

If this were played upon a stage now...

A Play by the Pond: Twelfth Night

Friday 19 April, 7pm
Saturday 20 April, 3pm and 7pm

The Quad, North Holmes Road
Campus, Canterbury

After the success of A Midsummer Night's Dream and Macbeth, Play On Words Theatre presents an atmospheric, outdoor, one-hour performance of Shakespeare's classic Twelfth Night, performed against the backdrop of our picturesque pond on the North Holmes Road campus. An Easter treat, *A Play by the Pond* is an electric, enthralling experience, ensconced in its site-specific location.



Produced by Kent-based professional theatre company Play On Words, in association with the Anselm Theatre Company and students from CCCU's Performing Arts courses.

Presenting the directorial debut of final undergraduate year student Charlie Atkinson under the mentorship of Play On Words directors Miriam and Aidan Dooley. Designed by James Frost.

Could you host one of our international students?

We are looking for new Homestay Hosts within Canterbury and the surrounding villages to house our international students. This can be an incredibly fun and rewarding experience for Hosts, while helping international students get a more authentic experience of the UK.

Laura Spencer, our International Development Manager and a Homestay Host, says: "Many of our students, particularly those from Japan, enjoy staying with a local Host during their study abroad period."

““

This is an immersive intercultural experience and brings with it many benefits, particularly if you are keen to learn more about other languages and cultures. I have hosted for many years and enjoy introducing students to both my home life and the Canterbury area.

What makes a good Host? Hospitality and kindness!

Homestay hosts are well recompensed, and stays will be for varying lengths of



Interested in learning more?

Please visit canterbury.ac.uk/homestay or email homestay@canterbury.ac.uk

Helping young people discover their future

As part of our work with local schools and colleges to support young people into higher education, we hosted an interactive schools and colleges open day, with over 500 students exploring their futures.

The day consisted of hands-on sessions where students learned about different areas of study, including Inside the Creative Sector, Real World Impact, Health and Wellbeing, Inside the Criminal Sector and Inspiring the Next Generation.

The sessions helped students discover what it is really like to be at university, and how many different subjects can link to the areas they are interested in, so they can make an informed decision about their higher education choices.

We also recently hosted a collaborative digital conference called Aspiration Digital, an

annual conference which is led by Reflect Digital, a local digital marketing agency.

Encompassing aspects of media, business, computing, marketing and IT, this digital skills conference is designed to educate students about the different roles and careers in the digital space. Over 800 sixth form students came to our campus to explore sessions in AI, learn how to scale a business, and build their own personal brand and career path. Students also had the chance to connect with employers and academic professionals through Q&As and a networking exhibition.

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 925367

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 go to canterbury.gov.uk/waste

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

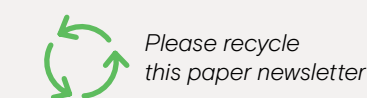
To report a problem with parking, e: parking.enforcement@canterbury.gov.uk or t: 01227 862429

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



New photography exhibition: 'We Celebrate You'

This autumn, we exhibited at the first Black on the Square event held at Trafalgar Square in London. The event was championed by the Mayor of London and celebrated Black culture and creativity with music, spoken word and dance. We were the only university represented at the event, and PhD student Michi Masumi was there to document the historic occasion. She has now created an exhibition on campus called BH365: We Celebrate You, which reflects the Black History Month theme Saluting our Sisters.

Michi Masumi is an artist, Black-activist and Photography PhD student at Canterbury Christ Church

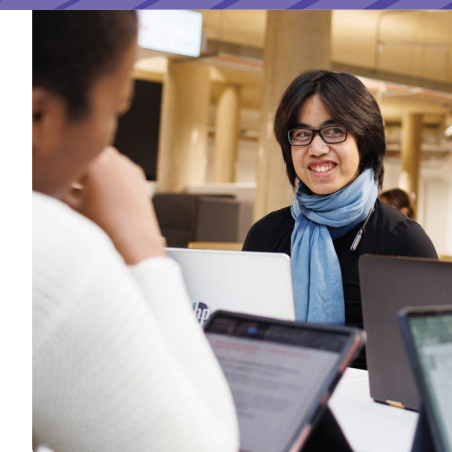
University. Her exhibition features large format colour photographs of Black women sharing positive affirmations, interspersed with documentary images of the Black on the Square event, acknowledging and celebrating Black female role models and emphasising the vital role Black women have played in shaping history, inspiring change and building communities.

