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Don’t waste it, WARPit

The sustainability team has been working on an innovative initiative to increase the University’s efficiency and reduce its environmental impact. WARPit is a new system that will allow departments to share goods they no longer need for others to use.

New brand for imago Services

Imago Services have had a branding makeover, with a new name being launched for the department that manages the student accommodation and catering on campus.

Campus Living, the original name of the Student Accommodation website has been adopted and will cover all of imago’s services across campus. The move follows feedback that suggests staff and students were sometimes unsure whether imago was part of the University or an external supplier. Under the new brand Debbie Grant and her team will continue to focus on providing staff and students with a cost effective, customer focused and efficient service.

The Campus Living team have also recently moved to come under the banner of the Facilities Management Department, headed by Andrew Burgess. imago*loughborough Ltd, the commercial services brand that manages conferencing and event activity on campus, will remain the same.

Get in the game

The School of Business and Economics is offering a new MBA in International Sports Management: the essential qualification for any member of the sports industry. It includes special modules on media management and sports technology and innovation, as well as the fundamentals of business management.

Applications are being accepted for the new MBA as well as the Business School’s part-time MBA, with a flexible delivery and elective modules that allow you to focus on your area of expertise. For more information, visit: www.lboro.ac.uk/mba

Sustainability ideas recognised at BEST Awards

A number of staff and departments picked up awards at the annual BEST (Building Environmental Sustainability Together) Awards.

Chris Spencer from the Students’ Union won the Vice-Chancellor’s Award for Sustainability, for her commitment to driving sustainability in the Union building.

Security’s Patsy Woolley was awarded the BEST Staff Contribution Award for implementation of a calling card initiative, which involves leaving door notices encouraging staff to turn lights off or equipment off.

Dr Dick Heath from the Department of Materials was named BEST Inspiration Lecturer.

The BEST New Initiative was awarded to the RAG Charity Shop. The initiative, first put forward by Alison Lovett from Campus Living, sees items left by students being sold in a charity shop at the Students’ Union.

The Green Impact Awards were also given on the night. The Gold Award went to Hazelrigg team, the Green Proclaimers, whilst the Gold Labs Award was presented to the Wolfson School.

For more information about the awards and sustainability at Loughborough, visit the sustainability website: www.lboro.ac.uk/sustainability.

Learn a new language

Eight languages are on offer as part of the extra-curricular languages programme run by the Department of Politics, History and International Relations.

Languages on offer include Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), French, German, Italian, Japanese, Russian and Spanish.

Levels run from beginners, with the most popular courses continuing up to advanced conversation.

Courses commence from October. For full details of the programmes, fees, dates and to get advice, visit www.lboro.ac.uk/departments/eh/studying/languages/extra-curricular.html

Reinventing the Toilet with Bill Gates

The University has won a prestigious prize of $60,000 in an international competition organised by The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. A year ago Universities around the world were challenged to develop a reinvented toilet that is clean, safe, durable and affordable for the poor without the need for connection to electricity or a sewer. It should be a viable solution in wealthy nations as well as in the developing world where 2.5 billion people lack access to safe and affordable sanitation.

Led by Professor M. Sohail from the School of Civil and Building Engineering, the Loughborough team’s prototype toilet aims to convert human waste into carbonised material to provide heat, minerals for soil conditioning, and water for flushing and hand-washing.

Loughborough was awarded second prize of the three prototype technologies. California Institute of Technology and the University of Toronto respectively received first and third prizes.

Top University for THE Best Student Experience

Loughborough remains England’s top university for best student experience for the sixth year running, the Times Higher Education’s (THE) annual poll revealed.

The league table, published in the THE magazine, uncovers the views of thousands of undergraduate students on the factors that matter most to them, from the quality of teaching to student facilities.

Loughborough topped six of the poll’s categories – good social life; good environment on campus; high-quality facilities; good students’ union; good industry connections; and good sports facilities. Overall it came second in the survey, with Scotland’s University of Dundee taking first place by the narrowest of margins.

for more information on these news stories and more visit www.lboro.ac.uk/staff/news
Get Kitted Out with the Kit-Catalogue

After months of meticulous development, the University’s open source database system, known as Kit-Catalogue, is now live and ready for the new academic term. The initiative has been led by Professor Rachel Thomson from the Materials Research School in association with the Centre for Engineering and Design Education and IT Services.

Kit-Catalogue works as an online system, allowing staff and students to effectively catalogue their kit and hire or borrow particular items for research or teaching use. It aims to reduce the costly duplication and double purchasing of equipment and promote the efficient and sustainable reuse of existing assets.

The University’s catalogue contains over 1780 items from 15 departments, which include laboratory equipment, workshop machines, ICT and specialist tools. It’s an easy to use system, the Kit-Catalogue can be used as a resource for students and enables staff members to upload details of equipment.

As part of the ongoing initiative the team are promoting its use in other UK Universities. The project team are also now working to further develop functionality, increase usage and ultimately facilitate the sharing of data and even access to research facilities in other institutions.

For more information, to have a browse or upload kit onto the database visit: http://kit-catalogue.lboro.ac.uk

Lord Coe back at Loughborough as Pro Chancellor

Lord Sebastian Coe, Chairman of the London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games (LOCOG) and one of Britain’s greatest athletes, has recently become a Pro Chancellor of the University.

