



## Growing talent for Kent and Medway's STEM industries

We have signed a new partnership agreement with Discovery Park, Sandwich, to help attract and retain much-needed regional talent, and develop student enterprise and commercial services for Discovery Park's tenants. It will also help create innovation zones and draw companies and jobs to Kent and Medway.

We already enjoy a successful partnership with Discovery Park through the University's Life Sciences Industry Liaison Lab, where students and staff link up with companies working at the cutting edge of research, helping them to find solutions that lead to new treatments and ground-breaking discoveries.

The partnership also provides outreach activities through Community Lab, an initiative with Pfizer and the charity STEM Learning, providing access to educational opportunities for local schoolchildren to discover and develop an interest in STEM subjects, and encourage them to pursue STEM careers.

The new alliance will further accelerate student enterprise and commercialisation for Discovery Park-based companies, supporting the delivery of a shared vision to position Kent and Medway as a globally recognised hub for engineering, science and technology and the knowledge-based economy. By sharing resources and knowledge to stimulate new skills, and attract and foster talent, our collaboration will supercharge local STEM enterprise, and aims to significantly boost the region's economy and improve people's lives.

## 60 Years in 60 Seconds

As part of our Diamond Jubilee celebrations, we challenged our research leaders to tell us about the legacy of our research in just 60 seconds, creating minute-long videos that explain some of our key projects and the real-world impact they are having on our communities.

These videos include research on helping people live healthier, happier lives; the innovative use of Justice dogs to support victims of crime; using creative arts to enhance healthcare outcomes; encouraging children to understand and treasure the environments in which they live; and more!

Watch the videos at [canterbury.ac.uk/diamond-jubilee/jubilee-projects](http://canterbury.ac.uk/diamond-jubilee/jubilee-projects), and discover how we are making a difference.

## MEDIATION SERVICES FOR THE COMMUNITY

Our Mediation Clinic provides quality, professional mediation services to the local and wider community for the resolution of a range of civil and commercial disputes, including property and workplace issues, as well as offering free student mediation services.

Mediation is an alternative route to going to court, to resolve problems and find solutions, with the guidance of an impartial mediator. Solutions found through mediation can also be much more creative, rather than the restrictive remedies available in court.

The Mediation Clinic is also a vital learning environment for law students at the University. Students can link the work of the clinic to their curriculum and gain valuable skills by learning first-hand how to mediate and resolve disputes. With the parties' consent, students offer their support by sitting in on the mediation sessions, preparing cases and reflecting on the outcomes.

Find out how we can help at [canterbury.ac.uk/mediation](http://canterbury.ac.uk/mediation)

## 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](mailto:community.liaison@canterbury.ac.uk)  
or t: 01227 922836

**University of Kent**  
e: [communityliaison@kent.ac.uk](mailto: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: [help@canen.co](mailto:help@canen.co)  
or t: 01227 947860  
w: [canterbury.gov.uk/waste](http://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](mailto:envhealth@canterbury.gov.uk)  
or t: 01227 862202

### Parking Enforcement

To report a problem with parking, e: [parking.enforcement@canterbury.gov.uk](mailto: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](mailto:community.liaison@canterbury.ac.uk)

For an electronic version of the newsletter and further information, visit [canterbury.ac.uk/community](http://canterbury.ac.uk/community)

## REMEMBERING QUEEN ELIZABETH II

Along with the nation, we mourned, and are still moved by, the loss of Queen Elizabeth II. As the Supreme Governor of the Church of England, as well as our Head of State, the monarch has deep significance for Canterbury Christ Church University, and we are honoured by this connection.

As part of our Diamond Jubilee, our first cohort of students recently came together to share and celebrate recollections of their time studying with us, including their memories of the Queen's visit to our University in 1965.

Alumna Lorna Daymond remembered the Queen visiting the library: "When she went into the library, she was interested in the children's picture books and she suddenly came alive over that – she was a mother. It all became personal, and I think that was really lovely."

