

# Sussex Anthropologist

Newsletter of the Department of Anthropology, University of Sussex

Volume 1, Issue 3

- Sussex Anthropology's MA Programmes are still recruiting. For more information go to: <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/anthropology/pgstudy/madegrees>
- **Dimitrios Dalakoglou** appointed to a permanent position in Anthropology; **Alex Aisher** to a one-year post.
- New research grants for work on Sustainable Forestry Development in the Amazon, West African Female Migrants to UK, History and Ethnography of the United Nations Human Rights Council.

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## London Anthropology Day: July 8th 2010

London Anthropology Day is an annual University tester day for students in year 12 and 13, and in FE. It is run by the Royal Anthropological Institute (RAI) and involves a number of Departments of Anthropology, including Sussex Anthropology.

The aim of the day is to promote Anthropology to students who have not otherwise come across the subject, and who might be interested in studying it at University. It is important to us as a Department, both as part of our recruitment strategy and—perhaps more importantly—as part of our mission to disseminate Anthropological knowledge and understanding across the wider community.

This year, **Meike Fechter** and



**Barbara Holler**, a PhD student in the Department, represented Sussex Anthropology at the event, and Meike organized a workshop on The Body and Performance.

When Meike and Barbara got back to Sussex, they received the

following email message from one of the students who attended the workshop:

“Hi Anne-Meike and Barbara, I attended your workshop on ‘Bodies and Performance’ last Thursday on London Anthropology Day. I just wanted to e-mail you to tell you that I really enjoyed your lecture; out of the whole day, it was the one that gripped me and made me want to ask more. I was in awe of all of the anthropology lecturers’ vast knowledge of the subject and I hope that one day, through my enthusiasm, I’ll be able to have such understanding.

I am very interested in Sussex University’s course and hope to see you at the 9th October open day.”

## Adieu, Farewell, Auf Wiedersehen, Goodbye...and Hello!

To **Simon Coleman**, who left the Department on 1st July to take up a post in Religious Studies and Anthropology at the University of Toronto. Simon joined the Department in 2004, having spent the previous 11 years teaching at the University of Durham. He is a leading world expert in the Anthropology of Evangelical Christianity, having worked with the Word of God

ministry in Sweden, and on Pentecostal groups in Nigeria and UK. He has had a big influence on the development of the Department, having latterly acted as Head of Department. He is replaced in this role by **Jon Mitchell**.

Meanwhile, joining the Department on a permanent contract is **Dimitrios Dalakoglou**, and on

a one-year contract is **Alex Aisher**.

Joining the *world* are Luca, second child of **Evan Killick** and his partner Peggy; Amelie, first child of **Nigel Eltringham** and his partner, Anna; and Constance, second child of **Martin Webb** (Sussex PhD student and Associate Tutor) and his partner Hannah. Congratulations to all!

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## Anthropology hosts International Network of Genocide Scholars



Eichmann, the subject of Eyal Sivan's film shown at the International Network of Genocide Scholars Conference in June

In June, ninety five scholars attended the three-day annual conference of the International Network of Genocide Scholars, entitled:

*Genocide as Actuality and Artefact: Conversations between Past and Present in the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide.*

Organised by **Nigel Eltringham** (Senior Lecturer in Anthropology), delegates were drawn from twenty countries (including Rwanda, Kurdistan, Colombia and twelve scholars from the University of Sarajevo),

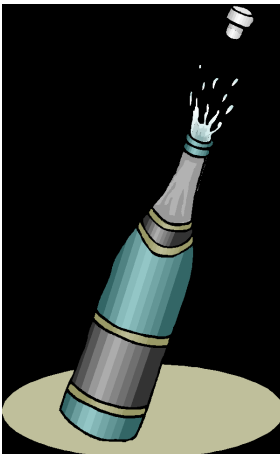
and represented the disciplines of anthropology; art; history; international relations; law; literature; psychology; political science; and sociology.

The keynote speakers were **Mark Levene** (University of Southampton); **Dirk Moses** (University of Sydney) and the filmmaker **Eyal Sivan** (University of East London) who introduced a showing of his film based on the original footage of the trial of Adolf Eichmann (*The Specialist - Portrait of a Modern Criminal*, 1999).

A panel organised by **Alex Hinton** (Anthropology, Rutgers University) launched a new edited volume (Hinton, ed. *Transitional Justice: Global Mechanisms and Local Realities in the Aftermath of Genocide and Mass Violence*, Rutgers University Press).