As Pro Chancellor, Lord Coe will be a member of University Council along with other leading figures from local and national organisations and businesses, as well as elected University staff and representatives from the Students’ Union.

An alumnus of Loughborough, Lord Coe graduated with a BSc in Economics and Social History in 1979. He was made an Honorary Doctor of Technology (Hon DTech) by the University in 1985. He met George Gandy at Loughborough, who worked with Coe to develop revolutionary conditioning exercises to improve his running. Coe won four Olympic medals and set a total of eight outdoor and three indoor world records.

University Medals awarded to exceptional trio

Congratulations to Ian Armiger, Kathy White and Maureen McKenzie who have received the University medal for their exceptional service to the University.

Kathy retired last August from her role as School Administrator in the Wolfson School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, having held and been promoted to various administrative roles. Her award reflects her dedication, commitment and contribution to the development of a significant number of administrative processes widely used within the school.

Maureen McKenzie joined the Department of Physics as secretary in 1990 and later became Executive Officer. She retired in September last year. Her award recognises the outstanding support she has given to the organisation of the department and the help given to its students and academic staff.

Ian Armiger was appointed as the University’s first full-time paid coach in 1997. He has been honoured for his enthusiasm and passion for swimming and the success of Loughborough Swimming Club under his leadership. Under his reign his swimmers have won medals and set records at British, Commonwealth, European and World levels.

The University Medal is an award that is open to all members and employees and recognises an exceptional service across the University.

Director of Sport leaves University

Chris Earle stepped down as Director of Sport in September, having worked at the University for almost nine years. During this time Loughborough has strengthened its position and profile as a world leading University for sport.

Notable achievements for Chris include the improved sporting experience for students and local community and further enhancing the University’s partnerships with National Governing Bodies of Sport and the English Institute of Sport.

Under Earle’s leadership of sports development, the University has built several new sports facilities, including SportPark and the Loughborough University Stadium, and has developed the new ‘Loughborough Sport’ brand.

Chris was also instrumental in bringing Team GB to Loughborough to use the campus as the kitting out venue and Preparation Camp for teams preparing for the London 2012 Olympic Games.

Farewell to Shirley and welcome to Bob

After seven years at Loughborough, Professor Shirley Pearce stepped down as Vice Chancellor in July. She made an exceptional contribution to the development and success of Loughborough, guiding the University through a period of great success and achievement.

During her time, the University strengthened its research and innovation performance to secure its position as an international leader, particularly in the areas of manufacturing and sport, exercise and health sciences.

Her commitment to excellence saw the University topping the league for the UK’s best student experience for six years running. Under her leadership the University developed significant new partnerships with notable national companies, including the Midlands Energy Consortium, and the Manufacturing Technology Centre (MTC).

Recent successes also included attracting three EPSRC Centres for Innovative Manufacturing. The University was also selected as The Official Preparation Camp Headquarters for Team GB by the British Olympic Association (BOA) prior to the London 2012 Olympic Games.

Under Professor Pearce the University’s turnover grew from £160 million to £235 million. She was instrumental in the diversification of Loughborough’s income streams and raised over £12 million in philanthropic support.

Professor Bob Allison has recently taken up the position of Vice Chancellor in succession to Professor Pearce. Formerly Professor of Geography and a Pro Vice Chancellor at the University of Sussex, Professor Allison had specific responsibility for strategic planning, research, enterprise and innovation.

Serving as the University of Sussex’s Deputy Vice Chancellor from 2010 to 2011, he was also Director and Chairman of the Sussex Innovation Centre Ltd and of Sussex IP Ltd, which promotes knowledge transfer between the University community and external organisations.
HR System Enhancements

my.HR is the University’s new secure employee self-service facility, is now live and available for staff* to use. Employees now have direct access to their own personal information and job-related details as held on the University’s Human Resources system, iTrent.

The system allows staff to ensure their personal information is up to date. It eliminates the paper trail previously required to change details, improves transparency of information and helps contribute towards reducing the University’s carbon footprint.

The project team would like to thank all who took part in the pilot exercise for their feedback which has helped shape the development to date. Work is also now well underway for the introduction of electronic payslips for all employees to replace the current printed payslips and further information will be provided in due course.

In addition to electronic payslips, further developments are planned for my.HR in the future to include online holiday booking and the introduction of training records. As part of the release of my.HR, Manager self-service access is also being rolled out to management teams across campus. This enables managers to access appropriate information as required.

my.HR are also pleased to announce that initial appropriate information as required.

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Loughborough treble

Crest Experts will be leading a new £5 million project to boost research, training and industry partnerships in the solar energy sector.

The new SUPERsolar hub will see the creation of the UK’s first standards lab for solar energy devices, a training programme for the photovoltaic (PV) sector and the formation of an inclusive solar community that links research carried out in universities and industry.

Funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC)-led RCUK energy programme, it comes as the market for PV solar technology is experiencing rapid growth worldwide due to increasing energy demand, a dramatic drop in the cost of solar panels and concerns over global warming.

