



11 June 1993

On the Admissions Front

Applications to Sussex are up by 4% on last year, against a national increase of 9% — an increase which is partly accounted for by a large growth in applications for subjects not offered at Sussex such as Medicine and Education BAs.

A change of name has produced this year's most dramatic effect on applications: the dropping of the word 'Experimental' from the title of the BSc in Psychology has resulted in an increase in applications of nearly 300%. Media Studies continues to attract large numbers of applicants, Law is up by nearly 70% on last year, and applications to the BSc in Geography are up by 45%.

Applications to Sussex continue, however, to reflect the national shortages in chemistry, mathematics and physics. Widening the pool of applicants through the introduction of a foundation year has been one strategy for addressing the shortage of applicants coming out of schools, and it is proving, according to Elizabeth Stewart, Assistant Registrar with responsibility for Admissions, an effective way of attracting non-traditional students to science. "These are students who might not have the usual mix of A levels or have under-performed at school for a variety of reasons." Some of the foundation courses are run here at Sussex; others are run in conjunction with colleges of further education. "This year," says Elizabeth, "we shall be admitting our first cohort from Chichester College and we are very interested in extending links with other local colleges."

Continued on page 2



TUNNEL OF FUN: The Students' Union once again ran a successful playscheme for 40 children of staff and students during half-term, culminating in the annual Kids' Karnival.

Nitrogen Fixation Lab to move to Norwich

After 28 years at Sussex, the Nitrogen Fixation Laboratory is to move. The Agricultural and Food Research Council has confirmed that its Institute of Plant Science Research is to be amalgamated on one site and that the laboratory is, therefore, to move to the Institute's main site at the John Innes Centre at Norwich.

The intention is to create a critical mass of scientists in the fields of molecular genetics, chemistry, biochemistry and physiology to work on a range of plant and bacterial biological pathways. It will also allow scientists currently in the Nitrogen Fixation Laboratory to extend their current focus on nitrogen fixation to other key enzymes and pathways involved in the nitrogen cycle.

According to Professor Barry Smith, Head of the Laboratory, he and his colleagues have mixed feelings about the move. "There are definite advantages in having a new building and there are exciting scientific possibilities in Norwich that will arise from closer interactions with other scientists in the Institute, and the other laboratories that form the Norwich Research Park. However we have all enjoyed our time at Sussex and have many good friends here.

"But of course the move need not inhibit scientific collaboration. We collaborate widely with other groups in the UK and the rest of the world and I am sure we shall keep in touch with our colleagues here."

The move is currently scheduled for August 1995. According to Professor Smith, no scientific posts will be lost.

First Impressions Last?

At the beginning of the academic year, the Bulletin looked at three new members of the University to get a personal view of what first impressions of Sussex are like. Now that the year is ending, Matthew Ledbury visited them again to see how their first year has been.

Last autumn, the new Arts Building Superintendent, Andy Jupp was surprised to discover how large the University is. How does he feel now? "I think I've settled very well into the job and I've quickly got used to the size and way around campus. My first eight months seem absolutely to have flown — time goes very quickly here which is nice. The job itself has proved to be both active and varied which I like: I meet staff, faculty, and students and it's good to help them all in a variety of different ways, along with the help of the strong team of porters, electricians, carpenters, and painters we have.

"When I worked for a Building Society, I used to set procedures that were very tight. Here you have got the freedom to move around more, and the way of life seems to be easier. It's nice to see faculty taking their seminars outside when the weather is good. I've definitely enjoyed my time here so far, and I still hope for a happy and long-lasting career!"

COGS lecturer Luca Aceto, who worked in France and Italy for a while before starting here, admitted in October to being slightly nervous about the prospect of teaching, but was looking forward to becoming more experienced in it as well as producing good quality research. "It's been OK — teaching courses has been a new experience for me and a very interesting one as I have been teaching courses that aren't my research interests, so I've had to learn about the subject matter myself! I think it is definitely a good experience to have to develop your own course and see how students react to it, although at times it can be a bit frustrating when you expect too much from them.

"I've fitted in the teaching work quite well; it takes a bit of getting used to as it reduces the amount of time you can spend doing your own research or whatever. I've learnt that when there is marking to do there is no use pretending that you should be doing something else because there is no time to do

anything else! The way my teaching has been organised has helped me — in the first term I had no courses so I had time to do research and prepare for the remainder of the year."

"Being a lecturer makes you realise just how different the British higher education system here is compared to other European countries. There's lots of bureaucracy concerning students that is similar to what you would have at Secondary School — filling in forms when they don't come to tutorials, for example. This was probably fine in the past, but now with classes of 50 and 60 it is very time-consuming, especially when there's a hundred term reports to write out at the end of each term. But overall, I am quite content here at the moment.

