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fd matters

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

ESTATES

COMMERCIAL AND CAMPUS SUPPORT SERVICES

SUSTAINABILITY

September 2015

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

SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS

On Wednesday 10th June the Sustainability Service hosted the annual Sustainability Awards. This evening was to celebrate sustainability initiatives on campus and congratulate Green Impact teams on completing another successful year, even with all the changes to the criteria! The evening was organised to have the lowest possible impact, this included the standard food option being vegan, the place cards were made from seed paper and the awards were made from recycled furniture from the University. There were a lot of surprised faces when everyone was informed the main course and indulgent chocolate brownie dessert was gluten and dairy free! The original and vibrant table decorations were made by the children at Bright Beginnings, the nursery on campus (we couldn't have done a better job ourselves).

“

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The first awards of the evening were presented by Sir Alan Langlands the Vice-Chancellor, these celebrated sustainability achievement from individuals or teams over this past year.

The first award was **Embedding Sustainability through Collaboration**. This award celebrates working together for example buying collectively and embedding these best practices in procedures and management systems. The winners were Weetwood Sports Park Grounds Team and LUU Conservation Volunteers for their collaborative work on the University biodiversity agenda through initiatives



including hedgerow planting. And runner up as highly commended was Joanne Jorden for her work in sourcing new ethical and sustainable uniforms.

The **Building knowledge and Capacity award** is about sharing ideas, research and knowledge about sustainability to both staff and students, as well as creating an engaging and innovative campus. The winner was Enactus: Wise for their project to help socially excluded women re-integrate into their communities and highly commended Ian Addy for his support on the 'living lab' project, assisting with UTravelActive events and catering for the EAUC conference.

Being a Positive Partner in Society award is about creating a welcoming and opening campus to all and being active, responsible members of the city. The winner was Star Bikes



for the student led and run project taking unwanted bikes destined for landfill and fixing them up for Asylum seekers and refugees in Leeds and runner up was SPA for their work over the past 12 months organising and delivering projects to the community, including schools swimming lessons and Quicksticks Hockey Tournament.

Making the most of Resources award is all about efficiency, reducing, reusing and recycling, in relation to resources, travel, energy, and disposal. The winner was The Love Leeds Charity Shop for providing a space to engage students with sustainable living, reselling donations often diverted from landfill. The termly Free Shops aimed at international students are an effective waste management by reducing the production and transport of new resources. The runner up was Bob Douglass for

his work in achieving £25,000 cost savings and significant energy savings. He is also an active member the Commercial Services Steering Group by producing reports, and a regular participant at S-Lab meeting.

The final Sustainability Award, **The Architect of Possibility award** winner was Donella Fernyhough from Catering Services, for her contribution to the Biodiversity action plan through her work with the ducks, as well as her efforts in fundraising as part of the Commercial Services Sustainability Steering Group.

After the meal, James Dixon-Gough and Claire Bastin from the Sustainability Service gave out the Green Impact Awards. The different teams from the Facilities Directorate and their various achievements are listed below left.

TEAM	AWARD
Clean Green Team	Bronze Award and Silver Project
Eco Food Fighters (catering)	Platinum Workbook
Estates	Bronze Workbook and Gold Project
Facilities Support Office	Gold workbook
FD HR and Sustainability	Bronze Workbook and Gold Project
Residential Services	Platinum Workbook
Sport & Physical Activity	Platinum Workbook

FD Move

Thankyou to all staff who provided feedback on the new FD buildings. Four main issues were raised: noise, privacy, storage (work and personal) and size of workspace and in addition changing Estates from the first to ground floor. We've spent some time reviewing the layouts as it was important to get this right and now following the feedback, this has been finalised and we can proceed with the building. The current timeframe is for a March 2016 move. Teams will be made aware of any further updates as soon they are known.



ANOTHER YEAR, ANOTHER TEAM SUCCESS



At the time of writing this, we're in the middle of graduation and it's always a delight to see the students and their proud families and friends on campus. By the time the final ceremony has finished we'll have seen almost 5,200 students go through their graduation. That's quite an achievement – and its success is down to the careful planning and hard work of people from right across the Directorate, making it a special day for all our guests.

It's a true team effort, which is critical in promoting the reputation of the University both nationally and internationally. Our students may be returning to their home towns or starting life in a new place. Either way, those memories of graduation will be spread across the world.

