Hotting up for a summer of sport
As another successful academic year draws to a close, there will be many enjoying a summer of international sport, from the summer Olympic Games in Rio to the UEFA Championships and, of course, Wimbledon.

To mark some of these global events, Inspire focuses on the work of some of our academic colleagues in the field of sport and also brings you a Q&A with Honorary Fellow and internationally renowned athlete, Dame Kelly Holmes.

Features include research into drug use in sport and the placebo effect; the success story of athletes with intellectual disabilities competing in the Olympic Games; and with the Euro 2016 football tournament in Paris, a look at how different policing methods can either help, or hinder, large crowd control at matches, particularly in light of recent terrorist attacks.

Dame Kelly Holmes provides an insight into her ambitions for the future and why developing young sporting talent is so important. You can read more on page 24.

Meanwhile, the University was deeply saddened to hear of the death of Sir Peter Maxwell Davies earlier this year. Sir Peter was a leading light in contemporary classical music, as well as being a Visiting Professor and Honorary Fellow at our University. His legacy here will live on in the many students and staff whose musical careers have been enriched by his teaching and inspirational skills. See page 7 for our tribute.

Other features include a look at Canterbury’s own bard, Christopher Marlowe, in the year marking the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare’s death; how our golf courses can actually protect sensitive habitats on sand dunes in the links; and in the centenary year of the Battle of the Somme, we take a look at how poetry and literature are so important in commemorating and remembering the dead.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue.

Professor Rama Thirunamachandran
Vice-Chancellor and Principal
CONTENTS

NEWS ........................................……………. 04
BOOKS .....................................……………. 21
ARTS AND CULTURE ......................... 26

FEATURES
‘The Muses’ Darling’: ..............08
the Christopher Marlowe story

Can golf help protect ..........10
sensitive habitats?

Centenary of the Battle ...........12
of the Somme: in the shadow of the monument

A decade of Politics and .......20
International Relations

SPORTS SPECIAL
The fight against drugs .........14
in sport

Policing Euro 2016 ..............16

On the road to Rio ...............18

Dame of Hearts: Q&A with ...24
Dame Kelly Holmes

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Worms helping in the fight against Alzheimer’s

Scientists at Canterbury Christ Church University have been awarded £88,000 in funding from the Leverhulme Trust to embark on a two-year research project to use genetically modified worms in the fight against Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s.

Worms, which will be given human genes relating to Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s, have been chosen due to their accelerated life-span and close genetic link to human pathology.

Dr Simon Harvey, Director of Life Sciences, will lead the project and explained: “Dementia is an increasing global concern. While details of the causes of diseases such as Parkinson’s, Alzheimer’s and Huntington’s differ, they are linked by incorrect protein folding.

“To improve the outcome for people with dementia we need to understand the factors that determine who develops the disease and how quickly the disease progresses. We understand some of this but many questions still remain unanswered. Particularly important is to identify and understand the genetic differences between people that affect both incidence and disease progression.

“We hope to find a genetic marker involved in refolding proteins that will help to identify why some people are more susceptible to certain types of dementia.”

The final part of the project will look specifically at the production and behaviour of the worms’ normal proteins as they age. By looking at three different types of proteins it is hoped that the project will offer a general understanding of the process, one that is not specific to one disease.

TURNER COMPETITION FOR ASPIRING YOUNG ARTISTS

The University is delighted to have recently supported the Turner Contemporary’s annual art competition, Portfolio.

Portfolio, now in its seventh year, provides young aspiring artists from schools and colleges across Kent and Medway with the opportunity to be included in a special exhibition at the Turner. This year’s theme for the competition was the interpretation of circles.

Students across seven different age categories were shortlisted by a panel of judges from the Turner Contemporary in Margate, Lilford Gallery Canterbury, Canterbury Christ Church University, the University of Kent and University for the Creative Arts.

The awards ceremony was hosted and supported by the University’s Outreach Team and presented by BAFTA award winning writer, comedian, broadcaster and Christ Church alumnus, Jon Holmes.

Worms helping in the fight against Alzheimer’s

Scientists at Canterbury Christ Church University have been awarded £88,000 in funding from the Leverhulme Trust to embark on a two-year research project to use genetically modified worms in the fight against Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s.
Canterbury Christ Church University has been ranked in the top 50 of the best UK universities for student experience, according to the latest Times Higher Education (THE) UK Student Experience Survey.

The University is 47th out of a total of 117 higher education institutions included in this year’s THE survey, moving up 31 places and in the top 10 for biggest improvements in the rankings.

Professor Helen James, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education and Student Experience), said: “We are delighted to be placed within the top 50 best UK universities for student experience.

“The University works in partnership with students and the Students’ Union to ensure our students enjoy the best experience whilst studying at Christ Church. This new ranking, in addition to the University being shortlisted for the THE Most Improved Student Experience Award in 2015, affirms the work we are doing. It is important that we work together so we continue to improve the experience for all of our current and future students.”

**NEW APPOINTMENTS**

The University is delighted to welcome Professor David Shepherd, Eamon Malone and Professor Mike Weed to the Senior Management Team.

Professor Shepherd took up his post as Deputy Vice-Chancellor on 1 June, joining us from Keele University where he was Pro Vice-Chancellor and Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences. David will take particular responsibility for leading the planning and delivery of the University’s academic strategy.

Eamon Malone joined the University as Director of Estates and Facilities on 1 May, and has overall responsibility for Estates and Facilities across all campuses, as well as managing the Estate Master Plan. Eamon joins the University from Belfast Health and Social Care Trust where he was Head of Estate.

Professor Mike Weed has been appointed Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research and Enterprise) with effect from 1 September. Mike is currently Head of the School of Human and Life Sciences, and Strategic Director of SPEAR, and brings with him extensive experience of research leadership.

**CHRIST CHURCH RANKED IN TOP 50 FOR STUDENT EXPERIENCE**

**Professor appointed to new North Ireland Commission**

Thomas Hennessey, Professor of Modern British and Irish History, has been appointed as a member of the newly established Northern Ireland Executive’s Commission on Flags, Identity, Culture and Tradition.

