it a much more welcoming and friendly place to work and to use. We are also undertaking two other major projects this year in the building: one to renovate the common room area and the other to create an Activities Centre. We have been working towards the creation of a union activities centre for a while now and over summer welcomed our newest member of staff, CJ Lee, who is our Sports and Activities Manager who works alongside Andrea Baldwin, the Student Development Worker and Toby Rumford the Sports and Activities Sabbatical. These three create a formidable team with the task of supporting and developing activities such as music, arts, sports and volunteering as well as encouraging participation in them and recognition of the skills learnt participating in extra-curricular activities. We wish them the best of luck in their work supporting such a valuable part of the union’s remit.

A MOST WELCOME WEEK!
Becca Holyhead (CPES 1994-98), USSU President

"By the time Week One came around, the new students were well and truly introduced to the Sussex lifestyle!"

A NOther new venture this year is the Student Academic Representatives Scheme, fondly known as STARS. This is a joint project between the union and university to revitalise the role and purpose of course and school representatives. The Union now runs elections for both sets of awards as best student photographer but, we feel rather unfairly, did not pick up an award at either ceremony. Also, the Union, in conjunction with other local community groups, has won a bid for £250,000 from the Government’s Millennium volunteers project. Tony Blair has set up Millennium Volunteers to encourage and recognise the contribution made by young people in their communities.

For those of you who live close to campus, I’d encourage you to drop in on East Slope or Park Village Bar. Both have undergone refurbishment over the summer and look absolutely amazing. Through careful planning, neither bar has lost its atmosphere and both are more popular than ever with our customers. Well, after a long day studying who could resist one of PV’s famous cocktails? The Falmer House Shop has also had a refit and now sells an extended range of Sussex University clothing.
IN MEMORIAM

JOHN CLARK
John Clark (DPhil Physics 1962-65) sadly died earlier this year. John came to Sussex from Oxford, with Roger Blin-Stoyle and two others to set up the DPhil work in Nuclear Physics. We came as Falmer House opened in 1962 – I still have lovely memories of the first ball at Falmer, with Kenny Ball and his Jazzmen – a big thrill at the time was that he played a request for us! John went on to work at Cranfield University Management School, but his own interest was in the Centre for Logistics and Transport. He even went to Iraq to design an underground rail system, and got caught up in the ‘troubles’ there, being among the last 16 to escape across the desert in a fleet of taxis! John died of cancer, aged 58, far too young and sadly missed.

Jenny Clark

RHYS DAVIES
Rhys Davies (B IOS 1991-94 & MSc Science and Technology Policy 1994-95) died on the 31st January 1999 after a freak fall on Brighton seafront. He was 27. Rhys came to Sussex in 1991 to study Biology with Management and it was here that he made many of the lasting friendships that were so important in his life. After graduating with a 2.1 he moved on to SPRU to study for a Masters. Following university, Rhys joined the BOC gases management training scheme and had recently been promoted to the position of Marketing Manager at the company's head office in Guildford.

In January 1998 Rhys married Rhian, a fellow Sussex student (B IOS 1991-95). As a tribute to Rhys, Rhian has set up the Rhys Davies Music Therapy Fund, reflecting his love of music. The fund now employs a music therapist to work with young people with head injuries.

Rhys loved life and lived it to the full. He was a respected colleague, a valued friend and a loved family member. A close friend summed up his life when he said, “we are all the better for having known him.”

Jenny Little

Jenny Little (EURO 1966-70) died suddenly on 20th July 1999, aged 52. Her career as a political organiser focused on human rights and international relations and her battles resulted in the release of several political prisoners.

On leaving Sussex, Jenny headed for the civil service before moving to Labour Party Headquarters in 1972. In 1974 she was appointed international secretary, briefing shadow ministers, and providing a warm reception for overseas visitors at party conferences. This was a role she held for 13 years; later, she worked at the House of Commons and for the Foreign Office.

Jenny was living in Brighton, where she worked for her local party until her death.

Barry Jackson

Barry Jackson (MAPS 1966-70), who has died at the age of 53 of leukaemia-related pneumonia, was one of the best-known figures on the Sussex campus during the heady days of 1960s radicalism. As secretary of the Union at the height of the anti-Vietnam war protests, he was a constant voice of sanity and reason at a time when such qualities were often in short supply.

Barry had a smile and a charm which few could resist. He had an energy and an enthusiasm which saw him plunging into project after project, always organising, always cajoling, but never bullying. He got his own way by sheer force of personality – and because he was nearly always right.