Sussex Anthropology continues to work at the forefront of the anthropological understanding of human rights, humanitarianism, conflict and post-conflict situations, and genocide.

## Class of 2010: Congratulations to all Graduates



2010 once again saw some fantastic degree results at Sussex Anthropology. In all 78 students graduated, of whom 12 achieved First Class honours, 53 achieved a 2.1, and 12 achieved a 2.2. There was one 3rd. Congratulations to all graduates!

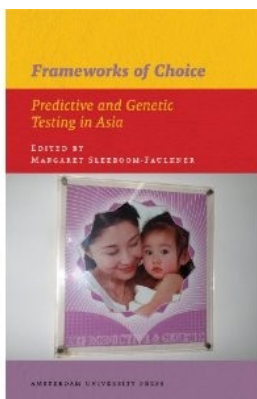
Particular mention should go to those who achieved firsts: **Adom Philogene Heron**, **Chloe Place**, **Jenni Rose Human**, **Katherine**

**Kirby**, **Kat Wright**, **Sam Pepper**, **Jo Goodman**, **Sarah Griffiths**, **Denis Chevrier-Bosseau**, **Shona Clements**, **Susanna Wilkie** and **Lucia Francis**.

Two prizes were awarded for particularly significant achievement. **Adom Philogene Heron** was awarded the prize for the student with the highest overall marks in Anthropology. **Chloe Place** was awarded the **David**

**Pocock Prize** for the highest Dissertation mark in an Anthropology course, for her dissertation written for the Anthropology of Africa course. **Chloe** will be presented with the **Seligman Trophy**. More information about **David Pocock**, the Trophy and the presentation will be in the next *Sussex Anthropologist*.

## Book Corner



*Frameworks of Choice: Predictive and Genetic Testing in Asia* is the first comparative study of predictive and genetic testing in Asia in the English language. It explores genetic and predictive testing in relation to political and social institutions such as education, healthcare, research regulation and genetic governance. It is a unique study of genomic policy-making, grounded in empirical fieldwork in China, Japan, India

and Sri Lanka.

The volume presents original theoretical analyses of the cultural and political dimensions of predictive and genetic testing by analysing the social, cultural, political and economic environment of choices that people have before and after they undergo a genetic or predictive test. These frameworks of choice also shed light on the different test options

of people in developing countries and affluent welfare societies, explaining the so-called therapeutic gap occurring when no therapies are available after diagnosis.

**Margaret Sleeboom-Faulkner is Reader in Social Anthropology at the University of Sussex.**

## Recent Research Grant Successes

Sussex Anthropology's success has been underwritten by our ability to attract outside funding for our research projects.

In recent months, a number of Sussex faculty and research fellows have successfully competed for research funds, in a variety of different areas.

**Kaveri Harriss** and **Benjy Zeitlyn**, both Research Fellows in the Department have been awarded funding from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation for a study on the impact of external conflicts on UK communities, as part

of a team headed by **Mike Collyer** in the Sussex Centre for Migration Research. Their research on the impact of the Afghanistan and Pakistan conflict will begin in summer 2010. See <http://www.jrf.org.uk/work/workarea/globalisation>—the website of the Globalisation, UK Poverty and Communities research programme.

**Evan Killick** has been awarded funding from the ESRC/DfID for a joint project with colleagues in Bolivia on REDD (the UN programme on Reducing Emissions

from Deforestation and Forest Degradation) policies and practices in Bolivia.

**Pamela Kea** has an award from the British Academy to study West African women's experiences of claiming asylum in UK.

**Jane Cowan** has also been awarded funding by the British Academy, to conduct an historical and ethnographic study of the work of the United Nations Human Rights Council.



The United Nations Human Rights Council—subject of Jane Cowan's historical and ethnographic study.

## Run and Become

Throughout the Spring and Summer terms, **Jon Mitchell** worked together with third year undergraduates **Sam Pepper** and **Jenni Rose Human** on a project that looked at motivation and transformation in participation in the inaugural Brighton Marathon (19th April 2010). Sam and Jenni were employed as Junior Research Assistants, and together interviewed 30 marathon runners about their experiences of training and running the mara-

thon. They also interviewed two student runners—**Adam Brickley** and **Helen Kearney**—who compiled a video diary of their experiences training for the marathon. This work then contributed towards their final dissertations. The team then worked together with Brighton-based artist **Matt Pagett** to put on an exhibition, that showed at the Grand Parade Gallery and Jubilee Library in Brighton, during July. The exhibition revolved

around a book, based on Sam and Jenni's dissertations and the interview transcript, and two videos: an original piece made by Matt, and Adam and Helen's video diaries. It is hoped the video and book will be available online soon.

