**Debriefing sheet**

Thank you for taking part in this study. Without volunteers like you this work would not be possible. We fully appreciate the time you have given us and hope you had an enjoyable experience.

**Information about this study**

This experiment was developed in order to understand how knowledge can be used to help or disrupt memory. In the word pair study and the image study we sometimes supplied you with extra information to help memorise the stimuli. We expect this to help older adults more than young adults because it will help provide structure to the memory task that utilises existing knowledge. In the name/face task we sometimes presented names and faces that go together and sometimes selected names/faces that do not go together. We expect age differences in memory to be smaller when the names and faces match compared to when they do not match. This is because the different memory stimuli work with, or against, existing knowledge, respectively.

**How is this useful?**

By understanding memory differences between younger and older people, we may be able to develop techniques to help improve memory and reduce the effects of ageing. This could be beneficial to all people in normal everyday life and also for medical reasons such as helping people to remember when to take medication.