He arrived at Sussex in 1966 to study pure and applied mathematics. But he was a stranger to most of his tutors and
left in 1970 without a degree. What he had instead was a circle of friends and an organisational talent which stood him in excellent stead throughout his career as a highly effective lobbyist and campaigner, first in the arts and then in higher education.

In the early 70s, he became involved in the gay and lesbian rights movement, and he was at the centre of many gay and lesbian rights campaigns. Among the more than 200 mourners at his funeral in London were many leading gay rights activists, the secretary of state for culture, media and sport, Chris Smith, and many Sussex friends. He is survived by his mother, Nora, sister, Elizabeth, and his nephew and niece, Nicholas and Catherine.

Robin Lustig (AFRAS 1967-70)

Bob Marshall

Former students will be sad to hear of the death in October of Bob Marshall, who was for 25 years manager of the University Bookshop. The onset of Parkinson's disease sadly led to his early retirement in 1993. Bob learned Russian during National Service and read modern languages at Oxford.

Always a man of the Left, he worked for Collett's in London before setting up university-owned bookshops in Nigeria. At Falmer he developed a small outfit into the flourishing bookshop we have today. He was greatly respected in the book trade, especially for his witty academic column in the Bookseller. Bob was a very private man. Those few of us who knew him well relished his dry humour and profited from his wide knowledge of books, films, politics, jazz and travel. His life in Lewes centred on his family, and our sympathy goes out to his wife June, herself a radical, and to Sally, Adam and Daniel.

Michael Jamieson

Georg Möring

Georg Möring (SOC 1964-67 & SPRU 1968-72) was one of the earliest visitors to SPRU nearly thirty years ago and remained a firm friend until his untimely death this year. Although they are sadly still very common in the tabloid press and the media generally, national stereotypes can often be ridiculous. This is especially true of the German stereotype and would be hard to imagine anyone more remote from this stereotype than Georg. He had a wonderful sense of humour and was a very good companion and friend, proud of the international traditions of Hamburg and intensely international in all his thinking and activities. This was especially evident in all his research work on technology and international trade, as well as in his personal life. We salute the memory of a good and loyal friend of SPRU and the University.

Clive Wainwright

Museum Curator, Senior Research Fellow and authority on Pugin and the Decorative Arts of the Nineteenth Century - such was the expertise of Clive Wainwright who died in July aged 57. I was privileged to be taught by Professor Wainwright when he made an exchange to Sussex from the V&A in 1991/92. He was a truly delightful person who delighted in the creative world about him and those who knew him could only feel heavy of heart at hearing of his early death.

Tuition the Wainwright way was fascinating, original, practical and useful. Clive's erudition and enthusiasm was equal to his sheer love for his subject which he imparted and shared beautifully and influentially. In response, coursework essays just seemed to write themselves. Poignantly, my pieces corrected by him will be treasured. Clive's memory and celebrated contribution to Art History will live on at the V&A and in the minds of all who had the good fortune to know and work with him.

Annette M Radford (Art History, EURO 1988-92)

Alan Parkin

Alan Parkin, Professor of Experimental Psychology, died on Friday 12 November, aged 49, after suffering a cardiac arrest. He was an international authority on neuropsychology and a gifted communicator, equally at home addressing a world congress, a packed hall of undergraduates or the studio audience of the Esther Rantzen show.

Al had spent almost all of his working life at Sussex. His extensive experimental and theoretical work on normal reading, face-recognition and memory provided a firm cognitive foundation for the work for which he will be best remembered - his analysis of memory and other cognitive disorders in brain-damaged patients. At the forefront of the new cognitive neuropsychology, Al was internationally renowned for his work on amnesia.

Al's personality will be well known to the many who have shared an innings, a committee or an evening with him, and have delighted, if somewhat fearfully, in his seemingly endless range of anecdotes and his enviable inside information. His mean bass guitar in the almost world-famous Big Bad Dan Bandanna Band will be missed by a generation of line-dancers.

The University has lost a distinguished researcher and an inspired teacher. Our sympathies go to his partner Frances and their young daughter Verity.

Tim Christian (EAM 1985-89)

Francis Elliott (Chemistry Lab Technician, 1969-77)

Yannos Kranidiotis (International Relations 1971-82)

Clive Mogford (PGCE 1970-71)

Calvert Robins (SOC 1985-88)

Michael Talbot (EURO 1972-76)
Send your news for this section to Rebekah Reid at the Alumni Centre, and please enclose a photograph of yourself "now" or "then"! To contact anyone mentioned, write via the Alumni Centre.

