

## SUSS-EX CLUB STEERING GROUP

**The 18<sup>th</sup> meeting will be held at 1630 on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2011  
in the DARO meeting room, University of Sussex**

### AGENDA

0. Who will write the Minutes of today's meeting?
1. Apologies for absence:
2. Minutes of the meeting of 12/11/2010
3. Matters arising not elsewhere specified on the Agenda
4. Future programme
  - (a) Arranged
    - Talks: John Barrow 28/1/2011 (**JKF**), Harry Kroto 17/6/2011 (organiser?)
    - *Yes Prime Minister*, Theatre Royal 7/2/2011 (**JP**)
  - (b) Awaiting discussion
    - St Paul's Cathedral (**JP**): see Appendix A
    - University 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (**AMG, JP**): see Appendix B
    - Other possibilities postponed to next meeting?
5. Interaction with University Administration: see separate paper Interaction.doc
  - (a) Meeting with Registrar, 14/12/2010 (**JDS, CMG**): agreed note.
  - (b) Car parking for campus events (this is touched on in the above note and a possible way forward suggested)
  - (c) Senate decision on titles (paper S/226/9, approved at Senate's meeting of 8/12/2010)
6. Reports
  - (a) Recent events
    - Mary Kaldor talk and supper, 12/11/2010 (**JKF**)
    - Christmas Party, 15/12/2010 (**SDB**)
  - (b) Financial report (**JKF**)
7. Membership (**CMG**): list, if available, to be circulated at meeting
8. Next Newsletter: editor? publication date?
9. AOB
10. Date of next meeting

#### ***Recent minutes (and succeeding agendas)***

Oct 2009 Adrian Peasgood  
Jan 2010 Mike Tribe  
April 2010 Arnold Goldman  
November 2010 Charles Goldie

#### ***Recent newsletter editors***

Oct 2009 David Smith  
Feb 2010 Jennifer Platt  
May 2010 Jennifer Platt  
November 2010 Adrian Peasgood

## SUSS-EX CLUB STEERING GROUP

### Appendix A: Alternatives for St Paul's visit

(From Roger Walkinton, reordered by CMG)

#### *Tour*

No problem in principle, fixing a Suss-Ex Supertour! Can probably fix it for a donation of say £10 or £15 a head to the St Paul's Cathedral Foundation—is that realistic? Normal admission is £12.50 a head plus usually another I think £5 on top for a guided tour. (Before anyone starts bristling about paying at all, please remind them (a) we get almost no help from Gov't or Church Commissioners, (b) anyone coming to a service gets in free, and (c) just come on Lord Mayor's Show Day like last Saturday and see how horrendous a bear-garden it is with free admission!!)

If Gordon comes, that will make it even easier to justify as he is a KCMG and we of course have their chapel here.

It would take people up into the less-seen Triforium galleries including the Library and Model Room and Geometric Staircase as well as the fabulous "BBC View" right the way along the length of the Cathedral. Plus the Cathedral Floor and the Crypt. I think I will get one of our experts rather than inflict my own version on you!

#### *Dates*

Tuesday 19 April just before the very late Easter, when at 6.30 is our annual performance of Bach's *St John Passion* (outside orchestra plus our own choir, soloists drawn from choir). Goes on till about 8.15. So perhaps a 4pm tour leading to 6pm taking reserved (free) seats under the Dome? Still time for supper after or home to Sussex, whichever people want.

Wednesday 28 September is a rather fun Evensong, attended by the liverymen of the Musicians livery company, at which there is a string orchestra from one of the Colleges imported to play Elgar's haunting *Elegy*, in addition to our choir singing more momentous anthems than usual. Might that day work? I could maybe reserve some seats but they'd be under the Dome not in the Quire, but that's fine.

The timetable would then be: 3.00 tour, 4.15 tea, 5 evensong [after which we could probably eat together somewhere if wished].

### Appendix B

Report on Arnold and Jennifer's meeting with Caroline Lehany and Sephie Deacon about a possible Suss-Ex contribution to the anniversary celebration weekend to be held on September 10–11 2011.

It was evident that what we might offer should not overlap with other activities already planned, and should be within our capacity as a group. (But some financial costs, if we had any, could be supported by the university.) The activities already planned seemed to be still quite vague on some points, which means that their potential for overlap was not always clear, but there might be scope for negotiation on

## SUSS-EX CLUB STEERING GROUP

who does what<sup>1</sup>. We put forward a few ideas, though of course other members of the group might have added to those<sup>2</sup>.

By the end of the meeting we had a broad consensus that the most suitable activity we might offer could be some kind of historical panel discussion, for which there were several possible forms:

- (a) a panel of faculty members, either all ones who joined Sussex in early days or [preferable] ones chosen to represent different historical periods, who would speak about their experience of the university, intellectual and social, as it was at the period when they joined (and maybe carry that further forward in time);
- (b) same general idea, but also involving students: faculty members paired with a student from the same period, perhaps one they had actually taught. The numbers of speakers would mean that fewer periods could be represented.

Cutting across those possible panel compositions is the issue of what fields people should come from, since obviously even something as crude as one Arts and one Science from each period would be too many.

There is also the point we noted that official plans so far completely overlooked the old School identities, which were important, so it would be nice to find a way of representing those somehow. The emphasis on Departments could be a little corrected by Suss-Ex offering something cross-university, which could be in the orientation of discussion rather than in the title of the session or presentation themes. (It would be desirable not to encourage “Weren’t Schools better than Departments?” as a theme.)

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<sup>1</sup> Since we talked, Jennifer has had a telephone conversation with Fred Gray about the contents of his book, and he said that the outline that we were shown was a relatively early draft which has changed, so we'll need to find out more about what that covers so that we do not risk excessive overlap.

<sup>2</sup> Since then Arnold has had another (awful?) idea: a University Challenge with two teams, one staff one student, and questions about the history of the University in its different decades.