Dear alumni, friends and colleagues,

At the beginning of October, I was pleased to join colleagues from across our campuses in marking the start of the countdown to our 50th anniversary year. During a ceremony held at the Senate building on the Canterbury campus we were joined by representatives from the United States, Brussels and Medway, via live video link, as we officially started the University’s countdown clock which is ticking down the days until 1 October 2014 – when our 50th year begins.

Our alumni community will play a key role in marking the anniversary and we were delighted to welcome John Platt, from the First 500 group of students, at the countdown ceremony. The 50th year is an opportunity for us to join together and celebrate our shared history and the contribution that you have made to making Kent the successful, friendly and inspiring place that it is today. This issue of KENT Alumni magazine highlights opportunities for you to continue to support the work of the University during this exciting phase in its development. It includes an update from scholars who have benefited from your support (page 8), news of the latest successes for the Kent Law Campaign (page 12) as well as details of how you can get involved in the 50th Anniversary Programme (page 16).

In addition to taking pride in our past, it is important that we look to the future and maintain our innovative approach to research and teaching. We are delighted to announce a major new partnership with the Universities of East Anglia and Essex in which we will collaborate as the Eastern Academic Research Consortium (Arc). This agreement provides greater opportunities to secure funding for our research and research training and ensure that we remain a leader in academic research over the longer term.

I hope that you will enjoy reading about the University, and ways in which you can get involved, in this issue of KENT Alumni magazine.

Professor Dame Julia M Goodfellow, DBE, CBE
Vice-Chancellor
Kent joins new research consortium

The University of Kent has joined forces with the University of East Anglia and the University of Essex to establish a new research partnership.

The Eastern Academic Research Consortium (ARC) will build on the universities’ existing activities to become a significant new force in research, and research training. As part of the agreement, the three universities will strengthen their current collaboration in the natural and environmental sciences and the arts and humanities, and develop new cross-disciplinary research. The consortium has already signalled its commitment to the agreement by funding six Eastern ARC Fellows and 18 Eastern ARC PhD studentships over a five-year period.

In a joint statement, the universities’ Vice-Chancellors, Professor Edward Acton, Professor Anthony Forster and Professor Dame Julia Goodfellow, said: “This is more than just a regional collaboration. It is a long-term agreement based on synergies between our world-class research portfolios. As we celebrate our 50th anniversaries, combining our considerable research expertise will enable us to respond better to the challenges of the research funding environment, and to make an even greater contribution to global wellbeing over the next 50 years.”

Internationalisation activities top agenda for Chinese Embassy visit

The University’s collaborative work in China and long-term internationalisation strategy topped the agenda for a September meeting with the Chinese Minister Counsellor for Education.

During a visit to the University’s Canterbury campus the Chinese representative, Mr Shen Yang, learned about the opportunities for exchange placements for Chinese and UK students. In meetings with Professor Dame Julia Goodfellow, Vice-Chancellor, and Alex Hughes, Pro-Vice-Chancellor External, he also expressed interest in Kent’s fundraising and Hong Kong China Portal projects. The portal funds scholarship, student exchange and research initiatives involving Hong Kong and China.

Professor Hughes said: “We were delighted to host this visit by the Minister Counsellor. It was important for all those attending to revisit the options available for student exchanges and to discuss the current and forthcoming opportunities for our students to study and work in China and Hong Kong.”

Careers for women in science remain a priority at Kent

A dedicated awareness event held at the Canterbury campus saw the University renew its commitment to achieving the Athena SWAN Bronze award to support women in science.

The event is organised each year to reinforce and recognise the University’s on-going commitment to the advancement and promotion of women working in STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Medicine and Mathematics) subjects in higher education and research. The Athena SWAN Awareness Day was launched by Professor Sarah Spurgeon, Head of the School of Engineering and Digital Arts.
Books round-up

It has been a productive few months for staff, students and alumni at the University who have had their work published. These include:

Alumnus Jackie Kowalczk’s thriller, set on a University campus, entitled *But You Can’t Hide* and published under the pseudonym Jacqueline Chandler. [www.amazon.co.uk](http://www.amazon.co.uk)

Alumnus Fred D’Aguiar’s *The Rose of Toulouse*. A book about the art of remembering, following Fred’s personal history as he moved from Britain to Guyana and the USA and reshaped his identity along the way. [www.carcanet.co.uk](http://www.carcanet.co.uk)

Emeritus Professor Maurice Crosland’s new book reviewing the approach of scientists, tracing the history of science and determining its value in the modern age. The book, entitled *Science under suspicion*, is available at Amazon. [www.amazon.co.uk](http://www.amazon.co.uk)

*Stairway to Heaven*, the first book by Toby Huitson from the School of History, explores the functions of mysterious ‘upper spaces’ in medieval buildings and their significance. [www.Oxbowbooks.com](http://www.Oxbowbooks.com)

Collaborating to Compete: New Business Executives Forums

Two new Business Executives Forums, run by Kent Business School, will take place in Kent during November 2013 and March 2014.

The events are a chance for business leaders in the region to network, share ideas and learn from leading industry experts, with a free dinner thrown in. Andrew Fearne, professor of Food Marketing and Value Chain Management and director of the Centre for Value Chain Research at Kent Business School, will lead the workshops. They will focus on the role of collaboration in the pursuit of sustainable competitive advantage and the process of value chain management.

The events are free and will take place at 18.00hrs on 12 November 2013 at Canterbury and at 18.00hrs on 4 March 2014 at Tunbridge Wells. To find out more or to sign up to attend please email kbsbusiness@kent.ac.uk or call 01227 827192.

To keep up with all the latest news from Kent on a regular basis please sign up for our monthly alumni e-newsletters – bringing exclusive alumni news directly to your inbox: [www.kent.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.kent.ac.uk/alumni)
Paul Maloney is a member of our ‘First 500’, the group of alumni who were the first cohort of students to be welcomed to Kent in 1965. He currently works as a mental health social worker for Surrey County Council and regularly returns to campus as an alumni volunteer to give support and advice to students through the employability scheme. Paul studied for a BA in Politics and Government at Kent.

Why did you decide to study at Kent?
In 1964 pretty much everyone was interviewed for a place at university. I had a terrific interview at Beverley Farm with Colin Seymour-Ure and the late Bryan Keith-Lucas. They really put me at ease. I was excited by the idea of going to a university in its first year and loved Canterbury and East Kent.

What is your favourite memory of Kent?
While I have lots of memories of people, especially my pal Roger Sulcliffe who I met on the first day and is now sadly passed away, my favourite is the view of the Cathedral from the top of Eliot’s stairs.

