



Deborah Shorley
University Librarian

We began the year on track for a relatively settled period of consolidation. Our strategic plan was in place so we knew what we wanted to do and how we planned to do it. But this serenity was short-lived as it became clear that the University's financial position was less robust than had been thought.

So we had to cut our current year's budget and at the same time rejig our plans to reduce the Library budget for the next year by a minimum of £250,000. The best laid plans of librarians.

We looked hard at our structures and made some very tough choices. By the end of the year we had transformed the way we support learning, teaching and research in the University. We had to do this pretty fast, with almost no consultation, so the normal rules of engagement were suspended. Fortunately, although none of us was keen to go down this road, it all worked out surprisingly well and we now have a new structure which we believe to be fit to meet the information needs of all our users.

This process has not been easy, but the resilience and good sense of staff throughout the Library helped us implement many difficult decisions.

Personally I have had a pretty busy year. I took over as the President of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP) in April 2005 since when I have met all sorts of people in all sorts of places, and had the opportunity to see a world of information way beyond the confines of a UK university library. I have been able to do this only because I have enjoyed the wholehearted support from both the University and my Library colleagues, who have made sure that my frequent absences from the campus this year have not compromised the service to our users. As ever I am grateful to them all for their loyalty and support.

Research Services – Dorothy Sheridan

Special Collections continues to be responsible for public access to the University's archives, manuscript collections, rare books and art works, and is of particular interest to researchers in the humanities and social sciences.

Research Liaison will focus on the specific needs of Sussex researchers across the schools and departments. Priorities include creating web pages dedicated to research support, and collection development to ensure better exploitation of the whole stock for research. Staff in the Research Liaison team will work closely with academics on book and journal provision (electronic and print). We will also develop expertise in areas relevant to research including scholarly communication, open access, electronic document delivery, new electronic services and databases, and we will help locate research resources held outside Sussex through stronger links with the British Library and HE resource networks.



Clockwise from top left: Dorothy Sheridan, Adrian Hale, Sally Faith, Cath Morgan and Deborah Shorley

Information Services – Cath Morgan

Lending Services will continue to be responsible for the delivery of effective and efficient front line services and stock recovery processes.

Learning and Teaching will be responsible for supporting the learning and teaching activities of the University. This will be achieved through the provision of teaching sessions on the use of Library resources, further development of the Library's online information literacy training package (InfoSuss), closer collaboration with academic staff, and the development of the subject web pages to provide clearer guidance for students in the use of existing resources.

Technical Services – Adrian Hale

Library Systems will provide operational support for the use of the Library Management System (Talis), support for PCs and related equipment in the Library, and management information to inform decision making.

Technical Development will be responsible for the delivery of the Library's electronic and web based services. This includes co-ordinating and supporting work on the Library's web pages, managing the Electronic Library, and providing bespoke database applications to support the work of Library staff.

Library Resources is to be responsible for the acquisition and processing of books, journals, audiovisual material, and interlibrary loans. As part of the restructure Library Resources will also be responsible for processing reading lists and will work with Learning and Teaching Support to streamline and improve resource provision for taught courses.

Library Administration – Sally Faith

Administration provides support for the Library in the areas of Finance, Building and Facilities, and Staff Welfare. This includes recruitment, absence management, staff development, procurement management, disaster recovery, liaison with the University's Support Units, budget management, cash management, communications and all other related activities.

Annual Report 2004/2005
40th anniversary of the Library building

On 13 November 1964 the Library building was officially opened by Queen Elizabeth II. In November 2004, we celebrated the 40th anniversary of the Library building with a reception in the Library and a talk about the University's original architect, Sir Basil Spence, by his son-in-law and his partner in practice, Anthony Blee.

Spence was appointed as architect for the Falmer campus in 1959 when he was at the height of his fame as architect of the newly opened Coventry Cathedral, and was also working on the British Embassy in Rome. Anthony Blee worked on both the Embassy and the University, where his particular project was the Meeting House.

As with most architectural projects, the designs for the campus went through a number of stages before the final version was selected. Some of the early drawings can still be seen in the Library Visitors' Suite.

One of the guests at the reception, Norman Allanson, the designer of the 'Spence' furniture, was surprised to find that so many of his chairs had survived forty years of use by students. Mr Blee, the architect of several student residences including Park Village and East Slope, explained how the accommodation was designed to the specifications of one generation of students and then reviled by the succeeding one.



**top: the new Library centre: the Queen with Librarian Denis Cox (front) and architect Basil Spence (behind)
right: the Queen unveils the Library's huge concrete opening plaque which still stands today**



August 2004

Self Return machines

Queueing times were cut at the issue and return desks of Lending Services by the installation of two new machines which enable users to return books automatically.

