

University of Sussex Library
Annual Report
2001-2002

From the Librarian.....



Deborah Shorley, Librarian

The year 2001-2 has seen radical changes in the Library. A comprehensive review of Library operations was published in July 2001, and following wide consultation throughout the University, a new staff structure for all professional library staff was implemented incrementally over the next few months.

This structure aims to ensure that the Library is fit to support research, learning and teaching at the University of Sussex. By Christmas 2001 the new Library Management Team was more or less in place. Since then most remaining professional posts have been filled, either internally or by external recruitment, and a number of long-serving Library staff have opted for voluntary severance or early retirement.

The aftermath of the Lewes flood has inevitably resulted in a good deal of work this year. Preparing our insurance claim was a long drawn out and extraordinarily complicated procedure, but the final outcome (a settlement of approximately £2.6 million) is satisfactory and will give us the opportunity to rebuild the Library's information resources in new exciting ways for all our users over the coming years.

This year has not been easy. Change is by definition disruptive, and has inevitably created uncertainty for Library staff. Despite this everybody has worked hard throughout the year to provide the high level of service the University expects. I am grateful to all my Library colleagues for their loyalty and commitment over the past year. Many of them are responsible for the key initiatives highlighted in this report.

We begin the new 2002-03 session with an energetic and highly professional team. We face the future with renewed energy and confidence.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deborah Shorley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Enhancing our service

- Library provision for the new Brighton and Sussex Medical School (BSMS) with colleagues from the University of Brighton and Brighton Healthcare Trust Postgraduate Medical Centre.
- Subscription to ScienceDirect, one of the largest and most important collections of electronic journals. This provides access to all 12,000 Elsevier titles and represents a major step forward in our e-journal provision.
- Wireless access for laptop users on the top floor of the Library.
- Improved Library access for people with disabilities.
- £2.6m Lewes Flood settlement received in May to be used on initiatives to improve access to information.



Students making use of the Library's wireless access facility for laptops

Special events and projects

From July 2001: ADBiB (www.adbib.ac.uk) - a web-based project supported by the Research Support Libraries Programme to identify research material for art and design history held in Brighton and Hove's libraries, archives and museums.

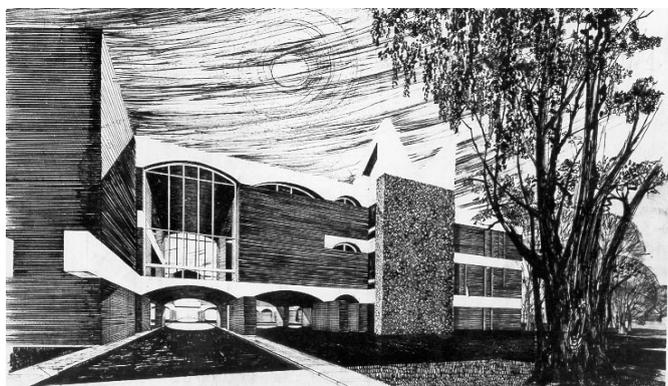
Autumn: Frankie Luxmore-Peake, postgraduate student in Information Studies, University of Brighton, completes the data collection phase of her research on the acquisition and extent of undergraduates' information skills in the Library.

January: launch in the Library of the two-volume *Encyclopaedia of life writing* by Margaretta Jolly, published by Fitzroy Dearborn. During the preparation of the encyclopaedia, Dr Jolly was based in the Mass-Observation Archive in the Library's Special Collections.

March: Wendy Walker (East Sussex Records Office) commissioned by the Librarian to undertake a scoping study of the University's records management.

April: "Building Universities: the 1960s and beyond" - a conference at the University of Sussex in May 2002.

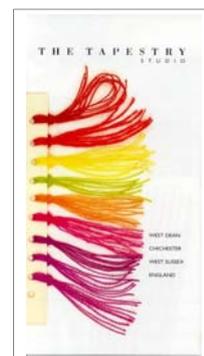
Tours and a display in the Library concourse of the models designed by Sir Basil Spence, the architect of the University campus.



April: publication of UK edition of *The most offending soul alive: Tom Harrison and his remarkable life* by Judith Heimann (Aurum Press 2002). Harrison was a founder of Mass-Observation (M-O). Dorothy Sheridan and M-O Archive Trustee, Professor Brian Street, attended the launch party in London.

May: display in the Library concourse to commemorate the work of Dr Julian Carlebach, a former professor of sociology at the University. Display arranged by the Centre for German Jewish Studies.