What have you achieved since graduating?
I married Gina in 1975, who I met at Liverpool University while doing social work training. We have three daughters, Anna, Mary and Julia, and now three grandchildren. I’ve worked in social services since 1971 and I’m currently working three days a week in a NHS community social work team. I was a service manager for Children’s Care Services in London and an area manager in Care Inspection for 20 years.

I’ve kept in touch with Kent by attending the Careers Fair for more than 20 years, discussing with students their plans for the future and how they can embark on a career in health and social services. This year I was invited by Rachel Forrester-Jones to give a lecture on mental health services to undergraduates. I’m also in touch with the Kent First 500 group and we meet annually for dinner in London. We’re looking forward to the University’s 50th anniversary celebrations.

What is the best piece of advice you have received?
I’ve done amateur dramatics for the past 15 years and our director told us to remember that the audience is always on our side and want us to succeed. I’ve found this very helpful when I’ve been anxious about giving speeches or presentations.

What has been your greatest achievement?
My wife Gina deserves all the credit for keeping our family together and close knit. At work, I’ve lasted 44 years and still enjoy it. I’ve acted in front of 5,000 people at Trafalgar Square in the Wintershall Passion Play and at cricket I once got five wickets for one run – it should have been six for nought, but for a dropped catch!

What was your earliest ambition?
I’ve been a cricket lover since age four and I remember wanting to play for Surrey County Cricket Club. There is a Surrey Over-Seventies Team so there’s still hope!

What was your first job?
My degree from Kent did help me get my first job as a Trainee Social Worker for the London Borough of Hammersmith in 1971. They wanted to train their own social workers in the then very new Social Services Teams and they offered secondments to go on postgraduate training.
From the discovery of an Iron Age settlement to developing modern day student accommodation, the site for the University of Kent’s newest college has been a hive of activity for the past six months. Kent Alumni magazine reveals how the work that has taken place on site provides insights into the history of the Canterbury campus as well as looking forward to its future.

Work started this summer on construction of Turing College, the latest addition to the University’s growing campus. The new development will be located on grounds adjacent to the existing Keynes College. Before the earthmovers and builders moved on site, however, the area was home to activity of a more historical kind as 35 members of the Canterbury Archaeological Trust (www.canterburytrust.co.uk) scoured the site for evidence of an extensive settlement dating back to the Early Iron Age.

Making the most of the opportunity to get their hands dirty and assist the team with the dig were PhD student Andy Bates and Kent alumni Rose Calis, Gavin Green, Bonnie Knapp, Laura McArdle, Tom Orford and Chris Spence.

Paul Bennett, Director of the Trust explained: “The excavations at Turing College have important implications for our understanding of the early history of Canterbury. We have found a large and perhaps continuously occupied settlement on the northern ridge of the Stour Valley that appears to have started around 700 BC and continued through to 50 BC. What we might be looking at here is a predecessor to Canterbury; a long-lived and intensively occupied settlement that moved down to the present site of Canterbury shortly after Caesar’s invasions of Britain in 55 and 54.”
BC. It is too early and perhaps impossible to tell if abandonment of the hill top settlement in favour of a new site against a ford in the River Stour and Caesar’s activities are connected, but the discovery of this settlement has major consequences for our understanding of the evolution of Iron Age Canterbury.’

**Rare materials**

The dig revealed an abundance of rare materials and artefacts, as well as environmental evidence that will help to characterise and date the settlement and its features. Among the most interesting finds were surprisingly well-preserved organic materials, including part of a notched oak ladder found in a waterhole dating from 500 to 300 BC. Items imported from Italy and France were among significant quantities of pottery recovered on site, along with a first century BC gold coin, struck in France. There was evidence for textile manufacture in the form of clay loom weights and spindle whorls, whilst metalworking waste was also recovered. Shattered burnt flint found in almost every feature was a by-product of industrial and domestic activity, in that local flint was heated to provide controlled cooking conditions.

Carbonised wood (charcoal) and a number of cremation burials, including a small cemetery surrounded by ditches containing a dozen or so individual burials, were located. The distribution of the features suggest an organised settlement, with areas for clay extraction, a zone where domestic buildings and rubbish pits dominated and another where granary-type structures were common. Other carbonised material was much less common but included peas, beans, small quantities of cereal remains and hazelnut shell, mainly found in postholes associated with structures, and from some pits. All of this information will now help create a detailed picture of the economic life of the settlement.

Exciting details about the settlement are expected to emerge over the next few months as the post-exavcation process takes place. Paul said: ‘We are expecting to gain greater and more detailed insights into Iron Age cultivation practices, find out more about the domestic and industrial structures and generally learn more about the way of life of the families occupying the settlement over a number of generations.’ Excavated finds and sieved materials from a range of features and contexts will be assessed by experts, including staff and students at Kent, to help produce a final site report that the Trust will publish. There are also plans for an exhibition of finds and photographs to celebrate the completion of fieldwork and possibly a permanent exhibition in Turing College.

**Laying foundations**

When the archaeological excavation ended in August, work began apace on laying the foundations for Turing College, named after the eminent computer scientist and Bletchley Park code-breaker, Alan Turing. The college will provide more than 800 new rooms to accommodate undergraduate and postgraduate students and keep up with increased demand for ‘on campus living’. Other features of the new college include a Hub to provide a social space for residents, study areas, office space and catering. Students will be able to move into the accommodation from September 2014 and the entire development will be completed by January 2015, in time for the University’s 50th year.

Juliet Thomas, Head of Facilities Management at Kent, said: ‘Our growing campus reflects our success in recruiting an increasing number of students who are eager to study at Kent and have high expectations of the accommodation that we provide for them. With Turing College we believe we’re offering an option that suits the needs of current students and those of future generations.’

Community engagement is a central factor in the project and the contractor, Brookfield Multiplex, has carried out work to take environmental concerns into account. Methods to reduce noise pollution, to maintain the green space that is an attractive feature of the campus, and to protect trees and wildlife during the development have been built into the planning for the college.