The announcement on Commission membership was made by Northern Ireland’s First Minister, Arlene Foster, and deputy First Minister, Martin McGuinness.

As outlined in the Stormont House Agreement, the Commission will consist of 15 members. Seven members have been appointed by the leaders of the political parties and eight, including Professor Hennessey, have been chosen from outside of Government.

First Minister Arlene Foster said: “The Commission will undertake a very important programme of work and I commend those who are taking an active role in shaping a Northern Ireland free from segregation and division.”

Before joining the School of Humanities at Christ Church, Professor Hennessey was a member of the Ulster Unionist Party’s Talks Team during the negotiations of the Good Friday Agreement in 1998, and writes extensively on modern British and Irish history.
Steve Backshall has been visiting the University for his most recent project analysing a novel amphibian toxin.

Steve, who is currently working towards an Emirates Masters in Herpetology (the zoology of amphibians and reptiles) at the University of Exeter, has sought the guidance and expertise of Christ Church academics and Venomtech scientists to help him research venom new to science.

During a week-long visit, Steve worked in the Life Sciences laboratories on the University’s North Holmes Campus learning basic laboratory skills and techniques. He then spent the latter part working in the recently opened Life Sciences Industry Liaison Lab at Discovery Park, Thanet. The results of this work will go into Steve’s MSc thesis.

Between his research sessions in the labs, Steve met up with students from the School of Human and Life Sciences answering their questions about his career and work as a wildlife presenter and naturalist.

Steve said: “I am currently doing a Masters by research and Dr Carol Trim kindly allowed me to do my lab work here at Christ Church. She has really been my guardian through this whole process and taught me an awful lot of things that I do not usually do as part of my job. I have been learning new lab skills which are essential in helping me answer my big question for my Masters.”

Dr Simon Harvey, Director of Life Sciences, said: “Supporting these sorts of collaborations are part of what the Life Sciences Industry Liaison Lab is here for. This work arose from Steve reaching out to Venomtech and we are happy to support this.

“It is great for our undergraduates to see somebody who is as successful as Steve undertaking postgraduate study and working with one of our industry collaborators. We hope that this will inspire students to carry on in the sciences, either working in the sector or engaging in further study.”
Sir Peter Maxwell Davies
(8 September 1934 – 14 March 2016)

Earlier this year, we were saddened to learn of the loss of Sir Peter Maxwell Davies, one of the foremost composers of our time.

Sir Peter had fruitful conducting relationships with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, and in 2004 was appointed Master of the Queen’s Music, a role he embraced for a decade.

As well as being a leader in the world of contemporary classical composition, Sir Peter was also a Visiting Professor and Honorary Fellow and long-time supporter of the University.

His legacy at Canterbury Christ Church University will endure, not only in the public recognition of a building named in acknowledgement of

Sir Peter’s contribution to the University, but also in the many staff and students whose lives and understanding of music have been enriched by his teaching, inspiration and the extraordinary enthusiasm with which he shared his considerable talents and experience.

We had the good fortune of being able to help celebrate his 80th birthday in wonderful fashion with Sir Peter presiding with energy and enthusiasm over a day of events on our campus marking his life, music and ongoing collaboration with the University.
"If Shakespeare is the dazzling sun of this mighty period, Marlowe is certainly the morning star."

Alfred Lord Tennyson
With 2016 marking the 400th anniversary of the death of the most famous playwright in the world, Inspire discovers how Canterbury’s own bard, Christopher Marlowe, plays a part in the ‘Shakespeare story’.

Born two months before Shakespeare in Canterbury to shoemakers John and Katherine Marlowe, Christopher ‘Kit’ Marlowe was educated at King’s School, Canterbury, before taking up a scholarship at Cambridge University.

It was while at Cambridge that Marlowe’s story began to take on a curious twist. Reported to have been absent for long periods during his study, Marlowe’s MA from Cambridge was to be withheld until an extraordinary intervention by the Privy Council. His absences were thought to have taken him to Rheims, then a hotbed of Catholic conspiracy, but were excused in a letter signed by Lord Burghley and the Archbishop of Canterbury, among other notables, insisting that he had been doing ‘Her Majesty’s good service’.

It is apparent from evidence at the time that this ‘good service’ took the form of some kind of espionage for the crown. The request worked and he was awarded his degree, and at the age of 23 was poised to change the course of English drama.

From 1587, both Marlowe and Shakespeare were in London and writing plays for the theatre. Marlowe had begun writing poetry and performing plays ever since his King’s School days, but it was now that his genius came to the fore, and plays such as the smash-hit of the time Tamburlaine as well as Doctor Faustus, The Jew of Malta and others were produced. Widely celebrated as having conceived and created ‘Shakespearean’ blank verse drama, Marlowe was well on his way to becoming a national treasure.

Tragically on 30 May 1593, aged 29, Marlowe was stabbed to death by Ingram Frizer at the house of Mrs Bull, a relative of Blanche Parry, companion to Elizabeth I. A coroner’s report pronounced the death as an act of self-defence and Marlowe was buried without delay at St Nicholas Church, Deptford.

Why is it that his contemporary, Shakespeare, became a national poet lauded worldwide, and Marlowe remains a relatively minor writer, despite producing some of literature’s best known works?

The Marlovian theory offers an intriguing hypothesis. Tapping into the mystery and uncertainty that surrounds the authorship of many of Shakespeare’s sonnets and plays, the Marlovians put forward an argument that Marlowe did not die in Deptford as claimed but that his death was faked and he fled into exile where he became the actual author of the works associated with Shakespeare.

At the time of his murder Marlowe was in desperate trouble, accused of crimes of heresy which could have led to torture and execution. The three witnesses to his death, including Frizer, were intelligence agents or working for William Cecil, chief advisor to the queen and creator of a highly organised intelligence service with Francis Walsingham. Was the incident at Deptford merely a cover to send Marlowe into exile where he continued to produce outstanding works, though under the alias of Shakespeare?