June: display in the Library concourse of work by tapestry students from West Dean College. (Shown right).



'Prisoners of War' - Arthur Szyk

A set of postcards by the Polish Wartime artist Arthur Szyk, shown left, (collected by a Mass-Observation investigator during a study of an exhibition on wartime propaganda in London in 1941) lent for an exhibition of Szyk's work at the Holocaust Museum in Washington.

Three of the University's silver jugs lent for display at the newly refurbished Brighton Museum.

July: three concept drawings of the campus buildings by Sir Basil Spence lent to the Rias (Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland) Gallery in Edinburgh for the Festival.

July: Steve Wickens and Natasha Davies, postgraduate students in Information Studies at the University of Brighton, start their placement projects in the Library on user education and use of the on-line public catalogues.

Staff development

This year, there has been an increased emphasis on staff development. Members of staff have participated in a wide range of training events and made exchange visits to other university libraries. Highlights included:

- "Designing flexible digital representations of historical source materials" at the University of Essex/History Data Service (FC).
- British Newspaper Library visit to Colindale to see the British Newspaper Online Project (AM) (Shown right).
- DNER (Distributed National Electronic Resource): the networked environment that provides users in further and higher education with a range of digital collections and advisory services to support their use at UCL (IB).

Key to staff names:

AM: Annette Moore
 DS: Dorothy Sheridan
 DCS: Deborah Shorley
 FC: Fiona Courage
 HS: Helen Swyre
 IB: Ian Budden
 MF: Maggie Fieldhouse
 ML: Mike Lewis
 RH: Robert Howes
 TG: Tim Graves
 WA: William Alexander



- Talis Users group in Birmingham (IB & TG).
- JANET User Group for Libraries on Virtual Learning Environments, London (WA).
- On-line Exhibition at Olympia.
- "Exhibiting manuscripts" at the British Library (DS).
- Higher Education Staff Development Agency course at the University of Manchester on management (HS).
- Seminar on film archives at South East Film and Video Archive at the University of Brighton (DS).
- United Kingdom Office for Library Networking (UKOLN) Collection Description Focus briefing day at the British Library (RH).
- Visits to University of Surrey Libraries (MF & WA).
- In-house training included sessions on customer care, the electronic library, copyright issues, writing Cvs and job interview preparation, recruitment and selection workshops for line managers.

Conferences, meetings & publications

- February** SCONUL/M25 Group of libraries to examine the scope for co-operation between higher education libraries in the UK. Addressed by Sir Brian Follett, (DCS).
- April** Representation of UK library profession at Cuban library conference in Havana on behalf of CILIP (DCS).
Qualidata Advisory Group, London (DS)
UK Serials Group at Warwick (WA)
AGM of the Sussex group of CILIP (formerly Library Association) (DCS).
- May** The European Library conference in Frankfurt: an EU funded project to create a virtual library linking all the national libraries of the European Union (WA).
Deborah Shorley gives presentation about disaster management at City Legal Information Group, London.
Deborah Shorley keynote speech at ARLIS Norden Conference, Copenhagen.
Published as "United we stand...divided we fail: the togetherness of art libraries" in *ARLIS/Norden Info* 2002:4 pp.2-6.
SASLIC (local library co-operative covering Surrey and Sussex) AGM (DCS & ML).
South East Society of Archivists meeting (University of Southampton) (DS).
- June** National Life Story Collection at the British Library: Trustees' meeting (DS).
- July** Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche (LIBER) annual conference in Graz (DCS & DS). Dorothy Sheridan gives paper, later published as "Combining teaching and library work: the hybrid academic" in *LIBER Quarterly, The Journal of European Research Libraries*, 2002:12, No.2/3, pp.175-184.



Left: Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche (LIBER) annual conference delegates in Graz

Special Collections

External funding awards ensured we were able to participate in two major national projects to develop web-based archival information resources and start a new project to promote the archival collections in the Library:

- The Archives Hub, funded by HEFCE/JISC and based at the University of Manchester (<http://www.archiveshub.ac.uk>). Summary level descriptions of over sixty collections were mounted on the Hub during the summer.
- The Genesis Project based at the Women's Library, London Metropolitan University (<http://www.genesis.ac.uk>). Funded by the Research Support Libraries Programme.

In June, an editor/compiler was appointed to start work on a book promote the University's archival and rare book collections, also funded by an award from the Research Support Libraries Programme to facilitate access to research materials in the Library.