As it happens, our skills in organising, hosting and delivering such events are becoming increasingly well-known and contribute to

both the University's reputation and revenue. Once again we are hosting the Teach First conference, which is worth over£1million to the University and brings together colleagues in Residences, Catering, Teaching Space, Portering and Print and Copy Bureau. Meanwhile the International Medieval Congress has grown to become the largest Arts and Humanities conference in Europe, and the largest academic conference on any subject in the UK – a fantastic achievement and further proof of Leeds' national and international influence.

This is also an especially busy time of year for the Residences team, who are gearing up for the arrival of new students at the beginning of the new academic year and will be accommodating more people than ever.

On a separate note, building on Leeds' track record (no pun intended!) for hosting high profile sports events, sport@leeds has been

working closely with Leeds City Council and we are delighted to have secured the 2016 World Triathlon Series event. This will see new facilities being developed - including a cycle track at Weetwood, helped by funding from Sport England. The Leeds event will actually be the final opportunity to see the Team GB triathletes compete before they head off to Rio for the Olympic Games.

“
It's a true team effort, which is critical in promoting the reputation of the University both nationally and internationally.
”

It's right that we continue to invest in our facilities to help secure our future, and our comprehensive plans for such capital investment over the next ten years are set out in the Masterplan, due to be published in the next few months. However, that commitment to investing is already visible - the refurbishment of the Worsley Building has supported improvements in Medicine and Health and the establishment of the new Leeds Institute of Data Analytics. But this year's most striking achievement has been the opening of the new Laidlaw Library. The Library design and facilities have received widespread praise from staff and students alike, with its 900 study places, superfast broadband and of course the population of 50,000 bees living on its roof!

All in all, it's been another successful year across the Facilities Directorate – and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your hard work and contribution to another stunning team effort. I would like to offer my best wishes for the summer – if you are planning to take a break, I hope that it will be a refreshing and enjoyable one for you.

CHARITIES UPDATE

The Facilities Directorate have been hard at work earning money for this year's nominated charities. Firstly our talented teams of chefs from Commercial & Campus Support Services traded their white smocks for dirty overalls when they did this year's Total Warrior challenge in June.

What started off as a friendly banter turned into entering one of the toughest challenges in the country. Taking on the Total Warrior challenge were a team of 8 MEETinLEEDS members and 2 friends captained by Phill Tostevin who was in charge of their training regime and diet too.

Training for three months before hand, 5k three times a week, prepared them well for jumping over flames, charging over obstacles and wading through waste high mud. The team completed it in 2 hours 53 seconds. The goal at the start was to raise £500 but amazingly they have topped their target raising over £1300 for Martin House Children's Hospice.

In a similar vein, members of the Sport & Physical Activity team have scaled the Yorkshire 3 peaks in aid of charity. Organised by Caroline Race and Tom Exeter the group completed the gruelling 24 mile walk up Pen-y-ghent, Ingleborough and Whernside in just 10 hours while fighting gale force winds throughout the day!

“
The wind added to the challenge, your feet kept getting blown away from under you each time you took a step! I think those of the group who had not done it before did especially well to get round. All in all a time of 10 hours was pretty good considering the circumstances!
”

Caroline Race

Together the three peaks team raised over £300 to be split between the Facilities Directorate nominated charities; Martin House Children's Hospice and Macmillan Cancer Support. Thank you to everyone who sponsored the teams and donated to all out collection tins around campus.

If you would like to join the fundraising team to help organise events, or if you have an idea on how we can raise money for these great charities, then please contact Lisa Wood at l.wood@adm.leeds.ac.uk or Helen McDonald at h.s.mcdonald@leeds.ac.uk.

Alternatively check out our charities page here at <http://commercialservices.leeds.ac.uk/our-charities> to keep up to date with the latest information.events which gives us an exciting new product to offer to event organisers”.

MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT

Martin House
children's hospice

WHERE OUR £500M INVESTMENT WILL ACHIEVE OUR MASTER PLAN

UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

The University of Leeds is launching its ambitious new Campus Masterplan which sets out a vision for campus developments over the next ten years and will see a significant £500M invested in the campus over the next 5 years. The new Masterplan supports the University academic vision for increasing knowledge and opportunity and a focus on world-leading research, collaborative industry partnerships and further enhancing the student experience.

