



in this issue... **Green energy** University to generate own electricity... **Mobile phones** Research reveals the 'top ten' mobiles theft hit list... **Sunday rest** Scientists discover overweight do less on Sundays... **Beating the odds** Cancer survivor dives into championships...

## Multi-million pound project for on-campus accommodation unveiled

The University has submitted a planning application to Charnwood Borough Council for the provision of 1,300 student bedrooms on campus.

Submission of the planning application marks the culmination of complex negotiations with potential partners for the scheme and detailed discussions on the project design. The multi-million pound project will be the largest single investment ever made by the University.

The new accommodation will be built on the site of car park seven, next to the student village, on the north side of the campus. The 1,300 bedrooms will provide three new halls for undergraduates. Two of the new halls will have 400 bedrooms and one will have 200 bedrooms. There will be an additional block with 300 bedrooms for post-graduates. The overall development will be a mix of four and five storey buildings, arranged around a courtyard to identify the individual halls. The halls will be provided with self catering facilities but two of the halls will include flexible packages for the nearby restaurant and social centre.

Vice Chancellor Shirley Pearce said: "We are delighted to submit the planning application for this exciting project. We look forward to construction of this development which will provide students with superb accommodation on campus."

Loughborough Students' Union have been working closely with the University on the development of the project. Gemma Godfrey, president of Loughborough Students' Union welcomes the development and commented: "The Student Union strongly supports the provision of these bedrooms on the campus and looks forward to the first students taking up residence."

The University's partner for provision of the accommodation is University Partnership Programme (UPP) and a letter confirming them as preferred bidder for the scheme was recently signed.

UPP has considerable expertise in university student residential accommodation, having committed well over £600 million of private finance to this area since 1997. Their portfolio of rooms now numbers over 16,000 and sufficient third party institutional investment has already been attracted to provide finance for projects totalling around £900m over the next five years.

Clive Crawford, Chief Executive of UPP, said: "We are delighted to be working in partnership with Loughborough University on such a ground-breaking scheme and providing new, state-of-the-art accommodation which will help attract future students to the University."

Subject to the necessary planning permissions it is anticipated that work on site will begin in early 2007. The first 300 rooms will be available for occupation in September 2007 and the remainder by September 2008.

An artist's impression of the planned new student accommodation.



# Loughborough continues to impress in NSS

The University has again excelled in the National Student Survey.

Loughborough comes first as the favourite university in the country among full-time students, when data from all the universities that took part in the 2005 survey are combined with the 2006 results released in August.

In the National Student Survey final-year students were asked to rate their satisfaction, out of a maximum score of 5, in seven areas of their degree programme – teaching, assessment and feedback, academic support, organisation and management, learning resources, personal development, and overall satisfaction.

In the 2006 survey, when an average score is taken across all seven measures of assessment, Loughborough is ranked in the top five universities among full-time students, gaining a score of 4.10. For the second year in succession, Loughborough was also unbeaten in the ‘learning resources’ category with a rating of 4.3.

In the individual subject areas for 2006, average scores over the seven measures of assessment place Loughborough top of the tables in six subject areas:

- Physical Science (top in 2005 and 2006)
- Mechanically-based Engineering
- Civil, Chemical and other Engineering (top in 2005 and 2006)
- Technology
- Architecture, Building and Planning (top in 2005 and 2006)
- Communications and Information Studies (top in 2005 and 2006)

Furthermore, Physical Science at Loughborough (which incorporates the Departments of Physics and Chemistry) topped the 2006 tables in each of the seven areas of assessment, gaining an overall satisfaction score of 4.6 and an averaged score of 4.49.

The areas listed above relate to subjects taught in nine departments at Loughborough:

- Aeronautical and Automotive Engineering
- Chemical Engineering
- Chemistry
- Civil and Building Engineering
- Human Sciences
- Information Science
- Institute of Polymer Technology and Materials Engineering (IPTME)
- Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering
- Physics

Using the combined survey data for 2005 and 2006, the average scores over the seven measures of assessment place Loughborough top in nine subject areas among full-time students - six more than any other university. The subject areas are:

- Medical Science and Pharmacy
- Physical Science
- Computer Science
- Mechanically-based Engineering
- Civil, Chemical and other Engineering
- Technology
- Architecture, Building and Planning

- Management
- Communications and Information Studies

“We are delighted to have performed so well in both the surveys and that we remain one of the students’ favourites,” said Professor Morag Bell, Pro Vice Chancellor for Teaching. “These results reflect our exceptional record for quality in teaching and learning and our commitment to the overall student experience.”