The hub will be led by Professor Mike Walls from Loughborough’s Centre for Renewable Energy Systems Technology (CREST). CREST is internationally renowned for its work in renewable energy, conducting extensive research into solar PV, solar thermal energy in buildings, energy storage, grid connection and integration and wind power.

Partners include the Universities of Bath, Liverpool, Oxford, Sheffield and Southampton, along with the Energy Generation and Supply Knowledge Transfer Network.

Novel sharing for book lovers

Bookcrossing is a novel exchange initiative for staff and students across campus.

Launched by the Library, wicker boxes of donated novels have been placed in three food outlets; the Village Bar, Fuel Bar (EBH) and Martin Hall Bistro.

The ‘read me then release me’ scheme allows anyone to borrow a book then pass it along, as well as track books with unique ID numbers at www.bookcrossing.com.

The Library is looking for help to keep the scheme rolling.

Artists’ Legs on show at Queen’s Park

A unique series of sculptures to celebrate Loughborough’s role in hosting the GB are on show at the town’s Queen’s Park.

Created by three Loughborough University School of the Arts students – Lucy Buzzacott, Mike Jones and Abi Ross – they chose synchronised swimming as their inspiration, creating a series of two-metre high swimmers legs that appear to emerge from the flowerbeds, as though in a pool of water.

Supported by the University’s senior sculpture technician Pete Beacham, the students took up the challenge when Charnwood Borough Council asked the University to create a striking installation for the town’s Britain in Bloom entry that captured the essence of the Olympics.

Entitled ‘Synch or Swim’, the sculptures represent the grace, artistry and athleticism of the Great Britain synchronized swimming team. Placed in the park outside the Charnwood Museum, they are made of Jesmonite, an advanced form of acrylic resin and are finished with mosaic paint.

Loughborough treble at Heist Awards

The Heist Marketing Education Awards 2012 took place on 31st May in London with Loughborough scooping three of the awards on offer.

The University’s Development and Alumni Relations Office won the silver award in the category celebrating the Best Alumni or Fundraising Campaign for its fundraising project GradGift 2011. The scheme – which encouraged the graduating class to support their Students’ Union – raised more than £87,000.

A smartphone app, jointly developed by Marketing and the Engineering Schools took two silver awards - Best Use of Innovation and Creative Thinking and Best Use of Digital Marketing. With content provided by the Mathematics Education Centre, the Mathscard smartphone app has a handy revision aid designed specifically for A-level Pure Maths.

Available on the Blackberry, Android and Apple platforms, the A-level Mathematical Content App has so far received over 250,000 downloads so far! The app can be downloaded from the major app stores. Further details available at www.mathscard.co.uk

The printed credit-card sized version of the A-level Mathscard previously won a Heist award in 2006.

Green Impact for round two

The sustainable accreditation scheme for all staff, Green Impact, is accepting new members. Now in its second year, the scheme aims to provide a simple way for staff to help ‘green’ their workplaces and be recognised for their hard work.

Last year, teams completed 800+ greening actions and significantly helped reduce the University’s carbon footprint. Hoping to be bigger and better this year, all staff members can sign up and do their bit – big or small – to help the environment.

Every action counts so get involved! Find out more and get signed up today at www.lboro.ac.uk/sustainability/awareness/impact/index.html

*not including staff paid via the submission of monthly timesheets.
The eyes of the world have been upon London for the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, witnessing amazing sporting achievements and the outstanding success of Team GB. Here Newsatburo reflects on the University’s unique involvement in the country’s Olympic triumph.

Olympic Games Performance Highlights

In athletics the stand out performance came from former Loughborough College student and Loughborough Students Athletics Club member Robbie Grabarz. Robbie, the current European Champion, cleared 2.29 metres to finish in third place to win a bronze medal.

In the pole vault former Loughborough College student Steve Lewis cleared a superb 5.75m to finish the competition in joint fifth place.

The University’s Gymnastics Centre played his part in the Team GB squad. The women’s team were coached by University graduate and former Loughborough Students hockey coach Davey Kenny. The unluckies men’s team, who lost in the bronze medal match, contained a number of Loughborough representatives and were coached by University Sport Hall of Fame member Jason Lee.

In canoeing two Loughborough University graduates found themselves on the podium. Liam Heath and Joe Schofield clinched the bronze medal in the 200m sprint in a time of 34.421.

Libby Clegg also won a silver medal in the 100m T12 event. Libby crossed the line with her guide runner Mikail Huggins in a European record time of 12.13.

In the table tennis there was a bronze medal for Aaron McKibbin in the Class 8-9 men’s team event. After a narrow 3-2 defeat in the semi-finals, Aaron, with team mates Will Bailey and Ross Wilson, comfortably beat Germany 3-0.

In the women’s event Stuart Hayes, who spends half of his time on campus, was selected by Team GB to work as a ‘domestique’ in the men’s event. Stuart played a critical role in supporting team mates Alistair and Jonathan Brownlee claim the gold and bronze medal.

Former student John Pearce, was a member of the first ever handball squad to represent Team GB at an Olympic Games.

In football former Loughborough College student Steph Houghton made a name for herself, scoring in all of Team GB’s women’s football qualifying matches.