A total of 19 new development sites have been identified which will complement the current buildings within Leeds' mature city-centre campus, already rich in architecture and character and with the potential of providing circa 90,000sqm of additional space.

It's a busy time for Estates as several projects are already underway including the £40m being spent in the Medical School, £8m being spent refurbishing a Grade II listed building for Fine Art and the £25M refurbishment of

Edward Boyle Library, plus the new Multi-Storey Car Park project is nearing completion. In addition, a £5m extension of the facilities for the Institute of Transport Studies and £17M investment in LUU will soon be commencing.

A new Masterplan website will be launched towards the end of September with all of the details about the various mentioned above, plus all of the forthcoming builds planned for the next few years.

THE £500 UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS MASTERPLAN WILL TRANSFORM THE CAMPUS OVER THE NEXT 5 YEARS, CREATING THE WORLD LEADING FACILITIES AND A VIBRANT ENVIRONMENT FOR OUR STUDENTS, STAFF AND VISITORS.



IT'S ALL PART
OF OUR CAMPUS
MASTERPLAN



Customer First Award for University Services

We are delighted to announce that both Commercial and Campus Support Services and Residential Services within the Facilities Directorate have once again achieved the Customer First Accreditation.

Customer First is the national standard which assesses and recognises excellence in meeting customer expectations on a consistent and regular basis and the achievement of this award is a reflection of both Service's determined efforts to always deliver a first-class experience.

The services were highly praised following a rigorous assessment process,

"... there is strong evidence that the customer is firmly at the heart of all strategic and operational discussions" and "... the teams' commitment to continuous improvement ensures that every intake of students receives a high standard of customer service and an excellent student experience."

Stewart Ross, Director of Commercial and Campus Support, said, "We are extremely proud of the work that the teams and individuals do day in and day out to deliver the highest levels of service and this external recognition by Customer First for the second time since 2011 is fantastic."

Customer Service Training for Commercial and Campus Support Services

The first internal programme of delivering customer service excellence for the service has now concluded with 56 staff across Facilities Support Services, Print & Copy Bureau and Sport & Physical Activity attending the training modules and 32 staff completing the full programme.

The programme was called 'Impact' and topics covered included service recovery, delivering surprising customer service and communicating effectively with customers and colleagues. Feedback from the first cohort of participants was very positive and the training is hoped to

continue on an annual basis. Many thanks to Kim Whitaker, Geoff Tooley and Tom Exeter who provided the training and organisation.

"Feedback from the first cohort of participants was very positive and the training is hoped to continue on an annual basis"



Commercial & Campus Support Services Staff Suggestion Scheme

Do you work in Commercial & Campus Support Services? If so we want your bright ideas! Can you think of ways to improve the way we work or improve the service we deliver to our customers? If so, we want to hear from you.

Staff suggestions can be completed online, emailed directly to CSstaffsuggestions@leeds.ac.uk or completed on a staff suggestion card and then sent via internal post to: CS Suggestions, Room 1.06, Estates Building. Staff suggestion cards can be found in internal staffing areas across all the services.

Suggestions will be responded to and where applicable circulated and displayed for other colleagues to see your great ideas!

CONFERENCE APP



The European Society for Ecological Economics (ESEE) recently asked the Events team at MEETinLEEDS, the University's conference office, to develop a mobile app that their delegates could use when attending their international conference on campus in June.

The team jumped to the challenge and, in consultation with their academic colleagues, created an app that displays information about the event, the agenda, a programme of events, a map of the campus and biographies of the keynote speakers. The app also allows delegates to create their own schedule of sessions they'd like to attend and a user profile.

Corin Nanton from the events team is pleased how the app has turned out, "We're being asked more and more if we are able to create apps for specific events. Seeing how successful

this app has been we're confident we can offer this support to future events which gives us an exciting new product to offer to event organisers".

"We're being asked more and more if we are able to create apps for specific events. Seeing how successful this app has been we're confident we can offer this support to future events which gives us an exciting new product to offer to event organisers"



ON CAMPUS ACCOMMODATION FOR STAFF AT JUST £40

Staff at the University of Leeds can stay in Leeds by booking a room in our award winning accommodation, Storm Jameson Court, for just £40 per person per night.*

Our ensuite rooms are in the heart of the campus, and so not far from the City Centre. Our accommodation has 12 stunning en-suite bedrooms available year round, with a modern 24-hour

reception area, Wi-Fi and a nearby state-of-the art gym and pool available to all guests. There are also stylish lounge areas with comfortable seating and plasma screens for time to relax.