Alumnus Stan Forster said: "It was a joyous day – everyone really enjoyed it. We were the first students, who also got to meet the Queen, and since then we've all kept together – we've kept the bond. I think as the University was a smaller institution it was easier to keep in touch but the fact that we're sixty years on – it shows there is a real strong bond between us. It's great to have."



## Arts and Culture | Spring events

Our Arts and Culture team are curating a brilliant new programme of events for 2023, including some innovative Shakespeare and a multi-arts experience. Find out more and book your tickets at [canterbury.ac.uk/arts-and-culture](http://canterbury.ac.uk/arts-and-culture)

### SANCTUARY

An exploration, in music, dance and the spoken word, of an ancient promise

Monday 13 February  
(two showings – 7:30pm and 8:30pm)  
Canterbury Cathedral



This performance will animate the mighty space of the Cathedral Nave with a combination of dance, drama and music to create an innovative and provocative experience. Performed by staff and students of the School for Creative Arts and Industry (SCANDI) and led by our Director of Music, Dr Chris Price.

### A PLAY BY THE POND

Macbeth

Thursday 20 – Saturday 22 April  
Quad, North Holmes Road Campus

Something wicked this way comes... Following the success of last year's A Midsummer Night's Dream, students from CCCU's SCANDI Theatre return with a spellbinding production of Shakespeare's Macbeth. Working under the guidance of professional theatre company Play On Words, the cast and crew will draw the eerie drama of the Scottish Highlands to the Quad. Bring snacks and a blanket!



# Community matters

January / 2023

Canterbury Christ Church University



## 2022 | Our Diamond Jubilee year

All good things must come to an end and we are sad to wave goodbye to our Diamond Jubilee year, one we have spent celebrating and reflecting on 60 years of our history, our wonderful community, our successes and learnings, and what is next to come for us.

We've held celebratory events throughout the year, from our launch in February when we created a light trail throughout the streets of Canterbury, to our service of Thanksgiving at Canterbury Cathedral in September, with exhibitions, tree plantings as part of the Queen's Green Canopy, tea parties, new gardens, conferences, music, performances, plays, public lectures, festivals, colour runs, reunions and more in-between.

Special Diamond Jubilee projects have been launched, including wilding our campus

and enhancing biodiversity, celebrating 60 years of sport at our University, engaging with schools and colleges to inspire local schoolchildren, capturing memories and reflections from the teachers we once trained, and creating new spaces where our community can connect.

We also launched our new Academy for Sustainable Futures, an important step in our sustainability journey, which will drive our work in educating, researching and advocating for a more sustainable future, for ourselves and the communities around us.

Remembering our roots and celebrating our present has reignited our commitment to pursuing excellence in teaching, research and innovation, and now we look to the next 60 years with a fresh sense of optimism.

We want to thank everyone who has joined us in our celebrations – students, staff, alumni, partners, businesses, neighbours and friends. People are at the heart of everything we do, and you have all made it truly a year to remember.

Thank you.

## VISION 2030

In 2023, we will be launching the next stage of our history, as we create our Vision for 2030. We are developing a new strategic framework that will guide our University over the next seven years, focused on creating an inclusive, sustainable, innovative and collaborative future. This strategic framework will set the direction and plans for the University, and will be the driving force to shape what we do and who we are.



Much has changed since our last strategic framework was launched – on a global level, we have seen Brexit and its impact, the COVID-19 pandemic, and frequent geo-political shifts and threats. In the UK, the regulation and operation of the Higher Education sector in England has seen many changes. In that time, our University has also opened the new Daphne Oram Creative Arts Building and the Verena Holmes STEM

(Science, Technology, Engineering, Health and Medicine) Building which includes the first Kent and Medway Medical School, a joint collaboration with the University of Kent. We have significantly developed our offering in new subject areas such as engineering and medicine and we've seen growth in our higher education provision partnerships and the number of our international students. Overall, today we are a University with over 20,000 students, 1800 staff and an income of £225 million.