The exhibition is part of our Black History 365 programme, which reflects our belief that the Black community should be celebrated and appreciated throughout the year. It is open to the public in our new Verena Holmes Building, and runs until February 2024.

Considering a career at Canterbury Christ Church University? Join our team!

Join us at CCCU and embark on a journey of diverse opportunities. We have a wide range of careers available from academic roles to HR, Finance, IT, Estates and Facilities, Administration and many more.

Our commitment to people is at the core of our identity and mission. We aspire to attract and nurture exceptional individuals, fostering their growth, and recognising their achievements within our University



community. Your talent and inspiration are valued contributions to our collective success, and we look forward to celebrating your impact on our institution.

Visit canterbury.ac.uk/jobs

Canterbury
Christ Church
University

January 2024

Community Matters

Community matters to us



Welcome to a new look Community Matters. We have refreshed our branding this year to better reflect who we are and how we want to evolve as part of our new strategic framework, Vision 2030.

Vision 2030 was developed with our community at its heart and will shape and drive us over the next few years, focusing on collaboration, courage and creativity as we seek to enrich communities and shape sustainable futures.

This strong community focus is why we produce Community Matters – we want the community to be involved in everything we do and to benefit from our work and the opportunities we offer.

We're proud to have deep roots in the region, from our outreach work with local schools and colleges and long-standing connections with the public sector including health, education, law and policing, to our innovative partnerships with enterprise,

development of regional STEM talent and knowledge, and championing of arts, culture and the creative industries.

Community is what matters most to us – we want to help build a healthy, sustainable world, to open up education to transform people's lives, and use our research and knowledge to address the real challenges we are all facing.

But none of this is possible without the backing of our community.

We are so grateful for your support and your time, and the skills and expertise you share with us. Partners, neighbours and friends – thank you.

What matters to you?

We created Community Matters for you, and we want to make it the best it can be. Please fill in our feedback form and help us give you the news and stories you really want to hear about.

Please scan this QR code to open the form.



Gold award for being green

We have been rated Gold Tier in the 2023 USwitch Green University Report, recognising our dedication and commitment to sustainability and reducing carbon emissions. The report highlights UK universities' commitment to sustainability and reviews their impact.

The report found our key sustainable credentials include:

- Our renewable energy installations on campus, such as solar panels, solar thermal, and ground source heat pump
- The use of electric golf buggies as part of our fleet



- Our Academy for Sustainable Futures, which drives our sustainability mission and trains our community in carbon literacy
- Our dedicated team supporting the implementation of 'Shaping Sustainable Futures', a strategic aim which is at the heart of our new Vision 2030

We're working hard to embed sustainability across the whole of our University, within our education, research and advocacy, as well as our practical operations to ensure we make a real change in the fight for a sustainable future.



Working for you

In the latest Knowledge Exchange Framework (KEF), we have been ranked in the top 20% of English universities for public and community engagement, recognising the tangible impact we are making to the community and our drive to create an economically and environmentally sustainable future for everyone.

We work closely with local partners on a vast array of projects that support and enhance the communities around us, including:

- working with Kent Police to improve safety for local residents and students
- delivering biodiversity research with Kent Wildlife and Wildwood Trusts to underpin advocacy and policy for rewilding Kent
- working with the Canterbury for Ukraine Consortium to provide 1,000 hours of free language support for displaced Ukrainians
- hosting the region's first Hydrogen Summit, supporting the challenge for the region to reach Net Zero
- offering a public programme of arts, culture and knowledge
- providing young people at local schools and colleges access to industry standard laboratories, facilities and equipment through our STEM Hub and partnership with the Community Lab at Discovery Park

Learn more in this year's Public and Community Engagement Report by scanning the QR code above.

Celebrating being human

This autumn, we hosted the Being Human festival, the UK's national festival of the humanities which celebrates what it means to be human, from literature to music to archaeology. As the Festival Hub for the south east, we explored the theme of 'Women Making Sense' through a series of creative and dynamic public events.