The start of the year saw Marie-Claire Rouquet, an overseas student from Toulouse University studying International Relations in EAM, wanting, "to become fluent in English, and to change my mind about the unfriendliness of some English people." So how has it gone? "The year has been pretty good — Sussex is very 'cool', very relaxed. I've liked the style of teaching which is very different from French universities: with small groups you can speak easily with tutors and if you have any problems then there is, of course, the personal tutor which doesn't exist in France.

"My English has improved a lot; now I can watch television without subtitles, although I've learned to hate soap operas! I've also changed my mind about the English people — generally speaking, they are very friendly. I've changed my mind partly because my flatmates have been very interesting and friendly — they don't laugh at my mistakes and they try to help me correct them. If ever I couldn't find work in France and was offered some in England I'd now say, "Why not?"; at the beginning of the year I would have said, "Never!"

"Some things haven't been easy: making myself understood in English has been difficult at times. And I haven't liked the weather — no joking! But I'll always have good memories of Sussex: it's small, easy to meet people, and well-organised for foreign students. I'd quite happily do another year. The end of June will be very sad."

■ *All In A Day's Work* will return in the next large *Bulletin*

On the Admissions Front *Continued from front page*

Next year sees the introduction of major changes on the admissions front, including the demise of the UCCA form. No longer will applicants be able to apply through the two different systems, UCCA and PCAS; but instead they will have to apply through one system on a UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service) form. Under the new system, students will be allowed up to eight choices, but will have to have narrowed these down to only one firm and one insurance offer by the middle of May. One thing the changes will almost certainly mean is a large increase in the number of forms we receive. "It is," says Elizabeth "very difficult to predict exact numbers, but if we base an estimate on our current market share of all applications through UCCA, this would result in 6,000 more forms coming into the office next year. This will obviously place a considerable extra burden on the office and on the school selectors, as each additional form has to be scrutinised and processed."

How best to expend the time and effort needed on admissions is obviously an issue which needs to be kept under constant review. Although at Sussex, we still interview most applicants, many, if not most universities have abandoned the practice of routinely interviewing candidates, offering instead group visits and open days. This year, the School of Social Sciences has introduced changes along similar lines. For the first time, a large proportion of applicants to the school have been made offers based on the UCCA form and then invited to visit the university for a full day's programme of events. The School will obviously monitor the effect on acceptance rates very carefully, but according to Anne Asha, School Administrative Officer, the experiment seems to be proving successful. "The response of candidates to the visits has been very positive and, although the final figures aren't yet available, early indications are that the firm acceptance rates are up on last year. Judging by the reaction so far, we feel confident enough to continue with the same system next year."

Obituary

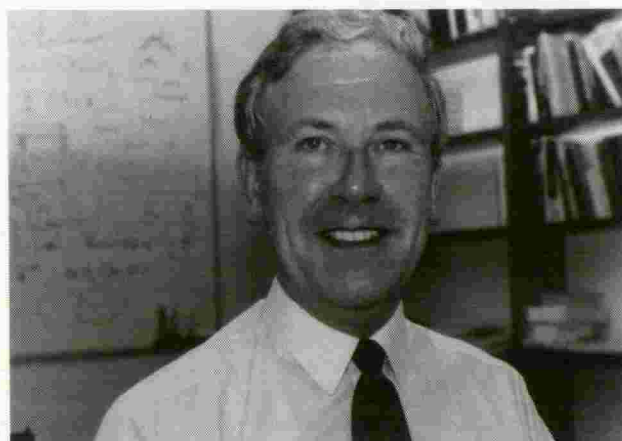
Jack Ellis 1943—1993

Jack was born in Lancashire in 1943. After gaining a first class honours degree in Mechanical Engineering at Salford University, he undertook postgraduate research at UMIST gaining MSc and PhD degrees. Prior to coming to Sussex he was a Lecturer at Salford University for 12 years.

On joining Sussex in 1983, Jack began expanding teaching activities in Mechanical Design and Manufacture. To this he brought a rare blend of expertise, energy and enthusiasm and was responsible for a wide variety of successful innovations. He played a key role in establishing the joint MSc in Computer Technology with Manufacture and developed a thriving research programme in squeeze-film dynamics, presenting it at many international conferences and in journal publications.

Jack's outstanding contribution to the School, despite the tragic loss of his son shortly after joining us, was recognised by promotion to a Senior Lectureship in 1988. His work as subject Chair was widely admired and respected, not only within ENGG but also outside the University.

As a person, Jack was a man of great integrity with a total



dedication to all aspects of his work. He was honest, considerate, understanding and reliable, a truly "good man". Students and staff alike knew they could always count on his advice and support. His contribution was immeasurable and his absence will be felt for very many years to come.

A memorial service will be held in the Meeting House at 11.30 am on Wednesday 15 June, followed by a tree planting ceremony. Jack's wife, Carole, will be present, and all of his friends and colleagues are invited to attend as well.

