

# Psychological Science Open Day

*Georgina Randsley de Moura  
Head of School of Psychology*

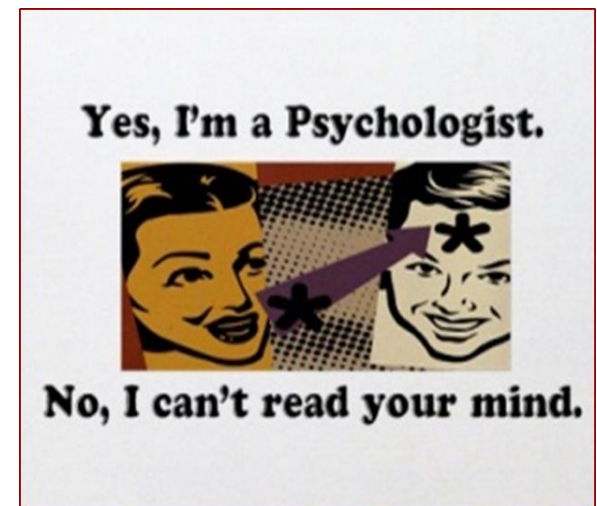


# What is Psychology?

- **Psychology is the study of people: *how they think, behave, and interact***
- **Psychology is concerned with the perceptions, thoughts, feelings, motivations and other mental processes that underlie behaviour.**
- **Unlike its philosophical origin, it is empirical in nature**

# Psychology is also a practice

- Clinical Psychology
- Counselling Psychology
- Educational Psychology
- Forensic/Criminal Psychology
- Health Psychology
- Neuropsychology
- Occupational Psychology
- Sport & Exercise Psychology
- Organisational Psychology
- Teaching & Research



# School History

- 1978 – Undergraduate programme in Social Psychology opens
- 1980s – European and with clinical and applied programmes are established as student numbers and research base grows
- Mid 1980s – Becomes the “Department of Psychology” with greater emphasis on cognitive and developmental psychology
- 1990 – First students admitted to BSc Psychology (9 women and 3 men)



Psychological Science Open Day



# School History

- 1999 – Chair in Cognitive Psychology
- 125 UG students, 34 MSc students on 5 MSc programmes, and 19 academic staff
- 2000 – Chair in Forensic Clinical Psychology
  
- Broadly as we are today, but we have grown – approximately 700 UG students, 100 MSc, and 60 PhD, with 40 full time academic staff engaged in research, 12 administrative and 4 technical staff.

# Core Research Areas

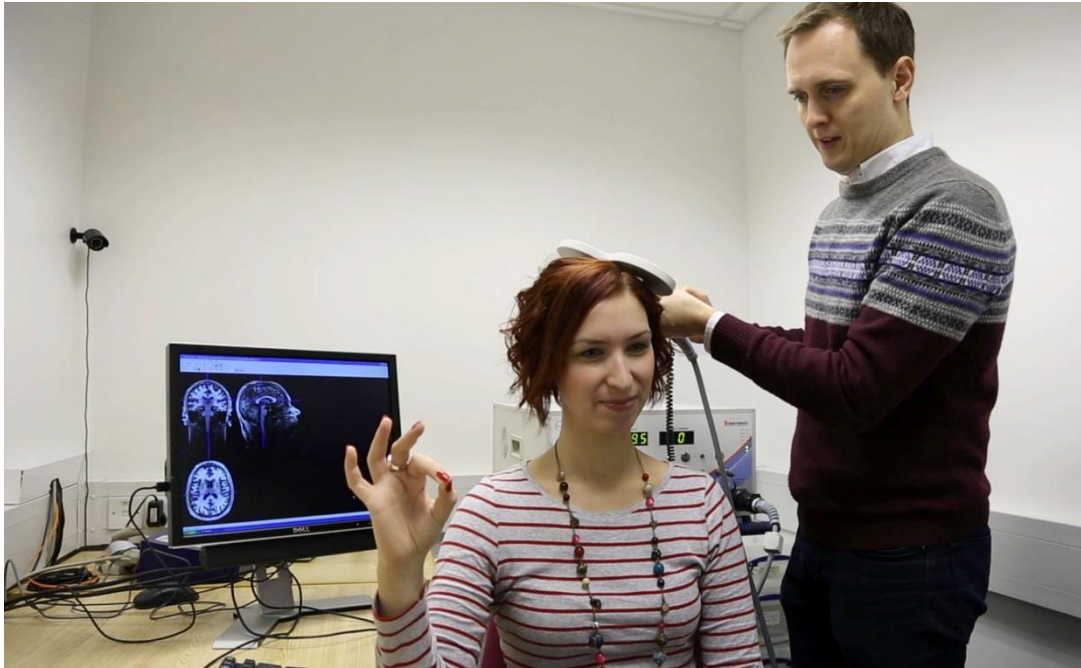
- **Social Psychology**
  - **Centre for Group Processes & Intergroup Relations**
- **Cognition & Neuroscience**
  - **Kent Centre for Cognitive Neuroscience & Cognitive Systems**
- **Forensic Psychology**
  - **Centre of Research & Education in Forensic Psychology (CORE-FP)**
- **Developmental Psychology**
  - **Kent Child Development Unit**



