

This fortnightly email, sent to all University of Sussex staff and postgraduate researchers, shares updates about our Sussex community.



Thursday 26 October 2023



**Join the Vice-Chancellor in conversation with Marina Mahathir -
alumna, activist and AIDS advocacy worker**

[Professor Sasha Roseneil will be in conversation](#) with Malaysian political

activist and writer Marina Mahathir at the Attenborough Centre on Wednesday 8 November, from 1.30pm. Marina is a fearless voice for women's rights, gender equality, religious freedom and justice.



A message from the Vice-Chancellor

[Professor Sasha Roseneil outlines](#) guiding principles to support our community.



Tackling global challenges at Sussex

[Watch our new video showcasing](#) three of our Centres of Excellence and hear from world-leading researchers about the impossible challenges they are taking on, driving progress for our planet and its people.

Inclusive Sussex



Update from David Ruebain

[Read the latest update](#) from our Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Culture, Equality and Inclusion, who talks about our Race Equality Charter Bronze award, Open Listening workshops, Black History Month and more.

Help improve our equalities data – update your MyView details by 2 November

[Following changes to the data categories that HESA](#) (the Higher Education Statistics Agency) collects from the University, please take a few minutes to update your equalities information on MyView. Your equalities data is confidential and processed in line with our data policies.

Freedom of speech and its boundaries lecture on 15 November

[In this lecture, titled ‘Freedom of speech – can you draw a line?’](#) Professor David Ruebain will explore freedom of speech, its boundaries and the intersection with equality and inclusion. Taking place on campus on Wednesday 15 November from 5pm until 6pm, this event is open to everyone.

Intersex Awareness Day

[Today, Thursday 26 October, marks Intersex Awareness Day](#), which aims to highlight human rights issues faced by intersex people. Find out more about information and resources available, as well as support for staff and students.

Book your free KindFest 2023 tickets

[KindFest, the annual online festival of kindness](#), returns on Friday 10 November, from 1pm until 7pm featuring a range of interesting speakers including Claudia Hammond, Visiting Professor in the School of Psychology. KindFest coincides with World Kindness Day, which is celebrated on Monday 13 November.

Your development

Unlock your potential with mentoring

[Mentoring is a powerful tool for professional and personal growth](#), providing many benefits for both mentor and mentee. Tomorrow, Friday 27 October, marks National Mentoring Day and you are invited to join our network of mentors at Sussex to grow your networks and expand your skills.

Our community



Cultivating sustainability

[The first harvest has been collected](#) at the innovative hydroponic farm at the Veg Bowl Café in Arts C building. This sustainable farming method, in which crops grow vertically, allows control over plant nutrition, reduces water consumption and produces crops all-year around.

First of its kind campus opticians offers new vision for ex-offenders
[Liberty Glasses, located at the Student Centre](#), is a social enterprise eye care company that offers affordable prescription glasses and eye tests on campus whilst supporting ex-offenders to develop meaningful careers once released.



Nobel prize laureate Abdulrazak Gurnah at Sussex

[Don't miss out the opportunity](#) to hear from Abdulrazak Gurnah in conversation with alumna, critic and author Minoli Salgado. This Media, Arts and Humanities Public Lecture is on Tuesday 7 November, from 6pm at the Attenborough Centre.

Artist Helen Cammock returns to campus for a special event

[Don't miss your chance to join](#) Sussex alumna Helen Cammock, sociology graduate and co-winner of the Turner Prize 2019, in conversation at the Attenborough Centre on 2 November.

'Dr Hunter's Plague: Photography, Gender and Disease in Nineteenth-Century India'

[Sussex alumnus and Emeritus Professor David Arnold](#) presents this Founding Historian Lecture exploring the brief Indian career of Dr Marion

Hunter, one of many British doctors and nurses sent to western India during the 1896-1900 plague pandemic.



Anna Mendelssohn:
Speak, Poetess exhibition

Sara Crangle, Professor of Modernism and the Avant-Garde, is the curatorial consultant for [Anna Mendelssohn: Speak, Poetess](#), a small exhibition of the artist's work that can be viewed at the Whitechapel Gallery in London until 21 January 2024. The pieces featured are from Sussex Special Collections at The Keep, which holds the vast majority of Mendelssohn's extensive archive. Photo credit: Stuart Robinson.

Research



**Meet Early Career Researcher
Dragon's Den People's Choice
Award winner Su Morris**

Su, who is a Research Fellow in the School of Psychology, took the People's Choice Award with Amanda Ferrell. Their project aimed to identify opportunities to improve personal, social, health and economic education.

Research with Impact Forum: Sussex Innovation

Find out about Sussex Innovation, the University's business incubator in the upcoming Research with Impact Forum on Wednesday 8 November, at 2.30pm. Topics will include training programmes, support services and networks available to academics interested in exploring, developing and scaling commercialisation opportunities from their research and studies.

Researcher-Led Initiative fund is now open

Applications for the Researcher-Led Initiative (RLI) fund are open. There are four categories, and postgraduate and early career researchers are encouraged to apply for this £750 grant by Monday 13 November.

Research staff development workshops and events

Explore the workshops and events which run throughout the academic year. The programme is designed for postdoctoral research staff and Research Assistants, and is organised by categories which match Vitae's Researcher Development Framework.



[Dr Feras Alkabani joined another seven UK-based Syrian scholars](#) to launch the Syrian Academics and Researchers' Network in the UK (SARN UK). SARN UK, whose launch was sponsored by the Council of At-Risk Academics and Education, Peace and Policy, aspires to be an academic home for UK-based Syrian scholars and students as well as a collaborative hub for UK-based scholars working on Syria.

Contact us

Sussex in focus is issued every other Thursday. You can [view an infographic](#) about the types of content featured, and if you would like to include

something in the newsletter please submit this
to internalcomms@sussex.ac.uk by 12 noon the preceding Tuesday.

Our next edition will be on Thursday 9 November.

Visit the Staff Hub for more news, events and useful information



Sent by
Internal Communications, University of Sussex.