## New book published to mark 40th anniversary

A new book, charting Loughborough University’s history, has been published by renowned local historian and author Len Cantor, to mark the University’s 40th anniversary.

The book – entitled ‘Loughborough University, the First Forty Years, 1966-2006’ – traces the developments of the University over the past four decades, a period in which it has made remarkable progress.

The book begins with a synopsis of the University’s ancestry, dating back to the early days in 1909 when a small Technical Institute was established on Green Close Lane in Loughborough to provide local facilities for further education.

The main focus, however, is on the University’s development since its inception in 1966, when Her Majesty The Queen awarded Loughborough its Charter, in recognition of the excellence achieved by Loughborough College of Advanced Technology and its predecessor Colleges.

Then called Loughborough University of Technology, it was the country’s first technological university. It was later renamed Loughborough University in 1996. Over the past forty years, the University has seen many developments, including the reunification in 1977 with Loughborough College of Education and with Loughborough College of Art and Design in 1998.

The University’s standing has also gone from strength to strength, to become one of the country’s leading higher education institutions. Copies of the book, which is priced £12, are available from imago services by calling 01509 222252 or 222265.

## Dean of Science becomes Fellow of the IEA

Loughborough’s Dean of Science, Professor Ken Parsons has been inaugurated as a Fellow of the International Ergonomics Association (IEA).

To be put forward for an IEA Fellow Award, an ergonomist has to be a renowned researcher, designer or consultant of great distinction and to have made an outstanding contribution to ergonomics/human factors at an international level as well as in their home country.

Professor Parsons’ work on thermal environments has won him international recognition as well as being accepted as one of the country’s leading experts on environmental ergonomics. He has been Director of the Human Thermal Environments Laboratory at Loughborough since the early 1980s.

## Loughborough shortlisted for THES Best Student Experience award

The Times Higher Education Supplement (THES) has shortlisted the University for its prestigious award – the UK’s Best Student Experience.

Over 7,000 students were polled for the highly contested award. They were asked to rate various aspects of the University, including the courses, facilities, atmosphere and social life.

The winner will be announced at an awards dinner on 15 November, at the Hilton Hotel, Park Lane, London.

Loughborough’s nomination follows on from its excellent performance in this year’s National Student Survey, published in August. The University was also ranked 6th in this year’s Times Good University Guide, confirming it as one of the country’s leading higher education institutions. The highly-regarded Times guide is based upon nine measures of quality – student satisfaction, research assessment, entry standards, student/staff ratio, library/computing spend, facilities spend, degree classifications, graduate prospects, and completion rates.

## University to take part in major national sleep research programme

A £2 million national programme to improve sleep quality for older people will be carried out with help from the Department of Human Sciences.

The project has attracted the largest single investment in sleep research ever made by a UK research council. Costing £2.3 million, the four-year programme will involve a number of studies to help older people sleep better. It will be carried out by a consortium of researchers from the Universities of Loughborough, Surrey, London and Bath.

Professor Kevin Morgan, who is based in the Department of Human Sciences and will be involved in the project, said: “Satisfactory sleep quality is a fundamental pre-requisite for the maintenance of active, successful and healthy ageing and is particularly vulnerable during periods of illness or stress. “This ambitious programme of research will combine expertise in sociology, psychology, medicine, biology and engineering, and stands to make a substantial difference in an area of international significance.”

As well as taking part in other aspects of the project, Professor Morgan will manage a large controlled trial of self-help for sleep disturbances among people with chronic health problems. This will be done in collaboration with the North Nottinghamshire NHS Health Community.

The national sleep research programme will be funded under the ‘New Dynamics of Ageing’ initiative run by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) and the Medical Research Council.



Energy manager Greg Watts is pictured at the site of the combined heat and power plant. Photograph courtesy of the Leicester Mercury

## Powering the way to a greener future

Loughborough University is set to become even more environmentally friendly by generating its own electricity.

For the last five years the University has been purchasing 100 percent of its power from renewable sources and was the first in the country to do so. Now it plans to go one step further, and generate its own electricity.

A £1.3m scheme to construct a combined heat and power (CHP) plant on campus has commenced and it will be operational by March 2007. CHP plants make better use of primary fuel by reducing transmission losses, which occur when the electricity is in transit from the power station to the customer. They significantly reduce carbon dioxide emissions and also make use of the heat produced when electricity is generated, which a conventional power station would normally reject to waste.

It is estimated that the campus plant will prevent 1,200 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions being released into the atmosphere. The heat it will create will be used to keep Pilkington Library cool during the summer and to provide heating for the adjacent student accommodation in the winter.

A combined heat and power plant is already in use on the Holywell Park area of the University. This was purchased along with the site in 2003 and is used to generate electricity for this section of the campus.