The theory makes much of the fact that the first appearance of Shakespeare as an author only occurred weeks after Marlowe’s death with the poem Venus and Adonis. Parallels between the two writers are acknowledged by both Marlovian and Stratfordian scholars (those who hold that Shakespeare is the true author of his works), with many similarities in styles, borrowed themes and even prose. Could it be that instead of impressing and inspiring Shakespeare, Marlowe and the Bard were, in fact, one and the same?

In 2002, Marlowe was given recognition in Poets’ Corner, Westminster Abbey, with a memorial window though with a question mark included against the date of his death. In Canterbury, he is celebrated with the eponymous Marlowe Theatre and a Marlowe-themed annual essay prize awarded at the King’s School, as well as several societies dedicated to furthering knowledge and study of this extraordinary man.

We may never know the truth. What is undeniable, however, is that the works of Marlowe, although relatively few, are worthy of celebration in the same arena as the legendary Shakespeare.
CAN GOLF HELP PROTECT SENSITIVE HABITATS?

Links golf courses set on sand dunes are a mix of beautiful sporting venues and a natural wonder in their own right. Skylarks hang overhead applauding the golfers, buzzards swing across the fairway and kestrels hover politely as golfers take their shots.
It might be surprising, therefore, to hear that links golf courses are not universally viewed as being havens for our native wildlife. There is an old persistent argument that golf courses have a negative effect on natural habitats and the environment. Links golf courses have in the past had a poor reputation among the purists of habitat conservation and applied ecologists. The vast majority of sand dune studies exclude links golf courses, deeming them too modified to truly represent sand dune habitat. Even today, newspapers periodically accuse golf courses of having a disdain for the environment.

It is true that the average golfer is unlikely to see (or want to see) orchids poking out of the fairway or sand martins in the bunkers, but links courses mostly comprise out of play, semi-wild areas; typically, 60–70% of the area of a links golf course can be out of play. This swathe of wilderness can shelter a range of rare animals and plants. If you also consider that over 35% of sand dunes in the UK have links courses upon them, then golf has a lot to offer this fragile habitat.

Just leaving the sand dunes alone can be a disaster, both ecologically and economically, as the ground is eventually taken over by the sort of grass you might find in your typical play park. All the rare sand dune grasses, orchids and sand dune specialist animals then get crowded out.

Dr Graham Earl from the Ecology Research Group at Christ Church has spent the last four years surveying and manipulating parts of the sand dunes across three golf courses just outside Sandwich in Kent, as part of his PhD. Royal Cinque Ports, Princes, and the Open venue, Royal St George’s Golf Club, all allowed Graham access and support. Graham then set up the most comprehensive dipwell network in any sand dune to date in the UK, allowing him to investigate the relationship between vegetation types and the hydro-chemical composition of the ground water (Dipwells are tubes which sit vertically in the ground, and are a method of monitoring water tables and their relationship with the surrounding vegetation and habitat.).

This was rudimentary ecological research work, and the project relied heavily at the beginning on undergraduate volunteers from all year groups; their enthusiasm and dedication was vital to the project’s success.

Graham’s main aim was to work out how best to manage the out of play rough areas to benefit wildlife. Changes in management such as burning grass growth from previous years were found to work best in some situations to encourage rare species. In other situations, scraping the vegetation from the surface of the sand dune showed better results. Using research to optimise sand dune management highlighted opportunities to make it less labour intensive and less costly. As a result, Royal St George’s Golf Club has adopted burning as a management technique to control natural grassed areas on the course.

An extension to the Sandwich Bay project is now in development and includes the participation of a number of British Open courses including St Andrews and Carnoustie Golf Links. The project hopes to find some answers by visiting different types of sand dunes across the UK and widening the knowledge gained at Sandwich Bay.
CENTENARY OF THE BATTLE OF THE SOMME

IN THE SHADOW OF THE MONUMENT
The Somme has become synonymous with the slaughter of the First World War. Over three months a million men were killed or injured. On the very first day of the battle, the British Army experienced its blackest day, with over 20,000 dead.

The numbers of casualties in the First World War were so large as to become almost unimaginable. This is dramatically embodied in the massive Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme. The names listed on this and other monuments, and fields filled with identical white crosses, are so numerous that the scale of the loss can become deadening.

More writers and poets took part in the Battle of the Somme than any other battle in history and it is their legacy that can really connect us to this part of our past. The poetry that came out of the war reminds us of the individuals and their experiences. It personalises the events, making them real, visceral. Even a hundred years later, the poems have the power to both move and shock us.

As the war passes out of living memory and becomes part of our shared cultural history, the literature that emerged from it becomes a more important reminder of the intimate personal effects of war. The centenary gives us the opportunity to commemorate the loss of life, but also to examine what we commemorate, and how we choose to do it.

Canterbury Christ Church University’s Dr Andrew Palmer, in the School of Humanities, is doing just that. Andrew is currently co-authoring a book-length project with Dr Sally Minogue, The Remembered Dead: Poetry, Memory and the First World War, exploring the ideas of remembrance and commemoration in poetry from World War One. At the heart of the book are the poems themselves, and the ways in which they powerfully address this cataclysmic event and the human feelings underlying it.

Speaking to Inspire about this poetry, Andrew said: “At first glance, it might seem a trivial or even wrong thing to do, to aestheticize the horror, but poetry arising from the First World War captures something more powerful than the documentary evidence. It was a very literate war. Because of mass conscription, far more people who might write a poem were there, many of whom were already published poets.”

Many of our memorials use poetry to help people to connect with them emotionally. Brooke’s famous poem, The Soldier, is often used in this context: “If I should die, think only this of me: / That there’s some corner of a foreign field / That is forever England.”

Dr Palmer’s co-author, Dr Sally Minogue, comments: “Brooke represents a feeling that people had, or felt they should have. It’s a succinct phrase that everyone can understand, because the poetry [of World War One] is about actual events, people can connect with it.”

Brooke’s poem might be detached from the grim realities of war, but many of the more powerful war poems don’t lend themselves to memorials; they’re darker in tone and express more complicated emotions. Dr Minogue adds: “Poets and artists can help us in this complex business of memorialisation; they can make the life expand from the inscribed names.”

