

# THE SUSS-EX CLUB

## NEWSLETTER No. 20, September 2011

### GREETINGS

—to all readers of this, the Suss-Ex Newsletter for September 2011. At the time of writing, Suss-Ex’s session in the University’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations, *Sussex through the ages: staff and students on the changing Sussex experience*, is about to fill one of the largest lecture theatres on campus. Further activities are planned for the autumn—see below. You can find this Newsletter and all past issues, as well as details of the Steering Group and other documents, on our website at <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/suss-ex/>.

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**Talk and Supper with Baroness Andrews of Southover OBE**  
***English Heritage: Making the Past Work for the Future***  
**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2011, 6 for 6.30 pm**

We are pleased to announce that Baroness Kay Andrews, who became the first woman chair of English Heritage in 2009, will give a talk to the Suss-Ex Club on the above topic on Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> November, to be followed by a hot buffet supper for those who would like to stay. The event will be held in the Conference Centre in Bramber House on the University campus.

Her talk will be of interest to all, covering such topics as: What is our heritage worth and why? Can we put a price on it? How do we protect it and does this work? What are the current threats and how can they be overcome? Where does EH fit in and what does it do? Why are our own national monuments different and important? How do they generate wealth and identity in communities? What do they mean for us as communities? What are the challenges we face in caring for them and how do we intend to ensure, in the present economic and social climate, that we can hand them over to the next generation in a good or better condition?

Kay Andrews took an MA at Sussex in 1964–5, continuing as a research student and research fellow before leaving to work as a Parliamentary Clerk from 1970–85. She was a policy adviser to Neil Kinnock 1985–92 and then served as the founding Director of *Education Extra*, a national charity supporting after-school activity. She was awarded the OBE in 1998 for services to education. Made a working peer, she served as a Government Whip and later as a Minister in the Department for Communities and Local Government. She stood down from Government in July 2009 and moved from the Labour benches to become a non-affiliated peer. In accepting her post at English Heritage she commented that “the greatest

responsibility we have is to enthuse the next generation so that they understand the significance of the historic environment for them”.

Welcome drinks will be served in the Conference Centre lounge at 6 pm, with Kay’s talk starting at 6.30 pm. This will be followed by a hot buffet supper (including drinks), at which there will be plenty of opportunity to catch up with friends and colleagues.

Previous talks in the series have been by Sir Gordon Conway, Simon Fanshawe, Jan Thole, Pauline Thorne, Margaret McGowan, Mary Kaldor, John Barrow and most recently Sir Harry Kroto (reviewed below). The format has proved very successful, an enjoyable social as well as intellectual occasion in each and every case. Thus, don’t miss this one!

There is a booking form at the end of this Newsletter, to be returned **by 7<sup>th</sup> October 2011**. Current staff of the University as well as guests are welcome, so feel free to pass this information and booking form on to others.

## Christmas Party: Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December

A date for your diary: the annual joint Suss-Ex/USPAS Christmas Party will this year be held on **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 12.30**, in the newly refurbished Meeting House. Full details and a booking form will be circulated nearer the time. Meanwhile, make a note!



## Theatre Trips



Here are the latest suggestions for Suss-Ex trips to the Theatre Royal. The plays are:

- **Dickens’s *Dr Marigold and Mr Chops***, Oct 24–29, tickets £23 (but matinee £15).  
Simon Callow presents two short plays, in a one-man show that Charles Dickens used to give himself.  
“Callow fills the auditorium with his energy and enthusiasm. This is theatre in its purest and most noble form” (*Sunday Telegraph*).
- **Shakespeare’s *Henry V***, Nov 15–19, tickets £20 (but matinee £15).  
This is a production by the all-male company Propeller, directed by Edward Hall and “renowned for combining a rigorous approach to the text with an exciting, physical aesthetic”.  
“The over-riding feeling is of a Shakespeare pulsing with muscular life—fresh, physical and utterly modern” (*The Independent*).  
There may be some risk of school parties at the matinee!

If you are interested, see the form on p. 4 to let Jennifer Platt know **by September 25<sup>th</sup>** (preferably by e mail to [j.platt@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:j.platt@sussex.ac.uk) —or phone 01273 555025, internal mail to Freeman Centre on campus, or post to 98 Beaconsfield Villas, Brighton BN1

6HE). A booking needs to be made promptly to ensure that tickets are available, and for the Dickens the lead time is a bit short.

The prices of tickets quoted include the group reduction, which we get if at least ten people want to go; a trip will only run if we get that number. Dinner together beforehand, or after a matinee, will be booked at Carluccio's for those who want it. Please use the form on page 4: just mark all days/times when you are free, number those in order of preference, and indicate the number of tickets wanted and whether you would like to join dinner before (evening) or after (matinee). You will be notified of the outcome very soon after Sep. 25, and will then be asked to send cheques in payment for tickets.