Simply include the **UOLSTAFF** promo code when you book to get the special rate of just **£40 per night** at this link: www.meetinleeds.co.uk/short-breaks

*Rate based on bed only accommodation. Offer available from 11th October until 24th June 2016, subject to availability.

The NEW Laidlaw Library

By the time you read this, the new Laidlaw Library will be open! As well as being a stunning place to study, it was designed with sustainability in mind, including:

- 225 sq m of solar photovoltaic panels on the roof;
- High technology, but as low energy as possible e.g. LED screens and low energy lights that turn themselves off when no-one is around or natural light levels increase;
- Clever use of natural daylight to avoid solar overheating;
- Heavyweight structure to give more stable internal temperatures;
- Lower heating needs due to exceptional air tightness and high levels of thermal insulation;
- An Energy Performance Certificate rating of B (in the top 10% for low energy use);
- Good air quality by using building materials with low levels of volatile organic compounds;
- A green roof halfway up on the Woodhouse Lane side;
- Beehives on the green roof, helping to maintain the bee population of Leeds and pollinating the area.
- Over 95% of waste generated in the construction was recycled.

Overall, the Laidlaw Library has a BREEAM building standards sustainability rating of 'Excellent'.

And we hope you will enjoy using the new Library and that you find it an inspirational study space!

“Overall, the Laidlaw Library has a BREEAM building standards sustainability rating of 'Excellent'”



“Swarming bees have little interest in people at this time as their priority is to find a safe place to set up a new colony, but please act with sensible caution.”

The *Hive Network* to the Rescue

The University of Leeds Hive network was formed in 2014 and is comprised of a number of staff and students who volunteer to get involved with the campus bees. Within the network are a group of 'hive leaders', trained beekeepers who oversee the management of the hives and are responsible for the collection of swarms around campus.

Swarming is a natural way that a colony of honey bees reproduces and occurs when a new Queen has been raised and is ready to emerge from her cell. Swarming bees have little interest in people at this time as their priority is to find a safe place to set up a new colony, but please act with sensible caution. Swarms may not actually be from the campus hives – A recent swarm was

responded to immediately by the network and the bees were added to an empty campus hive. If you see a swarm on campus, or would like to know more about the work of the hive network, contact Michael Howroyd in the Sustainability Service on 0113 343 7375 or sustainability@leeds.ac.uk

A SUSTAINABLE STUDENT CHANGE OVER

We are still evaluating the success of this year's student changeover, but early indications suggest that this could have been the smoothest yet, in terms of impact on other residents! The departure of students from the three universities traditionally brings with it significant challenges to the City each year as large amounts of waste are generated and noise from end of year parties prevents residents from getting a good night's sleep.

As part of our strategic commitment to ensure that the University and our students have a positive impact on society, the Sustainability Service worked in collaboration with Leeds University Union, Leeds City Council and other students unions, to put in place this years' communications and service delivery plan.

Leeds University Union again delivered the Leave Leeds Tidy campaign that provided information and advice to students through a communications strategy, student warden patrols and collections of unwanted items from local communities in partnership with Emmaus. In addition, this year the partnership has been able to secure 10 new community based textile bins to make it even easier for our students to donate their unwanted clothing and all funds raised went to the Yorkshire Air Ambulance.

The Sustainability Service ran a new communications campaign to raise awareness on the impacts of noise on other residents and to encourage reporting to the Universities and Colleges Neighbourhood Helpline Service. Whilst the majority of our student's do not cause any problems for their neighbours, end of exams is traditionally a peak for noise complaints. The campaign combined practical weekly tips through social media along with a corresponding blog on the Sustainability webpages. All in all, the combinations of the various campaigns helped minimise the disruption caused to local neighbourhoods in inner North-West Leeds.

OXLEY VERTICAL GARDEN!

After winning the Green Residence Award at the Hall Exec Awards earlier this year, the Green Reps at Oxley residence have now created a vertical garden made up of 100 plastic bottles. These bottles have been turned into recycled flower beds and have been hung vertically on the wall, not only making it more vibrant but also improving the biodiversity of the area. The Green Reps also installed 2 owl boxes and used some of the remaining plastic bottles to create bird feeders.

