



In October, we joined the rest of the UK in celebrating Black History Month, an opportunity to pause, reflect, build collective solidarity and celebrate the contributions that individuals from the Black community make to our society.

We have adopted a year-long approach to celebrating Black History, which we

call BH365, in acknowledgment that the Black community should be celebrated and appreciated throughout the year, not just in the month of October, and that Black History is very much a part of our history.

We are continuing our work towards promoting racial equity, hosting a series of public webinars and activities that will

BLACK HISTORY 365

include guest speakers from the Black community, allies and pioneers in racial equity. These events are a wonderful opportunity for us all to engage positively with Black History, act in the present and work towards building a better future.

Find out more and get involved at canterbury.ac.uk/black-history-365

Lighting up the past

As part of an ongoing collaboration between academics at Christ Church and the University of Kent, students created a heritage light installation at St Augustine's Abbey, a World Heritage Site that forms part of our Canterbury Campus.

Heritage and the Creative Industries students were asked to investigate how we interpret fragile heritage sites, with Architecture students each designing a 20-second piece using programme mapping – the software used by light shows to make buildings 'move' – to examine how the busy monastery, sacred space and current ruin fit together as contemporary heritage. Students from the two universities came together at the Abbey to investigate how the light pieces they created changed the sense of space.



NOBEL PRIZE ALUMNUS AND AWARDS

Over the last few months, we have been honoured by an extraordinary number of nominations and wins for awards acknowledging the incredible work of our academics, students, alumni and professional service staff. These include:

Professor Abdulrazak Gurnah, our alumnus and an Honorary Fellow at Christ Church, won the 2021 Nobel Prize in Literature.

Creative Writing academic Danny Rhodes was shortlisted for the BBC National Short Story Award. The award is highly esteemed, with previously shortlisted authors including the likes of Zadie Smith and Hilary Mantel.

Dr Magz Hall won an Oram award, which celebrates innovative women in music and sound, and was nominated for an Ivors Composer Award, one of the most prestigious awards in music.

Dr Anne Nortcliffe has won Executive Leader of the Year at the Engineering Talent Awards for her work on encouraging more women into Engineering.

We're so proud to see our Christ Church community celebrated both nationally and internationally. Follow the hashtag #CCCU Proud on our social media to find out more about the achievements of our amazing people.

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

Each university has a Community Liaison contact who can advise on a number of community projects, opportunities or issues.

Canterbury Christ Church University

e: community.liaison@canterbury.ac.uk or t: 01227 922836

University of Kent

e: communityliaison@kent.ac.uk or t: 01227 816156

The universities take the concerns of our neighbours very seriously. If local residents experience anti-social behaviour and believe our students are involved, there are places you can go to complain and get help.

Police

Call 101 to report non-emergency incidents and 999 for emergencies.

Canterbury City Council's Refuse and Recycling Services

For all recycling enquiries and to report missed bin collections, e: environmentalhelpdesk@canterbury.serco.com or t: 0800 031 9091

Canterbury City Council's Environmental Health Team

To report a problem with noise, neighbours or nuisance, e: envhealth@canterbury.gov.uk or t: 01227 862202

Parking Enforcement

To report a problem with parking, e: parking.enforcement@canterbury.gov.uk or t: 01227 862429

If you encounter an obstruction or other endorsable offences, please telephone the police on 101.

WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

If you have any questions or comments about the University, or if there is something you would like us to feature in a future issue of Community Matters, please email community.liaison@canterbury.ac.uk

For an electronic version of the newsletter and further information, visit canterbury.ac.uk/community

PUBLIC LECTURES 2021/22

We want to make knowledge and expertise available to everyone. Our Public Lectures are a series of free talks from experts and prominent figures, designed to inspire, educate and provoke thought.

In the autumn, we welcomed Dame Sara Thornton, the UK's Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner, whose lecture on modern slavery challenged us to care more about the experiences of the millions of people held in slavery across the globe.

The series continues this spring with Dame Fiona Reynolds DBE, Master of Emmanuel

College, Cambridge and previous Director of the National Trust, on Wednesday 9 March 2022.

Later in the year, we will be joined by:

- Jo Brand: comedian, writer and actor
- Professor Dame Wendy Hall DBE FRS FRENG: one of the world's leading computer scientists and Chair of the Ada Lovelace Institute
- Dame Lynne Owens CBE QPM: Director General of the National Crime Agency.

Go to canterbury.ac.uk/public-lectures to book tickets and find out more.



It's never too late to study

We understand that not everybody has traditional qualifications or takes a straight route into education – life is different for everyone and we pride ourselves on seeing people's individual potential. In our application process, we consider all aspects of a student's life experience as well as a wide range of general qualifications, and we offer foundation degrees to get you up to speed if you don't have the entry requirements.