Greg Watts, Loughborough’s Energy Manager said: “This demonstrates our commitment to improving the University’s environmental performance by adding a second combined heat and power plant to the campus. We are currently working with the Carbon Trust on a Carbon Management Programme and this new equipment provides an excellent start to the savings in carbon emissions that we are seeking.”

## Trio of awards at New Designers show for Loughborough graduates

Former Loughborough students scooped three awards at this year's New Designers show – the foremost event in graduate design, which showcases the work, energy and talent of some 4,000 young designers.

Hannah Plevin, who graduated in the summer from the Industrial Design and Technology degree course, received the KBSA (Kitchen, Bathroom and Bedroom Specialists Association) Award, worth £1,000, for her electronic cooking instruction and recipe collection device, designed to encourage quick preparation of healthy meals.

Ben Hubert, also an Industrial Design and Technology graduate, was presented with the Corus Award, worth £1,000, for his interior, ambient 'Clap On, Puff Out' lights.

Kevin Badni, a lecturer in Design and Technology, who organised the Department's stand at the New Designers event, said: "The New Designers show always has the best of UK graduate work on display, so we are very pleased that some of our students received national recognition for the hard work they have put into our course."

The third award went to a group of Printed, Woven and Multi-Media Textiles graduates from the School of Art and Design. The group were awarded the Brintons Collective Award, in recognition of one institution's work that collectively exhibits outstanding artistic ability.

"New Designers introduces our graduates and their outstanding collections to a national and international audience. It's a fantastic opportunity to showcase the very best of our graduates," said Jan Shenton, programme leader in Woven Textiles. "This award recognises the strength and diversity of the Textiles course at Loughborough."

## Deadline set for vibration testing

A national organisation representing some of the UK's largest construction companies has warned manufacturers that only hand-powered tools tested by Loughborough University will be used on their sites from January 2007.

The Major Contractors Group (MCG) wants to improve the management of hand-arm vibration health risks for construction workers. It has been working with the University and the Off-Highway Plant and Equipment Research Centre (OPERC), to engage suppliers in adopting HAVTEC (Hand Arm Vibration Test Centre) independent testing of hand-held power tools. The resulting data will provide user-friendly and dependable information about the likely risk to workers for each tool.

MCG have urged all manufacturers of power tools supplying MCG sites to submit their equipment for testing. Most major suppliers have participated in the exercise and now those few still to support the

initiative have been advised that a deadline of January 2007 has been set.

At Loughborough the testing is being led by Dr David Edwards from the Department of Civil and Building Engineering, and Dr Neil Mansfield from the Department of Human Sciences.

It is hoped that the application of a consistent benchmark for performance will accelerate the development of power tools that reduce the risks placed on construction workers.

## Charities welcome new treatment

A life-changing new technique to rebuild the faces of people disfigured by disease or injury has been praised by an international charity, who say it will bring patients a 'restored quality of life'.

The Loughborough University-led project will mean the creation of custom-made facial implants for individual patients, including those who have suffered from oral cancer, bone disease, congenital defects and traumatic injuries.

Implants to replace damaged facial bone will be made using 'selective laser sintering' - a revolutionary, 'rapid manufacturing' process that utilises lasers rather than traditional factory tools and methods.

The £238,000 project is a partnership between Loughborough University, biomaterials experts, healthcare professionals, and patient groups, representing those who have experienced facial disfigurement. It is funded by the Department of Health's 'New and Emerging Applications of Technology' (NEAT) programme.

Researchers at Loughborough have developed a completely bespoke manufacturing system to investigate the generation of implants, which are built layer-by-layer using lasers to fuse together particles of powder.

Dr Russell Harris, who is based in the University's Wolfson School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, is the Principal Investigator of the research. He said: "We are currently looking at creating a structure which encourages the ingrowth of natural bone. By doing this, we can improve the fixation of the implant into the body.

"It is hoped that the new implants will be a significant improvement on present treatments as they will be patient-specific in both shape and performance and will not be constrained by the economics of conventional manufacturing techniques."

The rapid manufacture of the implants from non-intrusive scans is also expected to cut costs and waiting times, as well as reducing distress and risks to patients.

Christine Piff, founder of the charity Let's Face It, which provides support for facial disfigurement sufferers and their families, is collaborating on the project. She said: "The advantages of the development of custom-made implants for bone replacement tissue to the patient are immeasurable.

"The technology brings to the patient a restored quality of life. There will be a significant improvement to the patient's appearance compared to current treatments. This technique will improve the psychological rehabilitation of the facially disfigured person, restoring their self-esteem and confidence to fit into society again."