Poetry’s great strength is that it is able to deal with conflicting feelings. For poets such as Wilfred Owen, Siegfried Sassoon, Charles Sorley and Ivor Gurney, it wasn’t simply a case of bearing witness to the horrors of war. The poems express the complexity of emotions experienced by the soldier poets that wrote them, everything from terror to pride, revulsion to joy.

The memorials of the First World War are about connection and consolation; they remind families that they are not alone in their grief. So, too, is the literary legacy of the war. These poems are an intimate and powerfully evocative record of their authors’ experiences of war.
Alongside the usual hype and headlines facing a world event like the Olympic Games, this summer’s event in Rio is facing a more sinister challenge – an international doping crisis overshadowing the lead-up to the Games.

THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS IN SPORT
suggests the flip side: that when an athlete is unaware that they have taken a drug, the drug may be only half as effective.

"In short, a significant part of the effect of a sports drug is a placebo effect. Perhaps proving this point, in other studies we have conducted athletes who are given an inert placebo but believe that they have been given a real drug, perform at a significantly higher level than when they know the drug is a placebo. In short, what this data collectively tell us is that in many cases, 50% or more of the effectiveness of a drug is in the mind."

The work of Dr Beedie and his team raises some intriguing implications for athletes who have tested positive in doping controls. Previously it has been proposed that those who have unknowingly taken drugs are still guilty of doping, as the drug is still giving the athlete a physical advantage.

However, given the very small effects often associated with performance enhancing drugs, Dr Beedie’s data suggests that over and above not being guilty of deliberately doping, the athlete in question may have not have gained any significant or substantial advantage over the competition.

"This, theoretically at least, could have been the case with Maria Sharapova. The biological effect would have been there, but the psychological effect would be lacking and, all too often, it's the latter that makes the big difference," explained Dr Beedie.

Dr Beedie also described what has been one of the more interesting, yet unexpected, aspects of the research programme: "Whilst we originally set out to explain and understand drug effects, there has been a potentially significant spin-off from the research: interviews with athletes in many of our studies have indicated that once an athlete has experienced improved performance as the result of an inert placebo, they are less likely to turn to drugs in the future. Exploring and developing this idea will be a major objective of our work over the coming five years.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has announced that 31 Olympians from 12 countries, spanning six sports, are set to be banned from competing at Rio after retrospective target testing on urine samples. Further tests from London 2012 may have further consequences for athletes found to have been cheating. IOC president Thomas Bach has warned that the findings could represent a “shocking new dimension in doping”. 

Russia’s track and field athletes have been banned from competing in the Olympics, following accusations of a state-wide doping programme. Other countries are being placed on ‘watch lists’ while they ensure their national anti-doping programmes are significantly improved. Many athletes and federations have spoken about the cloud cast over the Games as Olympians are being stripped of medals.

Doping scandals have even scarred the reputations of high-profile celebrity sports stars, such as tennis darling Maria Sharapova who in January 2016 released a statement to say that she had tested positive for the banned drug Meldonium. Sharapova maintained that while she knew she was taking the drug, she did not realise it could improve her performance.

Dr Chris Beedie, Dr Abby Foad and Dr Damian Coleman in the School of Human and Life Sciences at the University, have been conducting research into the effect of drugs in improving athletes’ performance for over 10 years.

Dr Beedie said: “The list of drug cheats is long and littered with World and Olympic champions. Of the likely small percentage caught, the majority deny the charge, a smaller number argue they were given the drugs without their knowledge, and a smaller number still admit to the drug being in their system, but argue that they didn’t know that they had taken it or, like Sharapova, that they knew that they had taken it but did not know that it would enhance their performance.

“It is the latter two scenarios that interest us. Similar effects, often termed placebo, have been reported in medicine for years where they are known to add to the biological effects of a range of drugs, from Prozac to Morphine. Key to this phenomenon however, is the idea that an individual can only experience a placebo effect if they know they have taken a drug, and at the same time expect that drug to have a specific effect. Research has, for example, demonstrated conclusively that even a drug as strong as Morphine is significantly less effective when the patient doesn’t know they’ve taken it.

“Hypothetically, therefore, when an athlete knows they have taken a drug it is more likely to be effective than when they haven’t, and data from our work supports this hypothesis. It also suggests the flip side: that when an athlete is unaware that they have taken a drug, the drug may be only half as effective.

“In short, a significant part of the effect of a sports drug is a placebo effect. Perhaps proving this point, in other studies we have conducted athletes who are given an inert placebo but believe that they have been given a real drug, perform at a significantly higher level than when they know the drug is a placebo. In short, what this data collectively tell us is that in many cases, 50% or more of the effectiveness of a drug is in the mind.”

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“Our work is starting to shed some light on the processes of brain and mind that could, in the future, make doping a thing of the past.”
Fans travelling to France for the 2016 UEFA Championship face unprecedented security measures in light of recent terrorist attacks. With a focus on Euro 2016 and following research at Euro 2008, Dr Elaine Brown, Senior Lecturer in the School of Law, Criminal Justice and Computing, explores whether high profile policing and security is increasing the likelihood of ongoing disorder at the tournament.
No one can deny that the French security, police and population have had a very difficult run up to the UEFA Championship. Terrorist attacks and threat, floods and industrial action have resulted in six months of near continual protests and a state of emergency in the country.

However, the events in the lead up to the Championships must be differentiated from the risks posed by managing such an event. If the French authorities fail to do so, they may not be able to prevent the kinds of disorder witnessed in Marseille during the opening weekend, for the remainder of the tournament.

Policing foreign nationals in the context of an international football event is a public order role, but the incidents in France over the last six months have seen the French authorities switch their focus to safety and security, rather than public order. By shifting focus, the French police may be less prepared to respond to the specific disorder threats of the tournament.

Understanding and managing risk at tournaments is about balancing police deployments to the actual risk on the ground. The tactics used in Marseille show that the French police have become too focused on safety and security and are not reflecting the actual risk around them, or differentiating between threats to safety versus order.