Electrical

# Brain Stimulation

Magnetic



Thermal

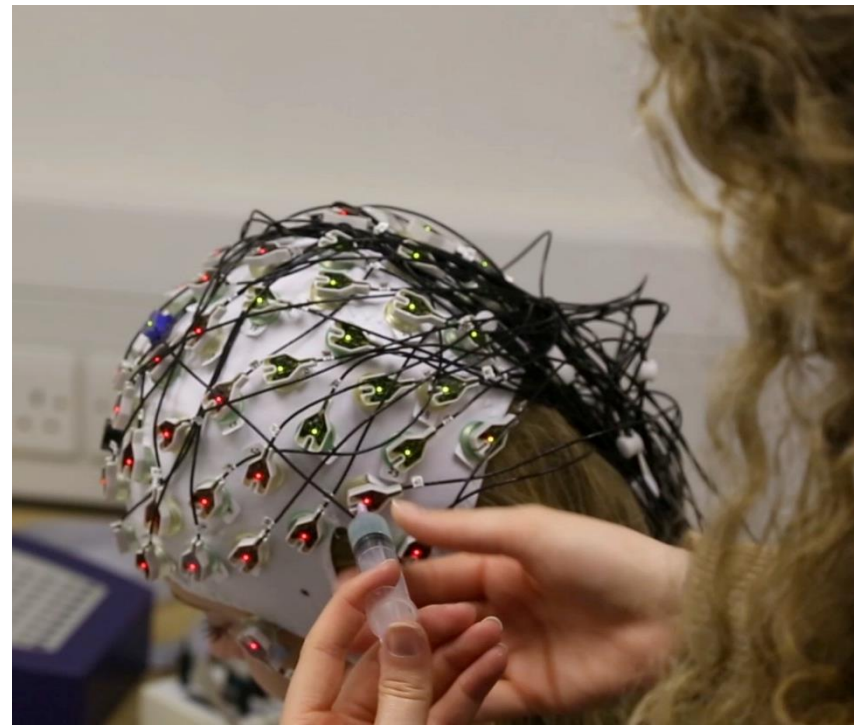
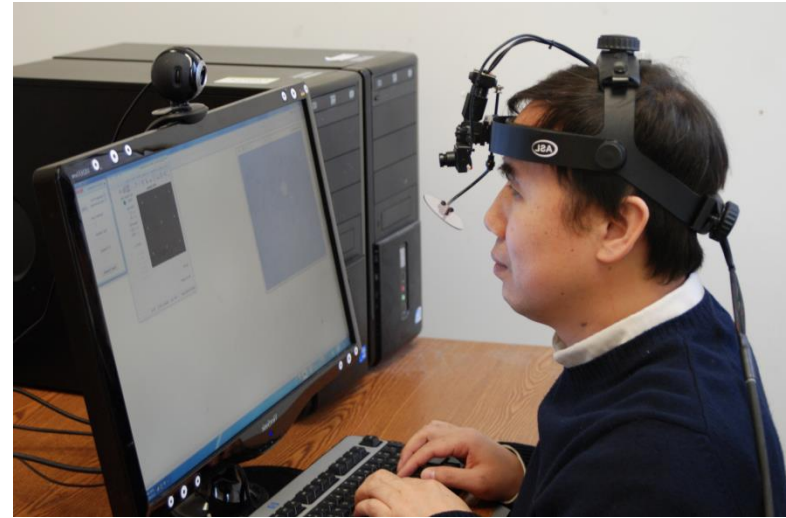
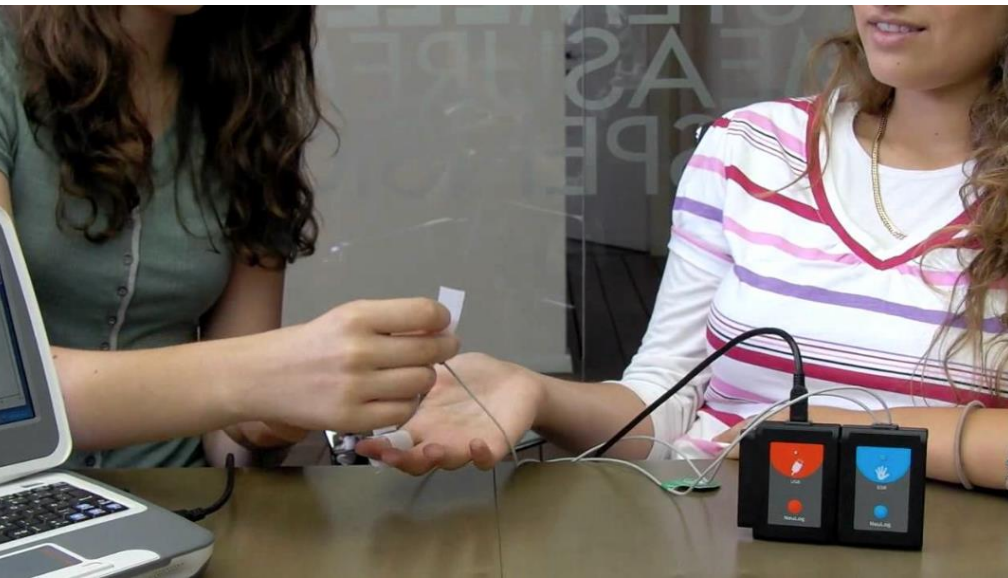