We are now looking forward to what life will look like in 2030, to the role we will have and how we can meet the ever-changing challenges and needs of the world, including our region and local communities.

Governors, colleagues, students, alumni, and stakeholders of the University have collectively shaped how we must adapt and find new ways of delivering education, research and enterprise to maintain a successful future. We have also set out how we will continue to make a real and lasting difference in terms of supporting the regional workforce and economy, community, climate change, and sustainability.

We will be building on our roots in the community, continuing to provide a flow of skilled, professional graduates into vital public services, while helping strengthen the region's engineering and creative industries. We are keenly aware of our civic responsibilities, and are committed to sharing knowledge and resources with local industries, businesses and partners, to create a brighter future for Kent and Medway.

## SUCCESSFULLY GETTING GRADUATES INTO EMPLOYMENT

We're delighted that the latest Graduate Outcomes survey has shown that Canterbury Christ Church University is third in the UK for graduates in employment. The Graduate Outcomes survey is the UK's largest annual social survey which captures the perspectives and current status of recent graduates.

The new survey also revealed that:

- **88%** of Canterbury Christ Church graduates were in employment 15 months after completing their studies, higher than the sector average of 80%
- **76%** of UK, full-time Canterbury Christ Church undergraduate leavers who were

in employment went into high-skilled employment 15 months after completing their studies. This is higher than the national average of 71%

We're incredibly proud of all our graduates who are making such a positive contribution to our communities. We embed employability into our courses and

across the University from the day our students start their education journey with us. Through our partnerships with industry and local businesses, we ensure that our courses are relevant to industry needs, and support students to become high-skilled graduates that will aid economic growth regionally, nationally and internationally.

## Congratulations to our graduates

We were delighted that Steve Backshall, BAFTA-winning naturalist, explorer and TV presenter, graduated from our University with a MSc by Research in Biosciences, along with over 1300 graduates across our four graduations ceremonies in the autumn.

Huge congratulations to all our new graduates!



## Sharing knowledge to support the community

Our commitment to working with local businesses, charities, public services and communities, as well as supporting regional economic growth, has been recognised in a national assessment for the higher education sector, known as the Knowledge Exchange Framework (KEF).

The KEF highlights the rich and diverse ways English universities engage with and enhance society, their communities and the economy, and this year's findings show that we are in the top 20% for working with the public and third sectors.

We engage with businesses and local communities in a wide variety of ways, from accessing expertise for research and creating innovative solutions to real-world problems, to progressing the regional workforce and developing talented graduates for key industries in Kent and Medway.

Discover what we can offer at [canterbury.ac.uk/business](https://canterbury.ac.uk/business)

## DIAMOND JUBILEE SERVICE, CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL

More than 600 students, alumni, staff, governors, civic dignitaries and stakeholders from the local community came together at Canterbury Cathedral in celebration of our Diamond Jubilee on 30 September.

The day began with a Thanksgiving service in the Cathedral at which the University's Chancellor, The Most Revd and Rt Hon Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, presided. During the service, current students gave musical renditions, alumni shared stories and reflections of their time studying at the University, and University and Cathedral choirs performed traditional and original pieces.

The Archbishop of Canterbury spoke of wisdom, imagination, thoughtfulness, compassion, and an ambition to change the world, saying: "A university that brings those things together so that people go out and say 'I'm going to change the world and leave it

better, with the knowledge I have gained and will go on gaining', well that is the treasure. Universities enable the poorest to gain the advantage. This University has given to so many across the 60 years, across this land and across the world."

The service was followed by a celebratory reception on our Canterbury Campus. Guests were entertained with live music and enjoyed a Jubilee Street Party-themed lunch. There was also a showcase of the University's heritage, which included a Jubilee exhibition, an archaeology showcase of artefacts found on campus, a choir performance, as well as tours of the former Canterbury prison.



