

Welcome to the latest Psychology newsletter

July 2018

In this month's newsletter, you'll find the regular updates on our activities, from learning and teaching achievements, new grants and publications, to the conferences and outreach events we've been part of.

To keep up to date with the latest news from the team as it happens, follow us on Twitter [@HWPsych](#) or find us on [Facebook](#).

Links: [Social Sciences](#) | [Psychology](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#)

The newsletter displays best on tablets (PDF attached also).



Follow our updates on Twitter [@HWPsych](#)

Forthcoming events

Research Seminars/Events

- What Keeps You Sharp? 7 & 16 August, New Town Theatre (Edinburgh Fringe) [View trailer](#) | [Tickets](#)
- Disgust for Dummies 14 August, New Town Theatre (Edinburgh Fringe) [View trailer](#) | [Tickets](#)

Full **Psychology Research Seminar** details are available on [Facebook](#).

Graduation days!

Over the last few weeks, we've celebrated not one, but three graduation days. Events have been held in Edinburgh, Dubai and Malaysia to celebrate the achievements of our most recent undergraduate students. Congratulations to all those who have completed their degree this year, including our prizewinners across the three campuses. A special congratulations to those who graduated in Malaysia, our first undergraduate cohort there!

We look forward to hearing where your degree takes you, so do keep in touch.



Latest publications



Our latest publications are listed here, but you can find a full list via the [Heriot-Watt Research Portal](#).

Fallon, T., Alyett, R., Minnis, H., & Rajendran, G. (2018). Investigating social vulnerability in children using computer mediated role-play. *Computers and Education*, 125, 458-464. [doi: 10.1016/j.compedu.2018.06.027](#)

Garraffa, M., Coco, M. & Branigan, H. (2018). Impaired implicit learning of syntactic structure in children with language impairment: Evidence from structural priming. *Autism and Developmental Language Impairment*, 3, 1-15. [doi: 10.1177/2396941518779939](#)

In the news

Truly global graduations at Heriot-Watt

SoSS blog: [SoSS Graduations 2018 – Celebrating Success Day 2](#)

SoSS blog: [Research – we're having a laugh...](#) (Alan Gow)

CODI blog: [Advice](#) (Alan Gow)

[Rehabilitating the mind could improve outcomes after spinal cord injury](#) (Anna Sedda)

BBC News: [Heriot-Watt study says mind matters for spinal patients](#) (Anna Sedda)

SoSS blog: [The brain before the body](#) (Anna Sedda)

Research updates and funding

Craig, M. Project collaborators: Michaela Dewar & Shannon Strickland. Developing novel memory-related markers of healthy ageing and Alzheimer's disease. Research Incentive Grant from the Carnegie Trust. £9,849, September 2018-September 2019.

Conferences and outreach activities



At the end of last month, two research events were held at the Edinburgh campus. Anna Sedda hosted a full-day workshop on "The Multifaceted Body: Updates into Body Representation and Embodiment", organised in collaboration with Gianna Cocchini (Goldsmiths University of London) and Elisa Raffaella Ferre (Royal Holloway University of London) and sponsored by the UK Experimental Psychology Society. The workshop brought together researchers exploring cutting-edge psychological approaches to the ways in which we perceive our own bodies. [Read more...](#)

On the same day, Alan Gow and colleagues in The Ageing Lab held their second annual Interventions in Cognitive Ageing seminar. The seminar included keynote presentations from international collaborators, a poster session, and the chance for guests to try a Cycling Without Age trishaw. [Read more...](#)

Our Psychology Research Seminars for the 2017-18 concluded with a presentation from Antonia Hamilton at the end of June. The seminars will restart in the new academic year; details will follow in future newsletters. In the meantime, there are a number of other events of interest over the coming months – including two shows at the Edinburgh Fringe (August). Details of all events are listed on [Facebook](#).

The team regularly present at national and international conferences and at a range of public engagement events. A selection of the most recent include:



Bertram, E., Strickland, S., Parra, M. A., Dewar, M., & Craig, M. (2018). Are memory problems in Alzheimer's disease linked to a fault in the reactivation of new memories? Poster presentation at the Interventions in Cognitive Ageing seminar, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, UK, 29th June.

Strickland, S., Dewar, M. & Craig, M. (2018). Examining the suitability of virtual reality as a tool to support memory in older age and Alzheimer's disease. Poster presentation at the Interventions in Cognitive Ageing seminar, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, UK, 29th June.

Marr, C. & Gow, A. J. (2018). Does personality moderate the efficacy of cognitive ageing interventions? A systematic review. Poster presentation at the Interventions in Cognitive Ageing seminar, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, UK, 29th June.

Niechcial, M., Vaportzis, E. & Gow, A. J. (2018). What Keeps You Sharp? People's views about preserving thinking skills in old age. Poster presentation at the Interventions in Cognitive Ageing seminar, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, UK, 29th June.

Gow, A. J. & Vaportzis, E. (2018). What Keeps You Sharp? A UK-wide survey of beliefs about, and knowledge of, cognitive ageing. Poster presentation at the Interventions in Cognitive Ageing seminar, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, UK, 29th June.

Vaportzis, E., Martin, M. & Gow, A. J. (2018). A Tablet for Healthy Ageing: The effect of a tablet computer training intervention on cognitive abilities of older adults. Poster presentation at the Interventions in Cognitive Ageing seminar, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, UK, 29th June.

Gow, A. J. (2018). Cognitive ageing: From public attitudes to real-world interventions. Pitch presentation at Motivation and Healthy Ageing Workshop, University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland, 25th-27th June.

Gow, A. J. (2018). What Keeps You Sharp? Show at Cabaret of Dangerous Ideas, City of Glasgow College, UK, 21st June.

Learning and teaching



As well as celebrating the successes of our students at the recent graduations, we were delighted that Anna Sedda was awarded a Student Union Graduates' Teaching Award. The awards are made in recognition of the quality of teaching and support received by students and in recognition of the dedication of staff who are committed to improving the student experience.