## Innovative computer application created by CCFR

The Centre for Child and Family Research (CCFR) has developed a new computer application, designed to help local authorities monitor the costs of providing services and placements to looked after children in care.

The application, called the Cost Calculator for Children's Services (CCfCS), allows agencies to make use of the information already available in their system to accurately compare the value and benefits of different types of care. It offers a variety of report options and analyses that produce annual costs, costs for specific placements or individuals, and costs for different groups of children.

Developed in collaboration with seven local authorities and funded by the Department for Education and Skills, the flexible system is easy to implement by purchasing a user licence, which also includes the software, user guides and a consultancy service.

After a successful national launch in London, the Centre has received a great deal of interest in the software, both in the UK and abroad.

Jean Soper, the lead developer of the application, said: "Our aim is to equip local authorities with this tool which will enable them to commission better and more effective care services and improve decision making processes. It's a very exciting time for this project and we've been encouraged by the positive response received so far."

For further information about the CCfCS visit the website: [www.ccfcs.org.uk](http://www.ccfcs.org.uk)

## Memorandum of Understanding with prestigious Indian institute

Loughborough University has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi, to facilitate academic cooperation between the two institutions.

The agreement will enable Loughborough and IIT Delhi to explore the possibility of exchanging information and collaborating on research and teaching; jointly organising conferences and short courses; and undertaking student exchange programmes.

The MOU was signed at a special ceremony at the end of July by Dr Anoop Vyas from IIT Delhi and Professor Shirley Pearce, Vice Chancellor of Loughborough University.

IIT Delhi has long-standing links with Loughborough's Department of Electronic and Electrical Engineering. To date they have collaborated on sonar and telemedicine projects, and are currently working on a joint project submission to the UK-India Education and Research Initiative.



## Prize launched in memory of Loughborough Professor

A healthcare innovation prize has been set up in memory of a Loughborough University Professor.

Peter Smith, who was Professor of Photonics Engineering and head of the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, died in a tragic car accident in February 2006. The talented health technology researcher was co-founder of the Da Vinci network, and the Health Technology Research Group he led received numerous prestigious awards including: a Queens Award (2001), Innovation Awards (Gatsby 2000 and 2002) and Medical Futures: Best Medical Innovation (2002).

A prize fund of £15,000 has been established in his memory to encourage innovation in healthcare delivery in the East Midlands region. The competition is open to partnerships of university researchers, healthcare practitioners and small to medium sized companies, including start-ups.

The new initiative is being organised by the Da Vinci Health Technology Network and NHS Innovations East Midlands. The award specifically aims to encourage new linkages to stimulate regional innovation, and applications must include a partnership involving at least two of the following types of organisation, one of which must be based in Leicestershire:

- Health care practice (University hospitals and Primary Care Trusts)
- Research institution (including universities)
- Small to medium sized enterprises (including start ups)

Any stage of innovative health technology, including those based around patient or service improvement processes will be considered, provided a strong case for its commercial potential can be made.

The Leicester Shire Economic Partnership, which supports the Da Vinci network is providing £10,000 for the prize fund, with a further £5,000 recently confirmed from NHS Innovations East Midlands.

"The drive to exploit the UK knowledge base to develop new health care technologies is high," says Anna Seddon, manager of the Da Vinci network. "By working together with NHS Innovations East Midlands, we aim to bridge the disciplines of medical practice, bio and life sciences, engineering and physical sciences to open up new partnerships, paving the way for new inventions that will improve patient care. Peter Smith worked at the forefront of this goal and this new prize challenge will honour his immense contribution."

Further information about the health care prize is available at <http://www.davinci-net.org> and the deadline for entries is Friday 10 November 2006. Winners will be announced in early January 2007 and there will be an evening awards ceremony shortly after.



## Research identifies mobile phone theft 'Top Ten'

New research by the University's Midlands Centre for Criminology and Criminal Justice has identified a mobile phone 'Top Ten' hit list, and urges consumers and the mobile phone industry to increase their anti-theft efforts.

The study showed that almost half of all mobile phones stolen in 2005 were Nokia. Sony Ericsson, Samsung and Motorola make up most of the rest on the mobile hit list.

Using data from over 100,000 stolen phone crimes in London, the Loughborough research team found that in December 2005, the Nokia 6230 was top on the most stolen list, followed by the Motorola Razr, the Samsung D500 and the Sony Ericsson K750i.

The inspiration for the study was the Home Office's successful Car Crime Index, which prompted improved anti-theft designs in the car industry. The research, part of a project directed by Professor Graham Farrell which looks at designing-out phone theft, was published in the journal 'Justice of the Peace'.