In case of an accident . . .

To ensure that people obviously suffering from serious injuries, or who appear to be in urgent need of first aid assistance, receive the best available treatment, the following procedure should ALWAYS be followed:

- * If you know there is a local First Aider nearby, summon their assistance at once.
- * If it looks as though the casualty or apparently seriously ill person may require urgent first aid help:

Dial 3333 and ask the switchboard to call a mobile First Aider. (There are at least two available on radio call at any time.)

Ask the switchboard to summon an ambulance.

If you do not follow these procedures then help may be seriously delayed. For example, if you dial 3333, Security will be alerted and will help to direct the ambulance to your casualty. If you dial 999 no one will know the ambulance is coming, and in past incidents ambulances have sometimes spent 10-20 minutes on campus trying to find the location of the injured person.

So ALWAYS dial internal 3333, and don't ring off — wait for the switchboard to carefully check with you the severity of the incident and its exact location.

Changing Face of Campus

The following work is being undertaken by the Estates Division. You are asked to take care in the vicinity of the work and to stay outside any safety barriers. Thank you for your co-operation during recently completed works.

Works in Progress:

—**Biology:** Extension to the north of EP wing. Due for completion January 1994.

—**Health Centre:** Extension to the north of existing building. Due for completion end of 1993.

—**Installation of water meters:** Refectory, Kent House, Library, IDS, Sussex House, Falmer House, MAPS, BIOLS, MOLS and EAPS I. Some minor disruption to hot water supplies. Building users are aware of this.

Rob French, (Quality & Standards Manager)



A Question of Health

4th - 9th July 1993

UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX SPORTCENTRE

East meets West is a new and exciting six day course which will be run by the Sport Service in July. A variety of Eastern and Western approaches to health-related fitness will be combined, to offer a dynamic and alternative perspective on the question of health. Offerings include Chi Kung, a Chinese exercise system rapidly gaining popularity in the West, Relaxation and Stress Manage-

ment, a Chinese perspective on diet and acupuncture, and a full day workshop on the Alexander Technique, with follow up sessions to enhance how you move when exercising. The course will run from 4-9 July inclusive, morning and afternoon sessions, at a cost of £117. Places are limited so book now. For full details contact Karen Dunster at the Sportcentre, ext. 3947 or 8228.

Robin Lee Poetry

This week a poem by Alison Gibbins, one of the runners-up in this year's Robin Lee Poetry Competition, who is studying English with Media Studies in CCS.

Helen at the Supermarket

All the passion had gone out of her life
Since she had been reincarnated two hundred times
These days it was all gas bills and frozen peas
It was a bloody long time since her face had launched
A thousand ships

If Menelaus could see her now
What a come down from the Siege of Troy
But she thought my beauty is still intact at least
I had an offer from the garage man only last week
Garlic bread or plain french sticks
Tinned tomato soup and butter beans
Turning into toiletries . . . wait a sec, I forgot the milk

Around the Schools

MOLS Research News

About 15 years ago a polymerised form of acetylene was shown to have a high electrical conductivity, and this stimulated world-wide activity in universities and industry to both understand the phenomenon and to fabricate conducting materials. Norman Billingham and Steve Armes have been active in the field, collaborating with BP, ICI, Courtaulds and other firms.

Steve has recently produced new materials by gluing together small silica particles (the pure form of sand) with conducting polymers such as polypyrrole and polyaniline to give raspberry-like structures about one ten-thousandth of a millimetre in diameter. Both green and black raspberries have been produced, and other inorganic oxides (replacing the silica) are also being used. Both SERC and industrial sponsors are excited by these new materials which may have applications in fields as diverse as immunodiagnostics and military camouflage.

EAM

RICHARD GASKIN has been awarded the *Philosophy Quarterly* Essay Prize 1992. The title of his essay is "Conditionals of Freedom and Middle Knowledge" and it will be published in a special edition of *Philosophy Quarterly* in October.

BOB BENEWICK has edited, with **PHILIP GREEN**, *The Routledge Dictionary of Twentieth-Century Political Thinkers*. The entries, contributed by an impressive array of British and American academics, are invariably well-written and remarkably consistent in style. One of the most impressive features of the book is the attention given to thinkers who have come to prominence in recent decades and feminists are particularly well represented.

PETER WAY has been awarded a Faculty Enrichment Grant from the Canadian High Commission which will enable him to travel to Canada to prepare a proposed new course on Canadian Culture and Society to be offered in EAM.

Both **JOHN LOWERSON** and **SIMON BAATZ** have received a British Academy Small Personal Research

Grant. John Lowerson's award is towards the cost of his next book, *The English Amateur Operatic Movement, 1890-1960*.