The project was supported by the Creative Campus Initiative, and the School of Global Studies, in partnership with Brighton Marathon and Esporta Brighton



A view of the exhibition at Jubilee Library, Brighton. On the walls are pages from the project's book, plus 'footprint portraits' from runners in the marathon.

## Featured Anthropologist: Raminder Kaur

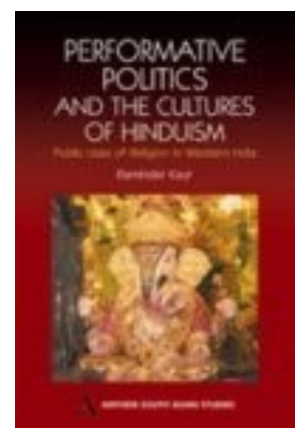
**Raminder Kaur** joined the Anthropology Department at Sussex in 2003. She was awarded her PhD at SOAS. She has held post-doctoral research positions at Brunel University (ESRC funded, 1999) and at the University of Manchester (Simon-Marks Fellow, 2002-3). She was Lecturer at the University of Manchester (2000-2).

Raminder Kaur works in three

broad research areas: (i) public culture, aesthetics, censorship, history and politics in South Asia; (ii) diaspora, race/ethnicity, heritage and popular culture; (iii) public representations and perceptions of nuclear issues.

Raminder has numerous contacts with the British Asian arts and heritage sector and has held consultancies on the arts, heritage and diversity with Greater

London Authority, National Trust, Science Museum, and the Museum of London. She served on the Mayor's Commission for Asian and African Heritage and is currently a member of the Heritage Diversity Task Force at the GLA. She was a board member for Museums, Libraries and Archives London and is now Honorary Treasurer for the Association for Social Anthropologists.



Raminder's monograph: *Performative Politics and the Cultures of Hinduism*

## Sussex Anthropology, The Department of Anthropology, University of Sussex

Sussex Anthropology is a vibrant and energetic community of students, teachers and re-searchers with a strong commitment to anthropology that addresses contemporary social and political problems. We have long been world leaders in the anthropology of gender, and of international development, whilst more recently Sussex Anthropologists have pioneered work in the anthropology of human rights, of migration, of medicine and biogenetics, and of religion. Our regional expertise centres on South Asia, sub-Saharan Africa and Europe, though we also have colleagues working in East and Southeast Asia, Amazonia and the Caribbean.

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## Elsewhere: New Director of the Royal Anthropological Institute

The Royal Anthropological Institute (RAI) has appointed a new Director: **Dr David Shankland** from the University of Bristol.

**David Shankland** trained in Social Anthropology at the University of Edinburgh, then moved down to Cambridge for his doctoral studies, during the course of which he conducted fieldwork in Anatolia, looking in particular at questions of social change, politics and religion. After graduating, he became the Assistant, then Acting Director of the British Institute of Archaeology at Ankara, during the course of which he became a member of the Catalhoyuk research team, beginning a

study of the relationship between anthropology and archaeology which continues to this day.

In 1995, he took up a lectureship in the University of Wales Lampeter, where he was part of a group which founded Anthropology there, moving to the University of Bristol in 2003 where he is currently Reader in Social Anthropology. In 2001, he became a Humboldt Fellow in Germany, where he examined questions of migration and integration of the Alevi Turkish minority into German society. The author of many articles, he has also written *Religion and Society in Turkey*, *The Alevis in modern Turkey: the emergence of*

*a secular Islamic tradition*, and edited the two volume work *Archaeology, Anthropology and Heritage in the Balkans and Anatolia: the life and works of FW Hasluck, 1878-1920*.

He has played a leading role in many anthropological institutions, being the co-organiser of the European Association of Social Anthropologists conference at Bristol, the Chair of the ASA conference *Anthropological and Archaeological Imaginations: past, present and future*, and in 2009 the President of the Anthropology and Archaeology Section of the British Science Association. He has been Honorary Treasurer of the RAI since 2006.



*Dr David Shankland: new Director of the Royal Anthropological Institute.*