

# Comment

The College newsletter

Issue no 170 | November 2006

## New experimental cancer research centre at King's

### **KING'S IS TO DEVELOP A NEW CANCER**

research centre with funding from Cancer Research UK and the Department of Health. The award is part of a £35 million initiative across the UK to drive new anti-cancer treatments. An international review panel awarded grants to 17 centres based on their scientific and clinical excellence.

### **Builds on the reputation of oncology at King's**

The King's College London Experimental Cancer Centre (KCLECC) builds on the reputation of oncology at King's and will bring together clinical and non-clinical academics to focus on translational research and advancing patient care.

It will be co-managed by the Head of King's Cancer Studies Division, Professor Peter Parker FRS, and breast cancer clinical specialist, Professor Anand Purushotham.

The Centre's translational portfolio includes an expansion of molecular profiling, therapeutic development and clinical trials activities, with particular focus on breast, skin and haematological cancers.

Professor Parker comments: 'This initiative is a very important one that reflects the responsibility we have as a research community to drive our ever-increasing molecular understanding of cancer into improving patient care. The creation of a new Centre at King's will be a tremendous boost to the research we're doing in collaboration with our partner hospital NHS Trusts.'

Professor Purushotham, Co-Director of the new Centre, adds: 'We are delighted to have been awarded funding to become an Experimental Cancer Medicine Centre.'

'This fantastic achievement acknowledges the expertise and dedication of our team at King's and will ensure that for the next five years we have the infrastructure and support mechanisms in place to allow us to run more clinical trials, enabling cancer patients from south-east London to benefit from new medicines as quickly as possible.'

The initiative is being developed under the umbrella of the National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI) and will be fully coordinated with the UK Clinical Research Collaboration's (UKCRC) activities

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### Orchestral delights

GREG FUNNELL



The King's College London Symphony Orchestra rehearsing in the Great Hall of the Strand Campus. Rehearsals lead to a concert performance at the end of each term. For the past two years the Orchestra has given a concert in the prestigious venue of St John's, Smith Square. [See page 8 to find out more about the Department of Music.]

## Principal's Column



Work continues towards finalising the Strategic Plan for the College with a view to presenting the final document to Academic Board on 20 November and the Council on 12 December 2006.

As part of the continuing development work on the Strategic Plan, some senior officers came together in October for discussions focussing largely on the central themes which had been previously identified: teaching, learning and students, together with research and enterprise.

The pace of the discussion on the future of the University of London has picked up recently. The Heads of Colleges Committee has returned to the issue of whether King's, UCL, LSE and the Institute of Education (the four remaining colleges which already have degree-awarding powers) can exercise them while remaining in membership of the University. The Committee approved this idea in principle in June; the University Council will return to the issue in December. Meanwhile, the College continues to press for the radical reform of the University.

As you know, the Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) is under review and the College has submitted a view as to how it should develop. We believe that the RAE has played an important role in strengthening the research base in the UK because it has been based on extensive peer review rather than an arbitrary formula; in this way, individuals have seen the relationship between their own

research efforts and the overall position of their institution.

The proposed use of metrics does not represent a quick answer: metrics don't measure research quality and are particularly unsuitable for the arts and humanities, and for the social sciences. We believe that a degree of peer review is essential for the RAE to be credible. We therefore propose that a new, hybrid system might operate using the RAE 2008 as the basis for funding for some years.

I am pleased to report that the College, as the lead institution of a consortium including Goldsmith's, Greenwich and South Bank universities, has been awarded £2.8 million by the funding council to develop a Lifelong Learning Network covering south-east London.

The primary objective will be to work with further education Colleges and schools in the six boroughs covering the region to provide sustainable pathways into higher education and raise awareness amongst secondary school pupils of the advantages of study at higher education level.

Hundreds of parents and new students attended the College's first parents' receptions at the Guy's and Strand Campuses on Saturday 16 September. I gave several short talks at the Strand; the President of KCLSU did the same at Guy's. In an age of increased fees and rising parental interest in undergraduate education, these receptions make good sense.

Finally, I report that I have recently visited the USA where the College held well-attended alumni events and met key current and prospective donors. Also, the trip enabled the College to strengthen academic links to major universities – the University of North Carolina and the University of California. Such visits help develop the greater international presence for King's which is a key aspect of the emerging Strategic Plan.

**Rick Trainor**

## Tutu unveiled



From left: **Professor Brian O'Connell**, Rector and Vice Chancellor, University of the Western Cape, **Revd Dr Richard Burrigge**, **Archbishop Desmond Tutu**, **Baroness Rawlings** and **Professor Rick Trainor**.

### WHILST VISITING SOUTH AFRICA AT THE

end of September for the launch of a groundbreaking King's web project to create a digital archive of the life and work of Archbishop Desmond Tutu [see *Comment* 169, page 3] Baroness Rawlings, Chairman of Council, the Principal, Professor Rick Trainor, and the Dean of King's, Revd Dr Richard Burrigge, took the opportunity to formally present the University of the Western Cape, with a bust of Archbishop Tutu.

The Archbishop, who attended the ceremony, is Chancellor of the University and the longest-serving Chancellor of any African university.

The bust has taken pride of place in the University's library and attracted a lot of attention from staff and students. An identical bust, which was unveiled by the Archbishop in 1995, sits in one of KCLSU's nightclubs, Tutu's. Both sculptures are the work of the late John Houlston.

King's will collaborate with the Universities of the Western Cape and Witwatersrand to assemble, catalogue and digitise thousands of documents, film materials, videos, audios, photos and even personal letters into the Archive, to be accessed around the world as a free online internet resource.

## New Tutu biography

### RABBLE-ROUSER FOR PEACE WAS

published on 5 October. It is the first book to tell the full story of how a boy from South Africa's poverty-stricken black townships became one of the world's best-known religious figures, a moral icon to those who work for peace and justice everywhere.

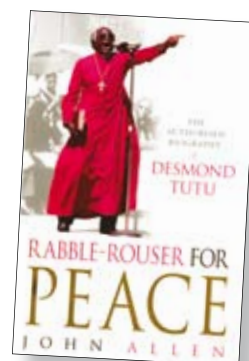
Published to coincide with his 75th birthday, *Rabble-Rouser for Peace* contains never before seen material including details of secret files of the apartheid government, how the Nobel Peace Prize was won by Tutu, the truth about his relationship with FW de Klerk, as well as his close involvement with all the world leaders of the day.

The book also frequently

mentions King's where Desmond Tutu studied in the 1960s and returned in 2004 as Professor in Post-Conflict Societies.

He holds the College in great affection: 'I have wonderful, happy memories of my time at King's. Study opened up a whole new world to me.'

The biography is written by John Allen, Tutu's press secretary, and draws on 30 years of first-hand contact with the Archbishop.





# Specialist strategy spin-out set up

## A SPECIALIST STRATEGY CONSULTANCY

is the latest spin-out company to have been established at King's. Simulstrat Limited develops and runs simulations based on war-gaming methodology to deliver solutions to client-specific problems. This is the third King's spin-out company set up within the last 12 months.

The company was founded by Michael Clarke, Professor of Defence Studies; Sir Lawrence Freedman, Professor of War Studies; Ragnar Lofstedt, Professor of Risk Management; and Mr Keith Britto, formerly Deputy Director of the International Policy Institute. The Chief Executive Officer is Ken Charman, who has a background in sales and marketing in IT and related sectors.

The company's methodology has been developed by staff in the College's War Studies Group and has already been applied to deliver a number of simulations for one of

the world's largest pharmaceutical companies. The Simulstrat approach is based on the principles of war gaming used by the military and builds into business decision-making external factors such as political, economic, technological and social pressures; testing business systems to destruction in a way that allows lessons to be safely learned.

## 'Simulstrat brings the best of both worlds'

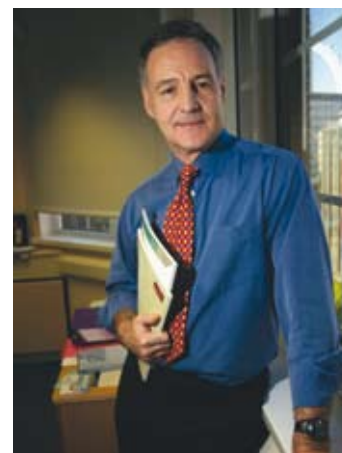
Professor Michael Clarke comments: 'Simulstrat brings the best of both worlds from academia and the military to this new business initiative: this is what makes the development so fascinating from our point of view. It integrates the depth of analysis available in a top research university, such as King's, with

the British military's approach to strategy that has proved its worth over generations. We have proved at King's that the integration of these two elements creates astonishing results for business planning and we are delighted to see this initiative commercialised.'

IP Group plc, the intellectual property commercialisation company with whom King's has a long-term partnership, has invested a 40 per cent stake in Simulstrat.

