

Reflections on Kent Psychology

Written by **Riska Dewi**, a Stage 3 Undergraduate Student Representative.

How did you find the course as a whole?

I have just finished my Undergraduate course in Psychology (Hons) BSc. I found the course to be a really rewarding experience. The content itself is really varied, so you get to explore which part of Psychology you delve further in third year. The staff were approachable and they made me feel comfortable in expressing myself. All in all, I had a blast as a Psychology student here at Kent and I hope you will too.

What are you doing after graduation?

I would like to continue my studies into MSc and hopefully a PhD in Counselling Psychology, but I want to get some work experience first. That being said, I have now just started looking into the challenges entering the workforce in the UK as an international student.

So, I'm excited as to where I will end up this time next year! If you would like to stay in touch with me after graduation, you can connect with me on LinkedIn here:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/riskadewi/>

Kent Psychology would like to congratulate all of our final year undergraduates graduating this July and wish them all the best for the future. Keep in touch with us on our alumni LinkedIn group:

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8598535>



Top 100 for Psychology in QS World Rankings 2018

The School of Psychology welcomed the news that we are ranked in the Top 100 universities in the world, according to the QS World University Rankings 2018. The school also came 13th overall and second for graduate prospects out of 117 psychology schools in the Complete University Guide 2019. The Head of the School of Psychology, **Professor Georgina Randsley de Moura**, thanks great staff and students for world-leading research and education for these achievements.



Public Engagements

On 5th June, **Dr Laura Smith** hosted a Balance and Memory workshop for members of the University of the Third Age (U3A). The workshop included a session led by specialist vestibular physiotherapists from Medway Maritime Hospital, who provided balance exercises and fall prevention strategies.

Dr Smith also presented the results from a study which several members of the U3A had participated in. The study aimed to find out more about the vestibular system, particularly how it plays a part in memory tasks and if this relationships changes as we get older.



Pictured above: Dr Laura Smith mid-presentation

On Saturday 16th June, the School hosted a Psychological Science Open Afternoon in Keynes College. The programme included short talks on the psychology of impression management, social cognition across the life span, gang behaviours, and the psychology of movement. Practical research demonstrations were also given.

The event was free to attend and open to all. One guest commented 'Thank you very much for organising the Open Afternoon. I found it both interesting and stimulating, and I hope there will be more to follow in due course.'



Pictured above: (top) Dr Anna Brown mid-presentation (bottom) PhD students demonstrating their research.

On Saturday 23rd June, Kent Psychologist **Dr Heather Ferguson** spoke at a Soapbox Science event in Westgate Gardens, Canterbury on 'Me, myself and I: your social brain in old age'.

The Soapbox Science initiative aims to bring together the general public with women in science to celebrate their research. Many of the speakers present were from the University.



Pictured above: Dr Heather Ferguson mid-presentation

The School would like to thank and congratulate everyone who organised and took part in these events.

David Wilkinson's Inauguration as Professor

On 24th November 2017, the School of Psychology celebrated David Wilkinson's inauguration as Professor.

The event began with his inaugural lecture entitled 'Bringing Balance to the Brain'. In his talk, David described how his research harnessed the workings of the inner ear to help fight neurological disability. David presented to a large audience in Keynes which included his family members, patients, students and colleagues. The lecture was followed by a drinks and buffet reception.



Pictured above l-r: Professor David Wilkinson, Councillor Colin Spooner (Sheriff of Canterbury), and Professor Georgina Randsley de Moura (Head of School).

In This Issue

Academic Peer Mentoring & Congratulations	2
Kent Psychologists in the Media	3
Guest Speakers & Conferences	3
Conferences & Publications	4
Publications continued & Student Support in Psychology	5

Academic Peer Mentoring

The School of Psychology is very proud of our amazing Stage 3 mentors, who provide our more junior students with a unique form of support based upon their own strengths and experiences. Some mentors from 2017/2018 are shown here at a special Thank You event to receive their mentoring certificates.

Many thanks to all involved. We are now recruiting mentors for the Academic Peer Mentoring Programme 2018-2019 to start in September 2018. Being a mentor provides a great opportunity for final year students to add leadership and volunteering experience to their CV.

You receive appropriate training and have the option of completing a Mentoring Module (1 hour a week for one term) which appears on your final transcript.



Pictured above: Some mentors from the 2017-18 academic year.

As a mentor you will offer a mixture of academic and pastoral help to students from Stage 1 or Stage 2, this can be done in groups or one-to-one and is fully supported by the School.