Find out more about the Turing College development or read regular stakeholder newsletters here: [www.kent.ac.uk/estates/projects/index.html](http://www.kent.ac.uk/estates/projects/index.html)

**Why Turing?**

The new college has been named after Alan Turing (1912-54). He is best-known for helping to decipher the code created by German Enigma machines, helping to turn the tide in favour of the Allies during the Second World War. During the 1940s he became one of the founding fathers of computer science and artificial intelligence. From 1945 to 1948 he worked for the National Physical Laboratory where he developed a blueprint for the first digital computer, the Turing machine, although his plan was dismissed by his colleagues. In 1952 Turing was arrested and tried for homosexuality, then a crime in the UK. He died, of suspected suicide, in June 1954. Scientist George McVittie, an Honorary Professor at Kent from 1972 to 1988, worked with Alan Turing on the code-breaking efforts at Bletchley Park during the Second World War. McVittie was awarded an Honorary Degree by the University of Kent in 1985 and the McVittie Library in the School of Mathematics, Statistics and Actuarial Science is named after him.
A lasting legacy

2013 also sees Aoife Fitzgerald selected as the new Christine and Ian Bolt scholar. The scholarship was set up in memory of Christine Bolt, Emeritus Professor of History at the University of Kent, and was generously funded by her late husband, Ian Bolt. It provides £10,000 in funding for a postgraduate student in support of a sustained period of research carried out in the United States. The legacy left by Christine and Ian Bolt has so far allowed 12 Kent students to achieve their dreams and make a significant contribution to research in their fields.

Aoife is a final year PhD student who is examining late antique secular architecture. The scholarship will enable her to visit world-class centres in the United States and work with experts in Colorado to enhance her research findings. She said: ‘The Bolt scholarship is very unique in that it allows a student to come up with a plan that suits their needs. This freedom to tailor the scholarship is vital for postgraduate research. It affords me an opportunity to carry out work that I would never have been able to undertake on my own, by giving me access to research centres, academics and libraries in internationally renowned institutions.’

If you are interested in finding out more about leaving a legacy to help students like Aoife please get in touch by phone on 01227 823588 or email at giving@kent.ac.uk.

Bolt Lecture

The 2014 Bolt Lecture, in memory of Christine and Ian Bolt, takes place on Thursday 23 January 2014. This year we are delighted to welcome Professor Serge Durflinger from the University of Ottawa who will be discussing commemoration, the First World War and popular memory in a lecture entitled ‘Remembering the First World War the Canadian Way’. The lecture will be followed by a drinks reception and buffet for current students, staff and alumni of the Centre. If you would like to attend the Bolt Lecture and reception, please register for the event at http://alumni.kent.ac.uk/events/bolt-lecture-2014 by Thursday 9 January 2014.

Past scholars update

Alumni Postgraduate Research scholars, Emmanuel Osuteye and Katy Upton have been busy with their continued research over the last few months. Both have made the most of opportunities that have only become available to them thanks to the funding that they received, giving them an edge over other researchers.

2010 scholar Emmanuel Osuteye used the funding for his PhD on Environmentalism in Ghana. During the summer he joined 600 global delegates at a three-day training weekend in Turkey run by The Climate Reality Project and chaired by former Vice-President of the United States, Al Gore. He learned about the latest climate change science, communication strategies and best-practice procedures for organising volunteers. As one of the project’s Climate Leaders he is now part of a global movement to spread messages about climate change and empower individuals to solve the problem.
Hear Emmanuel’s views on studying at Kent in this short video: www.kent.ac.uk/giving/yoursupport/scholarfilm.html

“The scholarship allowed me to pursue my degree without the stress of huge financial commitments. I hope that my PhD will allow me to carve a niche for myself as one of Ghana’s foremost world-class environmentalists and a proud alumnus of the University of Kent.”

Katy Upton received the scholarship in 2011 to help fund her PhD research on Peruvian Amphibians as a Surrogate for Environmental Change. She is now two years into her PhD at the Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE) and spent two months in the Peruvian jungle during the summer conducting further surveys of amphibian species in flooded and unflooded forest habitats. She has also published an academic article highlighting the importance of her work. It appeared in specialist conservation publication FrogLog: www.amphibians.org/froglog/fl106.

‘Thank you to all alumni who helped to fund my scholarship! This has opened an amazing opportunity to me and will hopefully contribute greatly to the field of herpetology, which is the study of amphibians and reptiles.’

Kent Opportunity Fund

As the University moves toward its 50th Anniversary year, taking pride in our past, it is also a good time to look forward. Alumni have an important role to play in the University’s aim to inspire future generations of students and help support them to achieve their aspirations regardless of their background.

The University recognises that it is the custodian of talent; whether academic, sporting, artistic, or musical and that each student deserves the opportunity to excel. Thanks to generous donations from alumni around the world to the Kent Opportunity Fund, countless students, including individuals like Katy Upton and Emmanuel Osuteye, have already been supported. Kent has established hardship funding to help students through difficult times, whether the result of financial difficulties, family breakdown or bereavement. Hundreds of students have also been given the opportunity to take part in projects that boost their employability skills and give them the self-confidence to go out into the world and make a difference.

This is only possible thanks to the support of alumni who have chosen to contribute to the Kent Opportunity Fund. The University’s goal is to raise £1 million by 2015 and we hope that our graduates will continue to make a difference to current and future generations of students by helping us to reach this target.

If you would like to find out more about the Fund, or to make a donation, please visit our website at www.kent.ac.uk/opportunityfund, email alumni@kent.ac.uk or call 01227 827830.

Upcoming telephone campaign

It’s fast approaching the time of year when our enthusiastic team of student callers take to the phones to speak to alumni around the UK. In the upcoming telephone campaign, which takes place next spring, you can hear all the latest news from Kent, share stories with our callers about what you’ve achieved since graduating and consider making a gift to support the Kent Opportunity Fund. We have reached more than 10,000 alumni since our first campaign in 2002, raising more than £450,000. Our callers are keen to get in touch so please ensure we have an up-to-date contact number for you by logging on to http://alumni.kent.ac.uk
The archive will contain personal and public papers, audio files and materials from some of the UK’s most prominent stand-up comics. It is the brainchild of Kent Head of Drama and former stand-up comedian Dr Oliver Double and Dr Nicholas Hiley, the Head of the British Cartoon Archive. Their vision of an accessible collection that gives an insight into the work of leading British comedians will soon become a reality.

Earlier this year materials belonging to the late comedienne Linda Smith were deposited at the University, prompting the idea for the archive, which aims to emulate the highly successful British Cartoon Archive held at the Templeman Library. Linda was born in Kent and established herself as a respected comedy writer who also regularly appeared on Radio 4 panel games including Word of Mouth and The News Quiz. Her archive includes a wealth of personal and professional papers, scripts, props, and audio and video recordings of her work.