Alan Aubrey, Chief Executive of IP Group, says: 'This is an extremely exciting opportunity for us with a very high quality academic team and proposition. Simulstrat is already working with some big blue chip names and we are extremely excited by the commercial opportunities for the business as demand for its services is strong.'

Alison Campbell, Managing Director of KCL Enterprises,



Professor Michael Clarke

explains: 'The formation of Simulstrat is a real endorsement of the commercial potential within the social sciences, an area of outstanding research excellence at King's. I am delighted that we have secured investment for this type of business model which demonstrates a breadth in the commercial pipeline at King's.'

## New cancer research centre

continued from page 1

in experimental medicine outside cancer.

The 17 centres are: Barts and the London, Birmingham, Belfast, Cambridge, Cardiff, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Imperial College, Institute of Cancer Research, King's, Leeds-Bradford-Hull-York, Leicester, Manchester, Newcastle, Oxford, Southampton and University College London. Two further centres, Liverpool and Sheffield, will also be developed.

This major expansion and development will support world-class translational research across the UK, ensuring basic science discoveries are developed into treatments for cancer patients as quickly as possible.

The substantial increase in funding will ensure that the UK remains at the forefront of international efforts to develop new treatments for cancer.

## Poet Laureate gives talk at King's

### ANDREW MOTION, THE POET LAUREATE,

recently read from his new memoir *In the Blood: A Memoir of my Childhood*, in The Great Hall of the Strand Campus.

His talk forms part of *Life writing at King's*, a series of talks by prominent biographers and autobiographers supported by the College's Annual Fund, and organised by Max Saunders, Professor of English.

Award-winning author Philip Pullman said of Andrew Motion's book: 'The great value of a memoir such as this is not only its revelation of someone else's experiences, someone else's consciousness, but the realisation of how much we share. He does write beautifully, of course, but I expected that; what's given me even more pleasure is the



Andrew Motion (left) and Max Saunders, Professor of English.

amber-like quality of his memory, and the things I found myself recalling in sympathy.'

Andrew Motion became Poet Laureate in May 1999. Recently

he has been appointed Professor of Creative Writing at Royal Holloway College, University of London. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature.

**Kathryn Hughes, biographer of George Eliot, and author of *The Short Life and Long Times of Mrs Beeton*, will talk on the topic: 'Whose Life Is It Anyway?' on the relationship between biography and the university on 16 November at 18.30 in the King's Lecture Theatre of the Strand Building, Strand Campus. The American novelist Edmund White will talk about his autobiography, biographies and fiction on 15 December at 18.00 in The Great Hall of the Strand Campus.**

## Jinty Nelson

King's eminent medieval historian Professor Jinty Nelson FKC FBA, was recently recognised for her services to history in the Queen's Birthday Honours with a DBE. *Comment* spoke to Dame Jinty to find out more about her King's career, her championing role for women and current research projects.

### *Tell us about your career.*

I've always been passionately interested in history and always wanted to teach and write about the subject. I went to Cambridge in 1961 as an undergraduate and gained my BA in History in 1964. I then stayed for a further three years to do my PhD in Medieval History.

After that, I spent a year with my husband, an anthropologist, living and working in a Chinese village. It was tough, as the area was very poor, and I had to learn to speak Cantonese (badly!), but it was also immensely rewarding. It gave me a different perspective on history. My research hadn't involved the lives of ordinary people – it was about high politics and political ideas. After that, I became interested in the histories of women and work.

On returning, I spent one year at the Foreign Office before deciding it wasn't for me. I then came to King's in 1970 as a Lecturer and I've been here ever since. I never wanted to be anywhere else. London is an excellent place to teach and research history, and the Department at King's is one of the best – and happiest – in the country.

I was the only woman in the Department when I arrived. I was made very welcome and I've worked with wonderful colleagues over the years. But in one way, at least, I remember challenging the status quo. Back in 1970 women weren't allowed in the Senior Common Room. My Classics colleague Averil Cameron and I, with support from quite a lot of men as well as women, helped organise a rebellion, which ended in a victory for reform! Even the original opponents weren't too unhappy in the end.

### *Can you describe your current research?*

I specialise in medieval history. Most of my work has been on kingship and I've also published on heresy, religion and ritual. Two subjects that have taken me further in terms of teaching are the history of political ideas and women's history, which I teach at MA level.

My current research is focused on two main areas: the Frankish king and emperor, Charlemagne, about whom I'm currently writing a biography; and the Anglo-Saxons before and through the Norman Conquest of 1066.

I'm working on this second project in collaboration with Simon Keynes of Cambridge, and my King's colleagues Stephen Baxter

and Alex Burghart (History) and Harold Short (Centre for Computing in the Humanities).

We're now well into Phase Two of a large chunk of funding from the Arts and Humanities Research Council. *The Prosopography of Anglo-Saxon England* is a very large relational database of all known inhabitants of Anglo-Saxon England from 596 to c1100. Part One is already online ([www.pase.ac.uk](http://www.pase.ac.uk)). It contains information on about 11,000 individuals, including not just the great and the good but every person, including women (so far about 700 of them – and there'll be a great many more when we've entered all the Domesday Book data), for whom information survives.

Exploiting digital technology enables the project to reach a very wide public, not only in universities, and lets people find ways of linking their own lives with the past. I like this outreach aspect of our project, and also its democratic scope; and I greatly enjoy working with such an excellent team.

### *Tell us about your work outside King's.*

I serve on the editorial board of *Past and Present* and the editorial collective of *History Workshop Journal*, and on the advisory boards of several other journals. I'm co-adviser on a series of medieval sources in translation. I've long been involved with the work of the Institute of Historical Research in the University of London: I chaired its Academic Board in the late 90s, co-founded and still convene the Women's History seminar, and co-convene the Earlier Medieval seminar. I was Vice-President of the British Academy (2000-1) and served on the AHRB's History research panel. I was President of the Royal Historical Society (2000-4) – the first woman to hold that office.

### *How does it feel to be a Dame Commander?*

It was a big surprise! A letter from 10 Downing Street arrived out of the blue in May and I had 24 hours to decide whether or not to accept the honour. On 23 November, I'll go to Buckingham Palace to receive the award from the Queen 'for services to history'.

I regard this as an honour for all the organisations I've worked with to promote history and the humanities, most of all King's, and I hope others here feel they somehow

have a share in it. I've been especially touched by kind words from colleagues and students who've felt that my DBE recognises the achievements of women in our field.

### *Did you have a role model?*

At Cambridge I was at Newnham, one of the women's colleges. It was a fine place to study and I met people here who been friends for life. The women who taught us were all important role models: they instilled in us a confidence that women could have successful careers, in or out of universities; but it was almost unheard of then for a woman to have a career and children.

My generation was maybe the first to be able to combine those things – thanks to social changes and supportive men in particular.

### *How do you unwind outside College?*

I'm very busy with work commitments, but I unwind by spending as much time as possible with my family. I look after my grandchildren every Thursday: there's never a dull moment!



NARESH VERLANDER

## Fact file

### **Book on my bedside table**

*The Unfree French: Life under the Occupation*, by my colleague Richard Vinen, who writes about those tormented times with non-judgemental understanding.

### **Favourite holiday destination**

South-west France. I spend as much of the summer vacation as possible there with my family, writing and relaxing.

### **Proudest work moment**

When the College celebrated its 175th anniversary, I attended the special service in Westminster Abbey. The Archbishop of Canterbury spoke about what made King's special, emphasising its commitment to moral values as well as to scholarship. I had a deep sense of connection to the College. I've spent my whole career here and I know how lucky I am – for me, there could have been no better place to be a historian.

# Health-related distance learning MoU

## KING'S AND CURTIN UNIVERSITY OF

Technology, Western Australia, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to extend their close collaboration on the development of a range of innovative health-related distance learning initiatives until 2010.

Professor Jane den Hollanden, Pro Vice-Chancellor of Curtin University, and Professor Rick Trainor, Principal of King's, signed the MoU on 24 October.

This extended collaboration represents the next step in a relationship that was established in 2002 and has resulted in the successful development of several online health-related courses.

Current plans involve the King's Dental Institute and the Teaching and Learning Network Faculty at Curtin in the instructional design for the

migration of King's existing MClintDent degree from the University of London to King's WebCT VISTA platform.

Researchers at both universities will also focus on the development of an online ethics course for graduate dental students and the creation of an online research methodology module focusing on qualitative analysis of health-related subjects.

As a founder of the initial collaboration, Dr Pat Reynolds, Deputy Director of Education (Distance Learning) in the Dental Institute, says: 'Both institutions have benefited from these collaborative working practices. Curtin University offers world-class skills in the development of online learning and, together with King's dental clinical and research excellence, our collaboration



From left: **Dr Pat Reynolds**, **Professor Jane den Hollanden** and **Professor Rick Trainor**.

places us at the forefront of dental education delivery via distance and blended learning.'