VIVIEN HART has been appointed Guest Scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington for July/August 1993 to write on her project "Women and American Public Policy".

SHARON FERMOR's book, *Piero di Cosimo: Fiction, Invention and Fantasia*, published this month by Reaktion Books, London, received an excellent review in the *Independent*. It is the first book on Piero di Cosimo in English for four decades, lavishly illustrated, and its intention is to question the portrait of the artist as an unsociable outsider.

TED TAPPER's book *Oxford, Cambridge and the Changing Idea of the University* (co-authored with Brian Salter) was cited by the Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University in his annual Oration as summing up the 'profound shift in the relations between Government and the University.'

PEOPLE

ERIC CLARKE, Reader in Music, City University, will be taking up a Chair at the University of Sheffield in October 1993. Dr. Clarke was a Music undergraduate in CCS, 1974-1977, and was awarded the MA in Music at Sussex in 1978.

PROFESSOR JOHN BARROW was awarded fourth prize in the Gravity Research Foundation's international competition for papers presenting original work on gravitation physics. He also delivered the annual University of London Physics Lecture on 26 May at Royal Holloway College.

PROFESSOR BRIAN SPRATT was awarded the 1993 Hoechst-Roussel Award of the American Society for Microbiology.

DR. EUAN MURUGASU who is working with Professor Ian Russell (BIOLS) on the neurophysiology of the cochlea, has been awarded the Lee Kuan Yew Scholarship which he will receive in person from the former Prime Minister when he visits Singapore in August.

Library Canopy



A canopy is now in place over the side entrance to the library. This is to protect the wheelchair users in adverse weather conditions while waiting to gain access to the library. The canopy has been installed in memory of Jeremy Hollis who was a great campaigner for better access for the disabled on campus. Jerry died in 1991 and his family, as well as his many friends at Sussex, contributed towards the cost of the canopy which they felt would be a fitting memorial.

In memoriam

Rosemarie Jones & Andreas Bjørnerud

The School of European Studies is hoping to purchase an English oak garden seat in memory of Rosemarie Jones, and the print *A course in Sussex* by Tom Phillips, in memory of Andreas Bjørnerud. There will be a short informal ceremony on Monday 21 June at 12.30 pm at Arts A136 for Andreas, and at 12.45 pm on the grass opposite the Arts A courtyard for Rosemarie.

Contributions would be very welcome and may be sent to Jenny Money, Arts A132, EURO.

Peter Wicks

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the death of Peter Wicks who had been working as a Geography tutorial fellow in SOC while also studying for a doctorate at the LSE. Peter died in a road accident on 26 May when his bicycle was in collision with a lorry.

TAKING STOCK OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

by Michael Kenward

Nuclear weapons watchers have a new bible. *The World Inventory of Plutonium and Highly Enriched Uranium 1992* is the book that they turn to for details on how much fissile material around the world could be put into nuclear weapons. It may not be the catchiest title, but just months after their book first appeared the authors, William Walker, Frans Berkhout and David Albright, are already being pressed to produce a second edition. It seems that a lot of people want to know how much fissile material comes out of the world's weapons factories and "peaceful" nuclear power facilities.

Walker and Berkhout, from the Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU) first thought of doing a less ambitious project. They wanted to study the fissile inventories of Europe and Japan. Such is the secrecy surrounding fissile materials that they didn't realise that it would be possible to gather information on the whole world's stockpile of fissile material the uranium and plutonium that give nuclear weapons their devastating power.

The SPRU team and Albright, from Princeton, wanted the inventory to feed into discussions on nuclear policy issues. "Policy makers in different countries don't have much idea of what is going on elsewhere," says Walker. This makes it very difficult for them to formulate policies.

The problem was that there were large holes in the existing information. The USA, for example, does not reveal the extent of its stockpiles of fissile material, but it has disclosed technical information about its reactors, on how much heat they produce for example. Knowing this and something of the physics of nuclear reactors, relatively simple computer models allowed the researchers to calculate what goes on inside reactors and to estimate their contribution to the world's inventory of fissile materials.

Walker's team applied the same tactic to civilian reactors. "If you know

how a reactor is operated, its electricity output, you can come up with a pretty accurate figure for how much plutonium is produced," he explains.

It wasn't all down to estimates and calculations. Japan gave Walker a big surprise. "We came away from Japan having learned a great deal about the whole business. They gave us details about plutonium that we didn't realise that people would reveal," Walker adds. Walker believes that it is important to present as complete a picture as possible of the world's inventories of uranium and plutonium. As it is, most of the attention has been on countries like Iraq, Israel or South Africa, with their covert weapons programmes.

"You have got to treat everybody equally," says Walker. As it is, the countries with the biggest stockpiles of fissile material reveal less than anybody. This leaves us in a position where the break up of Communist bloc raises questions about the former Soviet Union's mountain of fissile material.