The material was bequeathed to the University by her partner and manager, Warren Lakin, at the suggestion of Dr Double. The pair know each other through Dr Double’s background as a professional stand-up comedian. He ran The Last Laugh, a comedy club in Sheffield, during the 1990s. Warren also assisted with Dr Double’s research for his 2012 book Britain Had Talent, which focused on variety theatre, as he was a leading figure in the new variety movement at the time. Thanks to their strong professional relationship and Linda’s links with the county, Kent seemed the obvious choice as the home of the Linda Smith archive.
Speaking about the gift, Dr Double said: ‘Much of the material deposited is extremely valuable to students and researchers in this field as it contains rare and previously unpublished, unedited personal recordings. The opportunities for students to get their hands on this material, which they couldn’t find elsewhere, and the chance to get involved in projects based on it are hugely exciting. I hope that it will help to kindle a passion for academic research and historical archives among students at Kent that will last them a lifetime.’

The project to collate and catalogue the archive in order to make it accessible to researchers, students, and the public is currently seeking funding. There is a vast amount of work to be done to digitise content including the video and audio materials that have been deposited, some of which is in formats that are now obsolete. Subject to receiving funding, it is hoped that the collection can be made available as a public archive with a fully searchable database featuring samples of the work.

In the meantime, more comedians have expressed an interest in getting involved. In an exciting development, comedian and political activist Mark Thomas has already provided materials that Dr Double describes as a ‘treasure trove’ for those with an interest in stand-up. Mark has been a comic, activist and writer since 1985 and is best known for his astute comment and political stunts.

Dr Double also hopes to pull off a coup and persuade Tony Allen, a founding father of alternative comedy who established the Alternative Cabaret group of performers alongside Alexei Sayle in 1979, to get involved in the project. Tony is a regular visitor to Kent, delivering guest lectures for the School of Drama’s Stand-up Comedy courses. Dr Double describes him as ‘a very influential comedian’, whose recordings are among the first performances of alternative comedy ever to exist. Further influential figures are already on the hit-list to participate once the funding for the project has been confirmed and the cataloguing of materials already deposited has begun.

If you would like to know more about the Stand-up Comedy Archive at Kent, or to get involved in the project, please contact Dr Double at olly.double@kent.ac.uk or call 01227 823303. He is also keen to hear from former students who are working in the field.

Visit the Special Collections website at www.kent.ac.uk/library/specialcollections

Linda Smith

Linda was a comedian and broadcaster best known for her work on BBC Radio 4’s The News Quiz and Just a Minute. Her career began in 1983 at the Sheffield Popular Theatre, where she wrote, produced and directed shows. In 1987 she was named the Hackney Empire New Act of the Year for her new, solo, stand-up routine. She appeared regularly on BBC Radio programmes throughout the 1990s and became a familiar voice with her satirical observations. Linda was voted Wittiest Living Person by Radio 4 listeners in 2002. She died of cancer aged just 48 in 2006.

Mark Thomas

Mark entered the world of stand-up comedy in 1985 and got his big breakthrough as a regular weekly guest on the Mary Whitehouse Experience for Radio 1 in 1989. In 1990 he won the Time Out award for his ‘distinctive contribution to the art of comedy’ and was nominated for the Perrier Award in 1992. His first foray into television came in 1993 with a regular stand-up slot on Channel 4 programme Saturday Zoo. His series The Mark Thomas Comedy Product ran for six series and he has since presented a number of political documentaries on Channel 4. Mark was an outspoken critic of the decision to go to war in Iraq and the invasion of Afghanistan. Find out more about Mark Thomas at http://www.markthomasinfo.co.uk/

Dr Olly Double

Olly made his first foray into stand-up comedy during his undergraduate degree in Drama at the University of Exeter, where he took part in student arts committee cabaret performances. Having developed an interest in the alternative comedy scene through British television shows including Dad’s Army, Monty Python and The Young Ones, he was a regular on the national stand-up circuit from the late 1980s to the late 1990s.

He earned a PhD at Sheffield University before setting up and running the Last Laugh comedy club in the city for five years. He has published three books about comedy and continues to perform routines including acting as compere for Monkeyshee; the regular student comedy night held on campus at Canterbury. Read more about Olly and his work at www.oliverdouble.com
Giving justice a new home at Kent

Kent Law Clinic has a reputation as one of the UK’s leading pro bono practices and it will soon have a new home thanks to the Kent Law Campaign.

The campaign has been running for the past three years and has so far raised £3.3 million in donations, pledges and match funding from the University of Kent. Having neared its fundraising target of £5 million, a public launch event for the Kent Law Campaign took place against a spectacular backdrop of 360 degree views of London at the city’s landmark Gherkin building earlier this month. It was an opportunity to thank the individuals, companies, Trusts and Foundations, volunteers, staff and patrons who have contributed to date and highlight the importance of the campaign to a wider audience in an effort to build on this support.

With £1.7 million still to fund, the campaign now ramps up a gear to seek more volunteers and donors who will join the growing number of supporters and help build a new Law Clinic for Kent and give access to justice a new home. With the help of alumni and friends who attend campaign events, volunteers who push themselves to their physical limits during fundraising challenges and donors who are prepared to pledge some of their hard-earned cash, construction of the building will begin next year. Kent Law School staff and students will then move in during September 2015, to coincide with the University’s 50th Anniversary celebrations.

Serving the community

Kent Law Clinic not only provides vital opportunities for Law School students to gain real-world experience of legal practice, it also serves the local communities. With offices at Canterbury and Medway, the clinic helps local people to access legal advice and representation that they otherwise would not be able to afford.

‘The Kent Law Clinic has allowed me to gain justice in a world that so often restricts those without money to do so.’ Kent Law Clinic client

The Clinic has received numerous awards recognising and celebrating its work, most recently having been awarded the prestigious LawWorks Attorney General’s Award 2012 for the Best New Pro Bono Activity for its Access to Land project. It was shortlisted for the industry-leading ‘The Lawyer Awards’ in 2010, 2012 and in 2013, alongside a number of magic circle firms, and in 2007 the Clinic was awarded the Queen’s Anniversary Prize, with staff and students from the Clinic collecting the award from the Queen at Buckingham Palace.

Having served students and the local community so well over its 45 year history, the Law Clinic is now in need of expansion and modernisation. The Mootng Programme that is so important to the development of practical legal analysis and advocacy skills is similarly hampered by its lack of an adequate home.
Emily Smith is a final year student in English and Spanish Law who is acting as this year’s Chair of the Kent Law Campaign Student Group. She said: ‘I’m thrilled to be part of the Kent Law Campaign. Increasing space in the Law Clinic will allow us to welcome more clients and achieve more recognition within the community for its fabulous work. The new building will benefit students, staff and the community, and to know I played a part in achieving this fills me with pride.’