Curtin University is Western Australia's largest university with more than 31,000 students, nearly 11,000 of those offshore and onshore international students, and

around 1,000 research students. Curtin supports the Perth Dental School in the teaching of Dental Care Professionals and on the development of online orthodontic distance learning courses and the trials of online ethics courses.

## Taiwanese student presidents



From left: **Thomas Liao**, **Professor Keith Hoggart** and **Dr C J Liu**.

### KING'S HOSTED A WORKSHOP FOR THE

Presidents of Taiwanese Student Societies in UK universities on 20 October. The aim was to provide information on funding schemes available to Taiwanese students studying in the UK.

More than 35 presidents from other universities, including the London School of Economics, Institute of Education, Oxford and Cambridge, attended the event which was held in the Great Hall of the Strand Campus. Thomas Liao, a postgraduate studying for his PhD in the Psychological Medicine Division

at the Institute of Psychiatry, is the President of the King's Taiwanese Student Society.

The workshop was organised by the Cultural Division of the Taipei Representative Office in the UK and led by their Director Dr C J Liu.

Professor Keith Hoggart, Vice-Principal (Arts & Sciences), and Professor Giovanni Mann (Head of Graduate Research Studies, School of Biomedical & Health Sciences) and Dr Richard Siow (Lecturer in Physiology) welcomed Dr Liu and the participants.

## World Mental Health Day

The theme of this year's World Mental Health Day (10 October) was *Building Awareness – reducing risk: Mental Illness and Suicide*. To highlight this the Institute of Psychiatry (IoP) ran a new photographic exhibition entitled *Focus on Mental Health* at its Gallery from 10-27 October.

The exhibition, which was open to the public, showed works by artists Lauren Shear and Mark Drinkwater and tied into this year's theme, helping to stimulate debate about the importance of the arts in developing an understanding of mental distress.

Mark commented: 'Mental health issues affect us all – whether it's a friend, family member or neighbour, we can

all think of someone close to us who is depressed or anxious at the moment. If just one person decides to volunteer or donate money to a mental health charity as a result of this exhibition, the project will have been worthwhile.'

The Gallery at the IoP promotes the work of artists with links to its focus on mental health care and research, with the aim of widening debate and removing the stigma often associated with issues of mental health.

It also supports the rich history of hospitals holding collections relating to health care and the historical benefits such collections bring to the arts and medicine.

The major focus of the day was to disseminate information on funding schemes available to UK-based Taiwanese students from the Taiwanese Ministry of Education. The event also provided a forum to discuss the requirements of Taiwanese

undergraduate and postgraduate students currently in the UK.

The meeting followed on from a workshop for Taiwanese Scholarship PhD students hosted by the School of Biomedical & Health Sciences at the Guy's Campus in 2003.



NARESH VERLANDER



## Barney Pityana joins

**The Revd Dr Barney Pityana**, Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of South Africa since 2001, joined King's on 16 October as Visiting Professor in Post-Conflict Societies.

Dr Pityana, lawyer, theologian and human rights activist, is also a graduate and Fellow of King's.

His is the first appointment to this post since Archbishop Desmond Tutu in 2004.

Dr Pityana comments: 'I am delighted to return to King's after so many years, and for the opportunities King's, not for the first time, is giving me for academic refreshment and intellectual collegiality. I am grateful to the Principal, Professor Rick Trainor, and to the Dean,

Revd Dr Richard Burrige, for making this possible. My wife, Dimza, and I are very happy to be re-establishing roots in a place that has had such a formative influence on my future development.'

As a young undergraduate student at the then University College of Fort Hare, Barney Pityana came under the influence of Desmond Tutu who was then Anglican chaplain and lecturer at the Federal Theological Seminary in Alice. Later it was the then Bishop Desmond Tutu who persuaded the then Dean of King's, Sidney Evans, to admit Barney Pityana to King's in 1978.

As a young man Dr Pityana was one of the founding members of the South African Students' Organisation, and an important figure in the Black Consciousness Movement with Steve Biko. He was also a member of the African National Congress Youth League, and was suspended from school for challenging the authority of the Afrikaans teachers and the 'principles of Bantu education'.

He completed a BA (English, Political Science and Private Law) and BProc at the University of South Africa in 1975 and 1976 respectively. He left South Africa in 1978 and went into exile in London with his family.

He studied at King's and was awarded a BD (Hons) in 1981. He then became ordained in the Anglican Church and served for several years as a parish priest before taking a post as Director of the World Council of Churches' Programme to Combat Racism.

He returned to South Africa in 1993, held positions at the Research Institute for Christianity in South Africa and the University of Cape Town, where he studied for his PhD in Religious Studies.

He was elected the first Chairperson of the South African Human Rights Commission in 1995, and was admitted as an Attorney of the High Court of South Africa in 1996.

In 1997 he was elected a member of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights – a regional instrument for human rights established by the Organization of African Unity in 1987. He served until 2003.

In 2004 he was elected the first Chairman of Higher Education South Africa, the newly created and amalgamated association of Vice-Chancellors in South Africa from both the university and technikon sectors.

In 2004, he was elected Chairman of the African Council on Distance Education, a Pan-African body of distance education institutions and practitioners.

The Dean of King's, Revd Dr Richard Burrige, says: 'I am delighted to welcome Professor Pityana back to his old College. It is very good to have such a distinguished alumnus studying among us and we look forward to his contributions. We also hope that this sabbatical will enable him to finish off his important work on human rights and theology in an African context.'

Dr Pityana will be at King's until January to work on his writings and will be attending seminars in the School of Law and Department of Theology & Religious Studies. He will be giving a couple of major lectures on human rights in Post-Conflict Societies.

## New Council members elected

NICOLA LEVINSKY



**Professor Chris Hamnett**

The following staff have been elected to membership of the Council for the period 2006-10.

Professorial (Strand Campus): **Professor Chris Hamnett** (vice Professor Alessandro Schiesaro). Professor Hamnett, Department of Geography, is a leading expert on housing and urban social change and a leading researcher in the fields of gentrification, housing and wealth.



**Dr Mark Miodownik**

Non-Professorial (Strand Campus): **Dr Mark Miodownik** (vice Dr David Ricks). Dr Miodownik, Lecturer in Mechanical Engineering and head of the Materials Research Group, is the first member of staff to win a National Teaching Fellowship from the Higher Education Academy. He was one of 50 lecturers and support staff who were awarded



**Dr Mike Slade**

Fellowships worth £10,000 each in June.

Non-Professorial (Denmark Hill/St Thomas' Campus Group): **Dr Mike Slade** (vice Dr Richard Thompson). Dr Slade is a Clinical Senior Lecturer and Head of Section of Community Psychiatry at the Institute of Psychiatry. He is also a Consultant Clinical Psychologist in Rehabilitation.

## Leadership change

There was a change in leadership for the Defence Studies Department on 1 September when **Professor Matt Uttley** assumed the appointment of Dean of Academic Studies and Head of Department. Professor Geoff Till, who had held the post since the inception of the Joint Services Command and Staff College in 1997, has made a considerable contribution to the international reputation of the College and to military education in general.

A distinguished and internationally renowned naval historian, he has provided immeasurable public service by educating several generations of British and foreign military officers in the defence studies and maritime strategy fields. After a six-month sabbatical Professor Till will be returning to the Department to teach alongside his colleagues.

Professor Uttley has held the Chair in Defence Studies at King's since 2004, and has worked in military education since 1994 when he was appointed as a



**Professor Matt Uttley**

member of the Department of History & International Affairs at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich. Prior to that he held posts at the University of York and Lancaster University, where he also studied as an undergraduate and postgraduate.

Professor Uttley has published widely on the historical and contemporary dimensions of defence economics, weapons acquisition and UK defence policy and regularly acts as an advisor for a number of bodies including the National Audit Office, European Commission, UK Ministry of Defence and the Economic and Social Research Council.

## Book prize



**Professor Jill Manthorpe** with co-author **Dr Steve Iliffe**, and **Sir David Carter**, Chairman of The Health Foundation.

First prize in the prestigious British Medical Association Medical Book Competition in Health Care for the Elderly has been won by **Jill Manthorpe**, Professor of Social Work, for her book *Depression in Later Life*, co-authored with Dr Steve Iliffe, Reader in General Practice at the Royal Free and University College London Medical School.

'Almost everyone working with older people in health and social care services will encounter people with depression but few opportunities are given to address common strategies and problem solving,' commented Professor Manthorpe after the ceremony in September. 'We are delighted at this award which confirms that both social and health models of care have a role to support older people with depression.'

Professor Manthorpe is Professor of Social Work in the Department of Health funded research unit, the Social Care Workforce Research Unit in the School of Social Science & Public Policy. She joined King's in 2003 and has a long-standing interest in the mental health of older people. She has been a member of the NICE/SCIE Clinical Guidelines Group that reports this November.

The Social Care Workforce Research Unit specialises in new roles in social care and the outcomes of social care work, and works collaboratively with other King's departments and other universities. It runs a large knowledge transfer network, Making Research Count London.