### 1961 – 1969

"I am not a Chairman of 10 different companies, but I do juggle several careers" wrote Carol Pugh (EAM 1962-65). These have included lecturing in Hong Kong in the 1980s, which she retired from early. Now Carol has qualified as a clinical hypnotherapist - "to help stress instead of causing it!" - and does a lot of past life work. Her decade in Hong Kong sparked Carol’s interest in Feng Shui, about which she writes a column in her local paper and suggests is a great reminder of those important formative years.

While browsing in W H Smith’s at Heathrow, Jeff Crudgington (MAPS 1962-65) bumped into Alan Evenson (MAPS 1962-65) and his wife Angela Evenson (née Hayden MAPS 1962-65), who met at Sussex in 1962. Alan put Jeff onto the Alumni Society, and he’d like to say hi to everyone else he used to know.

After fifteen years of raising her two sons while doing part-time work and running a smallholding, Marion Archer (AFRAS 1963-66 & MA International Relations 1967-68) has branched out. She completed an HNC in Countryside Management, followed by two years volunteering with the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers, where she is now Acting Project Officer.

In 1994, Terence Finn (MA Politics 1964-65) retired from NASA where he had for 16 years been a senior executive. Prior to that he spent 10 years working at the national legislature (Congress). He recently completed a novel about World War Two, and lives in Maryland, USA.

### 1970 – 1979

Pip Hassall (née Thomas, BIO LS 1972-75) took a postgraduate course in Landscape Design after leaving Sussex, and worked in Manchester and Newport as a Landscape Architect until 1985 when her first of three children was born. Pip is married to a vet and has recently ventured back into part-time employment.

The Royal College of Art has appointed Jeremy Aynsley (CCS 1975-78 & MA History of Art 1979-80) as Course Director of History of Design.
Rob Evans (BIOLS 1975-78) completed a PhD in 1983 working on molecular genetics at the Australia National University in Canberra. Enticed into industry and to the bright lights of Sydney in 1985, he spent nearly 10 years in research management before making the leap of faith into strategic management, firstly in pharmaceuticals and more recently in food safety. This turned out to be a smart career move and Rob took over as managing director of a UK-based food ingredients company in 1998. “Amazingly,” he says, “the company is still trading!” Rob is married with three school-aged children and lives in north-west Devon.

Carole Seymour-Jones (MA History 1984-86) was encouraged in her interest in women’s history by Alun Hawkins and Eileen Yeo at Sussex, where she began writing her first biography, that of Beatrice Webb. Carole is now writing a biography of T.S.Eliot’s first wife, Vivienne Eliot, which she hopes will rehabilitate Vivienne as T.S.Eliot’s muse.

Having retired from the University of Westminster, Paul Madgett (MSc Science Technology and Industry 1985-86) is now happily ensconced on the North Devon coast for much of the year, working with the National Trust, “in a post allowing the use of many of the skills of lecturing, but in a very different environment!” Paul would welcome news of any SPRU students from his years.

Grant Wray (BIOLS 1987-90) was recently promoted from Technician at UCL to Senior Technician at Westminster College.


The wedding was something of a Sussex reunion with alumni travelling from France, the USA and Greece. Pictured here are (l-r, standing) David Roy (EURO 1990-94), Cathy Bouley (V&E EURO 1993-94), Stelios Adamopoulos (MAPS 1990-93), Marta Rigbeiro (EURO 1990-94), Constantine Manoussakis (EN GG 1991-94), Gary Howells (MAPS 1990-93), Manos Pittadakis (SO C 1991-94), Roy Redman (SO C 1991-94), Gaby Dawwas; (l-r, seated) Alessandra Perugini (EURO 1990-94) and Kamal Munir (EN GG 1989-92), who met at Sussex in 1992 at a birthday party in Kelsey (now Lewes Court) and bumped into each other again in London in 1997. Their wedding took place on Friday 17th September 1999 in Maidstone, Kent.

The British and International Bass Forum’s first prize in its world-wide composition competition was won by John Alexander (CCS 1979-81 & MA Composition and Analysis 1981-83). The prize was awarded for John’s solo double bass piece, A bolone.

1980 – 1989

Jeremy McGee (MAPS 1983-86) didn’t meet Louise Robertson (EAM 1986-89) until they had both left Sussex, when they realised they had both lived in 25 East Slope at different times. This spooky coincidence proved such a bond, the two married in 1993. Jeremy is now European Marketing Manager for an American software company, and Louise is an English teacher.

Susan Board (EURO 1984-88) has gained her PhD in International Politics from the University of Wales, Aberystwyth. During the summer holidays she and her son Ben, 6, stayed in Provence with Laura Robertson (EURO 1984-88).