Professor Farrell said: "Improvements in household design, car park security, and design of frequently stolen products such as cars, credit cards and identity, show that there are many examples where designing-out crime can have an impact. What is often lacking is the stimulus for industry to invest in anti-crime design or other measures.

"This study is intended as a step in the direction of informing consumers, police and the mobile phone industry about crime, and thereby hopefully encouraging further anti-crime design efforts by manufacturers."

The research looked at crimes recorded in Greater London during 2005 using data provided by the police National Mobile Phone Crime Unit. During this period there were 112,093 crimes involving the theft of at least one mobile phone.

Jen Mailley, lead author on the study, said: "Mobile phone theft has been increasing when many types of crime have been falling for years. This is why it is vital that action is taken now to try and design-out mobile phone theft, and we hope the top ten list is a step towards this."

The study's authors caution that the list does not necessarily show which mobiles are more crime-prone than others. However, they are working on another version that will, which they hope to release in the near future. The study was funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council.

The Midlands Centre for Criminology and Criminal Justice is a focal point for crime-related research at Loughborough University. Its staff undertake research in a number of areas including crime prevention, policing, drug policy, and the criminal justice system.

## Research grants and contracts of £8,000 and over, awarded in July and August

**Aeronautical and Automotive Engineering**  
*Linear electromagnetic actuation system for active vehicle suspension*  
Dr M Best  
£236,036 EPSRC

*ASTREA – UV Risk Assessment and Modelling*  
Prof J Andrews  
£72,500 DTI via BAE Systems

*Impingement/Effusion Cooled Gas Turbine Combustor Tile Research*  
Dr D J Thorpe and Dr J F Carrotte  
£139,403 Rolls-Royce plc.

*EFE Resonator and Passive Damper Work*  
Dr J F Carrotte  
£13,465 Rolls-Royce plc.

**Chemical Engineering**  
*Superspreading: self organisation of nanoscale*  
Dr V Starov and Dr R Holdich  
£347,839 EPSRC

**Chemistry**  
*Advances in the study of electrochromic materials (overseas travel grant)*  
Dr R J Mortimer  
£24,742 EPSRC

**Civil and Building Engineering**  
*Strategic research on climate change*  
Prof A Bristow  
£22,500 Department for Transport

*Cutting out waste in construction*  
Dr M Osmani  
£39,050 EMDA via EMCBE

*Implementation of technology, process and personal development techniques*  
Prof P Carrillo and Dr A Dainty  
£142,925 KTP/Mouchel Parkman

*Health considerations of older construction site workers*  
Prof A Gibb  
£31,819 SPARC

**Computer Sciences**  
*ASTREA – UAV Risk Assessment and Modelling*  
Prof P Chung  
£67,317 DTI via BAE Systems

**CRSP**  
*Labour market impact of new tax credits*  
Ms S Middleton  
£16,738 Joseph Rowntree Foundation

*Planning and deploying resources in later life: aspirations, attitudes and behaviour – a qualitative study*  
Ms E Pound  
£126,486 Joseph Rowntree Foundation

**Electronic and Electrical Engineering**  
*FENRA – Fast energy rating for photovoltaic devices and modules*  
Dr R Gottschalg  
£375,110 EPSRC

*Universities centre for rail systems research*  
Prof R Goodall  
£193,377 EPSRC via Southampton University

*Grant in aid of supporting the fourth UK Technological Plasma Workshop*  
Prof M G Kong  
£8,440 EPSRC

*Enhancing networks and wireless research at the University's communications research group – A case for Platform Grant support*  
Prof D Parish, Prof Y Vardaxoglou & Dr S Datta  
£537,146 EPSRC

*Explosively Driven Electric Pulse Generators*  
Prof I R Smith and Dr B Novac  
£75,000 DSTL Ministry of Defence

*Novel Electronic Armour Technology Study*  
Prof I R Smith  
£117,000 DSTL Ministry of Defence

**ESRI**  
*Support for Xu Sun studentship – investigation of user interface personalisation for mobile devices during large scale sporting events*  
A May  
£15,000 Philips Electronics

*Safety access and usability needs of children with disabilities*  
C Nicolle and M Maguire  
£12,714 ANEC

*Interaction between speed choice and road environment*  
Julian Hill and Claire Naing  
£9,585 DFT via Leeds University

*RAC Homeworking Study*  
Mrs T Ross  
£8,500 RAC

*ESRI Usability Research for Kodak*  
Mr A May  
£65,000 Kodak Ltd., UK

**Geography**  
*An innovative statistical approach to downscaling climate scenarios to model the seasonal evolution of 21st century ice-mass surface forcing*  
Dr R Hodgkins  
£14,790 The Royal Society

