



The Edge Extends Facilities



amatters

August 2014

News & Views from the Facilities Directorate at the University of Leeds.

ESTATES | COMMERCIAL SERVICES | SUSTAINABILITY

Au revoir Le Tour!

fter months of waiting, the Grand Depart has been and gone as quickly as Chris Froome's chances of retaining his title. Over the last 10 months we have been celebrating the Tour de France coming to Leeds with an inspirational programme, to a great response. With the Grand Depart

weekend almost a distant memory already it is time to look back over a very successful year. In a great partnership with Leeds City Council, students from the School of Mechanical Engineering produced the official countdown clock that was displayed in Trinity shopping centre and admired by thousands in the 50 days

before the 5th of July. We also had a great response to the lecture series we hosted, with nearly 200 people attending a wide range of topics from French culture and journalism to the planning and legacy of the Tour. A University of Leeds cycling jersey is being produced and once it arrives, it will be worn proudly by over 100 staff, students and alumni who pre ordered. An incredible 10 months was topped off with all the riders of the Tour de France meeting on campus for their team briefing before cycling to the Leeds Arena for the Opening Ceremony. As well as showcasing

the work we have done over the last year, some of the heroes of the University's cycling community were rewarded for the incredible work they do to enhance cycling for staff and students by leading the riders to the Arena as part of a group of community cyclists. It was great to be able to show our gratitude for the amazing work they do on a regular basis. So that's it, I'm sure you will agree, a busy and successful end to an incredible year, and hopefully the start of an even greater cycling community here at the University.



LA SÉCURITÉ MAGNIFIQUE



nless you have been holidaying somewhere not have failed to notice 'Le Tour Yorkshire', and the Grand Depart of the Tour de France 2014 from Leeds. What you might not providing the security for teams Belkin, Bretagne-Seche, Garmin-Sharp and Giant-Shimano.

During the week prior to the Tour de France 2014 teams Belkin, Bretagne-Seche, Garmin-Sharp and and ninety-eight riders made their way on 22 coaches to The Edge sports centre, which was the start point for the cyclists procession to the Tour

de France 2014 Opening Ceremony and Team Presentation at the Leeds Arena. Police estimates put the crowd lining the street from The Edge to Leeds Arena at 12,000 and the

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Police estimates put the crowd lining the street from The Edge to Leeds Arena at 12,000 and the atmosphere was electric. It was a fitting finale to Security Services involvement with what is undoubtedly one of the greatest shows on earth.

LISTENING FOR SUCCESS



Bernard M Baruch isn't exactly one of the most famous of historical characters – I confess I hadn't heard of him until recently – but something he said has implications for the way we work. Baruch was an economic adviser in the US during both world wars, who served and advised no fewer than six presidents. He observed, "Most of the successful people I have known are the ones who do more listening than talking"

That set me thinking. If listening can make people more successful, maybe the same principle applies to organisations too.

You may be aware that the University is preparing a new strategic plan which sets out the proposed priorities for the future, and all members of staff should have had the opportunity to comment on it. Although the deadline for comments has now passed, I do

hope you took the opportunity to provide feedback, if you felt this was appropriate. If you still have any questions or comments about the plan, please do send them to me directly and I will respond as soon as I can.

The Facilities Directorate has always played a crucial part in supporting the strategy and as part of our planning for the future we are developing our own Estates & Facilities strategy for the next 10 years 2015-25. I am personally very keen to make sure you have the opportunity to contribute to the development of the strategy itself – and we will be in touch over the coming weeks with details of how you can express your views and suggestions.

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It's by listening to our staff, students and others that we will achieve the best possible results – so please do give your views. Together we can help make the University more successful than ever!

Although the detail of the strategy will need to be worked through, we can be confident that it will include a focus on the student experience. Over the last few weeks, staff throughout the Directorate have been supporting graduation, and helping to give students and their families a day to remember for the rest of their lives. Then after the

summer break, the next intake of students arrives – and I'm pleased to say that the signs are good for student numbers for 2014-15.