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Christopher Ackland (MAPS 1991-94) and Isabel Ackland (née Henry, V&E EURO 1992-93) proudly announce the birth of their son Louis. The couple both lived at 2 Brunswick Place while at Sussex and Christopher was an RA there for two years. If any friends would like to get in touch, the Alumni Centre will be delighted to help.

Another Sussex graduate who married last year was Nicola Dowman (née Hagan, BIOLS 1989-92).
For the Record / Contacts

2000.

Rebecca Brew

the University of Sheffield. He will be marrying

George Johnson

(SOC 1991-94) has just
received his doctorate in Clinical Psychology at

the University of Sheffield. He will be marrying

Rebecca Brew


Congratulations to Gary Martin (AFRAS 1992-95), who married Nikki Passey in Kenya. The couple are proud to announce the birth of Amy-Lauren Martin. Gary studies mental health nursing at Southampton University.

Having spent 8 years away from home, Ilaria Ritella (EURO 1992-96) is returning to Italy. Her company has awarded her a long-awaited promotion and is relocating her to Milan where she will be pleased to be nearer her fiancé and family. Her e-mail address is ilariaritella@bt.com

On graduating from Sussex, Gillian Stewart (EAM 1992-96) gained a masters degree in African and South African Politics at the University of Cape Town, “a wonderful and interesting opportunity.” She is now studying for her PhD at Bristol University.

Club DJ and promoter Michael May (COGS 1993-96) has a special offer for Sussex alumni. His club night Rom Ttwo at Heaven in London is on Mondays and offers a mixture of music to a mixed crowd. Former Sussex students can e-mail Michael to be added to his guest list: michael@indiekid.co.uk

Alumni may remember the David Land Arts Centre in Brighton, which has been re-launched as the Sir Ray Tindle Centre. Its Director is Sarah Wright (Diploma in Life Histories and Adult Learning 1993-95), who this year was pleased to host the Brighton Fringe Festival for the second year running.

Matthew Wall (BIO 1994-98) is at Cambridge University studying for his PhD. He is working on a research group looking at cognitive changes in emotional disorders.

In May 1999, Dan Wyke (M.A. English 1996-97) received an Eric Gregory Award of £3500 from the Society of Authors. The award is made each year to poets who are under 30 and have yet to publish a full collection. Dan is now in the process of looking for a publisher for his manuscript ‘Boxing Gloves’.

To contact anyone below, please write direct or d o the Alumni Centre

James Tomkins (EAM 1964-67) is nearing retirement from the teaching profession over in Canada and is interested in catching up with other graduates from EAM. E-mail James at btomkins@brant.net

Colin Langton (EAM 1967-70) is now living in County Durham and would love to hear from any friends from his time at Sussex. Where are you all now?

Contact Colin at 18 Langdale Terrace, Low Westwood, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE17 7PW.

If anyone read for a DPhil in anthropology in the early 1970’s, Sebastian Green (DPhil 1971-80) would like to hear from you with a view to organising a reunion. He can be contacted by e-mail at sg@ucc.ie or at 33 Sundays Well Road, Cork, Ireland.

Matt Howell (EAM 1973-76) wrote to us earlier in the year asking for help in contacting “any of the sober, studious ‘76 EAM graduates, who didn’t hang around drinking instant coffee all day in the common room or sleep in the Library:"

Jennifer Fusaro (BIO 1975-78) would be delighted to hear from the following old Sussex friends: Mick Booth (SOC 1973-77), Chris Hamilton (SOC 1974-77), Mike McMahon (SOC 1974-77), Martin Giesen (ENGG 1975-78 & DPhil 1982), and Claire Gurton (BIO 1975-78). E-mail Jennifer at darejen@uswest.net

Are you still crazy for movies or getting intimate with Karl Marx? Did you go to Amherst in 1977-78? Do you remember Alan Fair (EAM 1976-83)? If the answer to any of these questions is ‘yes’ then Alan would love to exchange stories with you.

Angela Pequignet (MA Contemporary Western European Studies 1986-87) is now a full-time Mum of two bilingual boys (French/German). Having recently created a multi-lingual family group in her area in the Alsace region, she would be interested to hear from other bi- or multi-lingual families.

Robert Chonzi (MA CEPNMIND 1988-89) is keen to hear from Sussex Education Students from his year as he celebrates his tenth anniversary since obtaining his postgraduate degree. He will be delighted to answer every letter from any of the nine international classmates. Robert can be contacted at: University of Malawi, Chancellor College, P.O. Box 280, Zomba, M. alawi.

Petra Boynton (SOC 1988-91) and Karen Jackson (CCS 1987-90) would like to trace Lorna Williams (EAM 1987-90). Please could she, or anyone who has a contact address for her, contact the Alumni Centre.