If you are interested and have an average grade of a 2:1, feel free to contact the Student Success Project Officer **Dr Libby Drury** on l.drury@kent.ac.uk with a few lines about yourself. (We will be advertising the scheme to Stage 1 and Stage 2 students to sign up for a mentor after we return in the Autumn term.)

Congratulations

Congratulations to **Dr Kristof Dhont** for winning a research grant from US charity 'Animal Charity Evaluators', who help provide an evidence base for many forms of animal rights and welfare advocacy initiatives.

Congratulations to **Dr Victoria Brunson** on receiving the Post-Doctoral Fellow Award at the Cognitive Neuroscience Society 25th Annual Meeting.

Congratulations to **Dr Michael Forrester** who has been appointed as consultant to local psychological services company, Psicon. With the help of **John Allen** (Experimental Officer) he will be exploring the possibility of a virtual reality application that might help children with autism spectrum disorder make the challenging transition from primary to secondary school. The first part of the project involves a series of interviews with young autistic people about the potential value and functionality of an intervention of this kind. Depending on the outcomes, John and Michael will then develop and test a VR prototype in partnership with Psicon.

Congratulations to **Ana Carla Crispim**, **Professor Kimmo Eriksson** (published works), **David Etchells**, **Matt Fysh**, **Pelin Gul**, **Tom Kupfer**, **Julia Landsiedel**, **Catarina Morais**, **Anita Ruddle**, **Arielle Sagrillo-Scarpatti**, and **Lauren Spinner** who will be graduating with PhDs this summer.

Congratulations to **Professors Karen Douglas** and **Robbie Sutton** who have been elected as Fellows of the Association for Psychological Science. Fellow status is awarded to APS Members who have made sustained outstanding contributions to the science of psychology in the areas of research, teaching, service, and/or application.

Congratulations to Experimental Officer **Frank Gasking** on being awarded one of ten prestigious awards in the annual University Research Prizes scheme. Frank was nominated under the Technical Support for Research category for his work on the School's online ethics system. This is the first year a prize has been offered specifically for technical staff across the University.

Congratulations to **Professor Ayse Uskul** who was the winner of the University Prize for Research (Consolidator) 2018. Ayse received the award in recognition of her outstanding research activities and achievements which include research grant capture, theoretical contribution,

and exceptional service to the discipline. Additionally, **Ayse** received funding from the Japan Society of the Promotion of Science under the 'JSPS Invitational Fellowships for Research in Japan' supporting a 6-week visit to start research collaboration with Dr Yukiko Uchida earlier this year at the Kokoro Research Centre, Kyoto University.

Lastly, **Ayse** and Dr Mehmet Elgin were awarded £99,000 by the British Academy (under the Newton International Fellowships). This fellowship was established to support the development and training of postdoctoral researchers at an early stage of their career from any country outside the UK, by providing an opportunity to work at a UK research institution for two years. During his fellowship (which started in February), Mehmet is working on a project titled 'Offering and demanding collective apologies: a UK versus Turkey comparison' in collaboration with Ayse.

Congratulations to **Dr Anne Templeton** (PI) and **Professor Dominic Abrams** (Co-I) who have been awarded £79,368 by DSTL for a project entitled 'Improving crowd resilience – using social identity to enhance detection and response to threats'.

Congratulations to PhD student **André Marques** who was selected for the SASP (Society of Australasian Social Psychologists) Summer School – one of only 5 EASP (European Association of Social Psychology) selected participants. The 2018 SASP Summer School ran from 19th to 25th February 2018 at the Australian National University's Kioloa Coastal Campus in Kioloa, New South Wales, Australia.

Congratulations to **Dr Markus Bindemann** for receiving an esteemed BA Newton Visiting Scholarship worth £25,827 for the School of Psychology. Professor Andrea Hildebrandt of the Ernst-Moritz-Arndt-Universität Greifswald in Germany will visit from July to December 2018 to work with Markus on the construct validity of forensic face-matching abilities.

Congratulations to the following staff on their promotions with effect from 1st October 2018: **Drs Kristof Dhont**, **Caoilte O'Ciardha** and **Eduardo Vasquez** to Senior Lecturer; **Drs Markus Bindemann** and **Timothy Hopthrow** to Reader; and **Drs Heather Ferguson** and **Jane Wood** to Professor.

Congratulations to three of our undergraduate students; firstly, to **Kerry Sildatke** for winning and **Rianna Patterson** on being shortlisted for the Outstanding

Contributions to the Local Community award. Kerry won for her contribution in establishing 'Nightline', a free student-led support and information service for students at The University of Kent and Canterbury Christ Church University. Patterson was shortlisted for founding her charity 'Dominica Dementia Foundation' and being a spokesperson for dementia awareness. Congratulations to **Sophia Gagliardi** on winning the Outstanding Entrepreneurs of the Year award for starting EcoFeast, an Enactus Kent project which brings together students and the elderly through cooking, with ingredients sourced from supermarkets' surplus food.