For example, when facing public disorder, dispersal is often the go-to police strategy in the EU. Recently, French authorities have been training for the event of a chemical or biological attack. Should a threat of this nature emerge, the police strategy is likely to rely, pending the exact nature of the attack, on containment, and fast! If, in this hypothetical situation, the police were to perceive the risk as a threat to public order the consequences could be significant. This analogy emphasises the significance of employing the most appropriate police tools to deal with emerging issues, rather than a ‘one size fits all’ approach.

French security and police could also be suffering from what is known as ‘warning fatigue’. This is a result of the incidents they have dealt with and the continuous expectation of what they may have to deal with. The relentless media and global focus on the security threat posed by terrorism helps feed a feeling that there is nothing that can be done to prevent these risks, and has a subsequent effect upon identifying and effectively managing order and security.

This feeling directly feeds into the psychology of self-efficacy: the police’s level of confidence in being able to manage the threats, which will in turn have influenced security preparations for the Championships. This is evident by the French authorities’ switch in focus to safety and security, and a police profile to respond to this particular threat, rather than the threat posed at tournaments to public order by fans.

Research also suggests high profile policing can antagonise fans and exacerbate tension rather than de-escalate situations with crowds at large scale football events. Fans who were at first non-supportive of violence can turn when confronted by high profile police tactics before any disorder has occurred.

Low profile policing and early intervention can offer many benefits in situations of emerging risk. Low profile officers in the pubs or among the crowds in high-risk locations, for example, could have reduced the risk of what developed during the opening few days.

Officers are likely to be apprehensive about the tournament because of the looming uncertainty they face. Uncertainty increases decision making reliance on the need for the use of force. High profile policing tactics will make officers feel more confident and safe, however, we know that this can create the dynamics of disorder they seek to avoid.

These factors are feeding into the high profile police approach we are seeing and this is not a recommended model for effectively managing crowds. I do not think the French police have been ‘stretched too thin’ due to recent events for this tournament, but I do believe they are not using their many resources as effectively as they could in order to address the dangers posed by national fan group dynamics.
Federation for Para-athletes with Intellectual Disabilities continues to support these athletes working closely with the International Paralympic Committee. Undoubtedly, Rio 2016 will take us on to the next steps of inclusive sport for athletes with ID, and create some new heroes to inspire the next generation. So, look out for ID athletes competing in swimming, athletics and table tennis and cheer them on.

Professor Jan Burns MBE is the University’s Head of the School of Psychology, Politics and Sociology, and is part of an international research group working with the International Paralympic Committee. Her award-winning research led to the re-inclusion of athletes with intellectual disabilities (ID) in the London 2012 Games. Ahead of the summer’s Paralympics competition in Rio as part of the 2016 Olympic Games, Inspire asked Jan to give an update on progress since 2012 and how far inclusion for ID athletes in sport has come.

Since the great success of getting athletes with intellectual disabilities re-included into the Paralympic Games for London 2012, great strides have been made.

We are hoping that about 140 ID athletes will be heading to Rio as part of their national teams this September. The International Paralympic Committee has extended the programme of events for this group by adding the 400m into athletics as well as the 1500m, long-jump and shotput. The swimming programme has also been extended to include medley events as well as 100m races, and our athletes will also compete in table tennis.

The exposure provided by London 2012 has brought this group to the attention of international sports federations and some have enthusiastically taken up the mantle of trying to provide fully inclusive competition programmes, welcoming ID athletes into existing competitions. Taekwondo is a great example of where ID athletes now have their own international competitions but also have a slot at established world competitions.

Other sports are demonstrating a ground up approach with 12 nations now involved in an initiative to establish an international competition schedule for equestrian sports. Dressage in particular has specific challenges in terms of international travel and expense, but clever digital innovation is being used to develop competitions where routines are recorded and judged remotely.

Alongside this, the research into sports classification continues, looking at developing new sports as well as refining the established system. The research works as a hub and spoke model with the co-ordinating body in Belgium, then spanning to groups of researchers based in different places working on particular sports or issues, such as a Spanish group on basketball and an Icelandic group on swimming. Here in the UK, we are working on the cognitive factors involved in elite performance.

The international research team has also just submitted a large Erasmus grant application to try to translate research findings from elite sport to grass roots activity. The International Sports
From May 2016, more than 30 Law students at the University will work with Canterbury Combined Court, taking on the role of Community Legal Companions to support litigants who are entitled to assistance in court.

In recent years, the UK Government has significantly cut civil legal aid in areas such as housing, family and welfare benefits, aiming to ease the strain on the deficit. The cuts have been opposed by many, including lawyers, who have raised concerns that they could leave the most vulnerable unrepresented in court and undermine the civil justice system.

The project, Access to Justice CLOCK in Kent, is a social justice outreach initiative following on from the success of the pilot introduced by Keele University’s Law School in 2013.

Students will be working with partner organisations and local legal firms to assist court users on matters such as benefit related issues, divorce and housing evictions. They are trained over a six-week period to ensure they understand their role and responsibilities before entering court.

Ben Waters, Programme Director for LL.B Law at the University who implemented the scheme in Canterbury, said: “While the project provides vital support for members of the local community, it also enables University students to acquire valuable employability skills and applied experience, before entering the workplace.”

From May 2016, more than 30 Law students at the University will work with Canterbury Combined Court, taking on the role of Community Legal Companions to support litigants who are entitled to assistance in court.

In recent years, the UK Government has significantly cut civil legal aid in areas such as housing, family and welfare benefits, aiming to ease the strain on the deficit. The cuts have been opposed by many, including lawyers, who have raised concerns that they could leave the most vulnerable unrepresented in court and undermine the civil justice system.

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Final year student midwife Natalie Corden has won the prestigious Student Midwife of the Year Award at the 2016 Student Nursing Times Awards.

The judging panel, made up of senior and influential figures from the health sector, selected Natalie to win the award recognising her outstanding work and passion for midwifery.

