Frequently asked questions about the Library building and facilities

**Q Could you please do something about the toilets?**

A Good news – Estates and Facilities Management have been able to allocate funds to completely refurbish the toilet facilities. As this involves a substantial amount of work the toilets will be closed from the middle of June until early September.

**Q It would be really good if there was a drinking fountain in the main Library building.**

A Unfortunately there is no drinking water supply to the main building and any such installation is beyond the financial means of the Library.

**Q The Library is too hot / too cold.**

A The size and age of this building makes temperature control a real challenge. The installation and maintenance of air conditioning units is, regrettably, beyond our means at the moment. We have been assured by Estates however, that work is underway to provide a total overhaul of the campus heating system which should improve matters. When the weather is fine, we are able to open some of the ceiling vents if the upper floors become too hot. Please ask the porter at Reception who can arrange this.

**Q The entrance to the Library is a disgrace, you have to walk through litter.**

A We quite agree. We have installed extra bins and the area is cleaned regularly but still find that litter and cigarette ends are thrown on the floor. We are in discussion with the Environment Office to try and identify other solutions but would welcome constructive suggestions from you.

**Q Is there anything you can do about the excessive noise in the Library?**

A ‘Silent Zones’ are expected to be treated as such. If you find that there is a persistent noise in these areas then please contact the porter at Reception who will take steps to address the matter. Any non-silent use of mobile phones in the Library should be reported.

**Q Have you considered installing a bar in the Library or on the roof?**

A Oh yes, we have considered it. It is a personal, although highly improbable dream!

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**Library strategic plan**

The Library strategic plan covers the next three years 2004–2007. The full plan is available to read on the Library website, and since the plan was completed earlier this year we have already been able to achieve some of the targets we had identified as key goals.

Self service provision has increased through the introduction of the self return machine – a speedier way of returning your loans.

Opening hours have been reviewed and adjusted in response to feedback from students and staff. Hours will continue to be reviewed annually so we are able to respond to the changing needs of our customers.

A wider range of journals is available electronically so they can be accessed even when the Library building is closed. See The electronic library – what’s new?

The strategic goals of the Library are not fixed as we have to be prepared to respond to the changing needs of the University as a whole. If you have any suggestions for improving our services or resource provision, then let us know. Talk to your subject librarian or fill out a suggestions form. You can make a difference.

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**Happy 40th Birthday**

The University of Sussex Library was opened on November 13 1964. Designed by the renowned architect Sir Basil Spence, it is now a Grade II listed building and still retains many of its existing furniture and fittings.

To see photos and articles dating from the Library’s opening visit the news section on the Library website.
The electronic library - what’s new?

A-Z of electronic journals
There is a new look A-Z listing of electronic journals in the electronic library. Entries provide links to the full text of journals to which the Library subscribes. You can search by journal title, subject, publisher and journal collection as well as browsing through the A-Z. The list now includes individual titles from collections such as ABI/Inform, APA PsycARTICLES and Westlaw plus DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals), BioMed Central and PubMed Central. You can also launch a search from the A-Z to the Library catalogue to check whether we hold the journal in print.

EBSCOhost Electronic Journals Service
The Electronic Journals Service (EBSCOhost EJS) article level searching of journals on the EBSCOhost database of journals. Using EJS as a search tool gives you direct access to the full text of the majority of electronic journals to which the library subscribes – excluding databases such as JSTOR and ABI/Inform. See EJS for up-to-date information on coverage.

Information overload? Sign up for a training session.
Did you miss the teaching sessions on using our electronic resources that took place last term? If so we are holding further sessions this term. Keep a look out for posters in the Library giving times and dates and then sign up at Reception.

New Electronic Products.
ACM Digital Archive – a collection of full text and citations from ACM journal; newspaper articles and conference proceedings on computing related topics.
Dictionary of National Biography – over 50,000 major British figures from early times to the present.
ESDU Engineering Validated Data Engineering design methods, data, principles. 1,340 validated design guides, organised into subject areas.
Early American Imprints (Evans Digital). A vast range of primary resources from 17and 18 century America.
Hoover’s Online Company data and industrial profiles for 1.7 million UK and 90,000 international companies.

Credit refunds
From January 2005 you will no longer be able to get a refund on any credit remaining on your Library Copy Card. The £2 deposit will still be refunded for copy cards returned in a re-sellable condition.

In-house book drop
Using this and finding your books are still on loan when you want to borrow more? Frustrating, isn’t it? If you use the Self Return machine instead then you’ll know you can borrow when you need to. Remember – the in-house book drop facility will not be available next academic session.

Easter vacation opening hours
Friday March 18 – Monday April 18
Monday – Thursday 09.00–20.00
Friday 09.00–18.00
Saturday and Sunday 11.30–18.30
Thurs March 24– Tues March 29 inclusive CLOSED (University closure days).
Term time opening hours recommence on Monday April 18.

In response to feedback from students and staff about self service opening last Easter, Lending Services will be available throughout all opening hours over the Easter Vacation.

Reserved loan notices
The Library will now email you if a borrower reserves a Short Loan, AV Loan or any other week loan issued to you reminding you to return it by the due date. Please note that notices are generated overnight so if a reservation is placed on the day the item is due you will not receive an email until the following day. This service has been requested by a number of borrowers, so don’t forget to use the suggestions scheme to let us know what you need.

Book sale update
The Library book sale was very popular and raised £3,500 which will be used to purchase new books. Remaining stock has been donated to the University’s Women’s Society and externally to academic institutions in Iraq and the Gaza library project. We intend to hold a sale at the beginning of each academic session to dispose of unwanted stock and make space for newer titles.