

SUSS-EX CLUB  
STEERING GROUP MEETING 11  
NOTES  
FRIDAY 30 JANUARY 2009

- 1 **Present:** Gordon Conway, Yvette Ashby, Bob Benewick. Jackie Fuller, Arnold Goldman, Nancy Holmes, Steve Pavey, Adrian Peasgood, Jennifer Platt, David Smith, Mike Tribe.
- 2 **Apologies** were noted from Susan Bullock and Charles Goldie. Gordon Conway thanked Susan Ashton for all her help and would write to her. Administrative help will continue to be provided; Celia Alexander will fill in during February, then Gillian Blake returns.
- 3 **Steering Group membership**  
David Betts and Willie Lamont have resigned from the Steering Group; GC will write to both. It was agreed that Trevor Beeforth be invited to join; Jennifer Platt will do this.
- 4 **The Christmas Party report** provided by JP was discussed. A float/petty cash advance will be prayed in aid for 2009. GC thanks JP and others who organised the Party for their good effort.
- 5 **Dinner Policy**  
The two previous dinners were discussed in the light of Jackie Fuller's paper. GC noted that no "criticisms" should take the shine off the successes of the events. JF, as organiser, had identified as the main difficulty the fact that the venue and speakers had to be found before most people would sign up to come, which they only did slowly and after much time-consuming effort by e.g., CG. There are penalties for venue cancellation and standing down a speaker would be embarrassing for Suss-Ex. How to speed up bookings? (There is difficulty in reaching people over the summer months.) How to manage that people could talk to more than the few near whom they sit during dinner? (before dinner? after dinner?)  
After discussion, it was agreed that an annual dinner or its equivalent was valuable for Suss-Ex, and that successive arrangements should make strenuous efforts to overcome the difficulties – e.g., by the event's timing (minimising summer booking need), publicity (including soliciting indication of interest), choice of venue (including pre-dinner circulation, table size), etc.  
After consideration of various possible venues and timings, Bob Benewick and Steve Pavey proposed inviting Nigel Llewellyn, now Head of Research, Tate National – who lives in Lewes – for a home and away "double-header": first an evening at the University and then for an NL-led tour of (part of) one of the Tates (or the V&A), followed by (the "annual") dinner in the Tate (or V&A) restaurant, which latter might be made optional. The former event might be June 2009 and the latter October 2009. Bookings or at least expressions of interest might then be secured as early as June. A lower price for early booking was suggested. BB and SP would pursue this with NL. Costings would be made.
- 6 **Forthcoming Activities**  
Valerie Cromwell would be unable to join us to speak for a time. She'd injured a vertebra after the City College dinner.  
24 March: *Waiting for Godot* at the Theatre Royal, Brighton (dinner

beforehand for some) has been booked  
Week of 13 April or thereabouts: Greyhound Stadium Hove. JP would liaise with TB to firm up.  
26 April: "Steps of the Stars" tour of Brighton with Geoff Mead. Meet at the Museum. Requires total of £30. At £3@, we'll say a maximum of 20, allow 25.

7 **February Newsletter**

Adrian Peasgood will edit. Contents will include:

Forthcoming events (see 5 and 4 above).

Obituaries (to include Phil Elliott, George Rehin, John Simmonds, Gilford Ward, Michael Ward, Alan Weir).

Request for research contributions by retired staff – as per the note from JP on the agenda. February Newsletter will ask for details of 2008 publications; following Newsletter will list them and they'll be submitted to Administration.

Short report on Christmas Party? (filler)

Invitation to express interest in joining the Steering Group

Appreciation of Susan Ashton's help

- 8 **Next meeting** to be arranged for day of "home fixture" for Nigel Llewellyn or otherwise in June.

9 **AOB**

JP had been told that our account has less than £100, but given surpluses this doesn't seem right. JF will check it with DARO office.

Arnold Goldman

**Is this record correct?**

Minutes taken by: June 2008 Willie Lamont  
Oct 2008 David Smith  
Jan 2009 Arnold Goldman

Newsletter edited by:

June 2008 Jennifer Platt  
Sept 2008 Jennifer Platt  
Nov 2008 Adrian Peasgood  
Feb 2009 Adrian Peasgood