**Human Sciences**  
*Universities centre for rail systems research*  
Prof K Parsons  
£55,814 EPSRC via Southampton University

*OPERC Vibration Test Centre – Project Extension*  
Dr N J Mansfield and Dr D J Edwards  
£21,900 OPERC

**Information Science**  
*i-skills exemplification studies (JISC staff information skills programme)*  
Dr M Hepworth, Dr A Wilson (Prof. Dev.) and Ms R Stubbings (Library)  
£17,021 JISC

**IPTME**  
*Research collaboration – Multi-Scale Transport Phenomena for Advanced Materials Manufacturing*  
Prof J Binner and Prof D J Hourston  
£9,950 University of Surrey

**Mathematical Sciences**  
*Modelling radiation damage in heavy metals*  
Prof R Smith and Dr S Kenny  
£21,000 AWE

**Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering**  
*Service-Oriented Cross-Layer Infrastructure for Distributed Smart Embedded Systems (SOCRADES)*  
Dr R Harrison  
£489,226 European Commission

*Effects of Microstructure on Mechanical Properties of Nonwoven Materials*  
Prof V Silberschmidt and Dr M Acar  
£40,509 North Carolina State University

*Disrupting the value chain: The impact of new technologies on the UK automotive industry*  
Dr K Walsh  
£42,751 RAIS/CENEX

*Design and develop laser surface hardening of cylinder bores*  
Dr K Williams, Dr J Lawrence, Prof H Rahnejat and Mr A Sandaver  
£121,653 KTP/JCB Excavators Ltd

*Measuring and exploiting the clinical benefits of DWT for maxillofacial therapies*  
Prof D Williams  
£99,789 DTI

**Physics**  
*Advanced fellowship – Controlling vortex motion and the THz radiation in high temperature superconductors*  
Dr S Saveliev  
£484,475 EPSRC

**School of Sport and Exercise Sciences**  
*Research Scholarship*  
Prof C Williams  
£15,000 Univ Hospitals of Leics NHS Trust

*Current status and future visions of sport for all in Europe*  
Dr M Green, Prof I Henry, Prof B Houlihan, Dr P Downward, Dr F Bull and Dr L Robinson  
£17,123 International Olympic Committee

**Social Sciences**  
*Feasibility study of the use of a Randomised Controlled Trial (RCT) of therapeutic Horticulture for People with Mental Health Problems in the UK*  
Dr J Sempik  
£63,132 THRIVE

*Participatory action research into access to services and support for refugee women and their children aged 0-5 (WAM Project)*  
Dr M O'Neill  
£10,000 Marchbid Ltd

**WEDC**  
*Detailed engineering design and construction supervision for the water supply and sanitation for Urban Poor project, Kampala, Uganda*  
Dr S Kayaga and Dr R Lidonde  
£8,449 Delta Partnership

*Combating Corruptions in the Delivery of Infrastructure Services*  
Dr M Sohail  
£33,715 UK Commonwealth Secretariat

## All systems go for Engineering Doctorate

Loughborough's Vice Chancellor was joined by prestigious guests from industry at the official opening of the University's Systems Engineering Doctorate Centre (SEDC).

The centre is home to the new Engineering Doctorate in Systems Engineering (EngD), a four-year vocational-oriented doctorate aimed at leading research engineers who want a managerial career in industry.

The SEDC is based at the campus, but takes the form of a consortium comprising the University of Bath, Queen's University Belfast, University of Leicester and the University of Strathclyde, and is supported by a number of industry organisations.

It has been jointly funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) and industrial sponsorship. The official opening took place in September.

Professor Roger Goodall, Director of the SEDC, said: "Loughborough is proud to be leading this multi-university initiative in Systems Engineering, which will make important contributions to the long-term sustainability of the UK's engineering industry."

The EngD has been introduced by the EPSRC to offer a radical alternative to the traditional PhD, better suiting the needs of industry by combining formal teaching and training in Systems Engineering with business-related subjects such as project and financial management. Research engineers enrolled on the course will also be placed within a sponsoring company, so the research they conduct will be industry-based rather than purely academic.

The EngD provides graduates with excellent career prospects and offers industry an unparalleled opportunity to engage the services of a high quality engineer in the most cost effective manner.

For more details on the EngD scheme visit

<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/PostgraduateTraining/EngineeringDoctorates/default.htm> or <http://www.SysEngDocCentre.net>

Alternatively call Sharon Henson, the SEDC Coordinator by calling 01509 227128 or emailing [sedc@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:sedc@lboro.ac.uk)

## World recognition for University academics

Articles written by three Loughborough University academics have received international recognition.