The BMA Medical Book competition has been held

annually since 1994. It aims to encourage and reward excellence in medical publishing and patient information. A total of 25 first prizes were awarded from an entry of 573 books.

## Honorary Graduates

At their last meeting in October, Council endorsed the recommendations of the College's Fellowship and Honorary Degree Committee for the award, for the first time through King's, of Honorary Degrees of the University of London. These awards have been accepted by the following nominees: **The Baroness Hale**, honorary doctor of laws; **Professor Sir Alec Jeffreys**, honorary doctor of science; **Professor Joseph Nye**, honorary doctor of social science; and **Judith Weir CBE**, honorary doctor of music.

Arrangements are now being made for the College ceremony, later this academic year, which will confer these doctorates. The College's Fellowship and Honorary Degrees Committee will meet shortly to consider nominations from the College community for Fellowships and Honorary Degrees to be conferred in 2007.

The recommendations of the Committee will come to Council in December.

## Farewell

Professor Gill Nicholls, Director of King's Institute of Learning and Teaching (KILT), is leaving at the end of the calendar year to take up the post of Pro Vice-Chancellor (Student Experience) at Durham University.

Gill joined King's in April 2001 as the first Director of KILT and has been responsible for establishing the Institute as one of the foremost in the country, highly regarded internally, and externally both by other Russell Group universities and the national agencies who frequently seek its advice.

Gill's leadership and energy will be missed and the College wishes her well.

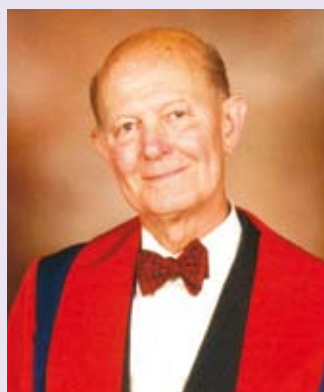
## Obituary

### PROFESSOR CHARLES REES FRC FRS 1927-2006

#### EMINENT CHEMIST PROFESSOR

Charles Rees died on 21 September aged 78. Professor Rees was a former member of the Department of Chemistry at King's from 1957-65.

His academic reputation lay in the field of heterocyclic chemistry, a branch of organic chemistry dealing with the synthesis, properties and applications of compounds that contain a ring structure of atoms in addition to carbon, such as sulphur, oxygen or nitrogen, as part of the ring. Many heterocyclic compounds have applications which are vital to drug design, and Professor Rees was involved in the



synthesis and chemistry of new heterocyclic rings.

At King's he collaborated with Professor Donald Hey on various aspects of heterocyclic chemistry. Professor Rees was made a Fellow of King's in 1999. He was a Past President of the Royal Society of Chemistry (1992-4).



# Department of Music

*King's has one of the country's most distinguished and vibrant university music departments. It is internationally recognised as a centre of excellence in teaching and research and is now expanding with new staff being appointed, more courses on offer than ever before, and collaborations with distinguished national institutions such as the BBC and English National Opera.*

**T**HE DEPARTMENT WAS FOUNDED in the Norfolk Building, Surrey Street in 1964 by Thurston Dart, one of the pioneers of the study and performance of early music. Dart came from Cambridge, where he had the Chair in Music but where his proposals were too radical, to create this new Department at the centre of one of the world's music capitals. This was the first Music Department in the University of London and Dart the first King Edward VII Chair of Music.

When Dart founded the Department the library had just one music volume (Handel's *Messiah*), few staff and about six undergraduates. 'By sheer force of personality he attracted friends, dedicated students, powerful colleagues from other parts of the University and willing financial donors,' explains John Deathridge, the present King Edward VII Professor of Music and Head of Department. 'Though it should be said Dart's aim was also to place emphasis on postgraduate studies and serious research in music, at the time an unusual aim in British university music departments.'

From these modest beginnings the Department went from strength to strength. It was rated 'excellent' in the 1995 teaching assessment of quality of education and awarded the highest mark in the 1996 Research Assessment Exercise and a top rating in 2001.

In terms of student numbers the Department intentionally remains relatively small: there are 120 undergraduates, 25 masters and 35 doctoral students, but competition for the 30-35 undergraduate places available each year is higher than for any other music department in the country.

On 1 January the Department will boast 11 members of staff when Professor Roger Parker, currently the Chair in Music at the University of Cambridge, joins as the new Thurston Dart Professor of Music. Two lecturers are due to take up new posts in the Department later in 2007.

## Teaching and research

The teaching programme has grown enormously over the years helped by close relationships with the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) and the Royal Academy of Music.

Particular strengths lie in: performance



The King's College London Symphony Orchestra rehearsing in the Great Hall at the Strand Campus.

– nearly all students play an instrument and the Department offers instrumental lessons at the Academy; music history – the Department lays claim to world authorities on Mozart, Wagner and, with the arrival of Professor Parker, Verdi; music analysis and theory; and lastly composition. More than ten doctoral students are composing for their PhDs and George Benjamin, Henry Purcell Professor of Composition, has written his first opera, due to be given its first performance at the Opéra Bastille in Paris on 22 November.

'We are currently broadening the intellectual scope of the Department to include research clusters in music theatre, 18th-century music, popular music and hopefully post-colonial theory and film music,' explains Professor Deathridge.

The Department also hosts the Arts and Humanities Research Council Research Centre for the History and Analysis of Recorded Music (CHARM), a partnership project between the university and various other institutions, which promotes the study

of music as performance through a specific focus on recordings.

The Institute of Advanced Musical Studies is one of the Humanities Research Centres of the School of Humanities and is embedded in the Department. It undertakes and encourages research in music history, music theory and analysis, and composition, favouring interdisciplinary approaches. Its conferences, workshops, weekly research colloquia and lecture-concerts are internationally attended and open to staff and students as well as the public.

## Prime location

The Department is still based at the Strand Campus but now occupies the South-West Block, a building overlooking the River Thames. 'There are still not many music departments in the world in locations quite like King's,' comments Professor Deathridge.

'Students can sample daily any number of cultural and musical events, ranging from the annual BBC Proms series or English-language opera performances at the English National Opera to contemporary music performances by the London Sinfonia and intimate solo recitals. Being based in central London also opens the doors to explore performance opportunities outside the university with any of the hundreds of ensembles based in London.'

## Collaborations

Collaborations are another King's strength: at the end of October the Department co-hosted a Study Day with English National Opera at the Guy's Campus to complement their new production of Janáček's *Jenufa*. Professor Deathridge joined four other opera experts in presenting a programme of lectures and perspectives on the composer, his work and the importance of this masterpiece.

Next April, in partnership with the BBC and British Library, the College is mounting a three-day conference open to all, *The Proms and British Musical Life*, exploring the impact of the Proms, while also surveying the changes in our musical culture over 80 years and the effect of broadcasting and new technologies on the development of classical music.

The tempo is certainly allegro in this Department right now and King's is without doubt hitting the high notes in this subject.



## Cancer survival



**CANCER SURVIVAL IS DEPENDENT ON** the season of diagnosis and sunlight exposure, according to research from King's published in the *International Journal of Cancer*.

Sunlight is essential for the production of vitamin D in the body. There is growing evidence to suggest that vitamin D metabolites may also have a role in tumour growth suppression.

In this large study, involving data from the Thames Cancer Registry of more than a million cancer patients, the researchers analysed the role of the season of diagnosis and sunlight exposure in cancer survival for cancers of the breast, colorectum, lung and prostate up to one year and

five years after diagnosis. The researchers found diagnosis in summer and autumn associated with improved cancer survival compared with that in winter.

Professor Henrik Moller, of the Division of Cancer Studies, and one of the study authors comments: 'The effect is particularly marked in female breast cancer patients and both male and female lung cancer patients. Seasonality in cancer survival also appears to be stronger in women than in men. While cumulative sunlight exposure in the months preceding diagnosis was also a predictor of survival, season of diagnosis appears to play a stronger role.'

## Nursing focus

**A SCOPING STUDY INTO THE ROLE** of nurses, midwives and health visitors in children's health services recommends better coordination of children's health services and that traditional nursing practice should be maintained alongside more specialised roles.

The report for the Department of Health examined how and why nurses, midwives and health visitors play a vital role in children's health and also how that role can improve.

The research was conducted in the context of ten topic areas, including; asthma, cancer, disadvantaged families, school health, sick newborns and teenage pregnancy. One of the key findings was that different organisations do not always work together closely enough for the sake of the child and they sometimes treat the child in isolation rather than as part of a multi-partner system.

The study also highlighted the need for general as well as



specialised roles. Alison While, Professor of Community Nursing, who led the study says: 'The role of nurses, midwives and health visitors is evolving and becoming more specialised with more targeted services emerging. But I would stress that traditional nursing roles and activities should not be neglected because meeting basic needs is still central to child and family health.'