Those students will arrive at a high quality university where we continue to invest in the kind of facilities they need. Take sport, for example. Having listened to staff, the Union, societies and others, we now have a strategy for Sport and Physical Activity, owned by both the University and Leeds University Union, which will move us ahead even further. We're already ranked as a top 10 UK university for sporting experience, but we'll be doing even more to enable students to reach their sporting potential, improve health and wellbeing and improve their skills.

The first noticeable signs of this commitment will be an expansion of The Edge's gym facilities, replacement of some football and rugby grass pitches with all-weather pitches, and, subject to approval, a new facility at Weetwood including a remodelled pavilion and identifying a location for a cycling circuit.

These are all exciting developments – and of course sport is only one aspect of our offer to students. Accommodation will be improved with the third phase of the Central Village development, which will see 475 beds to be built, ready for September 2016.

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Together we can help make the University more successful than ever!

TeachFirst

In partnership with the University of Leeds, Leeds Metropolitan University and Leeds and Partners, education charity Teach First brought its largest training event to the city this July and August.

As well as being the charity's 12th Summer Institute, it was the largest and the first since moving from Warwick University. The

event was also the largest and most ambitious teacher training event in the UK, welcoming over 3,000 delegates, including Teach First 2013 and 2014 participants, university tutors, school leaders and union leaders.

This year's residential event took place from Saturday 19 July to Friday 1 August and was attended by over 2700 delegates; set to rise to 4000 when they return to the city again

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Summer Institute

next year. The University of Leeds provided the event with various elements such as the catering, venue space, bedrooms and our dedicated team of event organisers.

It is the first time the two Leeds universities have collaborated so closely on an event, and it is hoped that this will provide a model for attracting further large-scale events to Leeds in the future.



International Medieval Congress 2014

This July marked the 21st annual International Medieval Congress, when two thousand of the world's most knowledgeable medievalists, including well-known historian and TV broadcaster Michael Wood, descended on the University of Leeds, for what is Europe's largest annual gathering in humanities.

Around 2,000 delegates from 57 countries were attended to by the Conference Office, in an event which ran from July 7 to July 10, with more than half of the delegates staying on the main campus in University accommodation.

Event manager, Anthony Lowe said: "The Congress is a huge area of focus for our team every year. It continues to go from strength to strength, with new additions to the entertainment and core programme being added all the time. This year the IMC coincided with the Tour de France visiting Leeds so there were unusual challenges dealing with the city's increased need for accommodation during the first weeks of July."

"We served around 3,000 meals a day with the Refectory turned into a fine dining room. There was also a Medieval Feast which was prepared in collaboration between our University Catering team and food historian Caroline Yeldham."

"It's going to be incredibly busy but we're extremely well-prepared for it and will be working hard to ensure that everyone has a fabulous experience and remembers their medieval experience for many years to come. Leeds is a very attractive campus and we are looking forward to showing it at its very best."

The extravagant medieval feast was a focal feature of the Congress, bringing together cuisine from a 'forgotten empire' to honour a variety of medieval recipes, such as traditionally roasted meats, chick peas and unusual cheese-stuffed eggs, not to forget Yorkshire's finest bitter, specially brewed for the Congress. Over 18,000 gallons have been quaffed so far since 1999, and despite careful

planning, delegates still manage to stretch the supply to the limits each year.

Marc Mottershead, Head Chef at University House, said the experience had been fascinating: "It's not every day you get asked to recreate an authentic medieval feast."

He added: "Instead of dull, uninspiring dishes, the recipes called for cloves and spices and really unusual combinations which are close to modern Middle Eastern cuisines. One of the biggest surprises was the recipe for Crespells, which turned out to be a medieval take on a doughnut!"

Focusing on the theme of Empire this year, the Congress offered delegates 500 academic sessions, as well as a wide range of concerts, performances, readings, round tables, excursions, book fairs and associated events. This means the Conference Office was not only busy ensuring that everyone had enough to eat and drink but also making sure that all the different meeting rooms and lecture theatres across campus, as well as the outdoor spaces and large communal areas including the iconic Parkinson Building, were fully resourced so that delegates had a seamless Congress.

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In the past 20 years, The International Medieval Congress has presented over 21,000 papers to over 12,000 visitors, bringing more than £10 million into the city and surrounding areas. This year, the programme had 1,799 actively involved participants from more than 50 countries.