A paper by Dr Andrew Dainty from the Department of Civil and Building Engineering has been awarded a 'Citation of Excellence' by Emerald, a leading English language publisher of academic and professional literature in the fields of management and library and information management.

Each year Emerald selects some of the world's top names in management to independently judge articles from the top 400 international management journals. Just 50 of the 15,000 papers

assessed are singled out by the panel for a special 'Citation of Excellence' award, the highest award that Emerald bestows.

The prestigious honour was awarded to Dr Dainty in recognition of an article he co-authored, entitled 'What makes a good project manager?' The paper was published in the Human Resource Management journal. It was based on a study carried out within the University's Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council funded Innovative Manufacturing and Construction Research Centre.

Speaking about the award Dr Dainty said: "I am absolutely delighted to have been awarded the Citation of Excellence. It is a great honour to know that some of the world's top experts rated the paper so highly. I am particularly pleased that work carried out within an engineering department has resonated so strongly with such a prestigious panel of management experts."

The co-authors of the winning paper were Mei-I Cheng and D R Moore.

Dr Andrew Millie from the Department of Social Sciences received a 'Highly Commended' award as part of the Emerald Literati Network Awards for Excellence.

Dr Millie was given the award in recognition of an article he authored, entitled 'Reducing burglary by crackdown and consolidation'. The paper was published in 'Policing: An International Journal of Police Strategies and Management'. Dr Millie said: "I am very pleased to have been given this award. It is a real honour to have my work recognised in this way".

Dr Louise Cooke from the Department of Information Science also received a 'Highly Commended' award in the international Emerald/European Foundation for Management Development Outstanding Doctoral Research Awards 2006. She won the award for her PhD thesis 'Regulating the Internet: policy and practice with reference to the control of Internet access and content'.

## Retirement evening 2006

On Friday, October 27 2006 the University will be holding an evening buffet to mark the retirement of staff who have left or who will be leaving during the present calendar year.

Retiring members will be invited as honorary guests, the list is available on the Personnel Services web pages via the following link: <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/admin/personnel> however, there may be one or two additions to the list. Members of staff are cordially invited to attend at a cost of £18.50 per head.

Dress for gentlemen will be lounge suits and the evening will commence at 7.30pm with a drinks reception in the Bradgate Bar followed by a hot buffet in the Bradgate Restaurant. Vice Chancellor Professor Shirley Pearce will be attending the evening, seating arrangements will be informal and admittance is by ticket only. A pianist will provide background music during the evening, which will add to the relaxed atmosphere.

If you would like to attend the event or require more information, please contact Elaine Beaken in Personnel Services by calling 01509 222171 or email [E.Beaken@lboro](mailto:E.Beaken@lboro) by Friday, October 20 2006.

Cheques should be made payable to Loughborough University.

## Disability Equality Scheme – Consultation

There is a new legal requirement for HEI's to meet the general duty to promote disability equality, which comes into force on December 5 2006.

The University will need to produce a Disability Equality Scheme (DES) no later than this.

Lesley Mansell, Loughborough's Equality and Diversity Advisor, is working with the University's Disability and Additional Needs Service (DANS) to set up a survey to gain the views of disabled staff and students. There will then be an opportunity to be involved in the consultation process.

If you consider yourself to have a disability and would like to be part of this exciting process please contact Lesley Mansell as soon as possible by calling 01509 228026 or emailing [L.A.Mansell@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:L.A.Mansell@lboro.ac.uk)

Alternatively go to the web link to complete the survey:

<http://express.perseus.com/perseus/surveys/1734848031/15ad1a3e.htm>

## Sunday is day of rest for overweight adults

Overweight people do less walking on a Sunday, according to new research by Loughborough.

Researchers monitored the activity levels of 122 adults (recruited from the East Midlands and Cornwall) for four weeks, by giving them pedometers. The findings showed that overweight people did significantly less physical activity on Sunday, compared to the rest of the week, taking about 2,220 fewer steps.

The overweight group took 2,500 less steps on a Sunday than individuals of a normal weight, who were generally more active. The activity levels of the normal weight individuals did not vary depending on the day of the week.

Dr Stacy Clemes, of the Department of Human Sciences at Loughborough University, said: "With the growing problem of obesity in the UK, strategies for obesity prevention and treatment are a high public health priority.

"If GPs and public health campaigns issued simple instructions to at-risk individuals to increase their general activity levels on a Sunday, this could prove to be a subtle but effective strategy in tackling obesity in the UK."

About 24 per cent of males and females were classed as obese in 2004, compared to 14 per cent of males and 17 per cent of females in 1994.