Pictured above: The award winners

Congratulations to PhD students **Dawn Nicholson** and **Courtney Allen**; Dawn for winning the Kent Three Minute Thesis (3MT) prize and to Courtney for winning the Outstanding Research Poster for Social Sciences and the People's Choice Award for Outstanding Research Poster prizes at the Postgraduate festival, which ran from June 18th to 20th. Dawn will represent Kent at the national 3MT competition this year.

And finally, congratulations to **Dr Amir-Homayoun Javadi**, **Dr David Kelly**, **Matt Plummer** and **Dr Andy Russ** on receiving Above and Beyond Awards from Kent Union. Each staff member is nominated by students for outstanding teaching and support.



Pictured above: Dr Andy Russ collecting his award.

Kent Psychologists in the Media

Dr Mario Weick was interviewed for the 'All in the Mind' **BBC Radio 4** show in December 2017 in regards to his research on intuition. In Mario's paper (co-authored by Stefan Leach), current findings suggest that people's ability to judge the veracity of their intuitions may be limited.

Following his interview with **Oprah Magazine** in the US on moral disengagement and sexual harassment, **Dr Tom Page's** research with **Dr Afroditi Pina** was highlighted in this special feature article in February: <http://www.oprah.com/inspiration/sexual-harassment-in-daily-life>.

Grappling with the Sexual-Harassment Pandemic in Everyday Life

In case you haven't heard, we've got a problem on our hands. Hands, in fact, are a major part of the problem.



Prior to Christmas vacation, **Dr Afroditi Pina** took part in a special debate to discuss sexual harassment in the television industry. The panel was hosted by the **Edinburgh International TV Festival and ITN**.

You can watch the 'TV: A Culture of Abuse?' panel on You Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nmPro9FQgHg&t=2096s> (26 minutes onward).



Professor Dominic Abrams was interviewed on **BBC Radio 4** on 30th March about Brexit.

Dr Aleksandra Cichocka appeared on **BBC Radio Scotland's** Good Morning Scotland show on 31st March to be interviewed on how voter psychological profiling works.

In March, research by Varoth Chotpitayasunondh and **Professor Karen Douglas** on 'Phubbing' and how this can threaten basic human needs was highlighted by **Psychology Today**, the **Mail Online** and **CBS New York**. Read the Kent News Centre story <https://bit.ly/2t0l5j8>.

Dr Hannah Swift featured on **BBC Radio Kent** on 27th April to discuss the Office for National Statistics' age and happiness datasets.

Dr Amir-Homayoun Javadi joined **BBC Radio Kent** to talk about how we can recall memories from childhood on 6th June.

Professor Roger Giner-Sorolla was interviewed by **BBC World at One** on the Whitechapel Fatberg on June 27th.

Guest Speakers

With thanks to all our expert guest speakers, including:

Professor Cecilia Heyes from the **University of Oxford**, for her talk 'Cognitive Gadgets: The Cultural Evolution of Thinking' on the 21st March.

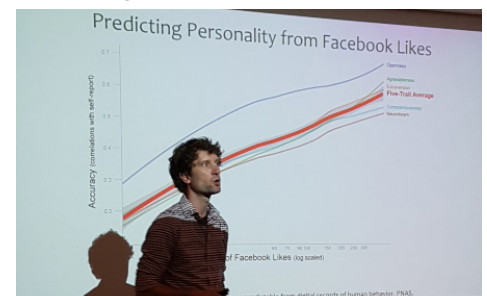
Professors Alain Van Hiel from **Ghent University** and **Catherine de Vries** from the **University of Essex** for taking part in the special symposium 'Brexit and the Rise of Populism' with their talks 'The psychological profile of traditionalist and extreme right-wing voting', and 'Benchmarking Brexit: How Britain's decision to leave shapes public opinion in the EU-27' on 23rd March.

Professor Howard Lavine from the **University of Minnesota**, for his talk "Open versus Closed: "Identity and the Politics of Redistribution" on 25th April.

Dr Michal Kosinski from **Stanford University Graduate School of Business**, (pictured below) for his talk 'The End of Privacy' on 1st June.

Professor John Edwards from **St. Francis Xavier University**, for his talk on 'Language Claims and Language Rights' on 4th June.

Dr Geoff Bird from the **University of Oxford**, for his talk on 'What's Wrong With Social Cognition Research?' on 22nd June.



