

This weekly email, sent to all University of Sussex staff and postgraduate researchers, contains important news, as well as events and actions for the week ahead.



Monday 2 October 2023



Reminder: VC Open Forum

[ACCA | Thursday 5 October | 1.30pm until 3pm](#)

Professor Sasha Roseneil will talk about the development of our new strategy and the broader policy and political environment.



Video message from Robert Hutton, Director of Estates

[Find out about the works to replace Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concreted \(RAAC\) on campus, as part of a project that has been underway for 18 months.](#)



Student update

The most recent student update includes information about becoming a Student Rep, creative skills and registrations.

Industrial action

Industrial action this week

UNISON is taking two days of strike action today and tomorrow, Monday 2 October and Tuesday 3 October. We ask colleagues to complete an industrial action declaration form to confirm any strike days taken by 5pm on Thursday 12 October.

Pensions

Sussex response to UUK's USS consultation

Read the joint statement from the University Executive Team and Sussex UCU responding to the Universities UK consultation on the Universities Superannuation Scheme.

Don't miss out

Researcher Development Programme

[Find out about the new-look Researcher Development Programme](#), which has undergone a makeover to more closely match Vitae's Researcher Development Framework, a tool that help postgraduates to develop research skills.

Chamber Choir free taster

[Chapel, Meeting House | Monday 2 October | 6pm until 7.30pm](#)

Join the University's Chamber Choir on this free taster session, which is open to everyone.



Houseplant sale

[Falmer House courtyard | 2-3 October | 10am until 7pm](#)

Explore an impressive range of plants, pots and accessories in the popular houseplant sale, which includes cacti, palms, lilies, bonsai trees and more.

Surgery: Time for an inclusive and sustainable future?

[Chowen Lecture Theatre | Wednesday 4 October | 6.30pm until 9.30pm](#)

Join Professor Mahmood Bhutta for this Brighton and Sussex Medical School lecture which explores accessibility and sustainability in surgery and surgical care.



Fire safety day

[Library Square | Thursday 5 October |](#)

[10am until 4pm](#)

Don't miss out on this day full of safety-related activities and stalls and learn how to stay safe at Sussex.

Food at Sussex

New pizzas at Eat Central

[Enjoy the new funky pizzas](#) at Eat Central from today, Monday 2 October.

Sussex in the media

Key stories from the past week

- [Professor Fiona Mathews, from the School of Life Sciences](#), was a contributor to the State of Nature report, which warned that one in six British mammals are at risk of extinction. *The Guardian*, Wednesday 27 September
- [Professor Ben Burbridge, from the School of Media, Arts and Humanities](#), advocated that art is open for all to interpret, as part of a piece on the Turner Prize. This year the prize is being hosted by Towner Gallery in Eastbourne, and Sussex is education partner. *BBC South East*, Wednesday 27 September, starts at 00.16.34
- [The Screen Test, a collaborative study between psychologists](#) at the University of Sussex, the University of Brighton and the Radio Times, found that watching television can prompt a boost to happiness, with interesting insights into binge-watchers. *Radio Times*, Thursday 28 September

Sussex on social



Making friends at Sussex

[Digital Media Creator Abby](#) shares some top tips for our new students on how to make friends at university!

Community conversations

Did you know you can join a number of University social networks on Viva Engage, and find out more about what interests you? Some of the chats this week have included:

- [See our new foodmap for locations on eateries](#) across campus - in the Food at Sussex community.
- [Check out the progress on the construction and reurfing](#) for the lawns between Essex House and Bramber House - in the Creating a Better Campus community.
- [Find out how to get access to the Undercroft space](#), which can now be accessed and used - in the PS Places community

Why not join a community and make your first post?

[Keep everything in one place - add the Viva Engage app to Teams](#)

Other important news

Transforming Sussex newsletter

[Find out the latest updates](#) from the projects and programmes which are part of our Capital Programme.

Teaching Excellence Framework

The outcomes of the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) were published by the Office for Students (OfS) on 28 September. Along with nearly a quarter of

universities, our result is 'pending'. Results 'pending' means that universities are making additional representations to the TEF panel about their rating and we will provide an update once we have further information to share.

Social media policy and guidance

[Read the University's social media policy](#) which covers any social media activity where, as a member of staff, you directly or indirectly represent Sussex online.

Transport update

[Find out information on how to collect](#) your parking permit once ready, how to hire a BTN bike on campus, and how roadworks on and off campus and rail strikes may affect your commute this week.

Contact us

This week at Sussex is issued at the start of every working week – [view an infographic about the types of content featured](#).

If you would like to include something in the newsletter please submit this to internalcomms@sussex.ac.uk by 2pm the preceding Thursday.

Our next edition will be on Monday 9 October.

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



Sent by

Internal Communications, University of Sussex .