



# Sussex in focus

**Thursday 27 April 2023**



## Welcome to the first edition of *Sussex in focus*

*Sussex in focus* is our brand new fortnightly newsletter that will land in your inbox every other Thursday. Shining a light on our community, *Sussex in focus* will share Inclusive Sussex news, point you towards support and help you with your development.

On Mondays (or Tuesdays after a bank holiday), you will also receive *This week at Sussex*, our new weekly email that features calls for action and important news for the week ahead.

We hope you enjoy reading *Sussex in focus* and if you have any feedback or suggestions, please complete our [feedback form](#) or email the [Internal Communications Team](#).

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## VC Reflections

Read the [latest update](#) from Vice-Chancellor Sasha Roseneil, including the proposal to move to a faculties model and what's on the agenda at the [VC Open Forum](#) on 23 May.

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## Local election hustings

Staff and students quizzed local council candidates on the future of Brighton & Hove at our hustings event ahead of the local elections on 4 May. [Take a look](#) at the photos.



## South Africa's Freedom Day

The University has a proud history of standing in solidarity with South Africa during the fight against apartheid. Today we celebrate [Freedom Day](#) in South Africa, commemorating the first post-apartheid elections held on this day in 1994.

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## Colin Shipp introduces our People Strategy

Watch this [video message](#) from Colin Shipp, our new Director of HR. Colin talks about how our new [People Strategy](#) will help us continue to improve the staff experience here at Sussex. [View the transcript](#).

## Inclusive Sussex

### Update from our Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Culture, Equality and Inclusion)

David Ruebain's latest [Inclusive Sussex](#) update features our Inclusive Listening Programme pilot, our Religion and Belief Forum, a screening of the film Crip Camp and more.

### In Conversation event with Professor Tom Shakespeare

Fulton B Lecture Theatre | 17 May 2023 | 5.30pm until 7pm

Don't miss out the next [Inclusive Sussex: In Conversation](#) event, featuring Professor Tom Shakespeare exploring the current picture of disability inclusion. Professor Shakespeare will be joined by a panel of Sussex staff to talk about the next steps in disability, liberation and equality.

### Deaf Awareness Week 1-7 May

This year's Deaf Awareness Week aims to promote greater awareness and understanding of the challenges faced by the Deaf community in accessing communication. [Find out more](#) about Deaf Awareness Week and the support available for staff and students at Sussex.

## Our community

## Sudan conflict - support for students and staff

[Information, help and support](#) is available for staff and students impacted by the conflict in Sudan.

## Brighton Festival

This year, for the first time, the University of Sussex has been recognised as the Higher Education Partner for Brighton Festival, taking place 6-28 May. We are delighted to give you the [chance to win tickets](#) to key events happening in the festival.

## Community Iftar encourages dialogue and celebrates togetherness

Read about the [Community Iftar](#) meal hosted by the Dialogue Society in Brighton & Hove and attended by representatives from over 70 local organisations including our Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sasha Roseneil, our University Chaplain, James Croft, and our Chaplain for International Students, Andrew Jackson.

## Mass Observation Coronation project

The Coronation of King Charles III will be on Saturday 6 May and the [Mass Observation Archive](#) is inviting people to observe and record any activities or events in their local area over the bank holiday weekend. Don't miss out our [special food menus](#) to celebrate the occasion.

## Celebrating success

### Grant to investigate protection against cancer development

Professor Evi Soutoglou, from the School of Life Sciences, has [received an Advance Grant](#) awarded by the European Research Council to study how DNA is repaired when it breaks.

## Your development

## Explore learning and development events in May

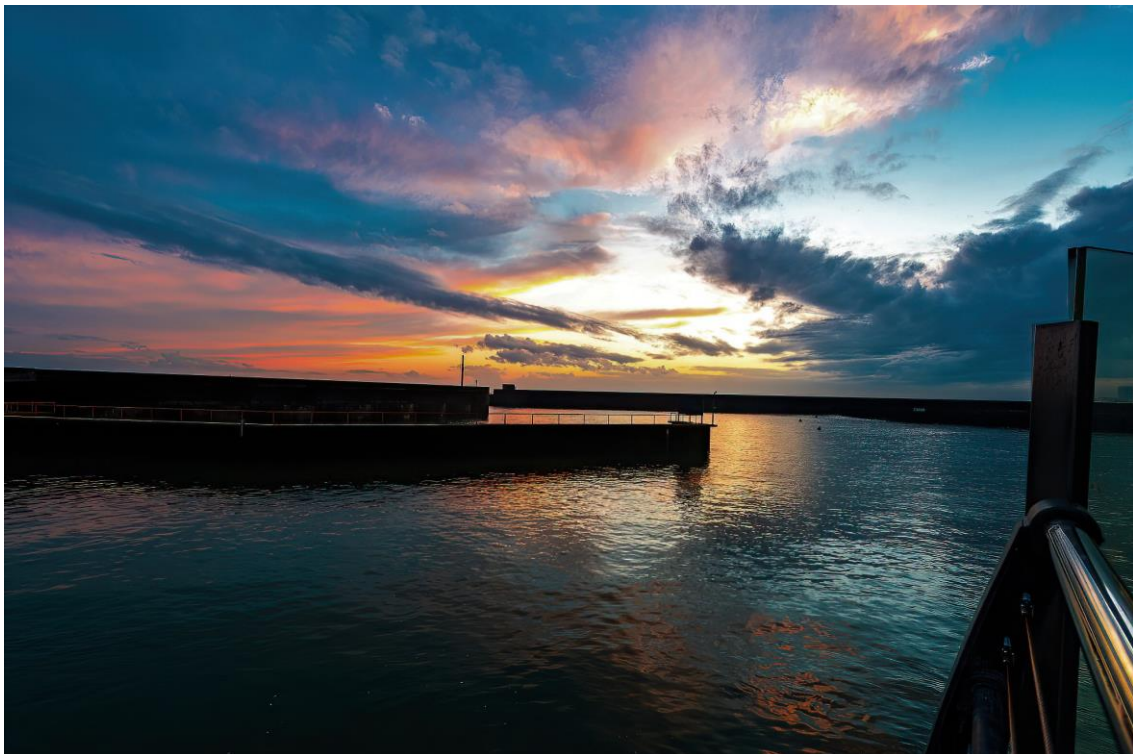
Find out about events and workshops coming soon including the Menopause Café, sessions to help you prepare for your Achievement and Development Review, coaching workshops and more.

## Development and Wellbeing drop-in event

Meeting House | 15 May 2023 | 10am until 1.30pm

[Join this event](#) to learn more about the broad range of development options on offer, including free online short courses and professional qualifications such as apprenticeships. You can also meet local training providers and find out more about hobby classes available including music production, photography and jewellery-making. It's also a great opportunity to speak to our Wellbeing manager about health and wellbeing support available for you.

## Snapshot



Brighton Marina at sunset (photo: John Spencer, School of Life Sciences)

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Visit the [Staff Hub](#) for more  
news, events and useful information

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**Sent by**  
Internal Communications, University of Sussex