Vision to reality
The new Law Clinic will see the Law School’s vision become reality by offering more students at the University of Kent the resources they need to learn new skills, enhance their employability and deliver a service to the community that they value. It will offer a professional working environment that is welcoming to clients and helps students to feel confident as they embark on their first experience as a practicing legal professional. The Kennedy Wong Mooting Chamber, named for an alumnus who has generously donated to the campaign, will provide opportunities to get a feel for court and tribunal hearings to help students develop civil negotiation and dispute resolution skills.

‘Representing a real client with a real problem as a member of Kent Law Clinic made what I was learning at law school infinitely more meaningful.’ Kent Law School Student

Without the support that has already been received, this vision of a new home for law at Kent that is fit for the 21st century would remain just a hope. The large number of alumni who have generously given their time or made donations to the Kent Law Campaign have played a vital part in making it a reality. Earlier this year the University received one of the largest donations to date when it accepted a £1 million gift from alumnus the honourable Charles Wigoder. A successful entrepreneur in the utilities and communications sector, Mr Wigoder is a Kent Law and Accountancy alumnus. The building will be named in his honour.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Dame Julia Goodfellow said: ‘We are delighted that Charles Wigoder has chosen to make this very significant donation to support the University’s award-winning Kent Law Clinic. As a highly successful alumnus of the University, it is very pleasing that Charles has chosen to support a project that will ensure many more of our law students are able to gain first-hand experience of case work, which will provide them with a real advantage when they graduate.’

How you can help
A host of events to reach out to alumni, students and friends, promote the campaign and give you an opportunity to participate is planned over the coming months. Among them are:
• Thursday 21 November: The Foundation Day Lecture by Dame Rosalyn Higgins, Canterbury
• April 2014: London to Brighton Bike Ride – Young Alumni Group
• June 2014: 10km Canterbury Legal Walk

You can find out more at www.kent.ac.uk/lawcampaign or by following the campaign on Twitter and Facebook (@kentlawcampaign, facebook.com/kentlawcampaign). To join the alumni who have already participated in the Kent Law Campaign and make your contribution to help reach the £5 million target, please contact Hilary Edridge, Head of Campaigns, at H.A.Edridge@kent.ac.uk

You can also donate online at https://alumni.kent.ac.uk/donatelawcampaign

1 Artist’s impression of the new Law Clinic
2 Kent Law Clinic students
3 Fundraising skydive
4 2013-4 Kent Law Campaign Student Committee
For centuries states have employed propaganda to influence the behaviour of their populations. This summer a major exhibition at the British Library, co-curated by Kent historian Professor David Welch, explored for the first time the history of propaganda and its uses during the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.

*Propaganda: Power and Persuasion* was the largest event of its kind ever to be mounted at the British Library and attracted thousands of visitors throughout the summer. It drew on some of the Library’s 150 million holdings to examine how propaganda has traditionally been used by governments in Britain, Europe, the United States and the Far East to build support for war. Based on ground-breaking research carried out by Professor Welch, the exhibition also showcased for the first time the modern uses of propaganda as a tool to help fight disease and presented social media as an emerging challenge to the dominance of the state in shaping the behaviour of its people.

Professor Welch’s involvement in the project followed his role as a historical consultant for a three series programme called *Love, Hate and Propaganda*, made for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and broadcast between 2010 and 2012. You can find the programmes online at [www.cbc.ca/documentaries/lovehatepropaganda](http://www.cbc.ca/documentaries/lovehatepropaganda). His fellow collaborators on the exhibition were Dr Jude England, Head of Social Science Collections and Research, and Ian Cooke, Lead Content Specialist – International and Political Studies, at the British Library.

**Power of persuasion**

The exhibition presented traditional means by which governments have exercised the power of persuasion including the ‘Uncle Sam’ poster used as a recruiting aid during World War One and an image of Chairman Mao produced in China during the 1960s. Building on this and challenging popular conceptions of propaganda that principally associate it with war, the exhibits also featured video footage that included public information films designed to combat the spread of diseases, popular culture including music and sporting events that are used to define nationhood, and a social media wall that showed how ordinary people actively participate in the spread of propaganda in the modern age. You can see some of the video footage used in the exhibition by logging on to [www.bl.uk/whatson/exhibitions/propaganda/videos/videos.html](http://www.bl.uk/whatson/exhibitions/propaganda/videos/videos.html).

Discussing the exhibition, Professor Welch said: ‘What I was trying to do was broaden people’s perceptions of what propaganda is. It’s not just something the enemy does, but is, in fact, a part of the way all societies operate. And propaganda shouldn’t be thought of simply as a bad thing – it can have very positive consequences. However, what is also clear is that today the boundaries between government information, advertising and PR have shifted, making way for a surprisingly potent new entrant in the arena of public persuasion: social networking.’ His book *Propaganda: Power and Persuasion*, which accompanies the exhibition, was published by the British Library in May.

**Professor David Welch**

David Welch established the Centre for the Study of War, Propaganda and Society at Kent in 1994. His main research interest is twentieth century political propaganda. Prior to this, his work focussed on late nineteenth and twentieth century German history and specifically the relationship between public opinion, politics, and propaganda in German society. His publications include *Germany: Propaganda & Total War 1914-18* (Rutgers University Press, 2000), *The Third Reich: Politics, and Propaganda* (Routledge, revised second edition, 2002), and *Justifying War: Propaganda, Politics and the Modern Age* [with Jo Fox] (Palgrave, 2012).
World class research

The innovative approach of the exhibition reflected how world-class research taking place under Professor Welch’s direction at Kent’s Centre for the Study of War, Propaganda and Society is breaking the traditional boundaries in this field. The Centre was founded at Kent in 1994 and it fosters the growth and expansion of propaganda study, offering a taught MA programme in War Media and Society.

It acts as a hub for academics and students carrying out research that investigates different types of conflict, from conventional trench warfare and geopolitical standoffs to guerilla and terrorist tactics and civil defence initiatives. It also considers the application of technology in warfare, the impact of the media on public opinion, and the increasing importance of the ‘homefront’ in contemporary warfare. The research currently taking place includes:

• Music and propaganda in WWII
• Chinese propaganda post 1945
• Soviet dissidents during the Cold War
• The media and the Falklands War

In addition, staff at the Centre are currently working to compile a detailed archival and bibliographical database of twentieth century propaganda material, which is the largest project of its kind in the UK.

British Library Fast Facts

• The British Library (www.bl.uk) is the publicly-funded home of Britain’s national cultural and historical collections
• It holds a copy of every item published in the UK and Ireland
• The Library has more than 150 million items, including manuscripts, maps and a sound archive
• More than 16,000 people use the collections every day
• Treasures held at the Library include the Magna Carta, Leonardo Da Vinci’s notebook and Beatles manuscripts
Countdown to the 50th anniversary year begins

October saw the official launch of the University’s 50th Anniversary Programme.