## Sports success clue

**CAN FUTURE SPORTS STARS BE**

predicted by looking at the length of their fingers? According to new research from the Twin Research Unit at King's, women whose ring fingers are longer than their index fingers should achieve higher levels in sports.

The ratio of the length of the index finger to the ring finger (2d: 4d) has already been shown to be associated in males with diverse traits including disease susceptibility, sexuality and aspects of personality.

This study examined hand radiographs of 607 female twins aged 25-79 years and the lengths of the second and fourth fingers of each hand were measured. Participants also ranked their highest level achieved in a list of 12 sports on a questionnaire. Women with longer fourth fingers than second fingers reported that they had performed better at running level and associated



running sports such as tennis.

'The reasons for these findings are unclear,' says Professor Tim Spector, who led the research. 'Previous studies have suggested the change in finger length was due to changes in testosterone levels in the womb but we also found that finger length was 70 per cent heritable with little influence of the womb environment. This suggests genes are the main factor and finger length is a marker of your genes.'

## What is normal?

Peace and 'normalisation' in Northern Ireland involves more than tearing down watch-towers and demilitarising police, according to a new report from the School of Law.

The report was commissioned by the British and Irish Governments' Independent Monitoring Commission. It involves a criminal justice system operating as part of a fully-functioning democracy, dedicated to human rights for all.

*Securing the Peace: The Normalisation of Security Arrangements in Northern Ireland* is the culmination of research by Professor Ben Bowling, Dr Peter Neumann and Cian Murphy who drew on the experiences of post-conflict societies around the world to examine the

concept of 'normalisation' and how it is being achieved in Northern Ireland.

The report offers two visions of 'normalisation'. The first is a comparison between Northern Ireland and another region or city.

The other vision is 'normality' as a state of aspiring to standards – based on democracy and the protection of human rights and civil liberties. The authors conclude that the latter, standards-based approach is to be encouraged.

A significant risk identified by the report is that the pressure of the 'war on terrorism' will alter perceptions of 'normality'.

To read the report follow a link on this page: [www.kcl.ac.uk/phpnews/wmview.php?ArtID=1380](http://www.kcl.ac.uk/phpnews/wmview.php?ArtID=1380)

## REPORT 2005-6

### THE COLLEGE'S ANNUAL REPORT

for 2005-6 has recently been published. The REPORT illustrates a sample of the great range of work undertaken at King's during the past academic year and is sent widely to friends and contacts of the College.

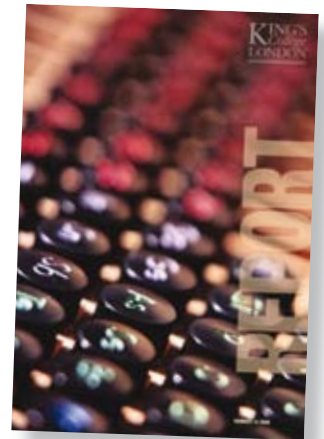
Edited by Dr Christine Kenyon Jones, College Writer and Research Fellow, the REPORT includes articles on: the exploration of the mooted tradition and the School of Law's recent success in competitions; online learning initiatives in Dentistry and War Studies; pioneering research undertaken in the fight against infection; an

investigation of how galaxies are formed; King's global role in the development of palliative care, policy and rehabilitation; the new, groundbreaking Arden edition of *Hamlet*; a discussion of the government's 'misguided obsession' with formal qualifications; an examination of nursing today with reference to the College's famous predecessors; and the transformation of the Strand Campus.

The front cover image is of a store containing samples of all the elements of the periodic table, from the Materials Library at King's. The Library is an archive

of more than 400 materials collected by Dr Mark Miodownik, Lecturer in Mechanical Engineering. It contains some of the most extraordinary substances on earth, such as a piece of Aerogel containing 99.8 per cent air; a phial of ferrofluid, a magnetic liquid which grows spikes like a hedgehog, and a tile of aluminium nitride that conducts the heat from one's hand efficiently enough to cut ice as if it were butter. The Materials Library aims to give the arts community access to the fruits of publicly-funded materials science research.

Copies of the REPORT have been sent to School Offices and



are available on receptions. Staff are encouraged to send the REPORT to anyone interested in the College's work, and additional copies are available from the Public Relations Department (email [pr@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:pr@kcl.ac.uk) or ring ext 3202).

## Lord Layard lecture



**Lord Layard** and **Professor Anne Marie Rafferty**, Dean of the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing & Midwifery.

### ON 3 OCTOBER PROFESSOR LORD

Richard Layard, until recently Founder-Director of the Centre for Economic Performance at the London School of Economics, gave the first Florence Nightingale Seminar for this academic year entitled *A New Deal for Depression and Chronic Anxiety*.

Professor Layard outlined his recent proposals for scaling up cognitive behaviour therapy for people suffering from depression

and anxiety through training an additional 10,000 clinical psychologists and psychological therapists; and delivering CBT through a network of psychological treatment centres.

He argued that this initiative can be fully funded through resultant savings in incapacity benefit. There followed a lively debate with the audience, which numbered some 300 people from around the country.

## New Campus guides

### NEW CAMPUS GUIDES ARE NOW

available for the Strand and Guy's Campuses. The guides, designed by the Corporate Design Unit, have a new look and feel and are a handy pocket size.

As well as a comprehensive colour-coded key and map of the Campus they contain images from around the College, detailed travel information for visitors, directions from other Campuses, an overview map, location map and details about

the surrounding area.

They are available from receptions or by emailing [pr@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:pr@kcl.ac.uk). Guides are also available online at: [www.kcl.ac.uk/about/campuses](http://www.kcl.ac.uk/about/campuses)

Existing guides are available for the Denmark Hill, St Thomas' and Waterloo Campuses. These can also be obtained from the Public Relations Office.

Please let us know what you think of the new guides. Email [design@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:design@kcl.ac.uk) with any feedback.





## Evening language classes



CONNOR MASTERSON

**HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN A** new language at a discounted rate? King's Modern Language Centre, based at the Strand Campus, offers evening courses in 14 different languages including Arabic, Portuguese, French, Japanese and Spanish, with a full range of levels and specialisms, and with discounted rates for staff and students.

The Centre is now taking applications for the spring term, which will commence the week beginning 15 January. Courses run at either 18.00-19.30 or 19.30-21.00.

For information on courses, fees, timetables and how to enrol please see: [www.kcl.ac.uk/mlc/evening](http://www.kcl.ac.uk/mlc/evening)  
You can now enrol online at: [www.kcl.ac.uk/mlc/evening/timetable](http://www.kcl.ac.uk/mlc/evening/timetable)

## College Christmas cards

**THIS YEAR THERE ARE TWO COLLEGE** Christmas cards: one depicts a traditional festive scene in watercolour *A Christmas Carol* by Dante Gabriel Rossetti (1828-82) and the other *Exhibition room stained glass*, by the runner-up in the College's 2005 photographic competition Roni Pacht, shows a crowned lion from the east window in the Weston Room at the Maughan Library.

Cards come in boxes of 25 (priced at £12 per box) from the Corporate Design Unit ([design@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:design@kcl.ac.uk)) and each



card comes with an attractive envelope. Smaller quantities can be purchased from the Students' Union shops.

## Dana Centre event

**ULRIKE SCHMIDT, THE NEWLY** appointed Professor of Eating Disorders, and Professor Iain Campbell, both at the Institute of Psychiatry (IoP), are participating in the first IoP event at the Dana Centre in central London, in conjunction with the European Brain Alliance on 14 November at 19.00.

This first public engagement event is one of a series that will run into 2007 and is free to the general public.

The event entitled *Beyond Slim* will look at what an eating disorder is, how they develop and how they are treated. To book tickets please apply to: 020 7942 4040 or [tickets@danacentre.org.uk](mailto:tickets@danacentre.org.uk)

## News in brief

### Landscaping works

A programme of works is planned for the South Bank area which will include enhancements to the look of the space in front of the James Clerk Maxwell Building and improvements in terms of access to the building. Further information about the project, including timescales, will follow.

### College regulations 2006-7

A 'Blue Book' of regulations was recently distributed which provides information relating to: 'Academic regulations, Regulations concerning students & General regulations (incorporating ISS regulations)'. Reference copies are available in School Offices and libraries and the regulations can also be found on the web at: [www.kcl.ac.uk/about/governance/regulations/](http://www.kcl.ac.uk/about/governance/regulations/) For regulatory advice please email [regulations@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:regulations@kcl.ac.uk)

### Asylum Monologues

Actors for Refugees, a network of professional performers dedicated to drawing public attention to the experiences of asylum seekers in the UK will perform at King's (in the Auditorium of the Franklin-Wilkins Building) on 30 November at 18.00. *Asylum Monologues*, scripted by award-winning playwright and director of iceandfire theatre company, Sonja Linden, presents first-hand accounts of three asylum seekers living in the UK. For more information visit: [www.iceandfire.co.uk/actorsforrefugees](http://www.iceandfire.co.uk/actorsforrefugees) or contact Sarah Campbell on 07837 550643.