The Festival brought women's literature to life through the five human senses, with our academics using their different perspectives to look at how women experience the world and how they express this. Events included a walking literature tour of Canterbury discovering how places affect how we feel and behave, and a workshop delving into the poetry of Canterbury's own Aphra Behn in the medieval church where her parents married.

We were proud to use our expertise to support the Festival, exploring what it is like to be human and how we make sense of the world. Find out more at beinghumanfestival.org



Being Human is led by the School of Advanced Study, University of London, with generous support from Research England, in partnership with the Arts and Humanities Research Council and the British Academy.



Lighting up Canterbury

Some of our international students enjoyed Canterbury's traditional Christmas Light Parade to mark the start of the holiday season in the city.



The students carried illuminated paper lanterns which they handcrafted in a series of workshops leading up to the Parade.



Rewilding Kent

We've been working with Kent Wildlife Trust and Wildwood Trust to reintroduce the red-billed chough to Kent after a 200-year absence. The chough is a rare and charismatic member of the crow family, marked by its bright red bill and legs. The first release of choughs took place at the White Cliffs of Dover, and more will be released over the next five years to establish a breeding population of around 50 birds. It's hoped this will increase numbers and connectivity between populations of chough,

re-establishing them around coastal areas and protecting them from further decline due to climate change.

The bird has deep connection to the area and to the University, featuring on Canterbury's coat of arms, as well as on our own crest. To celebrate the return of the chough, local artist Greg Stobbs has painted a new chough mural on our Canterbury campus, vividly illustrating our dedication to rewilding, habitat restoration and sustainability.

Actively supporting the community

Students and staff have been using their daily exercise to raise money for local charity Pilgrims Hospices.

The University's Moves app tracks users' activities, including walking, running, cycling and swimming, rewarding them with points which can normally be redeemed for a variety of prizes. The app offered the opportunity to donate to Pilgrims Hospices instead and within just 72 hours, 163 charitable gifts were made with a total donation of £1000.

Our community's donations will provide packs of training cones for support in physio sessions, sets of



dumbbells to help increase a patient's strength and mobility, and pamper sessions for a patients to ease pain and discomfort.

We are immensely proud of our students and colleagues for their dedication in supporting Pilgrim's Hospices through this fantastic initiative, and hope to do more in future.

Teaching excellence

We are delighted to have been awarded a second Silver award in the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) 2023.

The award reflects our focus on delivering a transformative experience for our students, helping them to realise their goals, discover their potential, and go on to successful future careers. We have a proud history of creating inclusive learning opportunities, and increasing social

mobility by opening up access to education and knowledge. The award also recognises the strength, creativity and dedication of our teaching staff and academics, who are deeply committed to providing the best possible education and outcomes for their students.



Discover the dark ages

Medieval Canterbury Weekend is back for 2024, running from Friday 26 to Sunday 28 April.

The weekend will host a series of events and talks uncovering the secrets of the medieval world, from daily life to plagues and palaces. One of the themes the weekend will follow is on medieval women – royals, peasants and their urban neighbours. You can explore the working roles medieval women could find in the forest, hear tales of the women who took part in medieval rebellions, and discover how the dark ages were actually a time of power for women.

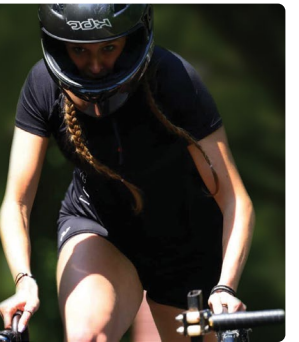


Medieval Canterbury Weekend is led by our Centre for Kent History and Heritage.

Find out more and book tickets at canterbury.ac.uk/medieval-canterbury

The Hub will support Growing Kent and Medway's ambition for the region to become world-leading in research and innovation for horticultural production, food processing, and climate-smart farming technologies.

Supporting sporting dreams



Abi Walters, one of our Sport Scholars, was scouted for the Great Britain Bobsleigh Team when the GB team visited our Canterbury Campus over the summer. Becoming a GB athlete is a huge honour and an amazing start to Abi's sporting career. She has since been going through rigorous training for the 23/24 winter season and has recorded impressive times.

However, Bobsleigh is not well-funded, and Abi will need to fund herself in representing Great Britain in the sport, so she is actively seeking support from the community. Help Abi realise her Bobsleigh dreams at gofundme.com/abis-gb-bobsleigh-selection