CogSoCoAGE Conference 2018

The Social Communication Across the Lifespan conference, hosted by Kent Psychology's CogSoCoAGE team, took place over three days from 27th to 29th June at Keynes College. Researchers from Neuroscience, Linguistics and Psychology explored how social communication changes across the lifespan, examining state-of-the-art research initiatives.



Pictured above: PhD student Nera Bozin presenting her research.

Dr Heather Ferguson among others talked on topics such as 'Social Communication in Middle and Older Adults'. The conference was free to attend and generously funded by the European Research Council (ERC).



Many thanks to the visiting keynote speakers **Dr Paula Rubio-Fernandez**, **Professor Ian Apperly**, **Dr Iroise Dumontheil**, and **Dr Elena Cavallini**. Thanks also to all other guests and the CogSoCoAGE team.

The conference was preceded by the 'New Challenges: Early Career Research Positions' workshop, which took place on 26th June in Keynes College, also hosted by CogSoCoAGE team members. The workshop focused on how early career researchers such as PhD students, post-docs, and early career lecturers can further develop changes within the field of psychological science, and advised on what to expect when transitioning between career stages.

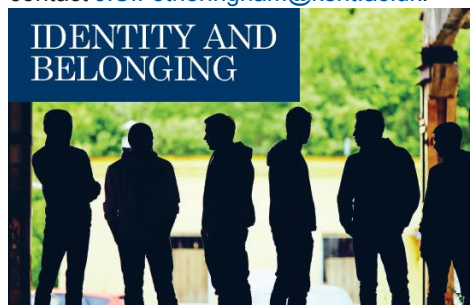
CogSoCoAGE is a five-year research project based at the University of Kent's School of Psychology, funded by a European Research Council Starting grant (ERC-StG-2014) awarded to Dr Heather Ferguson.



Upcoming Conferences and Workshops

**Identity and Belonging
Gangs, School and Community**
11th July 2018
Darwin College, University of Kent
Admission £99 (inc. lunch)

This conference will explore current research practice on gangs: their nature, why young people get involved, and practical strategies to support this at risk group. Speakers include the School's **Dr Jane Wood**. This conference is hosted by the Kent Educational Psychology Service and the University of Kent, and is designed for professionals from education, social care, psychology and criminology. For more information contact J.C.Fotheringham@kent.ac.uk.



IDENTITY AND BELONGING

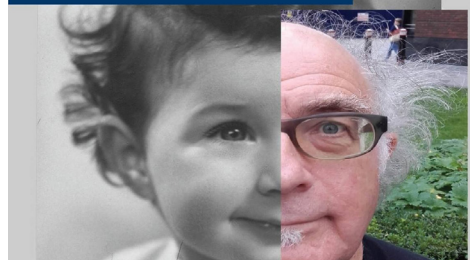
**Mindfulness for Wellbeing and Peak
Performance**
20th July 2018
Keynes College, University of Kent
Admission FREE (inc. lunch)

This one day event will give an opportunity to learn about mindfulness and its impact on wellbeing and performance. Combined with informative talks and practical workshops, the event will bring together researchers, practitioners and mindfulness enthusiasts from the South East of England together. The event is hosted jointly by The Eastern ARC and Kent Psychology. For more information, visit <https://t.co/zduKsiFKGP>.

**A Creative Exploration of Ageing
Across Our Lives**
21st July 2018
Keynes College, University of Kent
Admission: FREE (inc. lunch)

This free to attend workshop, hosted by the University of Kent and the Centre for Policy on Ageing invites artists of all ages and art styles to provide an opportunity to learn and discuss how we think and define age and the ageing process from an artist's point of view. For more information contact H.J.Swift@kent.ac.uk

A CREATIVE EXPLORATION OF AGEING ACROSS OUR LIVES



Recent Publications

Abbot-Smith, K., Morawska-Patera, P., Luniewska, M., Spruce, M., & Haman, E. (2018). Using parental questionnaires to investigate the heritage language proficiency of bilingual children. *Child Language Teaching and Therapy*, 34(2), 155-170. Retrieved from <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0265659018780958?journalCode=clta>

Abrams, D., & Travaglino, G. A. (2018). Immigration, political trust, and brexit - testing an aversion amplification hypothesis. *British Journal of Social Psychology*, 57(2), 310-326. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.1111/bjso.12233>

Abrams, D., Travaglino, G. A., Marques, J. M., Pinto, I. R., & Levine, J. M. (2018). Deviance credit: Tolerance of deviant ingroup leaders is mediated by their accrual of prototypicality and conferral of their right to be supported. *Journal of Social Issues*, 74(2), 36-55. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.1111/josi.12255>