# Kent Psychology Alcohol Laboratory

This new bar allows researchers to study the effects of alcohol in a wider range of social situations than possible with traditional laboratories



# Physiological Recording



# Recent Achievements

Meridian Regional News  
**itv Meridian Tonight**

Follow Meridian Tonight on Twitter @meridiantonight\_



## New Stroke Technique

6.20PM Mon May 9 2011

Electric currents could improve recovery rates

A new medical technique being used on stroke patients could lead to improved recovery rates. It will help people who are unable to focus their eyes to the left, which means their vision is badly impaired. Now, doctors in Kent are using electrical currents to stimulate the brain. Here's...

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## HEALTH ADVANCES

# Pioneering work leads to trial of new treatment

by Sian Napier  
 snapier@theindependent.co.uk

PEOPLE who suffer from an but debilitating which often results like or head injury benefit from a new thing pioneered at Canterbury Hospital. Hospitals Trust, n with the Uni- has been given by the Medical to carry out an he pioneering

It could be ers of hemi- condition as though the world as

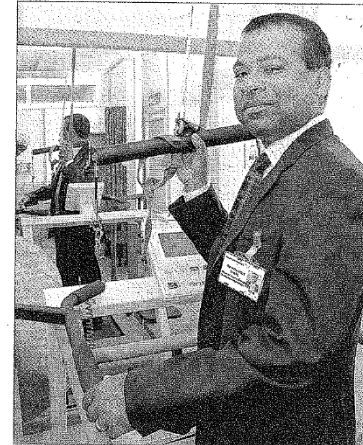
...me form ...snave just ...only one side of their plate, whereas others with less pronounced symptoms may simply regularly "lose" things that they have put down on their left-hand side.

Dr Mohamed Sakel, director of neuro-rehabilitation and research at the hospitals trust, said: "This condition can be enormously debilitating.

"It is a very strange thing. Sufferers do not have a problem with their vision - it is simply that their brain will not perceive that there is anything on the left-hand side.

"Many people find it impossible to live a normal life. Just walking across a room is difficult as they will walk into furniture or people."

However, a treatment may be on the horizon as Dr Sakel, his colleague Dr David Wilkinson and other members of the research team have discovered that by repeatedly stimulating an area of the ear canal with a very small electrical current it is possible to provide long-term



**PIONEERING TREATMENT:** Dr Mohamed Sakel with the equipment used to treat hemi-spatial neglect  
 Picture: Barry



**Dr David Wilkinson**

## How team worked to find new solution

Dr Sakel said many more people are surviving stroke catastrophic head injuries, but about 100,000 people in the UK have been left with some form of hemi-spatial neglect

Dr Sakel said: "We have had to advise sufferers not to go out because they can walk into traffic, lampposts and other people. But this is not a solution. We have also told people to try to remember keep turning to the left to see things but again; this is not an ideal way for them to live their lives."

Medical experts have been trying to find an answer to

hospital news

Treatment that means the world

Research grant success could give countless stroke survivors their lives back

University of Kent Research

Research collaboration aims to help stroke sufferers

universities  
 university of Kent



NEW VISION

Tom Savvides reports

# MailOnline

## Help at last for stroke victims who are left with only half a life

By Rachel Ellis  
 Last updated at 3:52 AM on 23rd August 2011

Like 31

Doctors discovered an innovative new treatment that could transform the lives of thousands of stroke patients who 'forget' their left side.