### Prospect debate

On 21 November a debate *The World After Bush* led by Michael Lind, of the New America Foundation and author of *Made in Texas*, with Michael Gove shadow cabinet member and leading neoconservative, is taking place at the King's Lecture Theatre, Strand Campus at 20.00. The debate will be chaired by Professor Sir Lawrence Freedman,

Vice-Principal (Research) and is in association with *Prospect* magazine. *Prospect* has acquired a reputation as one of the most intelligent magazines of current affairs and cultural debate in Britain. Places are limited so please apply early, contact: [events@prospect-magazine.co.uk](mailto:events@prospect-magazine.co.uk)

### Christmas collection

This December staff and students can donate gifts which are then sorted and wrapped by student and staff volunteers before being delivered to local charities. Last year more than 200 gifts were donated. Look out for a collection box on your Campus between 5-12 December, or help wrap presents on 13 December at Inverse, KCLSU's nightclub on the Guy's Campus. For more information contact Gjoril Berg (ext 2714 or [gjoril.berg@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:gjoril.berg@kcl.ac.uk)) or visit: [www.kcl.ac.uk/volunteering](http://www.kcl.ac.uk/volunteering)

### Celebrating science

On 24 October Buckingham Palace recognised the importance of British Science in national life with a series of special events. The Queen hosted an evening reception for around 500 representatives of Britain's scientific community including, from King's, Dr Stephen Minger, Professor Tak Lee, Professor Clive Coen and Professor Anne Greenough. Also in attendance was Lord Rees (President of the Royal Society), Lord Sainsbury (Science Minister) and Professor Stephen Hawking.

### Leonardo

The College is in discussion with the organisers of a major exhibition about Leonardo da Vinci that is coming to London next year. The proposal is that King's becomes the exhibition's 'academic partner'. Any academics who have an interest in any aspect of Leonardo's work are invited to get in contact with Chris Coe, Director of Communications ([christopher.coe@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:christopher.coe@kcl.ac.uk)).



## Sporting success

**Tim Spector**, Professor in Genetic Epidemiology, led a team that found women whose ring finger is longer than their index finger are more likely to achieve higher levels in sport. Professor Spector was interviewed by BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme. The research was covered by *The Times*, *Daily Mail*, *The Sun*, *The Guardian*, *The Independent*, *The Scotsman*, *China Daily*, some US titles and BBC News Online.

## Mental health stigma

**Graham Thornicroft**, Professor of Community Psychiatry, was interviewed on BBC *Breakfast News* about issues facing employees with mental health problems in the workplace. Professor Thornicroft also took part in a discussion and phone-in on the topic on BBC Radio 5 Live.

## Schroeder's memoirs

German television ZDF's European news programme *Heute in Europa* interviewed **Dr Jan Palmowski**, Senior Lecturer in German Politics and European Studies, following the publication of former Chancellor Schroeder's memoirs.

## Young offenders

**Rob Allen**, Director of the International Centre for Prison Studies, argued that the age of criminal responsibility should be raised on Radio 4's *Today* programme. His colleagues were interviewed on Sky News, BBC *One O'Clock News*, Channel 5 News and Radio 2's *Jeremy Vine Show*, on the day their report into criminal responsibility was published. The story was also reported on GMTV and BBC *Breakfast News* and in *The Independent*, *Daily Mail* and BBC News Online.

## The veil

**Maleiha Malik**, Lecturer in Law, wrote in a piece for *The Guardian* that an intelligent honest debate about women and Islam is needed. However, she argues that the current politically driven campaign is making that more difficult.

## Size zero debate

**Professor Janet Treasure**, Institute of Psychiatry, had an open letter to the British Fashion Council, along with 40 colleagues, published in the *Evening Standard* urging fashion bosses to put a ban on 'clearly anorexic' girls and backing the Spanish fashion industry's move not to use extremely thin models. The story also appeared in the *Daily Mail*.

## European obesity

**Catherine Geissler**, Professor of Nutrition, discussed the difference in obesity levels between the British and French in an interview with Radio France. **Tom Sanders**, Professor of Nutrition & Dietetics, was interviewed for the ARD (Germany) lunch and evening news programmes on the factors behind higher obesity levels in the UK.

## Schizophrenia risk

**Dr Mike Isaac**, Senior Lecturer at the Institute of Psychiatry, comments on links between cannabis and the development of schizophrenia as well as the onset of cancer in the *Evening Standard*.

## Functional foods

**Tom Sanders**, Professor of Nutrition & Dietetics, was interviewed about functional foods such as bacteria, fish oils and plant extracts, designed to improve our health on BBC2's *The Money Programme*. Professor Sanders also took part in a discussion on Radio 4's *Farming Today* following claims by PETA that feeding your child meat is abuse. He said the vegan diet also has its shortcomings and a balanced diet is the healthiest approach.

## Shakespeare to life

**Dr Bethan Marshall**, Department of Education & Professional Studies, discussed the importance of bringing Shakespeare's words to life through performance in her regular article for *The Independent*. Dr Marshall also took part in a BBC Radio 4 *The Learning Curve* special on the digital world in education.

## Averroes

Averroes, the 12th-century Islamic scholar who devoted his life to defending philosophy against the precepts of faith, was the subject under discussion on BBC Radio 4's *In Our Time*. **Dr Peter Adamson**, Reader in Philosophy, was one of Melvyn Bragg's three guests.

## President Bush

**Dr John Gearson**, Reader in Terrorism Studies, discussed President George W Bush's recent acknowledgement that the violence in Iraq has parallels with the Vietnam War on BBC News 24.

## Prison overcrowding

Members of the Centre for Crime & Justice Studies were interviewed about prison overcrowding on BBC Radio 5 Live, BBC Wales, BBC Newcastle and the Asian Network.

## Palliative care

**Professor Irene Higginson**, Head of Palliative Care, was interviewed on Radio 4 for a programme about how the Harold Shipman case has left many doctors reluctant to administer palliative treatments. Professor Higginson explained that effective pain control can be much more complicated for older patients.

## North Korea

**Pete Zimmerman**, Professor of Science and Security, was interviewed on BBC2 *Newsnight*, CBS, Sky, CNN Asia Watch, BBC4, Al-Jazeera and the Discovery Channel about North Korea's atomic test. In an article on BBC News Online about whether North Korea's nuclear bomb was 100 per cent indigenous, **Wyn Bowen**, Professor of International Security, asserted that a country may become self-sufficient eventually but there has to be some access to information and technology. **Professor Sir Lawrence Freedman**, Vice-Principal (Research), wrote an article for the *Evening Standard* about how concerned we should be about North Korea's nuclear test.

## Nursing numbers

Research has shown that patients at hospitals where there are fewer nurses are more likely to die or suffer complications. **Professor Anne Marie Rafferty**, Dean of the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing & Midwifery, who led the research, also found that nurses working in hospitals with lower nurse-to-patient ratio tend to experience more burn-out. This study was reported in the *Daily Mail*.

## The hard cell

Liberal laws and generous funding have made Europe a leading power in stem cell research. Now the therapy must prove its medical merit. **Michael Marber**, Professor of Cardiology, is quoted in a feature in *Time* magazine, saying trials to improve heart function are a little premature and that more benchwork is needed.

## School science

BBC 2's *Newsnight* included a feature on the dramatic decline in the number of pupils in Britain studying the sciences, which it is claimed, could affect the country's competitiveness and innovation. **Jonathan Osborne**, Professor of Science Education, took part in a debate on whether science is valued enough and if we are taking the right steps in encouraging it.

## The Victorians

**Dr Clare Pettitt**, Lecturer in English, wrote that with time, and therefore diminished direct links, reassessment of the Victorian period is needed. Dr Pettitt's article for *The Times Higher* used recent BBC adaptations, such as *Bleak House* and *Jane Eyre*, to highlight differences in representation of the era and argued against a 'simple minded view of history'.

See [www.kcl.ac.uk/headlines](http://www.kcl.ac.uk/headlines) for the latest media coverage or on Campus noticeboards. **Comment is keen to know of any staff featured in the media, call ext 3202 or email [pr@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:pr@kcl.ac.uk)**

# Beating infection

*The fight against infection is featured in a book, published earlier this year, which celebrates the contributions to biomedicine made by people in King's medical institutions.\* This story is also reflected in the College's historical medical collections.*

FOR CENTURIES, diseases such as plague, smallpox, syphilis and tuberculosis were made more terrifying by the mystery surrounding how they were transmitted. The scientific approach adopted by St Thomas' physician Richard Mead (1673-1754) stands out from a history of quack remedies, astrological theories and charms against infection.

*His Discourse on the Plague*, commissioned by the government in response to an outbreak of plague in 1720, advised that the sick should be separated from the healthy and pointed out that fabrics could transmit the disease.