## A sustainable future for all



As part of our ongoing commitment to creating a more sustainable future, we recently hosted a day of collaborative events focused on social and environmental justice.

The Social and Environmental Justice for a Sustainable Future event called staff, students and the local community together to explore and analyse different aspects of social and environmental justice through workshops, interactive activities, and talks from University lecturers and external speakers.

Simon Hood, Research Analyst at Runnymede Trust, the UK's leading independent race equality think tank, opened the event with a keynote speech and Q&A on 'Race and the Environmental Emergency'. Further talks from guest speakers included 'Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change' from expert Alex Ntung, and a talk exploring climate science denial and vulnerability to eco-fascism from Heather Luna, the former Education for Sustainable Development Project Coordinator for the Higher Education Academy.

There was also a range of stalls from campaigners and activist organisations, student societies and community groups, while students led an 'Anti Fast Fashion Awareness' workshop to encourage more sustainable thinking in fashion and buying clothes.

Find out more about our sustainability work including our Academy for Sustainable Futures, at [canterbury.ac.uk/sustainability](https://canterbury.ac.uk/sustainability)

## AWARD-WINNING SUPPORT FOR LOCAL BUSINESS

Our Business School has been accredited with the Small Business Charter Award, a national accreditation, in recognition of its commitment to student entrepreneurship, supporting small businesses, and the local economy.

Christ Church Business School facilitates engagement between local Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) and the student body, offering a range of Work Based Learning Modules, which embeds real-life case studies into the curriculum. Students from the Business School are also mentored by local business people, while the businesses

gain the benefit of having student talent working on briefs exclusively for them.

The School is also dedicated to threading entrepreneurship and employability directly into the curriculum, demonstrated through initiatives such as GradForce, our Office for Students funded programme which gives students and graduates access to support

for progressing into employment in the SME sector.

There are 63 business schools that hold the Small Business Charter Award in the UK and Ireland, so we are joining a network of schools that share our commitment to supporting local innovation and enterprise. Christ Church Business School will hold the award for three years.

Learn more at [canterbury.ac.uk/business-school](https://canterbury.ac.uk/business-school)



## Letting the arts shine

We were so proud to be Partner and Principal Sponsor of Canterbury Festival again this autumn. The Festival was a wonderful success, and it was great to see so many people come to Canterbury and enjoy the brilliantly diverse programme of arts.

A particularly special event was 'Shine: Let There Be Light', created by light and sound artists Luxmuralis, which came to Canterbury Cathedral for the very first time. Luxmuralis brought together three of their most popular and moving light and sound experiences – exploring life on Earth, the wonders of Space, and the discoveries of Science. The installation highlighted and explored the unique architectural features of the majestic Cathedral, allowing the community to experience the historic Cathedral in an entirely new way.

## First Football Association talent centre for local girls

For the first time, Kentish girls will be given the chance to progress into elite football through a new Kent Girls Emerging Talent Centre, run by the Kent Football Association (Kent FA), using facilities at our Verena Holmes Building and our specialist partner facility, Polo Farm Sports Club.

The initiative aims to identify and develop talented local players from ages 8 to 16

by providing elite coaching, and access to the elite equipment and facilities on our campuses. It will offer dedicated staff to support the girls' holistic development throughout their time on the Kent FA programme, and our University will also provide direct sports science support from academics, exposure to specialist strength and conditioning training, workshops, fitness testing and performance analysis to complete the experience for the players.

We are delighted to work in partnership with the Kent FA to support and develop new talent across Kent, ensuring equal opportunities for local female players and helping diversity and inclusion thrive.

For more information regarding the Kent Girls Emerging Talent Centre, please get in touch with Rebecca Moore, Football Development Officer (Women and Girls) at [Rebecca.Moore@KentFA.com](mailto:Rebecca.Moore@KentFA.com)