What a great idea!

Introducing Amélie



The latest addition to the Great Food at Leeds team is here in the form of Amélie, a classic carrier tricycle offering ice cream refreshments across campus.

Amélie, inspired by the popularity of Hugo the Camionnette Café, is an exciting extension to our mobile catering portfolio and is already proving popular.

This summer Amélie has attended events including the Staff Festival and has also been out on campus selling a popular range of ice creams to customers in need of refreshment.

To find out more about Amélie take a look online and make sure to keep an eye out for her on campus.
www.leeds.ac.uk/gfal



NEW ANAEROBIC DIGESTION PLANT TO OPEN THE GATES TO THE LEEDS COMMUNITY

The University of Leeds is planning on developing the first anaerobic digestion plant in Northern England which will process food waste and provide new research and teaching opportunities to students, staff and members of the community. Anaerobic digestion is the breakdown of complex organic matter by the action of simple organisms in the absence of oxygen and has been used for several decades to stabilise sewage sludge and has more recently been harnessed for waste treatment and renewable energy generation.

This plant has been fully funded by the University and will be jointly managed by the Facilities Directorate and academic staff at the University.

“The University of Leeds is planning on developing the first anaerobic digestion plant in Northern England which will process food waste and provide new research and teaching opportunities to students, staff and members of the community.”

The University is continuously working to be at the forefront of sustainability and to embed this culture into the fabric of the institution. Through the Living Lab, new and ongoing research is made more accessible to students, staff and the wider Leeds community. The University is also able to not only create ownership but support research at all levels and foster community engagement throughout the entire process.

Academics at the University have been conducting extensive research into optimising community urban micro anaerobic digestion networks that would increase localised energy production as well as process food waste. Electricity and heat can be generated from the biogas and biomethane released during the anaerobic digestion process.

The liquid or solid residue from anaerobic digestion plants is called digestate and is rich in nutrients which are highly beneficial to plants. We also hope to use this digestate as a fertilizer on our grounds in the future.

Gerhard's Pretzels

Recently I was asked to contribute an article to FD Matters and I decided to give you a chronological overview of Gerhard's Pretzels.

The idea was born in August 2013 when I worked at the Estates Helpdesk (and still do). My family and I came back from a trip to Germany, where we enjoyed pretzels once in a while. When we came home my daughter said to me “We don't have pretzels here like they have in Germany - can you make some, Dad?”

Having never made a pretzel before in my life, I accepted the challenge. After all, as a chemist I knew how to research things and as a passionate baker, it was the right task for me.

I tried some recipes, made some variations and additions and, after a couple of disasters, I eventually came up with a pretzel that my harshest critics, my wife and my children, actually liked. Friends tried my pretzels and pretzel rolls and the feed back was equally positive. It was then just a matter of time until the question arose as to whether it was possible to earn some money from them. In November 2013 I found myself a business mentor and because, with such a new product, conducting market research was difficult, it was decided that I should try selling my pretzels at a Farmers' Market. I hoped to get instant feedback there, as pretzels are usually the kind of food that you have “on the go”. At the end of January 2014, I had my kitchen inspected by Craven Environmental Health Department and was awarded a level 5 food rating. By then everything else had been put in place and I was ready to start.

At the end of February 2014 I had a stall at my first

Farmers' Market in Otley. It was exhilarating and terrifying at the same time. People were cautious about trying my pretzels but at the end of the day I had broken even and had actually made a couple of pounds. The feedback was mostly positive, which encouraged me to come back again. I now regularly attend Otley Farmers Market where I have a loyal following.

In April 2014 I attended my first Monday Farmers' Market at the University of Leeds and the Otley story repeated itself. Moreover, this market turned out to be one of my most successful ones, probably because of the varied, multicultural students and the interest of staff.

Now Gerhard's Pretzels is at an important development stage. As the number of customers increase, so does the workload and I need to invest in new premises and machinery, as in the near future my kitchen at home will no longer be sufficient to deal with the demand. I am in touch with the university careers department regarding the best way to proceed.