A 1744 edition of this groundbreaking work, with Mead's inscription, is in the Foyle Special Collections Library at Chancery Lane. In 1721 Mead turned his attention to smallpox, conducting trials of smallpox inoculation among condemned prisoners in Newgate Prison. These trials do, to modern ears, carry worrying overtones of medical experimentation, but the experiment was successful because the entire community of patients was quarantined and the programme of inoculation was complete, not partial.

## Jenner, Cline and Simon

Edward Jenner (1749-1823) discovered that cowpox was an effective prophylactic against smallpox, and a well-known surgeon at St Thomas', Henry Cline (1750-1827), took up Jenner's cause by undertaking successful vaccinations with cowpox in the capital. A collection of pro-vaccination tracts by Jenner,



with an inscription to Cline, is included in the St Thomas' Historical Collection.

Also in the Collection is an autographed copy of *Reports Relating to the Sanitary Condition of the City of London* (London, 1854), by Sir John Simon (1816-1904), the first Medical Officer of Health for London, who trained at St Thomas' and worked at King's. The 1866 Sanitary Act, which enforced the connection of all new houses to a sewer and defined overcrowding as a nuisance, and the Public Health Act of 1875, were both influenced by Simon, but his great achievement was making smallpox vaccination compulsory for children in 1870.

'The Tree of Life', from the first edition of *Hortus Sanitatis* printed in Mainz in 1491.

## Lister

Until the early 20th century limbs injured by compound fracture were usually amputated because of the fear of gangrene, and abdominal surgery carried such a high risk of mortality that it was largely banned at King's College Hospital.

The practice of antiseptic surgery developed by Joseph Lister (1827-1912), Professor of Surgery at King's from 1877 to 1893, completely changed this situation. In 1860, while at Glasgow Infirmary, Lister began to investigate the implications of Louis Pasteur's germ theory. Convinced that putrefaction was caused by airborne bacteria, he used carbolic acid-soaked bandages on wounds to create a barrier against infection.

Lister continued to develop antiseptics after he came to King's. He made surgeons wash their hands and instruments in carbolic acid before and after operations, wear clean gloves and swab incisions with carbolic, and he introduced carbolic sprays into the operating theatre. There was great resistance to these changes from a profession which had worn blood-soaked frock-coats as a mark of honour, as well as objections to the harsh effects of the carbolic acid which left surgeons with cracked skin.



'A maiden and unicorn', from the *Hortus Sanitatis* printed in Mainz in 1491.

Lister's theory and practices did, however, gradually gain support from surgeons, and from the mid 1880s there was a rapid increase in the use of his antiseptic techniques. By 1910 post-operative mortality for major operations had reduced from 40 per cent to less than three per cent, and Lister's principle – that bacteria must never gain entry to an operation wound – remains a basic principle of surgery to this day.

*\*Contributions to Biomedicine: a continuing story*, by Claire Taylor and Gwyn Williams, was published in April. Copies can be obtained, price £10 for a limited period for staff and students, by contacting [schoolofmedicine@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:schoolofmedicine@kcl.ac.uk) or calling 020 7848 6674. This article also features material supplied by Katie Sambrook and Brandon High of the Foyle Special Collections Library. The St Thomas' Historical Collection comprises some 4,000 printed books and 2,000 volumes of journals, all published before the 20th century.

Cowpox lesions from Edward Jenner's *An Inquiry into the Causes and Effects of the...Cow Pox* (London, 1798) in the St Thomas' Historical Collection.





## Mary Seacole Award



**JENNIFER WU, A PHD STUDENT FROM** the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing & Midwifery, has been chosen to receive a Mary Seacole Development Award of £6,250 funded by the Department of Health.

The award is for her study, *An exploratory trail to assess the efficacy, acceptability and feasibility of nurse-led structured telephone follow-up of weight management in Type 2 diabetes mellitus*.

Jennifer was supervised by Professor Alison While and Dr Angus Forbes. 'This is an extremely prestigious award and we are thrilled that Jennifer has been honoured in this way,' commented Professor While.

Mary Seacole (1805-81) was a Jamaican nurse who made a significant and eminent contribution to nursing the wounded in the Crimean War.

## KCLSU election

**IN OCTOBER 1,476 STUDENTS VOTED** in the most successful election to date in terms of the number of candidates and voters. The elections, held to fill seats on the new Student Council, Academic Board, as well as the University of London Union and National Union of Students, saw over 100 candidates standing for different positions, ensuring all posts were contested. As in the spring, voting was open for a week with students able to vote 24/7 online. For more information visit: [www.kclsu.org/helprequired](http://www.kclsu.org/helprequired)

## Engineering acclaim

**MECHANICAL ENGINEERING STUDENT** Jennifer Horrocks was the highly commended runner-up of the

## Makeover for the Waterfront

The KCLSU bar at the Strand Campus, the Waterfront, has received a major makeover with stylish 'booth-style' seating, improved views of the River Thames and mood lighting.

Other new facilities also include a brand new cellar and kitchen; purpose built DJ booth with CD decks, turntables and mixer; scened lighting; a pool table; jukebox; quiz machine and improved ventilation.

In refurbishing the bar, sustainability issues have been a key feature, including air conditioning timed to turn off when not required; bottle fridges timed to turn off when not required; low voltage light bulbs; double glazing to windows to improve the efficiency of the air conditioning and ventilation systems and reduce noise pollution, and wood flooring sourced from sustainable forests.

Daryn McCombe, KCLSU President, explains the reason for the refurbishment: 'The Waterfront hadn't been refurbished for ten years and it was felt that King's students deserved a space to socialise that reflected our central London location and the standing of the College as a major player on the local, national and international stages.'

The new look Waterfront was designed in conjunction with Heron Design to be a space



that would accommodate the wide variety of King's students and the social experience that they expect from university. It provides somewhere that they feel safe to be themselves, meet other students and take time out of their studies.

Since its opening the Waterfront has been constantly busy and proved very popular

with both new and returning students. Comments from appreciative users include: 'A great improvement on how it used to look – it seems so much bigger!'; 'It's great to know that we have such a modern place to hang out in on Campus'; 'I feel really comfortable there, and the views of the Thames are fantastic!'

Cadzw Smith Engineering Award from the Worshipful Company of Engineers.

Jennifer displayed a refreshing view of engineering as a vehicle for enabling creativity, exemplified by her third-year project on the design of a 'Greek temple structure that will sway in the wind' and also in demonstration work with engineering.

The awards recognise excellence on an accredited undergraduate engineering course conducted at one of the 11 universities within London and the Home Counties. Besides academic excellence, recipients

must have demonstrated self-confidence, professional awareness, leadership and sound common sense. The winner was Victoria Pollock from Imperial College London.

## Permission granted

**PLANNING PERMISSION HAS BEEN** granted to King's for major changes to be made to Honor Oak Park Sportsground. Lewisham Council's Planning Committee accepted the College's application to build a new pavilion and add two all-weather pitches, which

will provide sporting facilities throughout the year.

Situated in Brockley Rise, the ground is one of three College sportsgrounds and more than 50 student clubs use this facility, most of which are active in inter-university competitions. Over the years the facilities at the ground have become outdated and in need of rejuvenation.

The new facilities will enable the College to deliver modern, compliant and attractive high quality sporting facilities for its students and also help support local schools and community sport and recreation.





### Striving for Military Stability in Europe: Negotiation, implementation and adaptation of CFE Treaty

Jane Sharp, Centre for Defence Studies

This new book traces the changing relationship between Russia and NATO through the prism of conventional arms control, focusing on the negotiation, implementation and adaptation of the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE) Treaty.

Jane Sharp shows that arms control agreements reflect relations between parties and how the CFE Treaty codified parity between NATO and the Soviet-led Warsaw Treaty Organization (WTO) in November 1990.

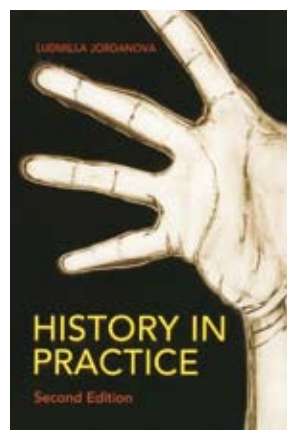
Although still widely viewed in the West as the cornerstone of security and stability in post-Cold War Europe, from the Russian perspective the treaty was soon overtaken by events.

With the collapse of the WTO and the Soviet Union in 1991, it became impossible to talk of a military balance between East and West in Europe, especially as all the former WTO states opted for membership in NATO.

This study details how the other state parties worked hard to adjust and adapt the treaty to meet Russian concerns about its new weakness relative to NATO and the issues that complicated Russian acceptance of CFE limits.

*Striving for Military Stability in Europe* will be of great interest to all students of NATO, European politics, international relations and strategic studies in general.

**Routledge**



### History in Practice

Professor Ludmilla Jordanova, Department of History

The study of history has changed dramatically in recent decades. The swiftness and scale of the shift is indisputable, but its precise nature, as well as its implications, remain hotly contested.