Acquisitions

- Additions to the Mass Observation Archive: photographs by Euan Duff, including photographs taken on the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament marches of the early 1960s (shown right) as well as images used in *How we are* (documenting ordinary peoples lives in the 1960s) and *Workless: some unemployed men and their families*, a collaboration with sociologist Dennis Marsden and published by Penguin in 1975.



- Additions to the Kipling Archive include letters between the Kipling family and Miss Blaikie, their nanny (1905-1930), donated by Mrs Lisa Lewis.
- Additions to the Bloomsbury archives include the papers of Quentin Bell, Virginia Woolf's nephew and a former Professor of Art History at the University. The papers cover the years 1955-1996. Professor Bell's widow, Mrs Anne Olivier Bell, continues to transfer papers from her home in Firle, including correspondence and notes relating to her work on editing Virginia Woolf's diary.

Select publications arising from Special Collections

Sheridan, D. "Charles Madge and the Mass-Observation: a personal note" in *New Formations* No. 44 (Special issue on Charles Madge, shown left), 2001.

Sheridan, D. "Using the Mass-Observation Archive" in *Researching Ageing and later life: the practice of social gerontology*, A Jamieson & C Victor (eds), 2001 pp. 66-79.



Left: Photo by Euan Duff of men collecting benefits taken from *Workless: some unemployed men and their families*, a collaboration between Duff and sociologist Dennis Marsden and published by Penguin in 1975.

Visitors

During the year the Library welcomed a number of visitors:

January: Margaret Willes, the publisher at the National Trust, to discuss the Rudyard Kipling Archive which the Library holds on behalf of the National Trust.

February: David Dorning & Pat Taylor, tutors from West Dean College. David teaches book conservation and is planning collaborative projects with staff in Special Collections and displays in the Library concourse.

February: visit from the Librarians from the 1994 Group of universities.

May: Dierdre Wildy, Northern Ireland Publications Resource (NIPR) to work with the librarian (who is chair of NIPR) and to visit Special Collections.

June/July: Professor Bojidar Griigorov, Technical University of Sofia, to investigate electronic textbook provision.

June: Jeremy Crow and Elizabeth Haylett, Society of Authors. The Society negotiates on behalf on the Virginia Woolf estate, and is also now representing the University which owns the Leonard Woolf copyright.



1994 Group librarians

July for six months: Nancy Hewison, Professor of Library Science and Director of Administrative Services, Purdue University, USA.

Team changes

Departures: Esme Crick, Pat Kidd, Barbara McAllister, Linda Newman, Janet Pickles, Margaret Scroggins, Fay Thomas, Helen Wright.

Arrivals: Richard Beale, Martina Clark, Hugh Ferguson, Karen Garnys, Natasha Laporte, Victoria Paine, Kim Phillips, Gary Simpson, Julia Tanner.

Appointments to new posts

As a result of the restructuring exercise there were a number of new appointments during the year. The new Library Management Team (LMT) started work in November. See page 8 for the professional staff structure.

October Maggie Fieldhouse: Deputy Librarian/Information Services Manager (LMT)
Dorothy Sheridan: Head of Special Collections (LMT)

November William Alexander: Support Services Manager (LMT)

March Ian Budden: Subject Support Co-ordinator
Tim Graves: Systems Support Co-ordinator

July Adrian Hale: Library Resources Manager
Sally Faith: Library Administrator

Key Statistics

	2001-2	2000-1
Registered users		
Staff & students	11,351	11,380
External users	744	616
Total	12,095	11,996
User visits	976,774	979,926
Items borrowed	633,426	637,022
Items borrowed from other libraries	422	386
Items supplied to other libraries	385	315
Visits to Special Collections	1,096	1,133
General enquiries in a sample term-time week	2,316	1,780
Library staff hours spent on user education	108	69
Hours open per week		
Term-time	72.5	72.5
Vacation	44.5	44.5
Materials		
Bookstock	785,160	813,721
Books added during the year	17,977	13,764
Print and electronic journal titles	9,197	3,949
Space		
Total area occupied in m ²	13,263	13,263
Reader places	1,186	1,186
Reader places with PCs	120	120
Staff: full-time equivalent	90.6	93.2
Library expenditure		
Information resources	1,235,845	1,118,205
Operational and equipment costs	337,219	565,871
Staff salaries	1,856,207	1,710,873
Total	3,429,271	3,394,949

New Professional Staff Structure