PLUG & GO

hrough collaborative working between Estates and Sustainability, the University has been able to successfully secure funding from the Office of Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV) to install ten electric vehicle charging points across campus and a further two on our Devonshire Hall residential site.

The units will be operational at the end of September and will be available for use for all staff and visitors to campus. As a new technology, a new procedure will be introduced, the detail of which is still being finalised. However, as an incentive to encourage use, free charging will be offered for a limited period.

Operating through the nationally-recognised 'Charge your car' interface, charging will be possible by phone, text, or online. The units will link us to a nationwide network of charging points. More information on Charge Your Car can be found here: http://chargevourcar.org.uk/

If you would like to know more, please contact: Majid Khan (m.m.khan@leeds.ac.uk



Deli(very) WINS AT THE CATEYS





Great Food at Leeds has joined the pantheon of culinary giants such as Heston Blumenthal, Gordon Ramsay and Raymond Blanc by winning at the hospitality industry equivalent to the Oscars, The Cateys.

Great Food at Leeds fought off stiff competition to emerge victorious in the category of Best Marketing Campaign, which was awarded for the re-branding of the delivered catering service to Deli(very). Since their inception in 1984, the Cateys have cast a spotlight on the highest flyers, strongest performers and hottest brands in the catering industry. They have become a byword for quality, class and achievement and have become the awards that everybody wants to win. This year's glitzy awards ceremony was held at the very prominent Grosvenor Hotel in London, Park Lane on 1st July with over 1200 of the catering industry's finest attending the glamorous event.

Sue Pimblett, Sales and Marketing Manager for Commercial Services, headed the campaign and had this to say:

"Winning the Best Marketing campaign of the year at the 2014

Catey Awards is a huge honour for the team at the University of Leeds. We all feel extremely proud to have been acknowledged for this award by industry peers and it's wonderful to be recognised for the work that all of the team have done over the past 12 months to re-launch Deli(very).

It's an extremely prestigious award in the UK catering industry and we're now very proud owners of a lovely bronze (and very heavy) Catey award statue!!"

MEETinLEEDS nets special service award



The University's Conference Office, MEETinLEEDS, are proud to announce that their hard work has been recognised at a glittering Leeds Hotels and Venues Association's (LHVA) awards ceremony on 13th June 2014.

The LHVA awards celebrate the best in service from over 30 hotels and venues across the city.

Stars of the sector were invited to the special ceremony at Leeds United's Centenary Pavilion on Thursday, June 12, which was hosted by TV legend Harry Gration.

MEETinLEEDS, as part of a partnership, were nominated for the 'Top Team' award for the delivery of Teach First's Summer Institute residential training programme. The combined events held by Teach First in Leeds will be worth £5.5m to the city's economy in 2014 and 2015, plus additional revenue that delegates will bring to their stay in the city.

The MEETinLEEDS team have been working with the events team from Leeds Metropolitan University for almost two years in order to secure Teach First's Summer Institute, a huge event which, in previous years, has taken place at the University of Warwick.

Natasha Rahanu, the University's Event Manager of the Summer Institute, said:

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It was fantastic to be involved in the LHVA Awards Ceremony. At the beginning of the night we were honoured with a 'Special Award for Contribution to Business Tourism', recognising our collaborative work on the Teach First Project, between institutions & also with First Direct Arena & Accommodation in Leeds, including Unite. It was a great feeling to be recognised for the hard work we have done to deliver the event in 2014 securing it for next year.

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The Summer Institute 2014 was attended by over 2700 delegates, which is set to rise to 4000 in 2015.



Flame Awards Finalists

port & Physical Activity were shortlisted as a finalist in this year's ukactive and Matrix Flame Awards, the most highly coveted accolade of the health and fitness sector. They were recognised in the 'Shaping the Future Generation' category for the innovative provision of the Lifestyle and Wellbeing programme, a joint venture between the Sport & Physical Activity service and University Counselling service, supported by the Alumni Footsteps fund.

Rob Wadsworth, Head of Sport & Physical Activity at University of Leeds said, "The Lifestyle and Wellbeing programme has been incredibly successful in inspiring our students to make positive, healthy sustainable life choices and we are thrilled to be recognised by ukactive for our programme.