The condition, known as hemi-spatial neglect, affects a quarter of the 150,000 patients who suffer a stroke in Britain every year.

It can also occur in people with a brain tumour or injury to the right side of their brain — as it is this side that controls the left side of the body.

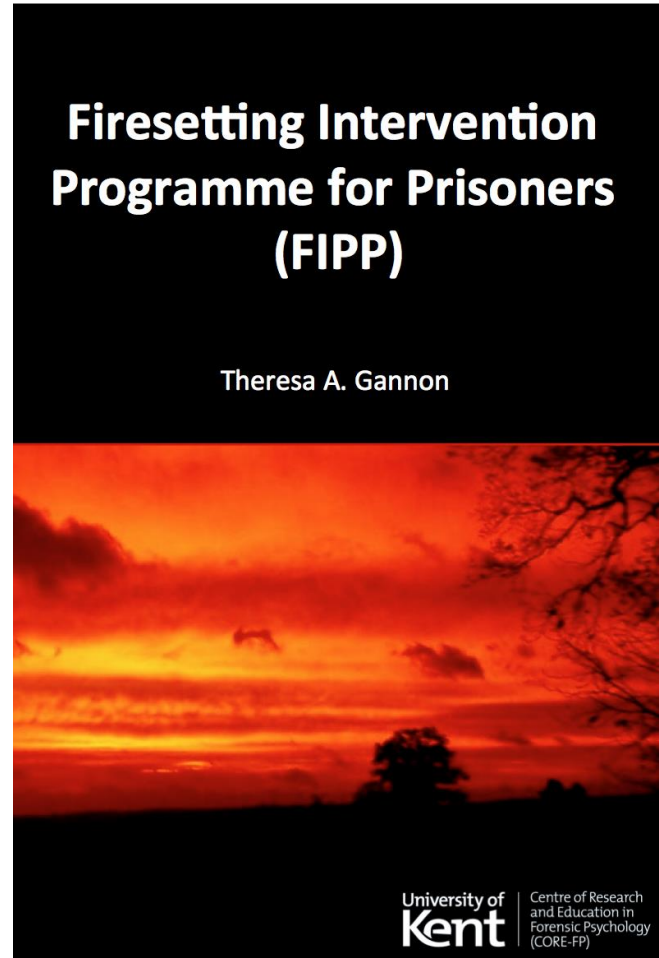


# Brain assembly at local school



# Developed world's first standardised treatment programme for individuals who have set fires

Independent evaluation  
shows treatment is  
effective



# International Journal of Language and Communication Disorders 2014 prize



**How can we assess bilingual children who have speech and language difficulties?**

**The award was given for the discovery of which assessments are best for testing language ability in bilingual children.**

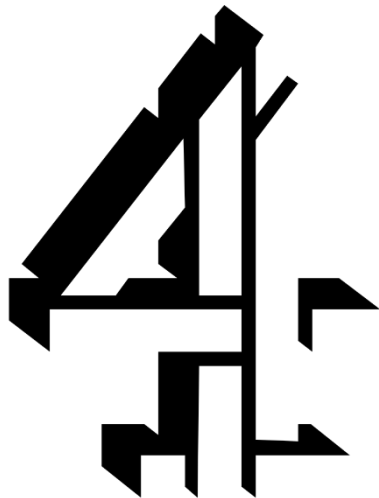


Dr Ayse Uskul:  
*"The Deal on the Floss"*



Prof. Karen Douglas:  
*"David Icke – would you be"*

Prof. Roger Giner-Sorolla:  
*"The Philosophers Arms: Moral"*



Prof. Dominic Abrams:  
*"How Racist are you?"*

Prof. Robbie Sutton:

*"Why do you think girls do better than boys"*



# External Acclaim – Research Excellence Framework (REF, 2014)

- **Psychology at Kent was ranked 11<sup>th</sup> out of 82 in the UK for research intensity (quality of scientific publications taking into account number of academic staff included)**
- **97% of the work submitted was judged to be of international quality**
- **The School's research environment was judged as conducive to world-leading research**
- **All 4 'impact case studies' rated as outstanding or very considerable in reach and significance**

# Exciting Line Up Today – Enjoy it and ask Qs!

- 11:40 Short talks on the psychology of fire-setting, neurorehabilitation, and social development
- 12:10 Practical research demonstrations and free sandwich buffet
- 12:55 Short talks on the psychology of social communication, gangs, memory and social justice
- 13:35 Practical research demonstrations and hot drinks and biscuits
- 14:20 Short talks on the psychology of ageism, visual perception, and cognitive development
- 14:50 Closing comments

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