A ceremony took place at the Canterbury campus as a countdown clock was unveiled to alumni, staff and students. The clock will tick away the days to the start of the University’s anniversary year on 1 October 2014 and is set to be one of many centre-piece celebrations across the University’s European campuses over the next two years. The official launch follows months of work behind the scenes to shape the scope of the anniversary programme, which has seen more than 70 projects to celebrate Kent’s past, present and future suggested by staff, students and alumni. The celebrations were led by alumni and member of the First 500 group of students John Platt, who switched on the countdown clock.

Preparing for 2015

Many of the celebrations taking place during the anniversary year and the projects that have already begun will involve alumni and focus on the important role that you have played in the history of the University. In 2013-14 there will be lots of opportunities for alumni to get involved in the planning, helping to shape the way that the anniversary year will look and feel.

A major element of the year of preparation is a host of history projects that have got underway with the help of volunteers from the School of History and staff within the Templeman Library Special Collections team. More than 150 alumni have so far been interviewed or submitted material to help with the project to collect memories of Kent, gather items that illustrate the history of the University, and set up an archive that will be preserved for future generations.

A ‘History Day’ will take place on campus later this year to provide alumni with an opportunity to take part in the project and gather with former classmates to share stories. If you would like to be interviewed for the project, send in materials for the archive, or if you are interested in attending the ‘History Day’ please contact 50years@kent.ac.uk.
Celebrating Kent’s internationalism

Recognising the international reach of Kent’s alumni community, a series of events have taken place in Europe, the Far East and in the United States to involve alumni in the 50th Anniversary planning. At alumni reunions in Istanbul, Athens, Madrid, Hong Kong and Malaysia alumni were invited to take part in the ‘We are Kent’ campaign. Photographs of alumni participating in the campaign at these events will join staff and student images to form an online gallery celebrating the diversity and strength of the Kent community. If we haven’t visited your part of the globe yet, there is still an opportunity to get involved and submit a photograph of yourself and your friends. For full instructions on how to take part, visit our 50th anniversary planning website at www.kent.ac.uk/planningfor50

A series of workshops took place in seven cities across the United States during September and October to involve our 3,000-strong alumni contingent there in planning the 50th Anniversary. Keith Mander, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, led the Kent team as it met with groups in Indianapolis, Chicago, New York, Boston, Washington DC, San Francisco and Los Angeles to gather ideas for events and projects. He said: ‘It was fantastic to meet so many US alumni who are so enthusiastic about celebrating the University’s 50th year. With the support of the UKA board we’ve managed to reach out to a large number of alumni to help us develop new ideas for how we can involve our supporters in the US in our celebrations and make the 50th year a very special time for everyone connected to the University.’

Initial plans are also being made for a global tour, which will take place during academic year 2014-15 and see Kent representatives visiting alumni to celebrate the 50th year with you. If you would like to be a part of this by helping to host an alumni reunion, submitting an idea for an event or by suggesting venues for our team to visit please contact the 50th team at 50years@kent.ac.uk.

Alumni reunion weekend

A host of exciting activities designed exclusively for alumni will be held at Canterbury during the 50th Anniversary Alumni Reunion Weekend on 4 to 6 September 2015. The weekend will mark the culmination of the 50th Anniversary celebrations and includes the closing ceremony for the anniversary year. The Canterbury campus will be a hot-bed of sporting, academic and artistic activities throughout the three day extravaganza.

More than 170 alumni have already expressed an interest in attending the reunion weekend. To join them, please register your interest in the event (https://alumni.kent.ac.uk/arw2015). Please also share the news about the Alumni Reunion Weekend with your friends and tell your fellow Kent alumni that you’re planning to be part of it on social media using #ARW2015.

Alumni are the key to shaping the itinerary for the weekend too. If you have an idea for a lecture, sporting fixture or themed event that you would like to see included in the programme please contact 50years@kent.ac.uk.
Epstein bust of TS Eliot bequeathed to Eliot College

A bust of TS Eliot (1888 – 1965) by internationally acclaimed sculptor Jacob Epstein was presented to the University of Kent on 26 September 2013 – the anniversary of Eliot’s birth.

Bequeathed to the University by the poet’s late widow, Valerie Eliot, the bust will sit in Eliot College alongside a portrait by Patrick Heron. The bust was the first of a limited edition of just nine that were cast from its mould.

Modelled in clay and cast in bronze, the likeness of Epstein’s TS Eliot bust is rooted in observation but features an expressive approach to its form and texture. The style used by Epstein is often described as a way to evoke the physical and psychological presence of the sitter.

Stephen Burke, Master of Eliot College, said: “Valerie Eliot was a long-time friend of the University. She supported the annual TS Eliot Lectures, and also the Eliot College Poetry Prize. I am delighted that Valerie chose to remember us in her will by making such a generous bequest. I know that this bust meant a lot to TS and Valerie Eliot, and I will ensure that it is displayed for the enjoyment of our community, and as a most fitting memorial to them.”

Judith Hooper and Debbie Whitfield, representatives of the Eliot estate commented: ‘We were delighted to deliver the bust fulfilling a long commitment by Valerie Eliot to leave it to Eliot College. Valerie had considered giving it during her lifetime but could not bear to be parted from the likeness of her beloved Tom, so the College would have to wait! She would be pleased to know that the bust has arrived at its new home where it will be cherished by staff and students.’

Epstein’s bust of TS Eliot is considered one of his most celebrated portraits. A plaster version is currently exhibited at the National Portrait Gallery. His most famous work is of Oscar Wilde’s tomb in Pere Lachaise Cemetery in Paris.
Author David Mitchell returns to Kent
Twice-Booker nominated novelist David Mitchell (D87) returned to the School of English to discuss his work with current students.

David read excerpts from his unpublished works and enjoyed a lively question and answer session at the event. He was introduced by Jan Monteﬁore, Professor of English and American Literature, who taught David during his years at Kent.

David reminisced about his time at Kent and was interviewed by current English Literature student Emma Shelton, who also writes for student newspaper Inquire. He said: “This was the place where I was encouraged and gently coerced into thinking about the inventors of the form that I now work in. And I am so glad I was.” You can read the full interview at www.inquirelive.co.uk/features/

Rave reviews for alumna Charlotte Green
BBC Radio presenter and English & American Literature alumna Charlotte Green (E75) earned rave reviews for her first appearance as the voice of BBC Radio’s football results.

Charlotte, who studied at the University of Kent and was a member of UKC Radio Society, is a successful BBC broadcaster who appeared on Radio 4, presenting the news, for many years. She recently moved to a new position as the announcer of the football scores on Saturday afternoons on Radio 5 Live.