Apart from future expansion I am looking for interested parties who would consider retailing my pretzels. I can also cater for special events such as parties and charity events, beer and food festivals, where I hope to find new customers. I have sweet and savoury pretzels on offer; my savoury pretzels are sea salt and cheese, with or without garlic. I offer sweet pretzels in sugar & cinnamon, sugar & almond and salted caramel. If you would like to taste any of my pretzels, why not come along to the next Monday Farmers' Market at the start of the new term.

If you want to follow Gerhard's Pretzels you can go to:
www.facebook.com/gerhardspretzels or for the newest updates on twitter have a look at: www.twitter.com/GerhardPretzels. You can also get in touch via e-mail on: gerhardspretzels@gmail.com.



Sustainability Coffee BREAKS

Have you been to one of our Sustainability Coffee Breaks yet? On the last Friday of each month, we hold interactive sessions where people from across the University have the chance to talk to members of the team about anything related to campus sustainability and take part in a fun sustainability-related activity! Previously we have recycled plastic bottles and turned them into flower pots, and in the session after that, we made bug hotels! During most recent session on Friday 31st July, we managed the wild flower meadows to the left of School of Earth and Environment entrance by removing prolific and dominant plant species. To be added to our mailing list to find out about our next session and receive the monthly newsletter, please email sustainability@leeds.ac.uk.



Sports Park Weetwood Welcomes INTERNATIONAL RUGBY TEAM



On September 27th Scotland will take on the USA at Elland Road in the Rugby World Cup 2015. In the lead up to this game the Scottish Rugby Team will stay at Weetwood Hall Hotel and train on our first class Rugby pitch at Sports Park Weetwood.

Sports Park Weetwood is regularly recognised as a high quality facility, previously hosting the New Zealand All Blacks (pictured) and England rugby team.

The England Rugby junior teams (u15 – u21) also regularly train at Sports Park Weetwood

due to the first class experience they receive and the high quality pitches. These are maintained by our excellent ground staff team who have recently been nominated for the Institute of Groundsmanship Awards 2015 in the category of University Grounds Team of the Year.

“
The England Rugby junior teams (u15 – u21) also regularly train at Sports Park Weetwood due to the first class experience they receive and the high quality pitches.
”



REFRESH

JUST GOT BETTER



SAVE 10%
10% off selected sandwiches, cold drinks and all hot drinks



FREE HOT DRINKS
Buy 10 hot drinks and get your 11th FREE!



GET POINTS
Get 3 loyalty points for every £1 you spend. 3 points = 3p

The new academic year will see some exciting new innovations for the Refresh card.

The Refresh card was launched in (when did Refresh launch?) and since then has become popular with the University of Leeds community with over 3,500 registered users. In their efforts to continually improve and develop this scheme the Great Food at Leeds team have been working hard to incorporate some fantastic new benefits.

Refresh customers will continue to get 10% off selected food and drink products and receive exclusive monthly offers but now they will also be able to enjoy:

Loyalty Points
For every £1 spent customers will get 3 points (worth 3p) which can then be used as credit.

New Refresh app
Customers will also have the option to go mobile meaning they can ditch their card and pay using an app on Apple, Android and Window smartphones, helping to make Refresh even more convenient!

Free Hot Drinks
Refresh will now automatically create a voucher for a Free Hot Drink on the 11th purchase of a tea or coffee.

Auto Top Up for Family & Friends
Another new feature is the ability for parents, family and friends to automatically top up a student's account from anywhere in the world. In previous years this has required manual payments but this added convenience is expected to attract more users.

“We believe the improvements and added benefits to Refresh will prove popular with customers and expect this to reflect in an increase in usage by new and existing customers.”

We feel it is vital to create a loyalty scheme which rewards our customers and feel this is the important next step in the continual evolution of Refresh.”

Visit the website for more details about Refresh: www.leeds.ac.uk/refreshcard



FANTASTIC OLYMPIC EXPERIENCE FORGES PARTNERSHIP WITH CHINA



“
This is a fantastic endorsement of our facilities and the expertise in our Facilities Directorate team
”

Since 2010 the University, through the Sport & Physical Activity service, has been forging strong links with sporting organisations in China. This cumulated in 2012 when the University successfully hosted the Chinese Olympic Committee's (COC) official pre London 2012 Training camp, which included over 300 athletes and officials. The COC were significantly impressed with their experience at Leeds commending the sports facilities, accommodation and catering provided and as a result a partnership has been forged between the University, the COC and Beijing Sports University.