The highlight for the Team GB women’s volleyball squad was a famous first ever Olympic victory (over Algeria). The squad contained four Loughborough graduates and Sport Scholars – Maria Bertelli, Rachel Laybourne, Lucy Wicks and Jennifer Taylor.

In handball former Loughborough College student Rachel Bragg, Agnė Antkiūnaitė, had her journey in performance volleyball at Loughborough come to a successful end.

The highlight for the Team GB women’s volleyball squad was a famous first ever Olympic victory (over Algeria). The squad contained four Loughborough graduates and Sport Scholars – Maria Bertelli, Rachel Laybourne, Lucy Wicks and Jennifer Taylor.

Former Loughborough Students’ Athletics Club member, who trains on campus, started the medal rush. He came from behind to win the gold in the final of the F42 200m.

Current University student Claire Williams won the bronze medal in the F11/12 discus. It was third time lucky for Claire, after finishing fifth in the last two Games.

Loughborough based athlete Sophie Hitchon from former Loughborough College student and Olympic Games Performance Highlights

In athletics Richard Whitehead, who trains on campus, started the medal rush. He came from behind to win the gold in the final of the F42 200m.

In athletics the stand out performance came from former Loughborough College student and Loughborough Students Athletics Club member Robbie Grabarz in the men’s high jump. Robbie, the current European Champion, cleared 2.29 metres to finish in third place to win a bronze medal.

In the pole vault former Loughborough College student Steve Lewis cleared a superb 5.75m to finish the competition in joint fifth place.

Also on the water at Elton Dorney University graduate Angela Hannah helped Team GB to fifth place in the final of the women’s K4 500m canoe sprint event.

In swimming there were a number of notable individual performances by Loughborough based swimmers with Lizzie Simmonds, Fran Halsall, Lizzie Simmonds, Fran Halsall, Liam Tancock, Caitlin McClatchey and Dan Frog all making finals. Liam Tancock, Amy Smith, Fran Halsall, Caitlin McClatchey and Ross Davies and also competed in relay finals.

In triathlon current 2012 Sports Scholar Lucy Hall supported British number one Helen Jenkins superbly. However it wasn’t to be for Helen who finished in fifth place. Jessica Harrison, who graduated in Physical Education and Sport Science, finished in a fine ninth place competing for France. Graduate Vicky Holland, finished in 26th, after being caught up in a crash on the first lap of the bike stage.

The Great Britain women’s wheelchair basketball team finished their campaign in seventh place. The team included current and former students Natasha Davies, Judith Hamer, Clare Strange and Laurie Williams.

Finally in wheelchair tennis Dave Phillipson’s run in the men’s singles and doubles came to an end with two defeats in round 16.
Team GB Preparation Camp

For seven and a half weeks prior to the start of the London 2012 Games the spotlight was on University as the site of the official Team GB Preparation Camp headquarters. The Preparation Camp had two main purposes: Firstly to officially kit out all of the athletes as part of the Team GB Experience and secondly a number of athletes choose to spend time at the University to utilise the sporting facilities on campus to prepare for the Games. As well as kitting out the athletes also had the opportunity to sign up to the five ‘One Team GB’ core values of Performance, Respect, Unity, Responsibility and Pride. The athletes also spent 25 minutes conducting media interviews and going through the experience of stepping off the field of play at the Olympic Games and receiving media requests. The media area also included an interview for the British Olympic Museum which will open in the Olympic Park in 2014. Every Olympian was interviewed and also had their hands/feet scanned in order to create a unique record of athletes representing Team GB in a home Games. Other areas of the campus utilised by Team GB included Burleigh Court, where Team GB officials and athletes stayed but also used as their operation office the new Loughborough University Stadium which was also used as a media centre.

Kitting Out Facts and Figures

Representatives from all of the 26 Olympic sports passed through the Preparation Camp 524 of the 541 athletes selected visited the Preparation Camp to be kitted out, alongside support staff, coaches and officials. The process took approximately three and a half hours to complete.

- The two suppliers of kit were Nest and adidas
- Nest supplied formal wear and outfits for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies
- Nest issued approximately 80,000 items of clothing across 64 different sizes
- adidas supplied trackuits, alongside village, training and sports specific competition wear
- adidas issued approximately 175,000 units of clothing across 64 different sizes
- Nest issued approximately 40,000 items of kit across 25 sizes and 349 items, with female athletes receiving 65 items of kit and male athletes receiving 59 – not including the competition wear.

Medal Makers

A key element of having the Preparation Camp sited at the University was the recruitment of 400 volunteers through the Medal Makers programme. The Medal Makers were on hand to support the delivery of the Preparation Camp. The volunteers worked across all areas of Camp and clocked up an impressive 11,642 hours of volunteering. The volunteers ranged in age from 16 to 84 and came from all walks of life from students, staff colleagues and members of the community.

The volunteers also supported the Olympic Torch Relay, the annual LIA and LEAP athletics events and the opening fixtures in the new Loughborough University Stadium. The arrival of the Torch on campus in the morning had been heralded by the damien van Day parade, a spectacular ceremonial procession, which travelled from the Paula Radcliffe Athletics Stadium to the new Loughborough University Stadium.