David’s artistic take on current affairs
International Relations graduate David Horsey (R85), who earned his Masters at Kent in the 1980s, is now a political commentator for the Los Angeles Times.

Nothing particularly unusual there, you might think. However, David earns his living through an artistic take on current affairs by publishing cartoons in addition to columns focusing on interesting news stories. His work has been syndicated to more than 200 American newspapers, including the New York Times, The Washington Post, the Chicago Tribune and the Houston Chronicle. He won the Pulitzer Prize for cartooning in 1999 and 2003. In 2004 David received an honorary doctorate from Seattle University.

Former Physics Professor promotes Patras
Former Kent Electronics postgraduate Roy Theodorou Thoma (D73) has left behind life as a Professor of Physics to promote his beloved home city of Patras.

Roy completed his doctorate at Kent and then worked as a Professor of Physics at the University of Patras. Along with three other University of Kent graduates, he has established a touring club to promote the Greek city as a tourist destination. They formed a non-profit organisation entitled ‘Patras – Meeting Point’ to promote the city’s cultural heritage. You can find out more about the group at http://patrasmp.org/tours/

Entrepreneurial success story for George
Recent graduate George Johnston (R10) has enjoyed success with his first commercial venture, named Incubus.

George completed his degree in Economics this summer and was an Employability Points scheme ambassador during his time at Kent. He is now the founder of the Incubus project, along with friend Rishi Chowdhury. It is a start-up incubator to help 16- to 22-year-olds in Shoreditch, London, get their business ideas off the ground. The project takes on five high-growth startup teams every six months and provides them with mentoring, workshops and introductions to investors to boost their chances of success. You can find out more about the project at http://launch.incubusldn.com/
Community

Keeping in touch

The latest events, survey results and news from our social media channels

Events

Alumni in Cyprus, Turkey and Spain gathered for reunion events that took place over the summer months to share stories of their progress and meet up with old friends.

The alumni group based in Limassol, Cyprus, held a gathering in July, organised by Olivia Papadaki (R85), now managing director of her own management company. The reunion, for alumni who graduated between 1988 and 1991, was a great success and saw a number of former students who had lost touch reconnect with their friends from Kent.

University-led events in Istanbul, Turkey, and Madrid, Spain, saw large gatherings of alumni who were keen to find out about the University’s progress and learn more about plans for the year ahead, including details of how Kent will mark its 50th anniversary in a year’s time.

Alex Hughes, Pro-Vice Chancellor External, hosted the Istanbul event, which took place on a boat docked in the harbour at Kabatas Motor Iskelesi. More than 160 alumni made it to the reception and enjoyed taking part in the University’s ‘We are Kent’ photography campaign, which is gathering images of alumni from around the world for a special online gallery to mark the 50th anniversary.

In Madrid more than 40 alumni took a tour of the Santander Financial City at an event for Spanish alumni hosted by Professor Dame Julia M Goodfellow, Vice-Chancellor. The reunion was organised in partnership with Santander, the financial institution that works closely with the University on employability initiatives. This summer a group of alumni who started their degrees in 2003 reunited at the Canterbury campus to share memories, catch-up on their successes since leaving the University and enjoy revisiting old haunts. Led by alumna Anna-Marie Blewer (nee O’Donnell), the group originally lived together on campus and formed firm friendships that lasted throughout their time at Kent. Indeed, Anne-Marie met her husband Paul in their first year and he proposed to her at the final-year students’ Summer Ball. It’s been 10 years since the group were last together and they enjoyed socialising on campus during their visit. Anna-Marie said: ‘We thoroughly enjoyed our time meeting up on campus, and of course our evening at the Venue! It was lovely to see each other again at the very place where we all met 10 years ago! The memories we all shared together at Kent will last us a lifetime.’

Other events that took place for alumni during the summer included a well-attended pub night for Law alumni in London, where the news of a £1 million donation to the Kent Law Campaign from alumnus Charles Wigoder was celebrated, and a football reunion held on campus at Canterbury.

Find out about future events at www.kent.ac.uk/alumni/events

Upcoming events

Our autumn Open Lecture programme is underway and alumni are welcome at the following events:

Tuesday 12 November – Brussels lecture – Commissioner Androulla Vassiliou: Lessons of the global financial crisis for economists and economic journalists

Thursday 21 November – Foundation Day lecture – Dame Rosalyn Higgins DBE QC: What may and may not an international judge do

See the full Open Lecture programme at www.kent.ac.uk/openlectures

You said, we did: Survey results

Just over 4,000 alumni completed and returned the survey sent out with the last edition of KENT Alumni magazine. The results of the survey have helped to shape our plans for the future and we hope will lead to improvements in your alumni experience. You said:
Community

• 88% of you are aware of the University’s 50th anniversary in 2015
• Alumni reunion weekend – You would like to see reunion dinners, open lectures and cathedral celebrations on the programme for the reunion weekend. You would like to be grouped by graduation decade when attending these events.
• Telephone campaign – the majority of alumni who had been involved in our telephone campaign had a positive experience with our student callers. You told us that you particularly enjoyed reminiscing with the caller about student life and catching up on news from the University.
• Events – 80% of those surveyed attend our alumni events to meet up with old friends and 58% to meet with academic staff. The main reasons given for not attending our events are inconvenient times and dates, or lack of awareness.
• KENT Alumni magazine – The most popular magazine features were identified as news updates, alumni profiles, research news and feature stories. Almost 50% of you said you would like to read the magazine online and 40% would like to continue receiving a print copy of the magazine.
• Website and social media – Most of you do not actively follow our social media channels and rarely visit our alumni website. You would like to see more campus videos or photos on our website, along with profiles of alumni and an online version of the magazine.

We did...
• The programme for the alumni reunion weekend is being built around your suggestions. Reunion dinners and a cathedral celebration have already been added to the itinerary and there will also be opportunities to choose from a range of musical and sporting activities throughout the weekend.
• We are already planning for our next Telephone Campaign, which will take place in the spring. Guided by your feedback we will ensure that our student callers continue to provide opportunities for you to share stories about your experiences at Kent and that they always have the latest news from Kent to share with you.
• We will consider scheduling our events at different times to identify more convenient dates for more alumni to attend. We are reviewing how we communicate details of our events programme and we will consider providing a list of staff and alumni attending the event.
• We will continue to provide a printed copy of the magazine for alumni who wish to receive it and will host more content online. We have revised the look and the content of the magazine to refresh its appearance and make the content fit your preferences, with a greater focus on alumni stories and activities. We are also including news from our social media channels in the magazine for the first time.
• We are in the process of overhauling our website content to bring you regular new content that matches your needs. We have already included a news section on the site that provides frequent updates, we have integrated our social media feeds to enhance the news content and we have launched a new profile section highlighting our highest achieving alumni.