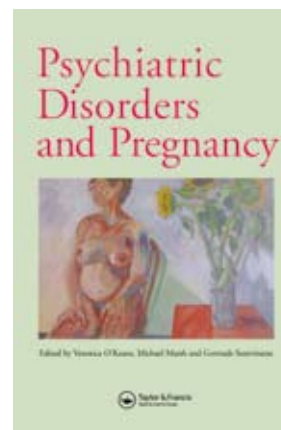
This work has a refreshing transparency, a determination to demystify what historians do. It looks at history as an academic discipline but also engages with the use of historical ideas in the wider world. It examines the way historians have divided up their subject, how this has changed and with what effects.

Why have certain fields, such as women's history and black history, generated such intense debates about their value and validity? Is there justification for the frequent characterisation of history as something of a jackdaw subject, with a tendency to appropriate theories and concepts from other areas?

Issues such as these are part of the book's careful mapping of the theory and practice of history, exploring the discipline's breadth, its complexities, and the intellectual tasks it takes on.

This new edition makes this innovative work more accessible and more universal. Taking into account recent world events (9/11 and the War in Iraq), Professor Jordanova has included a new chapter on the relationships between religious, ethnic, and political identities, the history of international diplomacy, and how the world map gets reconfigured.

**Hodder Arnold**



### Psychiatric Disorders and Pregnancy

Dr Veronica O'Keane, Head of Perinatal Psychiatry, IoP; Michael Marsh and Dr Trudi Seneviratne, King's College Hospital

This is the first book co-written by psychiatrists and obstetricians that attempts to provide a practical guide for psychiatrists, obstetricians and primary care health providers in the management of psychiatric disorders during pregnancy.

It is a classical textbook in that it provides academic background information on the aetiology, genetics, psychosocial and biological aspects of psychiatric disorders during pregnancy.

The publication of this book is timely as evidence is accumulating that pregnancy is a high-risk time for the development of depression and that depression or psychosis during pregnancy results in poorer pregnancy and baby outcome. This important text presents an up-to-date review of the clinical literature with a particular emphasis on clinical management.

Topics include: screening for mental illness in pregnancy; aetiology and management of depression during pregnancy; pregnancy and the psychoses; the effects of parental mental illness on children; and mental illness and pregnancy from a transcultural perspective.

This book has a unique, interdisciplinary approach that aims to address health workers from multiple disciplines involved in delivering care to women with mental health problems during pregnancy.

**Taylor & Francis**



### Accessible Housing

Professor Rob Imrie, Department of Geography

This book considers the inter-relationships between disability and housing design focusing on the role of policy in addressing the housing needs of disabled people. It investigates the role and significance of house builders in influencing the design and construction of accessible housing that meets disabled people's needs.

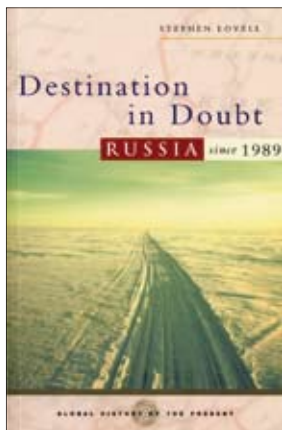
Its focus is the speculative house building process, and the construction of private (for sale) dwellings. The book describes and evaluates the socio-institutional political, and technical relations that underpin the design and construction of housing. These, it is argued, shape builders' reluctance to design and construct housing that is flexible to accommodate variations in bodily needs and performance.

A feature of the book is the exploration of disabled people's experiences of inaccessible dwelling spaces, and the role of law and regulation relating to the provision of accessible housing.

Legal provisions and processes do little to influence builders to adopt design and construction practices that will provide usable or sustainable dwelling spaces. Rather, they encourage small-scale, incremental, changes to the physical design of housing that are insufficient to provide a context for dignified living or lifestyles for disabled people.

*Accessible Housing* brings a range of approaches to the forefront of debate.

**Routledge**



## Destination in Doubt: Russia since 1989

Dr Stephen Lovell, Department of History

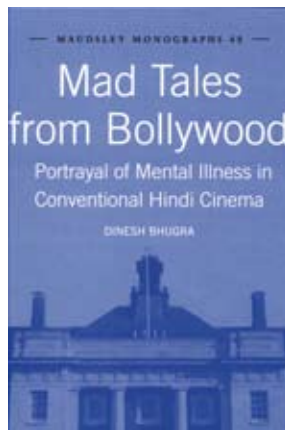
The enormously complex changes triggered by the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe were nowhere more ambiguous than in the heartland of the Soviet bloc, Russia itself.

Here the population was divided on all the most fundamental questions of post-communist transition: economic reforms, the Communist Party, the borders of the state, even the definition of the Russian nation itself. Russians also faced plummeting living standards and chronic uncertainty. In a matter of months, Russia was apparently demoted from 'evil empire' to despondent poor relation of the prosperous West.

The country also seemed alarmingly open to all manner of political outcomes, from fascist dictatorship to further disintegration. Yet, by the start of the 21st century, observers were speaking of a new political stability.

*Destination in Doubt* stands back from the turbulent post-Soviet era and inquires into the nature of the 'Second Russian Revolution'. It argues that Russia deserves our attention now as much as ever, because it raises so many of the big questions about how societies operate in the modern world.

Zed Books Ltd



## Mad Tales from Bollywood

Dinesh Bhugra, Professor of Mental Health & Cultural Diversity, Institute of Psychiatry

This is the first book to investigate how mental illness is portrayed in Hindi cinema. It examines attitudes towards mental illness in Indian culture, how they are reflected in Hindi films, and how culture has influenced the portrayal of the psychoses.

Professor Bhugra guides the reader through the history of Indian cinema, covering developments from the idealism of the 1950s to the stalking, jealousy and psychopathy that characterises the films of the 1990s.

Critiques of films show the culture's approach towards mental illness and reflect the impact of culture on films and vice versa.

Subjects covered include: cinema and emotion; attitudes towards mental illness; socio-economic factors and cinema in India; and psychoanalysis in the films of the 60s.

*Mad Tales from Bollywood* will be of interest to psychiatrists, mental health professionals, students of media and cultural studies and those with an interest in Indian culture.

Professor Bhugra has written extensively on cultural factors and mental illness, psychosexual medicine and sexuality.

Psychology Press



## Corporate Soldiers and International Security

Dr Christopher Kinsey, Lecturer in the Defence Studies Department

This book traces the history of private military companies, with a special focus on UK private forces. Dr Kinsey examines the mercenary companies that filled the ranks of many European armies right up to the 1850s, the organisations that operated in Africa in the 1960s and early 1970s, the rise of legally established private military companies in the late 1970s and early 1980s, and today's private and important actors in international security and post-conflict reconstruction.

He shows how and why the change from the mercenary organisations of the 1960s and 1970s came about, as the increasing newness of private military companies came to be recognised. He then examines how private military companies have been able to impact upon international security.

Finally, Dr Kinsey looks at the type of problems and advantages that can arise for organisations that decide to use private military companies and how they can make a unique contribution to international security.

This book will be of great interest to students of international politics, security and war studies.

Routledge

## Three favourite...

### theatres near the Strand Campus

As recommended by Joe May, Assistant Site Services Manager, Strand Campus.

#### The Savoy (The Strand)

Superb mature art deco interior and one of the most attractive box offices in London. Plays and musicals performed here. It seats more than 1,000.

#### Theatre Royal (Drury Lane)

Grand entrance, impressive staircase and saloon. Mostly big musicals performed here. It seats more than 2,000.

#### The Bridewell (off Fleet Street, Ludgate Circus end)

A former Victorian swimming pool with a wrought iron balcony still intact. Plays, musicals and lunchtime events performed here. It seats 140.

Please let us know your three favourite things related to a King's Campus for example sandwich shops near Guy's or parks not far from St Thomas' and they could appear in a future issue and provide colleagues with useful tips. Email [julie.munk@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:julie.munk@kcl.ac.uk)

## Question?

### Do university league tables mean anything?

This is a new feature introduced in the last issue to encourage debate on the pages of *Comment* so please let us know what you think about this question (or if you have a question you'd like to pose). Your responses to the *Question?* posed in October's issue and this issue will be published in December's *Comment*. Email [julie.munk@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:julie.munk@kcl.ac.uk) by **20 November**.

*Comment* is the College's regular newsletter, edited by the Public Relations Department and designed by the Corporate Design Unit | *Comment* is printed on paper produced with 80 per cent recovered fibre | Articles are welcomed from all members of the College, but please note that the Editor reserves the right to amend articles | Copy for the next issue can be sent to Julie Munk, Public Relations Department (ext 3075), James Clerk Maxwell Building, Waterloo Campus, or emailed to [julie.munk@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:julie.munk@kcl.ac.uk) by **15 November**.