Debra Teasdale, Dean of the Faculty of Health and Wellbeing, said: “I am absolutely thrilled and delighted that Nat’s contribution as a student has been recognised by this award. It is immensely well deserved. It is a positive acknowledgment of her journey into her professional career which will inspire our current student midwifery body and many others.”

Award winners on the night included Daniel Keane, Outstanding Volunteer; Polly Yoncheva, Extra Mile; Jessica Thomas and Abi Harman, Student Led Project; Emma Staff, New Volunteer; The Partners in Learning Team, Organisation of the Year; and Chrissie Jones, Top Volunteer.

The winner of the Student Opportunities Special Award was Beth Field for her work at the Shoreham Air Show and there were also two Outstanding Christ Church Extra Portfolio Awards won by Raza Kirmani and Oluwafemi Awe.

Students who achieved Christ Church Extra Awards were also presented with their certificates, as well as those who had achieved milestone numbers of volunteering hours, from 50 to over 500 hours. In total, our students have undertaken over 1,650 working days of volunteering this year.

This year, for the first time, the volunteering and Christ Church Extra Awards evenings were combined to create the Student Opportunities Awards. The event was a combined celebration of how incredible our students are and how much extra they give while they are studying at Christ Church.

The judging panel, made up of senior and influential figures from the health sector, selected Natalie to win the award recognising her outstanding work and passion for midwifery. The panel said: “Natalie came into midwifery to make a difference having had her own personal experience that inspired her journey into midwifery. She is enthusiastic, passionate and this has led her to engage at a local and national level. She will challenge others to ensure that the women she cares for have a positive experience.”
2016 marks a milestone year for the Politics and International Relations programme at Canterbury Christ Church University, as it celebrates its 10th anniversary.

The programme was established in 2006 by Dr David Bates when the University identified the need for a politics course, and started with just nine students. Numbers have since increased nearly ten-fold, now boasting over 70 students and 13 PhD students.

The curriculum focuses on a practical approach to politics and encourages students to take a real-world approach to their learning.

Several notable student success stories have followed over the years, including four alumni now working within Parliament and others working at companies such as YouTube and one as Head of Intelligence at the Knightsbridge Company Services Group Europe.

So what does the next 10 years hold for Politics and International Relations at the University? Dr Bates is particularly excited by the introduction of a Masters course, beginning in September 2016, which he hopes will complete the undergraduate to PhD journey and retain, for a further year, students who want to take their studies to the next level.

The team is also focused on raising the profile of Christ Church Politics and International Relations as an authority in the field through contributing to, and writing, academic journals. Additionally, the programme hopes to make a strong contribution to politics in the South East, hosting high-profile community-wide events such as hustings, lectures and establishing themselves as the hub of local debate.

To top off the anniversary celebrations, the Politics course has ranked 27 out of 78 in the latest Guardian University Guide league table – moving up 38 places and ahead of many Russell Group universities.
A Short History of the Normans
Leonie Hicks

The Battle of Hastings in 1066 is the one date forever seared on the British national psyche. It enabled the Norman Conquest that marked the end of Anglo-Saxon England. But there was much more to the Normans than the invading army Duke William shipped over from Normandy to the shores of Sussex. How a band of marauding warriors established some of the most powerful kingdoms in Europe - in Sicily and France, as well as England - is an improbably romantic idea. In exploring Norman culture in all its regions, Leonie Hicks places the Normans in the context of early medieval society. Her comparative perspective enables the Norman story to be told in full, so that the societies of Rollo, William, Robert and Roger Guiscard are given the focused attention they deserve.

RRP: £10.99
University Bookshop: £9.89
Dr Leonie Hicks is Senior Lecturer in Medieval History in the School of Humanities.

Teaching Science in the Primary Classroom
Hellen Ward and Judith Roden

The new edition of this core textbook is packed full of exciting ideas and methods to help trainees and teachers looking for creative ways of teaching science to primary school children. It provides a step-by-step guide for anyone teaching science for the first time. Reflecting the new curriculum, the third edition has been extensively updated throughout and now includes a brand new chapter on teaching science outdoors. With practical examples, case studies, dear guidance on how to turn theory into creative practice, and lots of ideas for lively science lessons and activities, this is the ideal book for anyone studying primary science on initial teacher education courses and teachers looking for new ideas to use in the classroom.

RRP: £23.99
University Bookshop: £21.59
Hellen Ward and Judith Roden are Principal Lecturers in the School of Teacher Education and Development.

Britain’s Korean War: Cold War Diplomacy, Strategy and Security 1950–53
Tom Hennessey

This book assesses the strains within the ‘Special Relationship’ between London and Washington and offers a new perspective on the limits and successes of British influence during the Korean War. The interaction between the main personalities on the British side and their American counterparts are chronicled. By the end of the war the British were concerned that it was the Americans, rather than the Soviets, who were the greater threat to world peace. British fears concerning the Korean War were not limited to the diplomatic and military fronts these extended to the ‘Manchurian Candidate’ threat posed by returning prisoners of war who had been exposed to communist indoctrination.

RRP: £21.99
University Bookshop: £17.59
Thomas Hennessey is Professor of Modern British and Irish History in the School of Humanities.

Researching Primary Education
Rebecca Austin

How do we know what works in primary schools? How do we make sure that we are always learning from fellow teachers, always learning from the children we teach and always moving forward? The answer lies in research. In understanding, conducting, disseminating and learning from research. But what do we mean by research, and how do we ‘do’ it? This book is a guide to research in primary education. It takes you through both important established theory and recent developments in research and explores what these mean right now for primary education and classroom settings. It examines how you can use research in your classroom every day to continually enhance teaching, and how you can shape and frame the questions you ask to help you get to the answers you need.

RRP: £21.99
University Bookshop: £17.59
Dr Rebecca Austin is Senior Lecturer in the School of Teacher Education and Development.
Academic advises on new Vietnam War play

Kevin Ruane, Professor of Modern History, shared his expertise by taking on the role of historical advisor for the UK and European premiere of American playwright Steven Dietz’s Vietnam-themed play The Last of the Boys, which ran at the Southwark Playhouse from 11 May to 4 June 2016.