It is the proliferation of nuclear weapons that concerns Walker and his colleagues. And here they see continued reprocessing of nuclear fuel as a big issue, with two new reprocessing plants about to come on line to meet the needs of the civilian nuclear industry, threatening to add more plutonium to the world's stockpiles.

Reprocessing is a part of the civilian nuclear power programme in Europe and Japan. However, it is only one way of dealing with used nuclear fuel. Unfortunately, reprocessing separates fissile material from other radioactive materials, the dangerous nuclear waste. Store spent fuel with the waste still mixed in with the uranium and plutonium, and it is much harder to put these fissile materials into bombs.

This is one reason why Walker thinks it is a bad idea to reprocess nuclear fuel, and why he cautions against starting up the new nuclear processing plant built by British Nuclear Fuels at Sellafield in Cumbria. He insists that his objections to

reprocessing have nothing to do with the acceptability of nuclear power as such.

This emphasis on proliferation does not stop some people in the nuclear industry from accusing the report's authors of being anti-nuclear. "It is a ridiculous charge," Walker insists. "They think that anyone who criticises a part of the nuclear industry is criticising the whole of it. Our aim is not to do down nuclear power." If anything, says Walker, the industry suffers from self-inflicted wounds. He believes that "reprocessing has done enormous damage to nuclear power".

While some people in the nuclear industry may not welcome the attentions of Walker and his colleagues, in other circles their book, published by Oxford University Press on behalf of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, has received a warm welcome. "The policy making community has really taken it up," he says with some surprise.

Walker now finds himself warning people not to take the numbers too seriously. He knows that they are only as accurate as the information that was available to the SPRU team. For example, people quote the report's estimate that the Soviet Union has stockpiled 720 tonnes of highly enriched uranium. The report itself warns that the actual amount could be 150 tonnes more or less than this estimate.

Knowing this, Walker finds it "slightly bizarre" that the Russians turn to the book for data on their own inventories of fissile materials. This is one reason why Walker and his colleagues have been pressed to produce a second edition. Now that people have seen what can be done, and how useful the data can be, they are keen to have more accurate data.

The World Inventory of Plutonium and Highly Enriched Uranium 1992 by William Walker, Frans Berkhout and David Albright, is available from the University Bookshop, hardback £25.

The MOle

The *Times Higher Education Supplement* has been in the habit of publishing all sorts of interesting statistics about UK Universities. It was via THES that many of this University's members discovered that we had ranked tenth in the University Funding Council's research assessment exercise. We now discover that we rank 6th in terms of government and (medical) charity supported research income per faculty member, and third in terms of contract research income per faculty member. Not bad when you consider that we also rank 74th in terms of student-staff ratio (and for those who find ratios daunting, that means we have a lot of students). A pat on the collective back is certainly warranted. On the basis of these simple performance indicators, Sussex would appear to have amongst the most cost-effective faculty of any British university. THES omitted to rank the universities in terms of faculty promotions per faculty member – an index, perhaps, of the worth of the faculty to the university concerned. Presumably, this is because statistics like that aren't deemed particularly interesting. Any readers who would like to suggest any other, perhaps more interesting, statistics should contact *The Mole* at the usual address.

Chaos and Catastrophe are terms normally reserved for that branch of physics and/or mathematics that is concerned with the (un)lawful nature of the world around us. Sadly, Chaos and Catastrophe are underemployed theoretical commodities that do little to contribute to the wealth of this nation. But all this is about to change. The new Government White Paper on Science and Technology has identified their potential as wealth creators. Indeed, the White Paper embodies many of the characteristics of Chaos and Catastrophe. And if it doesn't embody them, it certainly strives to achieve them.

Science is about progress. Progress is somewhat similar to what happens when a pile of sand is stood upon. The extra height afforded by the sand allows for rich pickings. But not all the sand is stood upon. Not all the sand is wealth-creating. So let's not invest in the sand that isn't stood upon. And while we're about it, let's use less sand to begin with, because it isn't all used anyway, is it? By the same token (reading between the White Lines), not all research is wealth-creating, so let's switch resources towards applied research, and because we need less researchers as a result, let's produce fewer PhDs. Simplicity itself. Until you discover, too late, that a smaller pile of sand just won't get you high enough. Honorary doctorates (cheap at twice the price) should be addressed to the Rt. Hon. William Waldegrave MP.

The Mole confidently believes that the next White Paper on anything remotely connected with University funding will propose the introduction of a football-style University League. Lottery tickets, huge transfer fees for star players, commercial sponsorship, and live SKY coverage of University Challenge would all be part of the package.