Not only did these activities stand the volunteers in good stead for future roles. It also illustrates how the Medal Makers programme will have a long-lasting legacy beyond the Preparation Camp and the London 2012 Games. The continuation of the programme, through a partnership with Leicester-Shire and Rutland Sport will ensure the Medal Makers will continue to volunteer and support local events and activities.

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Mike Hay
Team GB Preparation Camp Director

Special Guests

The Preparation Camp was visited by some very special guests including HRH The Princess Royal and the Prime Minister David Cameron.

During her visit HRH The Princess Royal was welcomed by five-time Olympic gold medalist and Team GB Ambassador Sir Steve Redgrave; Team GB Chef de Mission Andy Hunt; and Preparation Camp Director Mike Hay.

HRH The Princess Royal also met Team GB athletes from the sports of rhythmic gymnastics and women’s volleyball and visited a training session for the men’s basketball team.

Prime Minister David Cameron paid a special visit to Loughborough to highlight the county-wide economic benefits of hosting the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Upon his arrival to the campus the Prime Minister was greeted by Professor Shirley Pearce, before addressing more than 150 guests who had gathered at Loughborough’s High Performance Athletics Centre for the event.

Following his speech the Prime Minister visited the Team GB Experience where he met members of the Team GB Volleyball and Basketball squads, and Team GB Ambassador James DeGale – a 2008 Olympic gold medalist in boxing.

“”It was a tremendous day for Loughborough University and we were so pleased to be able to welcome the Torch to the campus, which received a rapturous reception right across the University,”

Chief Operating Officer Caroline Walker

Olympic Flame lights up campus

Thousands of local residents, school children and University staff gathered on 3 July to celebrate as the Olympic Torch Relay wound its way through the campus.

Arriving in the morning at the Epinal Way entrance, the torch travelled through the Paula Radcliffe Athletics Stadium, past the Library and Burleigh Court, around the new Loughborough University Stadium and on to the Sir Denis Rooke building.

As the Flame crossed through the Loughborough University Stadium it was given an ecstatic welcome by 1,800 local schoolchildren, who had come to the University to celebrate this once-in-a-lifetime event.

Sir Denis Rooke were Team GB Deputy Chef de Mission Sir Olive Woodward, and Olympic gold medalist and Team GB ambassador David Hemery.

The arrival of the Torch on campus in the morning had been heralded by the Follow the Light parade, a spectacular ceremonial procession, which travelled from the Paula Radcliffe Athletics Stadium to the new Loughborough University Stadium. Throughout the day there were also a host of other events on campus for University staff and visitors, including a concert by the University Choir, a ‘traditional’ school sports day with egg and spoon and sack races, and cricket commentator Jonathan Agnew in conversation with local footballers and sporting legend David Hemery, who won the 400m hurdles at the Olympic Games in Mexico in 1968.

The day’s festivities culminated with a Guinness World Record attempt at the most people bouncing simultaneously on mini trampolines.

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From the Stadium to the Relay made its way to the Sir Denis Rooke building, the home of Team GB’s Preparation Camp, where it was met by 180 members of Team GB’s Olympic Ambition Programme. Also present at the event was Sir Denis Rooke, HRH The Princess Royal and the Prime Minister David Cameron.

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As well as hosting Team GB prior to the Games, welcoming the Olympic Torch to the campus and supporting more than 90 athletes, behind the scenes Loughborough’s academics have also had a crucial role to play.

Newsatlboro takes a look at a role of University research at the Games.

**Hoy’s ‘hot pants’**

Heated trousers developed by experts from the Loughborough Design School, British Cycling and global sports brand adidas were used by Great Britain’s medal winning cyclists.

The trousers have battery-powered heat filaments that sit over the cyclist’s core muscle groups and maintain their temperature between warm-up and the start of an event. Called ADIPOWER muscle warming pants, they are a bid to improve performance. The trousers were used by Team GB’s track sprint cyclists, including Sir Chris Hoy, Britain’s most successful Olympian ever.

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**Farah’s breathing aid**

A breathing training device developed at the University helped to prepare Britain’s Mo Farah to claim Olympic gold in the men’s 10,000 and 5,000 metres.

The innovative Respibelt fits around the lower chest and ribcage to provide a training load to the breathing muscles as the chest expands during breathing. It was developed by Progressive Sports Technologies, a spin-out company from Loughborough’s Sports Technology Institute. The device acts like a dumbbell for the breathing muscles, loading them without restricting the ribcage. Improved breathing muscle efficiency means more oxygen reaches the exercising muscles leading to increased strength, power and endurance. Respibelt is manufactured in the UK by OPRD 360 the sports equipment division of leading sports mouthguard and Queen’s Award recipient.

**Model build for health and safety**

Innovative communication techniques that helped to prevent worker deaths during the Olympic build could be harnessed to benefit other construction projects – a Loughborough research study has found.

Academics from the Schools of Business and Economics and Civil and Building Engineering were commissioned by IOSH and the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) to foster the part of local authorities in relation to internet. 

**Topps tips from elite sports leaders**

The secrets behind the success of those leading and managing Britain’s elite athletes have been revealed by the University’s sport and performance psychologists.

Dr David Feltner, Rachel Amoel and Lindsay Mallard from the School of Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences interviewed 13 National Performance Directors (NPD) of Olympic sports. The team wanted to uncover what attributes make a good sporting leader and what their top tips to success are.