Kevin worked closely with the cast in rehearsal advising on historical context and meaning of some of the play’s key themes.

He said: “The drama, set at the end of the 1990s, focuses on two Vietnam veterans and how the war continues to haunt them, and damage them, as it does many Americans of the Vietnam generation.

At the same time, it deals with universal themes: friendship, betrayal, contested memory, and relationships - between fathers and sons, mothers and daughters.

“The director, John Haidar, knew my work on the Vietnam War and when he got in touch to ask if I would like to be involved, I jumped at the chance.”

Walpole Bay swimmers inspiration for exhibition

The Walpole Bay tidal pool, and the local seawabthers that swim there, were the inspiration for a photography exhibition Between the Tides.

Dr Karen Shepherdson, Reader in Photography and Director of the South East Archive for Seaside (SEAS) Photography at Canterbury Christ Church University, created the photography in the exhibition, adapting the tradition of the commercial seaside photographer.

The exhibition captured the community of people who have swum at Walpole Bay, situated along the Isle of Thanet, which provides four acres of free space for people to gather, swim, forage and fish. The photographs ranged from present and past, dating back to the early 20th century.

Tim Jones appeals for old film footage of Canterbury

For the last five years, Senior Lecturer in Film, Tim Jones, has been collecting and archiving unseen amateur film footage of the local area for his research and to share with the public.

Much of Tim’s work explores how Canterbury and the surrounding towns and villages used to be, including Barham, Herne Bay and Whitstable.

Now, Tim is researching the Canterbury Amateur Cine Society Film Unit who built their own studio and cinema in the basement of what is now the Ebury hotel in Canterbury.

The group made a number of amateur films throughout the 1950s and members include retired local filmmakers John McCallum and Peter Mills. The pair has been helping Tim search for any old footage that the society may still have. Tim is appealing for anybody who may still have footage made by the society to come forward. For more information email tim.jones@canterbury.ac.uk

University’s Teach First partnerships achieve Ofsted success

The School of Teacher Education and Development has achieved success in a two-stage Ofsted inspection of its Teach First programmes in London and the South-East.

The School is the single biggest partner in the Teach First partnership, working with beginner teachers in three regions – London, the South East and the East of England.

The reports highlight ‘a clear vision for excellence, strong partnerships and the absolute commitment of everyone to the Teach First core values, [which] underpin every aspect of the programme’.

Inspectors commented on the commitment of both partnerships to improving the quality of education for disadvantaged pupils and noted that in London, ‘the partnership produces large numbers of consistently good, and often outstanding, teachers who significantly enhance the quality of education in London schools’.

Overall the Teach First London partnership was rated as outstanding and the South East partnership as good, with outstanding leadership and management.
William Stow, Head of the School of Teacher Education and Development, said: “We are delighted to have the quality and scale of our work recognised through the Ofsted process. The inspectors not only recognised the considerable strengths of the current provision but also our commitment and capacity to further enhance our Teach First programmes.”

International Early Childhood conference

This year’s annual European Early Childhood Conference was hosted by the University and focused on The Place of the Child in the 21st Century. Delegates from around the world attended to discuss the emotional challenges for migrant children and their families as they learn to integrate in new communities.

Liz Hryniewicz, Faculty Director of the Childhood and Educational Sciences Scheme, said: “We support the United Nations’ intention that access to early childhood education should be available to all young children, and their recognition that early childhood is a significant period in its own right.”

Nursing students involved in East Kent Mencap project

Christ Church nursing students and academics featured in East Kent Mencap’s most recent video: Changing Kent Communities.

The film, funded by the National Lottery through the Big Lottery Fund, showcases the work of the District Partnership Groups in supporting people with a learning disability in Kent.

The University’s School of Nursing took part in the film, involving student nurses and local people with learning disabilities, acting as patients, in the Simulation Suite at its Medway Campus. The simulation provides the opportunity for student nurses to practise admitting a patient with learning disabilities into hospital whilst making reasonable adjustments to their practice and communication skills.

World Health Innovations Summit

Carrie Jackson, Director of the England Centre for Practice Development, attended this year’s World Health Innovations Summit as a keynote speaker.

The summit aims to promote and support innovation in healthcare delivery and help to deliver efficient and effective healthcare systems around the world. Carrie’s speech made the case that delivering a different care system beyond 2030 requires healthcare providers to think beyond current professional structures and traditional siloed thinking associated with current health and social care delivery.

Furthermore, delivering a high-tech, service user driven care system, activated by the needs of the patient and the radical concept of ‘the patient will see you now’ rather than ‘the doctor will see you now’, requires immediate innovative and creative approaches to designing care systems, professional leaders and change platforms.

Leverhulme Trust grant to research plant resilience

The Leverhulme Trust has awarded the University £268,000 for Dr Naeem Syed, Senior Lecturer in Plant Biology in the School of Human and Life Sciences, to research the resilience of plants and how they adapt to a changing environment.

Dr Syed said: “Plant clock genes control almost all functions of a plant, especially responses to harsh environmental conditions such as drought, disease and high temperatures. Alternative splicing not only fine tunes the functions of plant clock genes but also of other genes involved in drought and higher temperature tolerance.

“Further research into the process of alternative splicing in relation to plant clock genes needs to be done to understand just how vital the process is for plant survival. The outcome of the research will progress the information currently being discussed in the alternative splicing and plant clock gene research community and potentially develop more resilient crop plants for the future.”
Q&A
Dame of Hearts: Kelly Holmes
Since retiring from athletics in 2005, Kelly has turned her hand to television appearances, ambassadorship and setting up the Dame Kelly Holmes Trust, as well as continuing to run, albeit these days for pleasure rather than medals. Canterbury Christ Church University appointed Kelly as an Honorary Fellow in 2005 and she opened the University’s sports centre in 2010.

Your athletics success blossomed while you were part of the British Army – how would you say that period in your life has shaped your career?

Combining a full-time military career with part-time athletics helped in the early days as I was very disciplined and focused on being a great physical training instructor while starting to pursue my dream of being an Olympic champion.