Faiza Almoosawi (ENGG 1988-91) would love to trace some old friends from Sussex, but only has their first names. Wayne (Economics graduate 1991, from London), William (Computer Science graduate 1991, from Ghana), Davinda (Engineering graduate 1991), Rahim (Engineering graduate 1991). So, if any of these sound familiar, let Faiza know at fifi-107@hotmail.com

If you were studying at Sussex in 1992 and remember Julia Morgan (MA Psychology 1992) then she would love to catch up with you. Contact Julia at juliemorgan@aol.com
MORE THAN 100 former students and tutors celebrated 35 years of the Primary Post-Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) course at Sussex at a party held on Saturday, 3rd July 1999, at the Gardner Arts Centre. Those attending represented almost every year of the course since its earliest years. After a barbecue in the sunshine and a chance to renew acquaintance with old friends, we all crowded into the Gardner Arts Centre to hear speeches and recollections of the course, sometimes funny, sometimes poignant, but all highlighting the value of the Primary course from a personal perspective.

Mary Lewis, a former PGCE Director, began by reminding us of the early days of this pioneering course and in particular the principles that shaped it. Partnership with schools, the school-based nature of the training and the involvement of teachers as mentors, were central features of the course from its inception. These features have continued, and more recently been adopted nationally by all teacher training courses in the U.K. Mary described how Sybil Marshall, an inspiration to the early development of the course, highlighted the importance of creativity and established long-running traditions such as the Lewes Project.

Val Jerram, a local Headteacher and one of three students on the first year of the course in 1964, told us how her experience on the Primary PGCE had influenced her throughout her teaching career both in England and in working with teachers in the USA. Other international links which were influential on the course more recently were highlighted, notably the Canadian cohorts, and the Maastricht exchange. Coming to the present day, Viv Aylward, a student on the 1998/99 course, talked about the ‘wonderful opportunity’ the Sussex Primary PGCE had given him, as a mature student on a new career path.

Jane Andrews, Headteacher and Chair of the Primary Management Group, also talked about the opportunities that the Primary course had given to so many teachers in the region, as well as to herself personally in her professional development to headship. We heard from many former students who, as well as recounting anecdotes from their training, talked about what the course had meant to them in their teaching careers. One local Headteacher, Amanda Page, had started as a student on the course in 1983, became a mentor and professional tutor, and had just appointed another former student, “an outstanding teacher”, to the staff of her school. Vivienne Griffiths, the current PGCE Director, also talked about the number of former Sussex PGCE graduates who still teach locally - many of them now in senior positions - and are still involved with the course through the partnership.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alasdair Smith, took up the regional theme by stressing how important the links with schools and the local community have been, and how proud the University is to be associated with such a high quality course. As the party also marked the last year of the course because the programme has become too small to sustain, the Vice-Chancellor also underlined the sadness everyone felt about the closure, especially after having obtained such excellent results in the recent Ofsted inspection. The Secondary PGCE will continue to run, and the University will maintain its links with local primary schools through the Sussex Consortium and other activities within the Institute of Education at Sussex.

The afternoon finished with the cutting of a celebration cake and presentations, including ‘long-service awards’ to those tutors who had taught on the course for over 15 years, and to Angela Jacklin who had just received a Teaching Award from the University of Sussex Alumni Society.

Vivienne Griffiths and Angela Jacklin are compiling an archive of the Sussex Primary PGCE course. If you wish to contribute anything to this (memories, photographs, etc.), please contact them at the University of Sussex Institute of Education, or via e-mail: v.griffiths@sussex.ac.uk
Don’t wait for the next issue of Falmer to find out what’s going on! Our new-look Alumni Society Web site will keep you abreast of all the latest news from the Society and what’s happening on campus. Thousands of visitors every week know just how many exciting areas there are to browse – and now it’s even easier to find your way around. For the new millennium, it will feature:

- **Letters and guestbook entries** – why not drop us a line?
- **Forthcoming events** – book and pay for your place right here
- **Information about the causes supported by the Society** – now you can make gifts online and pay using your credit card
- **Contact groups around the world**, with links to their own Web pages
- **Falmer magazine in scalable, downloadable .pdf format**, with all the URLs and email links it contains live! You’ll find the latest issue and an archive of previous editions.
- **Access to a database of networking groups to help your career** with the help of a special password from the Alumni Centre
- **Email addresses and URLs of thousands of Sussex alumni.** Find your friends online – and why not add your own details while you’re there?
- **All the current services available to members**, from fancy ties to financial services.

Get connected to the growing worldwide web of Sussex alumni and come along to meet them

http://www.sussex.ac.uk/Units/alumni