The interviewees had been working in elite sport for between four and 35 years and as a NPD for between five months and 13 years. Collectively, those in the sample had accumulated 24 medals at the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games and accounted for £13.8 million of public investment.

The research identified four key dimensions of performance leadership and management in elite sport:

- **Leadership of people** – Involves staff management, lines of communication and feedback mechanisms.
- **Leadership of processes** – Involves developing a vision and identifying any factors influencing the vision – for example political agendas, recent performances, expectations – and sharing the vision.
- **Leadership of resources** – Involves financial management, strategic competition and training planning, athlete selection for competition, and upholding rules and regulations.
- **Leadership of context** – Involves assessing the environment and how the risk of floods and droughts might affect the programme.

**Best seats in the house**

Innovative tailor-made seats, developed by the Sports Technology Institute were used for the first time by Paralympics GB for the wheelchair basketball events.

The seats, which are individually moulded for each player to provide the best possible support, helped the athletes improve their speed, acceleration and manoeuvrability around the court.

The seats have been developed with UK Sport funding at the Institute, which is supported by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC).

The new, bespoke seats take the individual’s size, shape and particular disability into account. For example, a player with a spinal cord injury will have a seat that provides additional support around their lower back. The research found that workers really appreciated feedback and that site managers were accessible, listened to concerns and, where possible, acted on them.

**Research Grants and Contracts**

**Safe surfing for Public Libraries**

Dr Louise Cooke, Dr Alexander Mac and Director of the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) to investigate the issues surrounding the management of public internet access in UK libraries.

**Floods and Droughts in an Uncertain Future**

The School of Civil and Building Engineering has received over £1,100,000 from the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) to fund a research project investigating the importance of climate change and land management in the regulation of floods and droughts in the UK.

Floods and droughts are perceived to be becoming more frequent and severe in recent decades, with climate change and land management such as afforestation suggested as potential causes of these trends.

Dr Ian Pattison and Prof Toby Rope will look to determine the scale at which land use change impacts might emerge to affect river flows, how local factors affect out-of-stream and near-magnitude and to what extent of floods and droughts might change under future climate change scenarios.
Building for a quality student experience

In an increasingly competitive market place for Universities, delivering a quality experience for students is hugely important. Whilst the University already has an enviable reputation and an unbeaten six student experience awards, driving forward this area remains a top priority for all. The Facilities Management team are at the heart of delivering improvements to buildings and facilities for the benefit of students across campus as newsatlboro found out.

Recently completed projects

The most significant projects recently completed are the major refurbishments to the upper floors of the Haslegrave building and the old Administration 2 building (now re-named Bridgeman) and lecture theatres in the new Foyle, Edward Herbert and Brockington.

Haslegrave (1) provides flexible accommodation for the Computer Science Department, with much of it reflecting the feel of the previously refurbished ground floor. The project involved creating accommodation for academic staff, open-plan administrative areas, large and open research laboratories and open areas for collaborative and inter-disciplinary working/social space. The design of all floors uses extensive glazing to open up the previously dark corridors and provide a more light and airy feel. The very top floor is the home of the academic staff. Small offices have been created around the perimeter of the floor and collaborative meeting/staff spaces provided in the centre. This area is enhanced by opening up of the roof area, which was covered some years ago.

In the new Bridgeman Building (2), the refurbishment has created modern and energy-efficient flexible office spaces, administrative areas, meeting spaces, large seminar rooms, collaborative teaching space and social areas have been created. The project incorporates a glazed link to the old student services building and even a small garden meeting area with artificial grass. Students will benefit from improved access to the main school office, together with a well-equipped flexible teaching space on the top floor that has replaced the old Council Chamber.

Sports facilities

In addition to the recently completed stadium, a number of new sporting facilities incorporating the new Loughborough Sport brand are available. They provide excellent opportunities for students regardless of their sporting prowess.

Next to the first XV rugby pitch is 'Ball Park' (5) that provides free casual recreational opportunities for football, rugby, hockey, tennis and netball. Close to Village Park and next to the existing 'EHB' synthetic pitch is the floodlit 'Games Park'. This facility provides similar recreational opportunities, principally 5-a-side football, volleyball, rugby and touch rugby.

Down at the Holywell end of campus 'Beach Park' (6) provides a beach court that offers a flexible space for beach volleyball and other activities such as general workouts, beach soccer and ultimate Frisbee.

Lecture space

Following on from the success of the Brockington foyer project and recognising the increasing unmet demand for study spaces, additional lecture space is planned. The Facilities Management team are working with Schools to establish priorities and a programme of work. Designs are almost complete to provide an additional 300 student study spaces in the Pilkington Library. The new validated top level of the Library will provide a variety of different spaces for study and will be linked to the main entrance level by a new top-lit staircase. In the middle of the building, comfortable works throughout the rest of the Library will improve the receptions/cluster facilities at the top floors and create some quiet seating to allow the Library to reduce their own space requirement across the campus.
REACHING OUT

Making the jump from A levels to Higher Education is a straightforward choice for some students but for others it may not be so easy. Deciding whether to apply to university and then what to study can be a very difficult decision. Even for some students but for others it may not be so easy. Deciding whether to apply

It may be especially daunting if the family has no experience of higher education and for some the cost may be a significant consideration – especially with the introduction of £9,000 tuition fees. The University’s Student Outreach and Recruitment (SOAR) team run a range of activities and events designed to help students from all backgrounds make important decisions about whether to study at University and gain access to Higher Education. Here Newsatboro takes a close look at their work.