The COC has recently identified 100 high achieving coaches, academics and professors

that they wish to develop and as part of a worldwide development programme 30 of these individuals will be joining us in September for a 2 conference including talks from international coaches, expert academic professors and sports scientists as well as visits to world class sports facilities in the UK.

While in Leeds the delegation will be staying in our award winning Storm Jameson Court and Great Food at Leeds Chefs will specially prepare high quality food each day.

This is a fantastic endorsement of our facilities and the expertise in our Facilities Directorate team to have such prestigious international guests.

Andy in Africa



Andy Lockwood, Professional Development Manager in Sport & Physical Activity was woken up by monkeys and had a selfie with a herd of buffalo during a trip to South Africa in June. Andy joined St Mary's Menston School as part of their Bambisanani Partnership (www.bambisananipartnership.co.uk) which develops student sport leaders, both in the UK and in one of the most deprived areas of South Africa. Amongst the animal selfies Andy spent time teaching in a school and visiting orphanages, as well as investigating the prospect of running our own international project as part of our leadership programmes.

“
Our mission is to return to South Africa with a team of University of Leeds students to develop and deliver sustainable life changing partnerships and projects

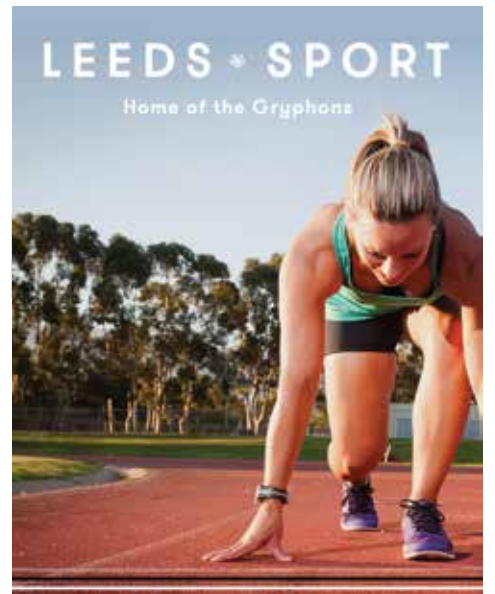
Andy Lockwood

This exciting opportunity will give University of Leeds students the chance to lead on a

project in South Africa in 2016, enhancing the student experience and improving graduate employability.

We held a football shirt amnesty before Andy went to South Africa and a special thank you to Ian Addy who through Brighthouse Juniors donated a huge amount of full football kits. The students and staff were overwhelmed by the kits so a big THANK YOU to everyone who donated!

Make sure you check out Andy's blog (www.AndyInAfrica.co.uk) to find out all about the trip!



Over the past year a new brand for sport at the University of Leeds has been developed to raise the profile of sport across campus as well as locally and nationally. This new brand will portray the heritage and tradition of the University in a unique and distinctive style and we're excited to announce that the new name will be, Leeds Sport. This will be used alongside the strapline, Home of the Gryphons which aims to create a sense of community across the sport portfolio and build on the links with the current LEEDS Gryphon student clubs.

“
This new brand will set the University apart from other institutions. It will provide a clear and consistent sport offer and directly influences the University sport and physical activity vision

”
This new brand will set the University apart from other institutions. It will provide a clear and consistent sport offer and directly influences the University sport and physical activity vision:

“To be the number one provider of higher education sport and physical activity experience in the UK”.

Leeds Sport will be officially launched in September, keep an eye out for our new mascot around campus!

HIGHEST BUCS COMPETITION FINISH IN A DECADE!



The University of Leeds has finished in 13th position in the BUCS (British University College Sport) competition; it's highest since placing 12th in 2002 when the competition was known as BUSA.

University students compete in the highly contested BUCS competition throughout the year, with most sport taking place on a Wednesday. This year we have achieved number one ranking for triathlon and biathlon, and second in the country for gymnastics, snooker and ultimate Frisbee. Within team sports our

rugby league men dominated the season which lead to promotion to top flight action for next year.

Local rivals Leeds Beckett University finished 10th and with Varsity round the corner and only 171 points between the final standings, it could be the University of Leeds' year to take the crown in 2015!

This brilliant achievement in the BUCS results reflects the impact of the newly formed sport team from Sport & Physical Activity and Leeds

University Union working together to inspire students to reach their potential.