World Library and Information Congress – Argentina

At the end of August the Librarian Deborah Shorley, representing CILIP, was among the 3,000 delegates who attended the 70th International Federation of Library Associations General Congress in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The theme of the conference was *Libraries: Tools for Education Development*.

September 2004

Rare Books Group Conference at Sussex

This year the Library hosted the CILIP Rare Books Group annual conference on *Rare Book Futures: Curating for the 21st Century*. Sessions dealt with skills for people working with rare books, mounting exhibitions, promoting collections and access to specialised reference sources.

Visits were arranged for the delegates to see special collections held locally including the Royal Pavilion Archives, the Rare Books Collection at the new Brighton Jubilee Library, and our own Special Collections.



Two new Self Return machines have helped reduce queueing time at Lending Services



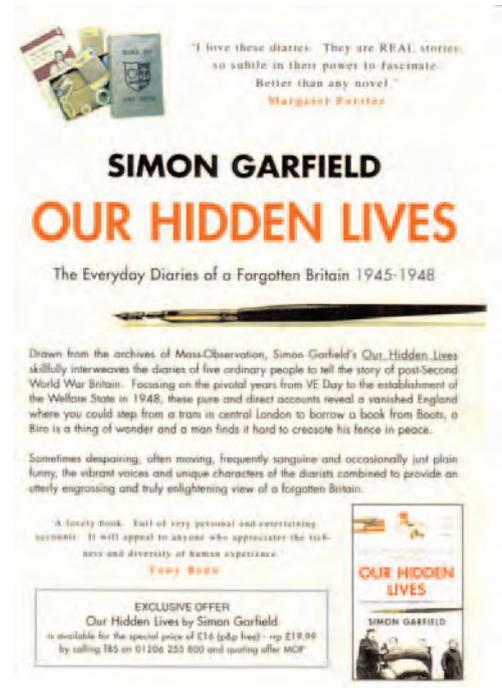
The Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals conference dinner at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton

November 2004

Our Hidden Lives

Several diaries from the Mass-Observation Archive have been published this year. In collaboration with the Centre for Life History Research we organised a public seminar on 17 November in the Brighton and Sussex Medical School (BSMS) lecture theatre on issues raised by diarists going public.

The seminar speakers were Simon Garfield, journalist and editor of the diary anthology, *Our Hidden Lives: the everyday diaries of a forgotten Britain 1945–1948*, Bob Malcolmson, Emeritus Professor of History at Queen's University Canada, and Tom Roper of the BSMS. Professor Malcolmson has edited two diaries from the Archive, *Love and War in London* (Wilfred Laurier UP, 2005) and *Wartime Norfolk* (Norwich Record Society, 2004). Tom Roper spoke about weblogs as a modern-day equivalent of Mass-Observation.



Simon Garfield, journalist and editor, was one of the speakers at the Mass-Observation Archive's public seminar organised in conjunction with the Centre for Life History Research

January 2005

New A-Z of Electronic Journals and Electronic Journal Service

In January a new look A-Z listing of electronic journals was added to the Electronic Library provided by EBSCO, the Library's main journals subscriptions agent. Entries in the A-Z provide links to the full text of journals to which the Library subscribes.

March 2005

New display cases

Four new glass cases have been installed on the ground floor of the Library. They replace the old Spence-designed wooden cases and provide better security and more appropriate environmental conditions including fibre optic lighting which minimises damage to the items on display. Three of the cases were sponsored respectively by the Kipling Society, the Mass-Observation Archive Trust and the Centre for German Jewish Studies. All cases will display material from our Special Collections.

Annual Report 2004/2005 Highlights of the year

April 2005

The Shape of Things to Come – SCONUL Conference 2005

The University of Sussex and the University of Brighton co-hosted the annual Society of Colleges, National & University Libraries (SCONUL) conference at the Old Ship Hotel in Brighton, 6-8 April.

A number of prestigious international speakers addressed the conference, including the President of the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA), Kay Raseroka (Librarian at the University of Botswana), Gail MacMillan from Virginia Tech, and former Librarian for Hewlett Packard, Eugenie Prime. University of Sussex Vice-Chancellor Alasdair Smith gave the after-dinner speech at the Conference Dinner. The conference attracted a record number of delegates and was considered a great success.

June 2005

ACURIL 5-11 June 2005 in Martinique

Deborah Shorley presented a paper titled *Seamless Access to Information for All: Learning City Initiatives in the United*

Kingdom at the annual conference of the Association of Caribbean University Research and Institutional Libraries (ACURIL).