A HEctic YEAR for the TEAM

25,000
Number of prospects distributed at HE fairs and schools

118
Number of outreach events delivered

15,000
Number of miles travelled to deliver recruitment events in the UK. The equivalent of travelling to Australia and half way back!

101
Events delivered in schools (SS recruitment and 16 outreach) involving a total of around 5,000 students

12,000
Number of students who attend Open Days

61
Events delivered on campus including three Undergraduate Open Days

26,000
Number of students engaged with in the last year altogether

WHAT THE SOAR TEAM DOES

Attend UCAS conventions nationwide
Organise outreach events and activities
Attend parents’ evenings, school fairs
Organise Open Days
Postgraduate recruitment
Mature students recruitment and support
Virtual open days and chat rooms for prospective students
Conversion activities

Sian Williams
How long have you been involved in Outreach Work?

Since the mid-90s I have been involved in Outreach work at Loughborough. In July 2011 I was appointed as the School of Science Outreach Officer where I co-ordinate outreach and widening participation activities for the Departments of Chemistry, Computer Science, Information Science, Maths, the Maths Education Centre and Physics and in the near future for the School of Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences.

Can you give some examples of events you’ve hosted?

Our outreach activities include running science clubs, master classes, demonstration lectures, careers talks and fairs, primary school events, University Experience days and workshops. Many of the events can be conducted as standalone hour sessions or built into larger programmes. The activities we run are relatively flexible and this means we can work collaboratively with schools and teachers to provide a programme suitable for them and their students.

What are the benefits of getting involved in Outreach Work?

There are so many intrinsic benefits from working in Outreach. You get to interact with young people and their families, giving them a chance to experience new and exciting subject areas, helping them to expand their interest in science and open their minds up to the wealth of possibilities and opportunities that Higher Education can give them. It’s also great to see young people being enthusiastic about a subject that you yourself are passionate about. Enthusiastic parents and teachers is another great way of getting young people involved in and excited about science – getting their teachers enthusiastic raves off on the students and can have a huge impact on the session you’re running – you get such a buzz from watching them interact with each other and having fun with science!

LOUGHBOROUGH’S ACCESS AGREEMENT

Any University charging more than £6,000 per year have to undertake special measures to encourage students from less privileged backgrounds to apply which are laid out in an Access Agreement for each institution. This is a detailed document, available online. Some of the key points include:

- 27% of the University’s income above £6,000 must be spent on access and retention measures
- This represents approximately £2.5m in total in 2012/13
- £1.7m of this (or 70%) will be spent on financial support for students such as scholarships and bursaries
- The remainder is to be spent on outreach, fair access and retention initiatives
- By 2015/16, the required total expenditure is around £7.8m

SoAAR TEAM

If you would like to organise an event or receive email notifications of upcoming activities being organised by the SOAR team please e-mail: SOAR@lboro.ac.uk or call: 01509 222488

The team is based in the Rutland Building on campus.
Loughborough Football has made a return to campus, with the first fixture at the new Loughborough University stadium. The game was the first fixture at the new development that has been built to create a permanent home for the club at the University, and provide changing facilities for the Holywell Park pitches at the West end of campus.

A sizeable crowd attended the historical evening, in which the students gave good account of themselves in a 4-4 draw against a Tottenham Hotspur U18 XI.

The following week the Barbarians, coached by one of the University's finest graduates Andy Robinson, visited the stadium to play a celebratory rugby match against Loughborough Students RFC – Champions of National League 2 North. Despite the difficult weather conditions a large crowd turned out to watch both teams who were intent on playing running rugby. A spirited performance by the Students could not stop the Barbarians claiming a 40-7 victory.

Loughborough Football will be playing their home matches at the new stadium this season while the rugby team will be based at their usual home – the first XV pitch located just off Towers Way.

Loughborough Students have won the British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS) overall trophy for the 32nd successive year. Athletic Union President Adam Rae collected the trophy from Lewis Moody, the former England rugby captain, at the BUCS Awards Dinner, held at Exeter University. Loughborough won the overall title with a points tally of 5,353.4, well ahead of second placed Durham with 3,503.5.

Matt Gotrel and Rich Watton have made history by becoming the first Loughborough University rowers to triumph at Henley Royal Regatta. Matt and Rich, who were part of a Nottingham RC fours’ A boat which also included Loughborough graduate Peter Muhley, beat an Australian crew in the final. It was the climax to a tough week of match racing involving 32 boats and they pulled out all the stops to win the final after trailing at the half-way stage.