- **Spamalot**, Jan. 5th, 7.45 pm, £20.  
There is one ticket only now available from those bought earlier at this special early-booking reduced price. If you are interested please contact Jennifer Platt right away, without filling in a form. You might be able to get another ticket directly from the theatre at the now higher price if you wanted.

**Review of *La Créativité sans Frontières*  
Sir Harold Kroto FRS, 17<sup>th</sup> June**


What do Mme Recamier and a mouse colon have in common? Well, pictures of both figured in Harry Kroto's remarkable recent talk to a Suss-Ex audience, exemplifying creativity in his own graphic designs as much as discussing it and, like many of the best talks, leaving some of the thinking about potential connections to the audience. However, he pointed out the remarkable finding that pumpkins have 70% of their genes in common with humans—and suggested that anyone looking at some politicians would understand that. He deplored the absence of Meccano from the lives of contemporary children, and reinforced the point by comparing the stages involved in producing your own photo when he was a boy, and the instant production of a photo on your mobile by a process that you had no need to understand. The discussion continued over the usual genial post-talk buffet dinner.

Our next talk, by (alumna) Baroness Kay Andrews—now at the head of English Heritage—will certainly be very different, but equally interesting and practically relevant.


Jennifer Platt

**Members' publications**

A late mention for one that missed the previous list:  
Barry Kent Gooch [ed. G. Hure] *Words, First Poems*, Leiston Press, 2009.



## Theatre Trip booking form



**Please be sure to submit this form to Jennifer Platt by Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>.**  
 Preferably use e mail to [j.platt@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:j.platt@sussex.ac.uk) –or phone 01273 555025, internal mail to Freeman Centre on campus, or post to 98 Beaconsfield Villas, Brighton BN1 6HE.

| <b>Marigold/Chops</b> | Mon Oct 24,<br>7.45 | Tues Oct 25,<br>7.45 | Weds Oct 26,<br>7.45 | Thurs Oct 27,<br>2.30 | Thurs Oct 27,<br>7.45 |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Date & time OK?       |                     |                      |                      |                       |                       |
| Preference?           |                     |                      |                      |                       |                       |
| How many?             |                     |                      |                      |                       |                       |
| Dinner?               |                     |                      |                      |                       |                       |

| <b>Henry V</b>  | Tues. Nov. 15,<br>7.45 | Weds. Nov. 16,<br>7.45 | Thurs. Nov. 17,<br>2.30 | Thurs. Nov. 17,<br>7.45 |
|-----------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Date & time OK? |                        |                        |                         |                         |
| Preference?     |                        |                        |                         |                         |
| How many?       |                        |                        |                         |                         |
| Dinner?         |                        |                        |                         |                         |

Name: .....

E mail and/or postal address: .  
 .....  
 .....  
 .....

**Booking form**  
**Talk and supper with Baroness Kay Andrews OBE**  
***English Heritage: making the past work for the future***

6 for 6.30pm, Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2011 in the Conference Centre, Level 3,  
Bramber House, University of Sussex

Welcome drinks will be served in the Conference Centre lounge at **6pm**, with the talk by Kay Andrews talk starting at **6.30pm**. This will be followed by a buffet supper (including drinks) for those who would like to stay, at which there'll be an opportunity to catch up with friends and former colleagues.

Please complete this form and return with cheque or credit/debit card details **by 7<sup>th</sup> October** to: Jackie Fuller, 21 Pelham Square, Brighton, BN1 4ET. Alternatively, if paying by card, return the form with card details by email to Jackie at [jkfuller21@hotmail.com](mailto:jkfuller21@hotmail.com)

**Your Details**

Name.....

Address.....

Phone number..... Email address: .....

**Booking Details**

Please book ..place/s at £25 (welcome drink, talk and buffet supper including drinks with the meal) £.....

Please book.....place/s at £5 (welcome drink and talk only) £.....

**TOTAL: £.....**

Any dietary restrictions? .....

**Payment Details**

I enclose a cheque for £..... (payable to **University of Sussex**).

Please charge my debit / credit / Maestro card (indicate which) with £.....

CARD TYPE (VISA, MASTERCARD, MAESTRO ETC) .....

CARD NUMBER .....

Valid from .....to ..... Maestro issue number.....

Security Code..... (last 3 numbers on signature strip on reverse of card)

Name on card..... Signed.....

In case of any query, Jackie Fuller can be reached on (01273) 688538 or [jkfuller21@hotmail.com](mailto:jkfuller21@hotmail.com)