Please note that the below activities are subject to change and that this list is updated regularly. Please email alumni@kent.ac.uk for further details or to book your place. Don’t forget there is a monthly informal lunch from 12.30pm on the last Thursday of the month (except August) in Rutherford Dining Hall!

You can find the School of Politics and International Relations Public Speaker Programme 2018/19 here. The theme this year is Britain, Brexit and the Future of Politics.

Got an idea for an event/activity? Please let us know!

**Thursday 29 November 2018: Rutherford Grass Roots Lecture: Ypres as a tourist destination**
18.00, Rutherford Lecture Theatre 1

Professor Mark Connelly

Abstract: By the time of the Armistice, Ypres was already a legend throughout the British Empire. Five battles had been fought around the city which had turned it, and its surrounding hinterland, into a devastated wasteland. But, this devastated zone had become known as holy ground to the people of the Empire sanctified by the blood of hundreds of thousands of soldiers. As soon as the war ended, visitors began to arrive. Some wanted to find out where loved ones had fought and died while others wanted to see something of the reality of the battlefields for themselves. This immediately created an important distinction between the visitor motivated by genuine feelings of respectful remembrance - rapidly renamed ‘pilgrims’ - and the ‘tourist’ others. At the same time, the local people began to recreate the pre-war lives and communities and also began to service the needs of visitors. In turn, this stirred up the potential for dispute as to who truly owned Ypres and how far reconstruction should be allowed to obliterate the landscape of the war. This talk will explore these issues and the way Ypres was perceived as something akin to a British possession during the 1920s and 1930s. Professor Mark Connelly is Professor of Modern British History at the Centre for War, Propaganda and Society at the School of History, University of Kent and Director of Gateways to the First World War (AHRC-funded centre for public engagement with the First World War centenary).

The lecture will be followed by light refreshments in the Rutherford Senior Common Room. Come along at 18.00 on Thursday 29 November in Rutherford Lecture Theatre 1. Find out more here.

**Thursday 29 November 2018: Monthly lunch**
The Former Staff Association monthly lunch is taking place on Thursday 29 November at 12.30 in Rutherford Dining Hall. As usual, friends/partners/spouses are very welcome!

**Thursday 13 December 2018: Former Staff Association Christmas Lunch**  
12.30, Rutherford Dining Hall. Booking not necessary. Attendees will pay for their own lunch. Guests welcome.

The Former Staff Association Liaison Group are pleased to invite you to the annual Christmas Lunch in Rutherford Dining Hall.

As is the custom, there will be a raffle (£1 per strip) and proceeds will be donated to support student bursaries, scholarships and projects through the Kent Opportunity Fund. Please either bring a small prize for the raffle or a bottle of wine to share with fellow association members. Guests are more than welcome and there is no need to book.

**January 2019: Visit to the British Cartoon Archive**  
Templeman Library, Canterbury campus

**Thursday 31 January: Monthly lunch**  
The Former Staff Association monthly lunch is taking place on Thursday 31 January at 12.30 in Rutherford Dining Hall. As usual, friends/partners/spouses are very welcome!

**February 2019: An evening of music**  
On the Canterbury campus

**Thursday 28 February: Monthly lunch**  
The Former Staff Association monthly lunch is taking place on Thursday 28 February at 12.30 in Rutherford Dining Hall. As usual, friends/partners/spouses are very welcome!

**March 2019: Lambs in March**  
Tappington Hall, Snodes Hill, Denton CT4 6RG

**Thursday 28 March: Monthly lunch**  
The Former Staff Association monthly lunch is taking place on Thursday 28 March at 12.30 in Rutherford Dining Hall. As usual, friends/partners/spouses are very welcome!

**April 2019: The White Cliffs of Dover Walk**  
Langdon Cliffs, Upper Road, Dover, Kent, CT16 1HJ
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday 25 April: Monthly lunch</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Former Staff Association monthly lunch is taking place on Thursday 25 April at 12.30 in Rutherford Dining Hall. As usual, friends/partners/spouses are very welcome!</td>
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<td><strong>May 2019: A visit to Westminster Abbey</strong>&lt;br&gt;20 Deans Yd, Westminster, London SW1P 3PA</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday 30 May: Monthly lunch</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Former Staff Association monthly lunch is taking place on Thursday 30 May at 12.30 in Rutherford Dining Hall. As usual, friends/partners/spouses are very welcome!</td>
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<td><strong>June 2019: AGM</strong>&lt;br&gt;<em>On the Canterbury campus</em></td>
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<td><strong>Thursday 27 June: Monthly lunch</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Former Staff Association monthly lunch is taking place on Thursday 27 June at 12.30 in Rutherford Dining Hall. As usual, friends/partners/spouses are very welcome!</td>
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