Five Loughborough Lightning players have helped Great Britain triumph at the inaugural World University Netball Championships in Cape Town. The squad that beat South Africa 53-49 in the final included Loughborough University students Sophia Candappa and Jade Forbes Wattley, and Loughborough College representatives Jodi Gibson, Rachel Mulloy and Lauren Steadman.
October

22-26 October
Be Safe Be Seen Week
www.lboro.ac.uk/sustainability

25 October, 7.30pm
Martin Hall
Spoken Word: Ian McMillan
www.arts.lboro.ac.uk

24 October, 5pm
Wolfson Building
Inaugural Lecture: Prof Shahin Rahimifard (Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering)
www.lboro.ac.uk/inagural

27 October, 4pm
Loughborough Rugby vs. Blaydon
1st XV Pitch
loughboroughsport.com/calendar

31 October, 10.30am
Martin Hall
Alumni Coffee Mornings – Vice Chancellor’s Welcome
www.lboro.ac.uk/alumni

27 October, 4pm
1st XV Pitch
Loughborough Rugby vs. Blaydon
loughboroughsport.com/calendar

November

3-11 November
Dan Maskell Tennis Centre
AGION GB Loughborough Pro-Series
loughboroughsport.com/calendar

10 November, 2pm
1st XV Pitch
Loughborough Rugby vs. Sedgley Tigers
loughboroughsport.com/calendar

14 November, 5pm
Stewart Mason Building
Inaugural Lecture: Prof Stewart Robinson (Business and Economics)
www.lboro.ac.uk/inagural

21 November, 7.30pm
Cope Auditorium
Concert: New Zealand String Quartet
www.arts.lboro.ac.uk

24 November, 2pm
1st XV Pitch
Loughborough Rugby vs. Ealing Trail Finders
loughboroughsport.com/calendar

28 November, 10.30am
Burleigh Court
Alumni Coffee Mornings – Vice Chancellor’s Welcome
www.lboro.ac.uk/alumni

25 October, 7.30pm
Cope Auditorium
Concert: University Choir Christmas Concert
www.arts.lboro.ac.uk

6 December, 7pm
Edward Herbert Building
Guest Lecture by Prof Jonathan Perritt
www.lboro.ac.uk/service/publicity/whatsont

15 December, 2pm
1st XV Pitch
Loughborough Rugby vs. Cinderford
loughboroughsport.com/calendar

19 December, 10.30am
Burleigh Court
Alumni Coffee Mornings – Annual Christmas Party
www.lboro.ac.uk/alumni

20 December, 2pm
1st XV Pitch
Loughborough Rugby vs. Cambridge
loughboroughsport.com/calendar

December

3 December
Student’s Union
Spoken Word: Speech Bubble
www.arts.lboro.ac.uk

5 December, 5pm
Stewart Mason Building
Inaugural Lecture: Prof Ray Dawson (Computer Science)
www.lboro.ac.uk/inagural

January

12 January, 2pm
1st XV Pitch
Loughborough Rugby vs. Coventry
loughboroughsport.com/calendar

18 January, 7.30pm
Martin Hall
Concert: Maggini Quartet
www.arts.lboro.ac.uk

26 January, 2pm
1st XV Pitch
Loughborough Rugby vs. Rosslyn Park
loughboroughsport.com/calendar

30 January, 10.30am
Burleigh Court
Alumni Coffee Mornings – Optimising Sports Performance
www.lboro.ac.uk/alumni

For more events and further details see:
www.lboro.ac.uk/events

Flush with success
A University initiative, led by Professor Sohail from Civil and Building Engineering, has won $60,000 in an international competition organised by The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to develop a reinvented toilet.


Arab spring coverage ‘impartial’
Analysis, by the University’s Communication Research Centre, of the BBC’s news content relating to the ‘Arab Spring’ has helped to inform an independent report on the impartiality of the BBC coverage.

The Times, BBC Online, The Guardian, The Daily Telegraph

Working families need a third more earnings to make ends meet
Working families with children are being dealt a damaging triple financial blow in the recession, according to a report by the Centre for Research in Social Policy at Loughborough University, published by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

The Daily Telegraph, BBC Online, BBC TV News, BBC Radio 4, Daily Mail, BBC Radio Leicester

Hot pants fire up Britain’s cyclists
Heated trousers developed by experts from Loughborough University, British Cycling and adidas are being used by Great Britain’s cyclists in their pursuit of Olympic glory.


Ramadan and the Olympics: to fast or not to fast?
The International Olympic Committee’s nutrition working group, led by Loughborough’s Professor Ron Maughan, found that fasting for short or intermittent periods has little or no effect on the health or performance of athletes.


For British athletes, all roads lead to Loughborough
Over 500 Team GB athletes head to Loughborough to begin their pre-Games preparations and collect their London 2012 kit.


Archives

The Bridgeman centre was opened in the early 1970s, in honour of Dr John Bridgeman who steered the development of Loughborough to become one of the largest teacher training colleges in the country.

After providing a home for the Creative Design and Design and Technology courses, and Design and Print Department, it has recently been demolished as part of the development of the East Park part of campus. In its place will be a brand new building to accommodate the University’s Health and Biosciences (HEBS II) Department and a National Centre for Sports and Exercise Medicine (NCSEM).

The £10 million NCSEM is one of three pioneering sports and exercise medicine centres to be established in the UK. The centre will help people to be more active and will treat injuries caused by exercise, as well as conditions associated with lack of exercise. It will also help people use physical activity as a means of coping with existing medical conditions such as diabetes.