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FD SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS

Facilities Directorate sustainability commitment recognised in latest awards



n 17th June the University of Leeds celebrated its annual Sustainability Awards, awarding inspiring, innovative and hard-working staff and students who have contributed to sustainability at the University.

Presented by Sir Alan Langlands, Facilities Directorate won a wide variety of awards on the evening, including seven nominations, one award winner and nine Green Impact awards!

The nominations came from across the campus and included;

- Commercial Services Sustainability Steering Group (CSSSG) – Collaborative Organisation A cross-University collaborative approach which works to embed sustainability across the university, including procuring Fairtrade uniforms, working on social responsibility within the FD and a successfully coordinated Christmas Shutdown.
- Matt Stent UoL Student Award Winner Highly commended in National IEMA student leadership award for his work supporting Great Food at Leeds.
- Residential Services Embedding Sustainability
 Through the 'Living it Green' brand



Residential Services has empowered residents of student accommodation to reduce their environmental impact and have also addressed the reduction of carbon emissions through a variety of refurbishment schemes.

- Jacquie Beaumont Embedding Sustainability

 Jacquie has provided continuous support to the Shwop at Work events across campus and has had a significant impact on the project's success.
- Residential Services and the School of Earth and Environment (SOEE) – Positive Partner in the Community
 - This collaboration has ensured that the corporate membership for Yorkshire Wildlife Trust (YWT) can be utilised, by providing opportunities to work with YWT through an undergraduate SOEE module and offer staff away days to volunteer on local nature reserves.
- Mark Agar Resource Management
 Mark and his team have helped to integrate
 sustainability into the FD procurement
 process, including reviewing the inclusion of
 sustainability when tendering for
 construction work and the development of
 an ambitious FD sustainable purchasing



policy.

 Robert Douglass – Resource Management Robert has helped to save considerable energy consumption on campus by upgrading 64 fume hoods in the School of Chemistry to variable flow, allowing users to save energy by closing the sash.

Catering and Conferencing Services won the Embedding Sustainability award for their integration of sustainability into both the values of the service and the everyday operations. This includes sourcing local food where possible, maintaining a Fairtrade University standard and launching the reusable KeepCups.

The Green Impact Awards were also a huge success for the FD, which included a new team Dawn Abel and Sue Taylor from Cleaning Services obtaining a Bronze Award in just a few months!

Green Impact Awards;

- Estates Bronze
- Print & Copy Bureau Bronze
- Cleaning Services Team 2 Bronze
- Teaching Technology Support SilverSport & Physical Activity Gold



- Catering Services Platinum
- Residential Services Platinum
- Cleaning Services Platinum
- FD HR Support Team and Sustainability Platinum

Finally there were the Green Impact Special Awards, given to Green Impact teams or members who have gone above and beyond the usual workbook. One FD winner was Residential Services, for their volunteer work days with Yorkshire Wildlife Trust. The team went on to win a national Green Impact Award for their work!

Thank you to all of the FD teams that have got involved with sustainability across campus this year for their hard work and support.



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St Marks Residences takes home CUBO





Residential Services beat off tough competition to take home this year's trophy for Best Student Housing at the CUBO (College and University Business Officers) Awards.

The new St Marks Residences for postgraduate students at Leeds opened in September 2013. The award acknowledges the innovation and design that went into building St Marks, ensuring it was right for its residents and the wider community.

During the design process, students were consulted about what they would want in their ideal student accommodation, and the flats incorporate many of the features requested, such as:

- larger than usual workspace and ergonomically designed desks and chairs
- spacious en suite bathrooms
- security measures including room safes and secure cycle storage
- networked printers in a communal Resource Centre
- leisure facilities, including a small gym
- accessibility for disabled students and visitors

Taking inspiration from some adjacent Alms houses, the flats are arranged around a central courtyard, with the buildings protecting and enclosing a communal garden in the centre. The grounds have been planted to encourage wildlife.

Since opening, St Marks has prompted excellent feedback from residents:

"I'm very proud of living at St Marks"
"Thank you for the service and lovely
accommodation you provide."