We know the transformative power of education – we see it in action every day. We've seen people at all levels in their previous careers retrain as teachers and nurses; we've supported people without qualifications into working on real-world STEM solutions; we've helped amateur writers pen successful debut novels – every day, we get new proof that it's never too late to find a new path.

Discover your potential with us at canterbury.ac.uk/study

ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE

Join us this spring for theatrical treats! We have a number of arts and culture events planned throughout our Diamond Jubilee year, including plays, performances, music, and much more to be announced.

A Play by the Pond: A Midsummer Night's Dream

Thursday 21 April – Saturday 23 April North Holmes Road Campus, Canterbury

Throughout Christ Church's history, students have regularly presented dramatic productions by the pond in the Quad at North Holmes Road campus. We're celebrating that wonderful tradition in our Diamond Jubilee year with this abridged performance of Shakespeare's much-loved classic comedy, *A Midsummer Night's*

Dream, interspersed with music and dance. The performance is produced by the School of Creative Arts and Industries in a well-established collaboration with the Play on Words Theatre Company.

The Cathedrals Group Choirs Festival Performance

Saturday 14 May 2022 at 7pm Canterbury Cathedral

An atmospheric feast of choral music will be provided by the choirs of the universities that comprise the Cathedrals Group (a group of universities bound together by their church foundation). Each choir will perform individually, before the choirs raise their voices together for the performance of a major choral work.

Community matters

Jan / 2022

Canterbury Christ Church University



SAVE THE DATE

Our Diamond Jubilee celebrations will begin on 1 February 2022 with Light Up the Night, a delightful light trail throughout the streets of Canterbury.

Join us as we follow a light trail through the North Holmes Campus and into our beautiful and historic city, onto our ancient city walls, and into Augustine House. Our walk will end with a warm welcome, music, a glass of mulled wine and a special exhibition at Augustine House.

We ask everyone participating to festoon themselves with lights, carry lanterns and torches – the brighter the better!

Go to canterbury.ac.uk/diamond-jubilee for information on how to take part.

The health and safety of our community is our number one priority. This event will be arranged in strict accordance with government guidance regarding Covid-19 restrictions.

Welcome to the first issue of Community Matters in 2022 – our Diamond Jubilee year.

We are celebrating an extraordinary 60 years. We have grown with the region, transforming from a small teacher training college, offering just one course into a complex, diverse, multi-discipline University with some 18,000 students studying a range of subjects across the arts, humanities, education, science and engineering, social sciences, medicine, health and social care. Throughout our history we have shaped our courses to match the business and employment needs of Kent and Medway, from teacher education in the 1960s to engineering and medicine today.

Our Diamond Jubilee is the perfect moment to remember and celebrate everything we have achieved, to reflect on where we are now, and make ambitious plans for the next 60 years.

It is also a chance for us to create something new. We have developed a series of Jubilee projects to bring our community together, reflecting on our history and collective achievements, and celebrating the impact we have on the world.

We're deeply proud of our long history within Canterbury and the wider county, and want to celebrate with our community, friends and neighbours. For our Diamond Jubilee, we're planning a whole year's worth of celebrations and you are invited – we're hosting reunions, parties, performances, exhibitions, projects, plantings, public lectures, and much more.

Join us for a year to remember.

Go to canterbury.ac.uk/diamond-jubilee to learn more and celebrate with us.

Canterbury Christ Church University



Celebrating in style

This November, our students were at last able to graduate in person at the magnificent Canterbury Cathedral. It was wonderful to see students and their loved ones celebrate with a ceremony grand enough to match their achievements.

We want to thank the city for being so welcoming to our graduates and their guests during these celebrations. Graduating at Canterbury Cathedral is a true honour for our students, and the city of Canterbury, with all its rich history and unique charm, makes an incredible backdrop to our students' proudest day.

Thank you, Canterbury.



LEARNING FROM THE ANIMALS



As part of our National Lottery funded Medieval Animals Heritage in East Kent project, local families with special needs children spent a day at Wildwood, touring the park, making crafts, hearing animal stories, and learning about how medieval people attributed emotions to animals – in turn helping them to understand their own emotions.

Medieval heritage about animals can enchant and help children of all ages and abilities, especially when linked to seeing real animals. Animals were often used by scholars and saints in the Middle Ages to help explain how people felt and behaved, and these tropes are still useful today to help children explore how they feel – from

angry dragons, to brave lions, to friendly, loyal dogs.

Medieval Animals Heritage in East Kent has been developed by the Centre for Kent History and Heritage (CKHH) at Canterbury Christ Church University, thanks to a National Lottery Heritage Fund grant of £99,800. It aims to bring enjoyment and a greater understanding of East Kent's heritage and history, as well as enable local young people, families, and especially families with special needs children to discover their fascinating local history and heritage.

To find out more about the project and future events, visit medievalanimals.org

HONOURING REMARKABLE LOCAL PEOPLE

At our November graduations, we conferred three Kent residents with Honorary Doctorates to acknowledge their work in supporting local business, education and raising awareness about dementia. Please meet our newest Honorary Doctors!