Finally, a runners-up mention for David Hitchin of the Computer Service (Arts B163), for the most inspired piece of fictional writing that *The Mole* has seen in a long time. As the author points out, "the scurrilous nature of some [of the anagrams] must rest with those who bestowed names on our leaders." Sadly, space is at a premium (and soon to be charged for...), and even an abridged work would hardly do justice to the poetic license afforded by our leaders' parents. This month's bottle of bubbly goes instead to an excessively prominent member of the School of Biological Sciences (possibly, but apparently not, a descendant of a great evolutionist). Gordon Conway may well be our VC, but he is also, apparently "A crony, now God".

What the papers say . . .

Sussex through the eyes of the press

A University of Sussex study on the psychology of names provides Emily Laurence Baker (*Guardian* 2 June) with evidence that "despite decades of feminist messages of self-assertion, the majority of British women adopt their husbands' surname when they marry". The survey found that 95% of the 650 women involved in the research had changed their names. Although there were age differences (11% of women in their 20s kept their name compared with only 3% of women in their 60s), the custom nonetheless remains strong and, according to Emily Laurence Baker, "is the starkest remaining symbol of female inferiority".

Gordon Mackerron (SPRU) takes issue with a National Audit Commission Report published on 4 June which estimates the cost of decommissioning Britain's nuclear industry at £18 billion (*Times* 3 June). Mackerron, an advisor to the Commission, claims that the report ignores uncertainties over the disposal of radioactive waste and dismantling of reactors which are likely to make the costs much more expensive.

Professor Edward Timms (EURO) welcomes the increasing priority British Universities are attaching to German-Jewish Studies (*Times Literary Supplement*, 3 June). Indeed, Sussex is to stage a conference entitled 'The German-Jewish Dilemma' in 1995 to mark the 50th anniversary of the liberation of concentration camps. But, Timms considers that such efforts, "however welcome themselves remain uncoordinated and belated". Britain, he points out, received proportionately more refugees from Nazi Germany than any other country and Timms feels that perhaps, "It is now time to set up a centre for German-Jewish Studies comparable to those established in the US and – more recently – Germany."

Dr Mark Mazower (EURO) was among panellists who recently debated the war in Bosnia at the Yaker Educational Foundation in Hendon (*Hendon and Finchley Times*, 20 May). Mazower was critical of Western policy and, asked if any parallel could be drawn between the Jews in the Second World War and ethnic cleansing in Bosnia, replied: "There is a direct comparison. But the final purpose was to exterminate during the Second World War and in Bosnia it is to displace".

Finally, the media's love affair with Professor Jonathan Harvey (CCS) shows no sign of abatement. "A brilliantly imaginative first opera" is how Rodney Milnes of the *Times* (7 June) describes Jonathan Harvey's 'Inquest of Love' which opened at the Coliseum in London on 5 June. According to Milnes, Harvey's "mixture of orchestral and electronic sound produces effects of spell-binding music unsurpassed even by Stockhausen".

RESEARCH REPORT

By Matthew Ledbury

Ending Anxiety Through Talk

Anxiety and accompanying depression is one of the most frequent problems that GPs have to deal with. The traditional treatment for it has been tranquillisers, with benzodiazepines being the most widely prescribed drugs in the world. Now a new study by Adrian Hemmings in the Trafford Centre has shown that probably a far more effective way of dealing with the problem is, to put it simply, talking about it.

In recent years, there has been increasing criticism of benzodiazepines for being addictive and not addressing underlying causes. The level at which they are prescribed in the Brighton area caused concern recently after it was discovered that nearly 15% of patients on prescription were receiving it. But although most GPs are aware of the risks, many patients have been unwilling to come off and there has been little alternative until now.

Building on research started by Barbara Hunt at the Trafford Centre in 1989, Mr Hemmings undertook a study, funded by the Primary Care and Development Fund, to evaluate how effective non-pharmacological intervention in the treatment of anxiety was, and hopefully devise a package that was cost-effective and could be readily implemented within a GP practice.

A hundred patients were referred to him by their GPs. Some were given conventional treatment and others were treated in Anxiety Management Groups. The results were impressive: patients in the groups improved significantly more in anxiety and depression scores than those who were given conventional treatment. People were found to be visiting GPs less, and complaints such as migraines, allergies, irritable bowels, and ulcers were reduced.

Says Mr Hemmings, "We found that people got better and stayed better.

The psychologists who took the groups taught them to recognise the symptoms of panic attacks and anxiety and how to relax. People's belief systems were also tackled (when it isn't necessarily the situation that makes people anxious but the way they perceive it). Tranquillisers don't address these underlying causes of anxiety; nor do they give people the skills to deal with recurring fears. This study shows that there are non-pharmacological alternatives to tranquillisers which can achieve profound changes in relatively short time, and which are easily implemented, cost-effective, and give patients reusable skills. Furthermore, as patients collaborate, they feel more in control of their own lives, and are less dependent on busy and pressurised GPs." Mr Hemmings is now working on the creation of a 'proper' package that will allow wider application and can be readily used by GPs, clinical psychologists, or counsellors.