"St Marks is a brilliant place to live and I've already booked my room for next year." "The accommodation totally exceeded my expectations."

Previous winners of the Best Student Housing Award include Sheffield and Bradford Universities. With Leeds taking this year's accolade, it puts Yorkshire firmly on the map as sector leaders in providing excellent housing for students living away from home.

Launched in 2012, the CUBO Awards are a yearly event to recognise the achievements of those working within the higher education industry in the UK. The Awards are run in association with University Business and categories include:

- Excellence in Student Sport Experience (new for 2014)
- Commercial University of the Year
- Best Student Housing
- Best Catering Service



The award acknowledges the innovation and design that went into building St Marks, ensuring it was right for its residents and the wider community.

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VOLUNTEER CONFERENCE 2014

onference, Catering, and other FD staff recently supported Yorkshire Wildlife Trust's (YWT) Volunteer Conference in University House. The conference was the culmination of YWT's Festival of Volunteering, with some seventy

YWT staff and volunteers descending on The University of Leeds, which has been a corporate member since 2012.

The visitors were provided with an overvie of the academic and volunteer partnership.

work that takes place between The University of Leeds and YWT, and the day-long programme also included a tour around various points of interest across the campus, including St George's Field, and the University's Sustainable Garden.

Did the day go well?
The picture and the positive feedback from YWT say it all!





Partnership Work Commended

rime Prevention Advisor Andrew
Gordon-Platt and Residential Property
Manager Mike Leonard, recently received
District Chief Superintendent's Commendations
for promoting partnership working as an
approach to successfully reducing crime against
students in Leeds. The awards were presented by
Assistant Chief Constable Mark Milsom (right),
and Leeds District's Chief Superintendent Paul
Money (left), at an awards night held in The
Great Hall at The University of Leeds.

The University of Leeds has been working with a number of local partners including West Yorkshire Police, Leeds University Union, Unipol Student Homes, and Safer Leeds, in seeking to reduce crime against students through the work of the Leeds Universities & Colleges Crime Reduction Partnership. The impact of ongoing initiatives has seen crime against students fall considerably in Inner North West Leeds, on the University campus, and across University managed residences. University Residences have successfully been accredited under the national ACPO Secured Environments scheme since 2009 and the Partnership was also awarded a

certificate of merit, at the Home Office Tilley Awards held in 2011.

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The impact of ongoing initiatives has seen crime against students fall considerably in Inner North West Leeds, on the University campus, and across University managed residences.

In University Residences alone, crime incidents have fallen by 77% since 2004, and burglaries in particular have fallen by 99% over the same period. This impact has given rise to a year-on-year improvement in student satisfaction levels for safety in University Residences, and has also demonstrated what can be achieved in a planned, risk-based partnership approach to crime reduction.

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Shape up for summer... Whether you are preparing your beach body or want to make the most of your summer wardrobe, The Edge is the place to be. Enjoy 10 fit and healthy days with us for only £20.* W: www.leeds.ac.uk/theedge E: edgemembership@leeds.ac.uk T: 0113 343 7406 Available until the end of August 2014

UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS



ork is well underway to extend the gym at The Edge, transforming it into a huge 250 station gym and retaining our position as one of the largest and best University gyms in the country. This development will specifically provide an increased free-weights training area, reconfigured and increased cardiovascular equipment range, more stretch space and the refurbishment of our Studio 2 space.

In addition to the building work this project

includes the replacement of the gym equipment with the very latest Technogym state-of-the-art ARTIS range. The ARTIS Technogym kit comes complete with a fully web connected functional screen, personal cloud integration, an entirely new functional design and as well as much of the equipment being self-powered, some will also have the ability to transform the energy users generate back into the grid, making it the most sustainable equipment on the market!

We're also extending the weekend opening

times at The Edge until 9pm, offering free functional and strength training sessions from our team of fitness experts and updating all of the class equipment to the latest Les Mills range.

All of the works will be completed for the start of term and you can keep up-to-date with progress through our social media channels (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) or via the website: www.leeds.ac.uk/theedge

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WHAT'S IN ANAME?

Reflecting breadth of services

leaching Technology Support/Facilities has changed its name to Facilities Support Services. The change in name is to reflect the diverse and wide range of services that the team offers to users of University buildings and teaching spaces and the contribution that we make across campus.