Keith Oliver is a retired local Head Teacher and national ambassador for dementia. Keith was Head Teacher at Blean Primary School and studying for an MA in Education at Canterbury Christ Church when he received the diagnosis of young-onset dementia at the age of 55. Since then, Keith has used his energy and skills to raise awareness of living with dementia and supporting younger people with dementia through diagnosis and beyond.



Geoff Miles is a TV producer, director and Chairman of Maidstone Studios. Geoff has used his knowledge and skills to make Maidstone Studios a hub for creative talent and the largest independent studio complex in the UK. He works tirelessly to promote Kent business, support economic growth, and provides a strong voice in attracting new investment into Kent. In 2018 he was presented with the prestigious Kent Invicta Award and is also a Deputy Lieutenant of Kent and Kent Ambassador.



Hugo Fenwick is the Store Development Director at Fenwick. Hugo oversaw the construction of his family's flagship Canterbury store in the Whitefriars redevelopment. In 2014, Hugo was appointed High Sheriff of Kent, one of the youngest people ever to hold one of the oldest secular offices in the UK. He used his time during office to focus on educational initiatives to support young people.

Taking action for a sustainable future

In collaboration with the Students' Union, our Academy for Sustainable Futures organised Christ Church Climate Day in October, a day of activities and workshops at the University designed to help people make their own climate commitments, learn about climate action, and encourage debate. This day coincided with Climate Action Week, a week of activity organised by Canterbury Climate Action Partnership - a local community group which the University is part of.

This was just the start of our sustainability activity this autumn. During the UN Climate

Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in November, our gallery in the Daphne Oram building was used as a project space for events and activity related to science and the climate crisis.

We welcomed science writer and comedian Robin Ince for a lecture and book-signing as part of his '100 Bookshop Tour', in support of his new book *The Importance of Being Interested*.

The Politics and International Relations course ran workshops on the climate crisis and protesting, and we exhibited student

and staff responses to the climate crisis including sound art works by Magz Hall and animations by Digital Media students.

We also heard presentations from Film, Radio and Television students about their experience in obtaining the ALBERT certification, an industry-standard certification in creating sustainable film and TV productions.

Find out more about our commitment to a sustainable future at canterbury.ac.uk/about-us/social-and-environmental-responsibilities

FIRST HYDROGEN SUMMIT FOR KENT AND MEDWAY



Christ Church recently hosted the first Kent and Medway Hydrogen Summit for the region, alongside colleagues at the University of Kent and the University of Greenwich.

Hydrogen is now firmly embedded in the UK Net Zero energy strategy with government analysis suggesting that 20-35% of the UK's energy consumption by 2050 could be hydrogen-based.

Taking place in November 2021, the summit was a collaborative event, offering business and industry leaders the opportunity to

come together to accelerate and innovate the hydrogen economy in the South East of England, and beyond.

Sector insights were presented by speakers from Arup, Thames Clipper, Ryze Hydrogen, Thames Estuary Growth Board, Hypoint and SGN, each taking the stage to update on their own areas of research and development.

To learn more about our knowledge exchange and enterprise work at Christ Church, visit canterbury.ac.uk/business



WORKING TOGETHER TO KEEP CANTERBURY SAFE

We have been delighted to welcome students back to the city and have been supporting them to enjoy all Canterbury has to offer in a safe and responsible way.

Working with key partners, including our Students' Union, Kent Police and Canterbury City Council, we have engaged with students and residents at our safety events throughout the winter term. We had two pop-up Safety Hubs, which welcome new students to the city, provide local information and give advice on how

to stay safe on a night out. We ran four Neighbourhood Days, where we went door-to-door, offering hints and tips about how to stay safe in the community and encouraging students to be good neighbours. We also hosted Welcome Fayres, giving students an introduction to staying safe in both university and community life.

We are continuing to ensure the safety of our students and local residents with our Street Marshalls, a friendly team who

help people keep safe on nights out, our Safe Taxi Scheme, which makes sure our students can get home if they feel unsafe, and our Safezone App, giving students direct access to our Security team if they need assistance. We are also coordinating our safety messages through the Canterbury Student Safety Code.

Find out more about how we are keeping Canterbury safe at canterbury.ac.uk/safety

A Royal Green Canopy for our Medical School

As part of The Queen's Green Canopy tree planting initiative to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee, the trustees of The Kent Men of the Trees have generously donated 50 trees for planting near our newly established Kent and Medway Medical School (KMMS). KMMS is a joint collaboration between Canterbury Christ Church University and the University of Kent, and the trees have been equally distributed and planted as near to the medical school buildings as possible.

The planting of the trees took place on 9 December 2021, forming a network of trees in honour of The Queen's service and the legacy she has built. These trees will create a green legacy of their own, bringing benefits for people, wildlife and climate, now and for the future.