Poplog gets HiP

A new concept, initiated by Mike Sharples from COGS and developed by ISL Ltd to go with the highly successful Poplog software developed at the University, is to be commercially launched later this month. HiPWorks (Hypermedia in Poplog), is being proclaimed by the manufacturers as, "one of the most powerful and intelligent multimedia systems available".

The HiP project, which has been running for some two and a half years now, involves taking the Poplog environment developed at Sussex and adding a multi and hypermedia interface to it. Multimedia, very much a buzz word in the computing world at present, is the combination of different sorts of media such as text, sound, images, onto the computing screen, while hypermedia is a virtually instantaneous extensive cross-referencing and indexing system.

What is particularly novel in this development is the combining of multi and hypermedia with a very powerful programming environment. Says Mike, "Up until now there have been programmes or environments on a PC where you can do fancy designs but the programming power is very limited, or conversely there are systems like Poplog where you can do very fancy programming but it is hard to create an attractive screen display. What HiPWorks does is to bring the two together."

HiPWorks will be particularly valuable in those areas where people would want to design highly interactive professional looking programmes from beginning to end, such as software design, the development of multimedia packages (designing educational or training software, for example), and publicity design (such as tourist guides). Poplog is used by most British universities for teaching and for research, so HiP will also be invaluable in creating intelligent visual tutoring systems. As Poplog has some 2000 users globally, the potential for HiP is obviously huge.

New publications by Sussex authors

PIERO DI COSIMO, FICTION, INVENTION & FANTASIA by Sharon Farmer. Reaktion Books. £29.
EDUCATIONAL INNOVATION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES: CASE-STUDIES OF CHANGEMAKERS. Edited by Keith M. Lewin and Janet S. Stuart. Macmillan. New in paperback £14.99.

SPORT AND THE ENGLISH MIDDLE CLASSES 1870-1914 by John Lowerson. Manchester UP £40.

POWER, POVERTY AND POISON: Disaster and response in an Indian City by James Manor. Sage. £27.50.

KEYNES AND THE ROLE OF THE STATE, edited by Derek Crabtree and A.P. Thirlwall. From the Tenth Keynes Seminar held at the University of Kent at Canterbury, 1991. Includes contributions by Michael Lipton and John Toy. Macmillan £45.

*All obtainable from the
University Bookshop*

What's on...

Monday 14 June – Sunday 20 June

Lectures, Seminars, Colloquia

Monday 14 June

12.30pm **Graduate History Seminar:** *Representations of the Future Across the Twentieth Century – the Novel in Historical Context.* S Hiorns, Arts C351.

1.00pm **IDS Gender Seminar Series:** *Femicide.* V Patel (Bombay and LSE visiting fellow), Room 221, IDS.

1.00pm **Experimental Psychology Seminar:** *Measuring Reward Effects in Learning.* M Yeomans, EP3.9, BIOLS.

3.00pm **Maths Analysis Seminar:** *Attractors for Navier-Stokes Equations.* A Ilyin (Moscow), PB2A2, MAPS I.

4.30pm **Neuroscience Seminar Series:** *Are Extraocular Muscle Proprioceptors Involved in the Control of Eye Movement?.* I Donaldson (Edinburgh), EP3.9, BIOLS.

4.30pm **Women's Studies Occasional Seminar:** *Producing a Sussex Book on 'Radical Femininity: Women's Self-Representation in Social Movements in the 19th and 20th Centuries'.* Eileen Yeo et al., Arts D430.

6.00pm **Sussex Continuing Education Research Forum:** *Into the 21st Century: Adult Learners, Voluntary Organisations and Social Change.* A Tuckett (Director of National Institute of Adult and Continuing Education), Friends Meeting House, Ship Street, B'ton.

Tuesday 15 June

4.15pm **Biochemistry, Genetics and Development Seminar:** *Amylin and Insulin in a Vitro b-cell Model.* Dr R Kulkarni, (London), EP4.9 BIOLS.

4.30pm **COGS Seminar:** *Learning As Cognitive Re-Structuring: Reading and Writing in Hypertext Domains.* Dr M Forrester (Kent), PB1A6, MAPS I.

Wednesday 16 June

1.00pm **IDS Seminar Series:** *What Socio-Economics Can Contribute to Development Studies: Intra-Household Relation and Policy Perspectives.* Dr N Kabere, Room 221, IDS

2.00pm **Statistics Seminar:** *The Analysis of a Brighton Myocardial Infarction Data Base.* G Ambler, PB2A1, MAPS I.

5.00pm **English Graduate Colloquium:** *Breaking the Illusion: Rhythm in Virginia Woolf and Ella Freeman Sharpe.* L Stonebridge (Kingston), Arts D640.