Using my leave to go away to compete and train ensured I was a credible solider first and foremost.

Aside from your legendary double-gold medal win at the 2004 Olympics, what would you count as your proudest achievement to date?

I also started my own café, Café 1809, in my home village of Hildenborough to bring the local community together (1809 was Kelly’s race number when she won both gold medals in Athens).

How did you find running the London Marathon compared to the elite running you are known for? Was it harder than you expected?

No, it was better than expected and I had more fun interacting with so many other avid runners in the build-up.

Will you be following the Games this summer?

Yes, I will take an interest in the Games. There is always a new superstar born and the Olympics is an incredible event that showcases the best in sport.

What advice do you have for any young athletes competing this summer or aspiring to reach Olympic standard?

Follow your dreams. Learn everyday about performance and attitude to being the best you can be.

Doping in sports has been high on the news agenda recently with many athletes testing positive and whole teams facing bans from competitive sport. Do you think athletes find they have no option but to cheat to keep beating records?

No, not at all! It is a small percentage that for whatever reason – greed, fame, enforced systematic doping – that get caught up in the web or veiled impression that everyone does it. If you choose to cheat, then you are quite frankly not that great an athlete in the first place.

I am glad the dark side of sport is being exposed but now we need the authorities to make and impose tougher legislation.

You have always been a keen advocate of developing young sporting talent, including in your home county, Kent. Why is this work important to you?

I was told by my PE teacher that I could be good at something (which was running) and I believed her. Having someone who believes in you or can guide you to better and greater things can transform your life. As a mentor I am able to help develop young people into confident and positive young people who make the most of their talents.

I am currently working in the United Arab Emirates with Daman Health Insurance mentoring over 60 young people. I love it!

When you’re not on duty being ‘Dame Kelly Holmes’, how do you like to unwind?

Meet up with friends or have my nieces and nephews over for a sleep over. It is when I am my happiest.

Do you have any unfulfilled ambitions both on and off the track?

Lots! I would like to challenge myself more either running or on my bike and I would like to develop a platform to inspire people to be the best they can be in whatever they want in life.

Find out more about Dame Kelly’s charity, The Dame Kelly Holmes Trust, which aims to empower disadvantaged young people through athletics at: www.damekellyholmestrust.org.
Catching the Light explores artists’ fascination with light, how it is used as a material to preserve the essence of place, time and experience, evoking feelings such as nostalgia, wonder and otherness. This exhibition sets to survey light as a medium in the practice of 10 contemporary artists, employing a range of media from video based work, to pinhole photography, sculpture and Camera Obscura. Alongside this, the gallery is delighted to be hosting the RCA Fulldome Research Group as this year’s summer residency supporting the development of practice-based research and learning through the arts.

WED 27 JULY – SAT 27 AUGUST
SIDNEY COOPER GALLERY
EXHIBITION, FREE

Book online: canterbury.ac.uk/arts-and-culture
Email: gallery@canterbury.ac.uk
Tel: 01227 453267

Founded in 2007, Canterbury Anifest is an award-winning animation festival and the largest annual event of this kind in the South East. It’s a great community event that invites people of all ages to come and experience the magic of animation; allowing them to get involved with something out of the ordinary. With its range of workshops, masterclasses, talks and films, it has something for everyone. Anifest also caters for specialists and those in the industry, featuring national and international awards, and guest speakers from some of the biggest names in animation. Canterbury Christ Church University is delighted to be this year’s proud organiser and host of Canterbury Anifest, and the event is co-ordinated by staff from the School of Media, Art and Design.

FRI 30 SEPTEMBER – SUN 2 OCTOBER
AUGUSTINE HOUSE
FESTIVAL

Visit www.canterburyanifest.com for event and ticket details
Learning

‘IN THE MAKING’ PGCE SHOW

In the Making is the culmination of the Postgraduate Certificate of Education students’ response to this intense and exciting experience of learning to become artist-designer/teachers. The exhibition features examples of their own creative practice in a rich variety with a range of 2D and 3D media, and examples of the pupils’ and students’ work.

THU 7 – SAT 16 JULY
SIDNEY COOPER GALLERY
EXHIBITION, FREE

Now in its third year, this two-day international event aims to build on the success of conferences in 2014 and 2015 on women’s writing from the 1840s to the 1870s. The conference seeks to explore and celebrate the range and vitality of British women’s writing from 1880–1899. The conference will feature papers on a variety of authors including Amy Levy, Sarah Grand, Mona Caird and lesser known writers such as Margaret Harkness, Mathilde Blind and Eliza Lynn Linton to consider such themes as employment, independence, the ‘New Woman’, writing as an occupation and the debate over female suffrage.

MON 25 – TUE 26 JULY
OLD SESSIONS HOUSE
CONFERENCE, £90 (TWO DAYS), £45 (ONE DAY), CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR VICTORIAN WOMEN WRITERS CONFERENCE: REASSESSING WOMEN’S WRITING 1880–1899

Book online: canterbury.ac.uk/arts-and-culture
Email: gallery@canterbury.ac.uk
Tel: 01227 453267

Book online: canterbury.ac.uk/arts-and-culture
Email: gallery@canterbury.ac.uk
Tel: 01227 453267
ANIFEST RETURNS!

Talks featuring the works of Pixar, LAIKA, Ray Harryhausen, Octonauts and many more

Hands-on masterclasses

Anifest Awards showcasing the best new UK and international animation

Industry speakers include:

STEVE SEGAL
Sharing stories about his work on Sesame Street, and as a Pixar animator.

TERESA GALLAGHER
Voice of Noddy, Octonauts’ Dashi and Pip of Pip Ahoy!, talking about voicing characters, along with Dave Peacock of Peacock Sounds.

JOHN WALSH
Double BAFTA nominee, discussing working with Ray Harryhausen and presenting some exciting surprises from the archive.

Submissions for this year’s awards are now being accepted – see website for details

@CburyAnifest
www.canterburyanifest.com

Canterbury Christ Church University