Alleyne, E. and Parfitt, C. (2018). Factors that distinguish aggression towards animals from other antisocial behaviors: Evidence from a community sample. *Aggressive Behavior*, Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.1002/ab.21768>

Bozin, Nera and Yuen, Nicole and Umek, Ljubica Marjanovic and Nurmsoo, Erika (2018) Preschool children reason about artists' mental states when naming drawings. In: 8th annual Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development, 4-6 January 2018, Budapest, Hungary. (Submitted)

Bradford, E. E. F., Jentzsch, I., Gomez, J., Chen, Y., Zhang, D., & Su, Y. (2018). Cross-cultural differences in adult theory of mind abilities: A comparison of native-english speakers and native-chinese speakers on the Self/Other differentiation task. *Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*, Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.1177/1747021818757170>

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Cislak, A., Cichocka, A., Wojcik, A., & Frankowska, N. (2018). Power corrupts, but control does not: What stands behind the effects of holding high positions. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 44(6), 944-957. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.1177/0146167218757456>

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Green, R., & Douglas, K. (2018). Anxious attachment and belief in conspiracy theories. *Personality And Individual Differences*, 125, 30-37. doi: 10.1016/j.paid.2017.12.023

Gul, P. (2018). Masculine honour leads to greater reputational concerns about gender conformity (phd). Retrieved from <http://kar.kent.ac.uk/66733/>

Kokje, E., & Bindemann, M. (2018). Cross-race correlations in the abilities to match unfamiliar faces. *Acta Psychologica*, 185, 13-21. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.actpsy.2018.01.006>

Kupfer, T. R. (2018). A reputation management and signalling account of moral disgust and moral contagion (phd). Retrieved from <http://kar.kent.ac.uk/66727/>

Leach, S., & Weick, M. (2018). From grumpy to cheerful (and back): How power impacts mood in and across different contexts. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, Retrieved from <http://kar.kent.ac.uk/67049/>

Leite, A. C., Dhont, K., & Hodson, G. (2018). Longitudinal effects of human supremacy beliefs and vegetarianism threat on moral exclusion (vs. inclusion) of animals. *European Journal of Social Psychology*, Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.1002/ejsp.2497>

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Megreya, A., & Bindemann, M. (2018). Feature instructions improve face-matching accuracy. *PLOS ONE*, 13(3), e0193455. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0193455

Mohammed, W. A., Pappous, A., & Sharma, D. (2018). Effect of mindfulness based stress reduction (MBSR) in increasing pain tolerance and improving the mental health of injured athletes. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 9(722) Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2018.00722>

Recent Publications Continued

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Spinner, L., Cameron, L., & Calogero, R. (2018). Peer toy play as a gateway to children's gender flexibility: The effect of (counter) stereotypical portrayals of peers in children's magazines. *Sex Roles*, Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11199-017-0883-3>

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Van Assche, J., Dhont, K., Van Hiel, A., & Roets, A. (2018). Ethnic diversity and support for populist parties: The 'right' road through political cynicism and lack of trust. *Social Psychology, 49*, 182-189. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.1027/1864-9335/a000340>

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Student Support in the School of Psychology

Sometimes you might experience problems that can impact on your ability to study. Problems may be academic, personal or health-related. The role of the Student Support Team is to provide advice and assistance to undergraduate and taught postgraduate students to help you overcome such problems so that you are able to achieve to your full potential. The Student Support Office is located in Keynes L1.14 and is open from 9:30-12:30 and 13:30-16:00, Tel: 01227 827061.

Appointments are for 20 minutes and are available on the hour and on the half hour weekdays from 10:00 until 12:00 and 14:00 until 16:00. If you wish to book an appointment then please email psychadvisorappointments@kent.ac.uk from your Kent account with two or three suitable times/days. They will book you in for the earliest available opportunity.

There are a range of services available to all Kent students including the following:

- Careers and Employability Service
- Disability and Dyslexia Support Service
- International Students
- Counselling
- Chaplaincy
- Medical

Plus many more...

You can find more out about Student Services from the following webpage: www.kent.ac.uk/guidance/

Any Suggestions?

If you have any comments or suggestions for the staff in the School of Psychology, then you can feed these back to us by using our suggestions box located outside the Psychology Student Office (Keynes M1.13).

Kent Psychologist

The School of Psychology's Newsletter is for applicants, students, staff and alumni. We welcome contributions from students, staff and alumni for future issues. If you would like to write an article or have any news you would like to share, please contact Lucy Hyam.

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