ACURIL's activities and achievements include the organisation of regional projects aimed at improving access to information produced or published in the region. The overarching theme of the conference was identifying information needs to provide public access to knowledge.

July 2005

Ten Pound Poms – new archival material

The research material relating to the British-Australia Migration Research Project has been donated to the Mass-Observation Archive. The project, which was funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Board (AHRB), was carried out in this country by Al Thomson of Sussex, and in Australia by Jim Hammerton from La Trobe University.

The project used life history methods – oral

Below: Society of Colleges, National and University Libraries delegates at the Conference Dinner held at the Royal Pavilion. The conference was co-hosted this year by the University of Sussex and the University of Brighton



history and the collection of diaries, letters and photographs – to research the experience of British people who took advantage of the £10 fare to emigrate to Australia in the 1950s and 1960s. Al Thomson was especially interested in people who had returned to Britain from Australia. We hold material from the British side of the research.

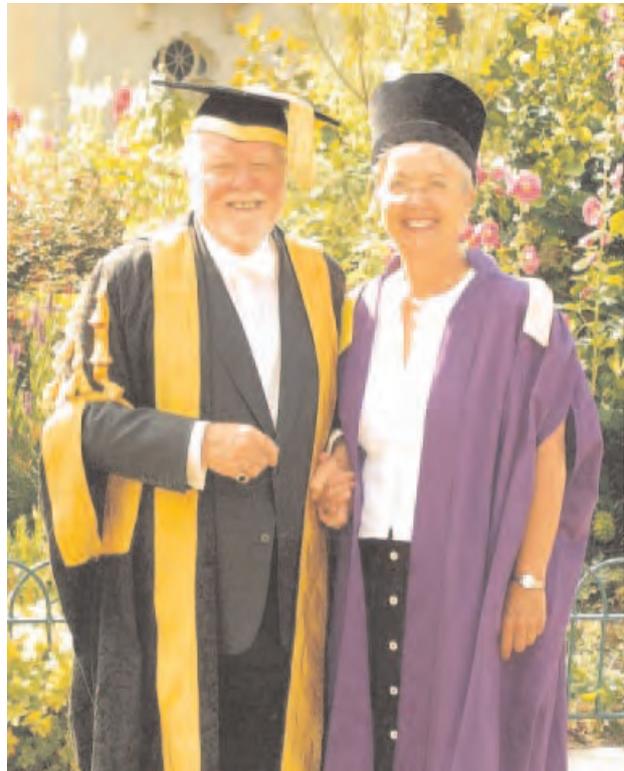
Chancellor's Award for Pat Ringshaw

Pat Ringshaw, secretary to the Librarian, was presented with a Chancellor's Award at the summer graduation at the Dome followed by the VIP lunch in the Royal Pavilion afterwards. The award recognises exceptional contribution to the work and life of the University by members of staff.

University art works catalogued

Collaboration between the Library and the Public Catalogue Foundation (PCF) over the summer has resulted in over fifty of the University's oil and acrylic paintings appearing in an illustrated catalogue and website. The PCF is a charity that catalogues and photographs all oil and acrylic paintings in public ownership to ensure that collections reach a wide audience.

The University's artworks are featured in the East Sussex volume of the catalogue together with the large collections at Brighton & Hove Museums and Art Galleries, Eastbourne's Towner Gallery, Hastings Museum and Art Gallery and at Charleston.



Above: Lord Attenborough and Pat Ringshaw who was presented with a Chancellor's Award at the summer graduation

Below: *Christ's Entry into Brighton* by John Upton, one of over fifty of the University's artworks featured in an illustrated catalogue by the Public Catalogue Foundation



Key statistics

	2004/2005	2003/2004
Registered users		
Staff & students	15,842	17,773
External users*	2,669	1512
Total	18,511	19,285
User visits	773,714	733,114
Items borrowed	676,392	763,957
Items consulted in Special Collections	5,855	5,550
Hours open per week		
Term time	79.25	80.5
Vacation (Easter)	67	67
Materials		
Bookstock	816,130	793,573
Books added during the year	15,659	14,500
Print and electronic journals (by title)	10,408	10,668
Staff: full-time equivalent		
Core-funded staff	68.33	78.9
Non core-funded staff	3	5
Library expenditure		
Information resources	£1,506,870	£1,344,442
Other running costs	£445,183	£531,849
Staff salaries	£1,781,800	£1,926,762
Total	£3,773,853	£3,803,053
*Increase probably attributable to participation in UK Libraries Plus and Sconul Research Xtra		