We value your feedback and hope that you will benefit from the changes that we are making. If you would like to share more ideas with us about how we can improve your alumni experience please contact us at alumni@kent.ac.uk or on 01227 824345.

Congratulations to Jade!

We offered those of you who took part in the survey a chance to win an iPad Mini and we’re delighted to announce that the winner is Jade Harmett (K06). Jade studied an undergraduate degree in Politics at Kent and currently lives in Essex. She said: ‘I don’t usually win things like this, so I’m really thrilled. Thank you very much. The iPad mini will really come in handy.’

Social media update

Our social media feeds have been busy over the past few months with lots of you sharing news and interacting with stories posted by the alumni team. Find us on Twitter @UniKentAlumni or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/kentalumni.

Alumni on Twitter:
Jon Cornejo – Gonna be strange being back @UniKent for welcome week as a @UniKentAlumni. Looking forward to it!
Daniel Neale – @UniKentAlumni my daughter @LauraTweetlet is coming on Saturday living at Park wood just like I did I think she is in Eliot too
Daniel Truran – thank you @UniKentAlumni for organizing the #Madrid #ukcalumni meeting: good memories and great new connections with like-minded individuals
Alfred Lawson Conquer – @UniKentAlumni I have been working abroad in Greece for @Seafarerholiday and have been given a long term job with them in their head office
Laura Adams – reading all the hello kent tweets is making me sad : (still always got the memories #ProudtoBeKent @UniKentAlumni @UniKentStudy
News from Kent Union

Here at Kent Union we opened our brand new Student Media Centre in October, providing a purpose-built facility for students running our media channels. The new centre houses KTV, our student newspaper Inquire, and award-winning radio station CSR FM.

There have been lots of other changes at KU over the past few months, with the launch of the new Greenwich and Kent Students’ Unions Together (GK Unions), www.gkunions.co.uk, replacing the Universities at Medway Students’ Association (UMSA). The Summer Ball was rebranded to become Party in the Car Park and a staggering 4,007 students attended.

We have also rewarded a number of students for their contribution to the union by making them Life Members. Congratulations and huge thanks go out to David Stibbards, Joe Ferreira, Tom Spare, Nick Duffy, Nicola Raine, Laura-Jane Ryves, Matt O’Riordan, Emily Csizmazia, Ayla Jay and Holly Stillwell, who have all been rewarded for their efforts.

Our student volunteers have clocked-up more than 103,900 volunteering hours over the past academic year – a huge improvement on last year’s figure of 82,024. Thanks to their hard work, Kent Union received a number of awards in 2012/13 including the Gold Standard of Excellence in the Green Impact Awards, ‘Charity Champions’ status for KTV at the I Love Student Radio Awards and three awards at the annual NaSTA Conference.

Overall it’s been a successful few months thanks to our members and all of those who support our work. If you would like to find out more about what Kent Union has been working on please follow us on Twitter (@KentUnion), or like our page on Facebook (www.facebook.com/unionkent).

Nine-time karate world champion Wayne Otto opens new sports facilities

Kent Sport celebrated the completion of a £4.8 million upgrade of its facilities and programmes with a grand unveiling by nine-time World and European karate champion Wayne Otto.

An alumnus of the University, Wayne graduated in 1992 with a BSc in Communications Engineering. He earned nine Karate World Championships by 1997 and retired from competition in 2000, though he continued to have a major role in the sport; firstly as Assistant Coach to the Great Britain and England National Team and then, in 2005 and 2008, as National Coach. Currently, he is an international coach, in great demand with national teams and karate federations around the world.

Wayne was delighted to join representatives of Kent and the local sporting community to officially open the new sports centre at Canterbury. He said: ‘I thoroughly enjoyed my experience while studying at Kent and even back then I had access to sporting facilities which helped me progress in my chosen sport. Seeing the facilities available now is quite incredible. I’m delighted to see how far the provision has come and the opportunities for students and aspiring young athletes to excel in sport.’

Kent Sport’s new services include a state of the art fitness suite with three distinct areas for cardio and resistance, rehabilitation and strength and conditioning training, plus a new physiotherapy clinic. The new studios provide a perfect setting for the wide variety of fitness and dance classes on offer. Along with the indoor tennis and netball centre, the three large sports halls and the outdoor pitches, members now have the chance to sample a wide range of sports in one central location.

Graham Holmes, Director of Kent Sport, said: ‘We are delighted to officially open our superb new facilities which we’re sure will attract a broad spectrum of athletes, from people wishing to maintain their health and fitness through to local elite athletes who now have access to world-class training facilities right on their doorstep.

All of our facilities are built to help the next generation of students at Kent. The latest upgrade is part of an on-going process and I’m continuing to plan for additional improvements at Kent, looking at what lies ahead, and how we may achieve it.’

For further details and information about alumni sports membership visit www.kent.ac.uk/sports.
In memoriam
Since the last issue of KENT Magazine went to press, the University has learned of the deaths of the following alumni, honorary graduates and former staff.

If you would like to be put in touch with the families or friends of anyone listed here please let us know – we may be able to help.

Ingrid Baneviciute Medway
Antonia Chimé
Dr Reginald Colman OBE D Litt (Honorary Graduate 96)
Peter Coppard
Giles Corby D99
Martin Mulot D73
Sean Noctor E07
His Excellency, The Mentri Basar of Kedah Darul Aman, Azizan Razak D74
Mitul Shah E93
Dr Rosalyn Themistocleous K78
Kenneth Woodbury D69

Obituary
Mitul Shah
Mitul Shah, a Kent alumnus, passed away on 21 September 2013 in Nairobi, Kenya at the age of 38. His family and friends received condolences from individuals and organisations around the world, including Manchester United manager David Moyes, and FIFA President Sepp Blatter. Mitul’s family and friends paid the following tribute to him:

The tragic death of Mitul has left a gaping hole in the lives of those who knew him. We find inspiration from his life and try to live as he did.

Mitul embodied many things. He selflessly gave his time to those around him. He contributed toward building one of East Africa’s largest private companies, whilst earning respect from his colleagues at all levels. His smile lit up any room as he enjoyed a night with his friends, or played with his daughter Sarai. His dedication to causes close to his heart was evident as he watched his team, Manchester United, or spent an afternoon writing letters for peace during the Kenyan elections. The loss of our loved one has brought immense sadness, but also immense inspiration and pride in what he stood for.