Thursday 17 June

11.30am **Economics Research-in-Progress Seminar:** *Career Paths in Organisations.* J Fairburn, Arts D610.

12.30pm **Gender and Feminist History Seminar:** *Trench Culture and Home Culture in the Great War.* K Abbott, Arts D421.

2.00pm **Theoretical Physics Seminar:** *Feynman Diagrams Without Integration.* D Broadhurst (Open), PB1A6, MAPS I.

5.00pm **Geography Research Seminar:** *Fishy Smells: Managing Lake Victoria's Fisheries (Kenya Sector); History and Future Possibilities.* K Geheb, Arts C251.

Friday 18 June

4.30pm **Philosophy Seminar:** *Consciousness and All That.* M Morris, Arts A155.

A Celebration of Science

The British Association for the Advancement of Science is holding its Annual Science Festival at Keele University from 29 August to 3 September 1993. A multidisciplinary programme for all age groups and backgrounds is planned. For further details contact Sue Bramley on 0782 583373.

Language Centre

■ Satellite TV

Improve your languages or learn new languages the enjoyable way by tuning into satellite television from France, Germany, Italy, Russia and Spain in the Language Centre. The service is free to staff and students of the University. Contact ext. 8006.

■ EFL

Pre-Sessional Summer Courses: F/T English Language and Study Skills. Places available on July, August and September modules.

TEFL Teacher Training Course: An Autumn course is currently being planned. For details of the above courses contact Margaret Khidhayir on ext. 2003.

Gardner Centre

■ The Mikado.

The Regency Opera presents an hilarious new production of Gilbert & Sullivan's popular opera with Dame Hilda Bracket making a spectacular return to the operatic stage as Katisha, together with a cast of highly established soloists. Directed by Fento Gray. Orchestra conducted by Simon Gray. Dates: Wed 23 June - Sat 26 June, 7.45pm.

Tickets £15, £12, £9 (cones £2 off Wed and Thurs only).

Gliding

If anyone is interested in sampling this challenging sport, evening classes can be arranged. Cost £10 each for a group session (Minimum 10 persons). Contact Alastair on ext. 3785.

Sportcentre

■ Health and Fitness Assessment

Check how fit (unfit) you are by taking part in a fitness test at the Sportcentre.

Cost: Staff £20, Students £12, Public £25.

For further details of booking times etc. contact Karen on ext. 3947/8228.

■ Action Walking

In addition to the Tuesday lunch time **Action Walking** class, there will now be a Thursday class. The hours will be the same, 1.10 – 1.50pm and the cost is 60p per walk. Meet outside the Sportcentre.

■ Isle Of Thorns Swimming Pool

The pool will be open to all members of the University community on Saturdays and Sundays only 11am to 5pm, from Saturday 19 June to Bank Holiday Monday, 30 August.

Proof of identity will be required in the form of a payslip, student registration card, or sports ID card. For further details ring the Isle of Thorns at Chelwood Gate on 0825 740283.

Miscellaneous

COMPUTING COURSE. *Access to the Global Network.* Introduction to the information services that are accessible on Internet. 9.30am – 12.30pm, Wed 16 June. Cost £2.

LUNCHTIME RECITAL. John Birch (organ), 1.15pm Tues 15 June.

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE. Now open from 9.00am – 5.00pm, Mon to Fri (including vacation). Competitive rates. Contact ext. 3325 or call in at Falmer House.

Small Ads

ROOM WANTED: Research Fellow (and 2 cats) seek room in shared house/flat from July. Plan to transfer to F/T DPhil student from October 1993. Contact Andy on ext. 8605 (day) 471281 (eves).

FOR SALE: Purpose built 2 bedroom, very spacious flat. 2 mins from Hove BR station and also on No. 25 bus route. £45,000. Contact Phil on ext. 3285 or 747102 (eves).

ROOM TO LET: Large well furnished room in shared house with 1u/g and 1 p/g from 1 July. All mod cons plus garden. 2 mins London Rd BR. Smokers welcome. £45p.w. plus bills. Deposit required. Contact Deborah on 681799.

ROOM TO LET: Person to share house in central Lewes (2 mins BR) from beginning July. £200p.c.m. plus bills. Mature person preferred. Contact 471707.

Bulletin

Copy deadline for the final *Bulletin* of term to be published on Friday 18 June is 1pm, Monday 14 June. There will be a *Bulletin* vacation edition which will be published on Friday 9 July with copy deadline 4pm, Tuesday 29 June. We welcome news, details of events, letters and small ads, etc. Please contact the Information Office, Sussex House, ext. 8209 or E-mail: Info.Office@uk.ac.sussex.admin.

The *Bulletin* is produced and published every Friday by the Information Office. Campus photography is by the Photographic and Design Unit and printing is by the University's Printing Unit.

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