SUSS-EX CLUB
Notes of the 54th Steering Group meeting
Friday 30th October 2020 at 5 pm, hosted on Zoom

1. Welcome
CMG/RD hosted the meeting, chaired by PST, using our paid-for Zoom subscription. Present were Rossana Dowsett (RD), Jackie Fuller (JKF), Colin Finn (CBPF), Charles Goldie (CMG), Arnold Goldman (AMG), Sara Hinchliffe (SJH), Steve Pavey (SPCP), Adrian Peasgood (ANP), David Smith (JDS), Paul Tofts (PST) and Helen Walker (HJW). PST welcomed all.

2. Apologies for absence
None.

3. Minutes of the 53rd Meeting, of 4th September 2020
Approved.

4. Matters arising not covered elsewhere
None.

5. Finance
JKF reported a credit balance unaltered save that the Zoom subscription had been paid.

6. Future events
(a) Christmas Party
The joint USPAS/Suss-Ex Christmas lunch is not possible this year. In substitution, the idea of a summer garden party has been floated, though no more than that. SPCP will draft a paragraph for our next Newsletter.

(b) Christmas Quiz
RD has prepared 6 rounds of 5 questions, Christmas and Sussex related, plus tie-break question(s). Zoom can handle up 100 logins and participants can interact when in different rooms. A rolling Chat on the side of the screen will help make the event sociable. QuizScore software will collect the scores. PST as host will be quizmaster while RD as co-host will keep the show on the road. For a prize, a signed copy of the new book Moon: Art, Science, Culture by Alexandra Loske and Robert Massey is suggested as it’s an impressive coffee-table hardback and may serve to advertise our forthcoming talk (see below). Provisionally agreed date Thursday 10th December, for one hour, starting 6 pm–7 pm, with a possible break in the middle. To prevent interlopers, informal pre-registration by e-mail will be required, and RD will decide when best to circulate the Zoom invitation/link to those pre-registered. RD will also mount a ‘dry run’ practice event for participants from this Steering Group.

(c) Zoom talk by Alexandra Loske, with discussion
Dr Loske agrees to speak. Provisional date Thursday 14th or Thursday 21st January at 7 pm, with topic either Moon mentioned above or the speaker’s previous book 111 Places in Brighton & Lewes That You Shouldn’t Miss. SPCP and HJW will organise, advised by JDS.

(d) Further events
For spring 2021 we agreed to go for one or more of (in no particular order)

continued ...
• a talk, Zoom or live, on bees, taking advantage of our university’s expertise (SJH);
• a medical or medico-social talk, Zoom or live (JDS);
• Fishbourne Roman Palace visit (RD);
• The Dome building project (HJW);
• by boat around Shoreham harbour and/or to Rampion windfarm (SPCP);
• Ridgeview vineyard & winery (CBPF).

7. Membership

(a) Leavers from university employ

Of 11 senior academics recently awarded an emeritus title, none have joined our mailing list. Having checked that they have not joined our Facebook group, CMG will invite them individually to join (both).

These of course are a small subset of those leaving Sussex University employ. Our flyer/sign-up form is being circulated to those retiring. SJH continues to seek which HR staff are relevant to our concerns, and is contacting all School administrators to ask them to publicise Suss-Ex to those leaving at Christmas.

(b) Facebook Group

The Group has 85 members. Members can and are encouraged to invite others to join. RD and JKF check eligibility, that requisite information has been provided and that good behaviour has been promised. The Group has been polled to find what members want of Suss-Ex, and it’s intended to repeat that exercise from time to time.

8. Next Newsletter

Copy should reach ANP by 12\textsuperscript{th} November, to cover both the Quiz and the January talk.

9. Other business

None

10. Next meeting

Friday 18\textsuperscript{th} December, 5 pm, on Zoom; CMG to host it.

Minutes by CMG