“
with Varsity round the corner and only 171 points between the final standings, it could be the University of Leeds' year to take the crown

NEW SPORT & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY WEBSITE



Over the past year work has been taking place to update the Sport & Physical Activity website to a new more modern and functional platform. This exciting project will showcase everything we have to offer ensuring new customers are impressed before they even visit us! The website will provide an improved customer experience ensuring that all the information customers need is quick and easy to find. The website (www.leeds.ac.uk/sport) is due to be launched by the end of September. We would love to hear what you think of the new site so please take a look and send any feedback to m.hamnett@leeds.ac.uk.

LEAVING US



At McKenna, Accommodation Services who left us on the 31st July 2015.

Helen Atkinson Oxley Residences Retirement Residential Services will be saying a fond farewell to Helen Atkinson, Residence Manager at Oxley, after a whopping 44 years' service. Love and warm wishes are sent to Helen on behalf of all her friends and colleagues in Residential Services and the Facilities Directorate.

POPPING CORKS

You will all remember the pristine white marquee, which sits on the lawn in University Square during the 2 weeks of Graduation. But you may have wondered: what exactly happens inside?

The wonderful team of happy and friendly Great Food at Leeds staff is what happens, serving congratulatory refreshments to the thousands of students that graduate every year.

This is supported by the Graduation BBQ, where the delicious aromas of sizzling sausages and burgers emanate from, and the Champagne Bar where graduates can celebrate in style with their family and friends.

However, Graduation as a whole is a collaborative effort from the whole of the Commercial & Campus Support Services. Staff from Facilities Support Services, Print and Copy Bureau, Conference and Events and Deli(very) all play a vital role in ensuring the event is a resounding success and a day to remember for all graduates.

This year the team made the event the most successful to date, with an increase in sales of over £14,000 against 2014!



During the 2 weeks the team served 11,688 items in 5,106 transactions, including:

- 477 Bottles of Champagne
- 967 Glasses of Champagne
- 310 Bottles of Prosecco
- 587 Glasses of Prosecco
- 1,257 Bottles of Beer
- 1,292 Bottles of Water

Congratulations and a big thank you to everyone involved!

VILLAGE CENTRAL TO RESIDENTIAL SERVICES



Central Village bursts into action in its first year of conference and summer schools.

Central Village, the most recent residence to become part of the Residential Services portfolio with 979 ensuite rooms, has secured its place amongst our residences offering high quality accommodation to our conference guests and visitors. Residential Services are also proud to be able to deliver improved services to the English Language Unit at Central Village, providing high quality accommodation to around 700 International Students who arrive to study before September. The site has offered those students real benefits including ensuite bedrooms and larger shared kitchen and dining areas, accommodation that is in very close proximity to campus and improved residence life as the size of the residence has led to English Language students being able to live together in one location during the summer period.

The demand for accommodation during the summer at Central Village is not without its challenges, with the Residence Team tasked with changing round 979 bedrooms in 24 hours

The demand for accommodation during the summer at Central Village is not without its challenges, with the Residence Team tasked with changing 979 bedrooms from student occupation to a conference ready site within very short periods of time, some as little as 24 hours of students leaving and new guests and students arriving.

Thanks go to all the staff across Residences and colleagues from the Facilities Directorate who have shown dedication and commitment and teamwork and cooperation to ensure the conference and summer accommodation period have gone so well.



The University of Leeds welcomes the 18th International Pianoforte Competition

As Leeds gears up to host The International Pianoforte Competition this month (26th August – 13th September), the University of Leeds conference and events arm, MEETinLEEDS is preparing to welcome some of the world's greatest young pianists to The Great Hall, one of the University's finest buildings on campus.

This year the University will not only be celebrating the 18th year that international competition has been held in The Great Hall. The Leeds International Pianoforte Competition was launched by Dame Fanny Waterman over 50 years ago, to help start the careers of some of the world's greatest young pianists, with artists including Murray Perahia, Radu Lupu and Dimitri Alexeev who all took first prize at the competition.

Throughout the competition, The University's Great Hall will provide the venue for the first, second and semi-final stages of the competition and will welcome thousands of people throughout the 22 day event. Event competitors will sleep easy, rehearse well, and eat and drink like Kings at Devonshire Hall and guests and pianists will be treated to the delights of the University's onsite café bars throughout the event.