Facilities Support Services provides support to University buildings, Central Teaching Space and events and conferences across the University of Leeds campus.

They offer training and assistance with the installed AV & IT equipment, can offer dedicated help to special events and also provide regular checks of all rooms to ensure equipment is in good working order, the room is clean and tidy and equipped with consumables.

Every year refurbishments of the teaching spaces are undertaken ensuring the AV & IT equipment is fit for purpose and meets the changing requirements of our customers.

The Support Team provide a wide range of support to the Central Teaching Space on campus which currently extends to approximately 250 lecture theatres and

classrooms and provides a rapid-response service linked to the Facilities Directorate Helpdesk. The team aim to respond to calls for assistance within ten minutes.

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Every year refurbishments of the teaching spaces are undertaken ensuring the AV & IT equipment is fit for purpose and meets the changing requirements of our customers.

Additionally, the Support Team provides varied support to a number of University buildings across campus. This includes mail and package sorting, delivery and collection. Other services include the unlocking and locking of designated buildings, an element of security and enquiry point staffing and also portering services for ad hoc events across campus including University degree

ceremonies, concerts, open days and

conferences.

Leaders in the Making!



The latest cohort of staff from Commercial Services have completed the second Inspirational Leadership Programme. The programme is designed to develop the skills of current leaders and potential leaders across Commercial Services.



niversity of Leeds is one of 54 universities to benefit from nearly £10 million of Sport England funding to help get 180,000 new students playing sport. In addition to the investment from Sport England, the project will also be partly funded through £120k over 3 years from our University alumni bringing the total value of this new programme for University of Leeds to over £500k.

"Get Out. Get Active" will see the increase in opportunities in 7 different sports: cycling, rowing, running, orienteering, triathlon, kayaking and climbing. This new initiative forms part of a wider strategy for sport and physical activity which the University has recently launched, articulating our vision of becoming "the number one provider of higher education sport and physical activity experience in the country". Both the overall strategy and "Get Out, Get Active" project will be delivered by a new, combined sports development team which now includes staff from both the University of Leeds and Leeds University Union. The Sport England project will increase our workforce by 9 new members of staff in year 1,

including 2 full-time Sports Development Officers and 7 student activators.

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Rob Wadsworth, Head of Sport at the University, said: "This new funding from Sport England has given the opportunity to make a real impact on the number of students taking part in sport and physical activity in Leeds. The choice of sports reflects the demands of our students and where we have identified real potential for growth. We anticipate over 1000 new participants taking part in this project in year 1. We are really looking forward to getting started".



d matters - editorial panel

If you have a story, event or achievement that you want to share, then please get in touch with the service contacts below

Estates - Maiid Khan Campus Support Services - Eloise Owram Commercial Services - Matt Hamnett or Susan Pimblett Residences - Sophie Shand Sustainability - Mike Howroyd

RACE FOR LIFE 'PRETTY MUDDY' 2014



Team UoL Accom & friends - Rubina, Lisa, Janice, Hilary, Rachel, Cat, Lucy, Christine, Miranda and Sarah

aturday 28th June, Temple Newsam: the one and only time the Accommodation Services hot pink t-shirts actually blended into the crowd.

Ten obstacles awaited the team along the 5K course and ten girls from Accommodation and Residential Services (not forgetting Lucy's mum) took on the challenge. They ran, jogged, walked, slipped (and got up again), along the busy course, thankful for the encouraging cheers of support from the crowds braving the weather whilst hugging hot coffee cups.

They scrambled over cargo nets, through a wire spider wall, under mud soaked cargo nets and through tunnels filled with soil and grit to the final obstacle - a cargo net climb to the top of a slide that left you sitting in a water filled mud pit at the bottom.

Soaked through and of course 'pretty muddy' they all made it to the finish line still smiling and made a vow to do it all again next year

(even after getting shovels of mud in their face and having to throw away their socks!). Well done girls and a HUGE thank you to all those who have donated so far – to date they've raised a whopping £457.50 for Cancer Research UK. There is still time to donate if you wish to: https://www.justgiving.com/ uol-accom/

Thank you.





