A warm welcome to contacts old and new to our Autumn Newsletter! Since we last sent out a newsletter we have welcomed out first cohort of Philanthropic Studies MA students and we are delighted at what a diverse, bright and curious group of students we have. It has been a pleasure getting to know them, the first of many we hope!

If you have any questions about the MA or any other comments or thoughts on our work, please don't hesitate to contact us on philanthropy@kent.ac.uk

2016 Million Pound Donor Report shows “boom time” in UK philanthropy

We are delighted to share with you the 2016 Coutts Million Pound Donors Report, researched and written by two members of our team: Dr Beth Breeze and Dr Kayleigh Flaxman. The report is launched today as part of the global Million Dollar Donors Report.

This year’s UK report finds growth in both the total number of gifts worth £1m or more: 355 in 2015, up 17% on 2014, and in the total value of those gifts: £1.83 billion, up 19% on 2014. Further cause for cheer is the identification of 44 ‘first time’ million pound donors. Higher Education remains the top choice for donors giving at this level, and all types of cause received some degree of support from these biggest donors.

You can access the full report here and jump straight to the United Kingdom report here.
Last few places available at our Understanding Fundraising conference

We are pleased to welcome you to a conference we are holding on 'Understanding Fundraising' on Monday 13 February 2017. It will take place at our beautiful Canterbury campus, from 9am-5pm, and will feature keynote speeches from two global experts: Sarah Nathan of the Fundraising School at Indiana University, and Adrian Sargeant, the world’s first professor of fundraising from the University of Plymouth. There will also be an array of presentations and discussions of interest to academics and practitioners. The generous support of Marts and Lundy means there is no charge, but places are going fast so if you are interested please register here.

New research report on voluntary action in primary education

Increasingly, schools are being encouraged to seek philanthropic donations of time and money to support their core and non-core activities. Research carried out by Ali Body and Kerry Holman from Canterbury Christ Church University and Dr Eddy Hogg from the Centre for Philanthropy identifies three prominent areas of activity: the use of volunteers in schools; fundraising to support school activities and working in partnership with charities to co-deliver services and support children.

The report celebrates the role that voluntary action plays in the education of children and young people; the commitment, passion, skills and expertise brought into schools by volunteers, and the advantages of additional funding can bring. However, any level of reliance on voluntary action in primary education is problematic and contested. The report identifies significant disparities in the distribution of these additional resources across schools, by socio-economic factors, school size, school type and leadership ideology.

The full report can be accessed here. To find out more, please email Dr Eddy Hogg.

To unsubscribe, email philanthropy@kent.ac.uk

(£1m stamp photo credit: Howard Lake)