It is thought that the majority of the population are gaining weight due to the consumption of – or failure to burn off – just an extra 100 calories per day. This is less calories than are found in a small packet of crisps.

## Distinguished individuals honoured

The Vice Chancellor Professor Shirley Pearce recently travelled to Singapore and China to award honorary degrees to three distinguished individuals.

In Singapore Lim Swee Say, a Minister in the Prime Minister's Office, Second Minister for National Development, and a Loughborough graduate received an Honorary Doctor of Technology in recognition of his service to the technological and economic progress of Singapore.

Also at the ceremony Professor Lily Kong, Vice Provost (Education) at the National University of Singapore, was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Science in recognition of her contributions to Human Geography and for professional achievement and public service in Singapore.

In China the Vice President of the International Association of Athletics Federations, Lou Dapeng received an Honorary Doctor of Technology in recognition of his outstanding achievements in athletics and international sports administration.

## Got a story to tell?

If you have a story to tell which you would like to share with colleagues across the campus, and with outside audiences, please get in touch. Contact the Public Relations Office by calling 01509 222224 or email [publicrelations@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:publicrelations@lboro.ac.uk)

Windmill Organic Stores.co.uk

Organic Fairtrade Local



Over 1500 Organic, Fairtrade or Local products to choose from, all in one FREE delivery

Flexible Fruit & Veg Box Scheme

[sales@windmillorganicstores.co.uk](mailto:sales@windmillorganicstores.co.uk)  
01572 787700

Visit our Online Shop at [www.windmillorganicstores.co.uk](http://www.windmillorganicstores.co.uk)

# Obituaries

## John Pickford: 1924 – 2006

It is with sadness that we report the death of John Pickford who died September 19 2006. Our deepest sympathies go to his wife, Daphne, his sons and daughter, Ian, Robert, William and Helen, and his grandchildren.



From 1960 John was Lecturer, Senior Lecturer then Professor in the Department of Civil Engineering at the University and was Head of the department from 1983 –1987. John will be best remembered professionally, however, as the founder of the Water, Engineering and Development Centre (WEDC), which he led from 1971 until his retirement in 1990. During this time he established an international reputation for his visionary and pioneering contribution to development in low and middle-income countries, particularly in water and sanitation.

In 1996, on the 25th anniversary of WEDC, John wrote an account of how and why it all began:

“I had been a town engineer in Ghana for six years up to 1960. Then in 1968 I had spent six weeks in West Africa. Starting in the Gambia and going on to Sierra Leone, Ghana and Nigeria, I talked to the practising engineers and university staff. Everywhere it was clear that the engineering education to which they had been subjected, and which university people were passing on to the next generation of professionals, was about 99 percent based on systems practised in Europe and North America, which were generally unsuitable for Africa.

“During 1971, I also went to several Asian countries to find out their training needs. I thought a lot about the need for education and training that would be more relevant for the needs of developing countries. I talked with many colleagues and especially Bill Moffat who had also been in Ghana in the late 1950s. Bill and I started to plan for appropriate training in water and sanitation at Loughborough.

“Our first course, Public Health Engineering in Developing Countries, was part of the University’s 1972 summer programme. It was short but mustered thirty-eight study-fellows, who between them had experience in twenty countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.”

After a great deal of planning and many unexpected delays, the first WEDC MSc course was launched in October 1980 with twenty-four students. Our MSc courses thrive to this day.

Along with other pioneers of the time, including Dr Fritz Schumacher, whose influential book ‘Small is Beautiful’ had been published in 1974, John was a champion of appropriate technology. He had a particular passion for appropriate, low-cost forms of sanitation. Appropriate technology was, and still is, a constant theme running throughout the education and training programmes at WEDC. John stressed that for technology to be appropriate it should be focused on matters that really concerned people. Clearly it had to be affordable but other matters, he recognised, were just as important. These range from health and hygiene behaviour, gender, social and cultural issues to the management of development by communities themselves.

Throughout the years at WEDC, we have continued to ensure that our work remains people-centred. For John, technology was not studied for itself but because it is a means of helping to improve the lives of ordinary people. And, of course, most ordinary people are poor.

Beyond retirement, John continued to organize the annual WEDC conference until the 26th conference in 2000. He was a great enthusiast for sharing knowledge, not only as an academic activity, but also as a means of improving practice through shared experience. John is known worldwide for the WEDC conferences. For the 26 conferences he organized, 1,342 papers were presented and 5,650 participants attended.

Those of us who knew John professionally may remember that in 1981/1982 he was President of the Institution of Public Health Engineers or that he was awarded an OBE in 1984, and an honorary Doctor of Technology by Loughborough in 1991. But we also remember his personal qualities, his boundless energy, infectious enthusiasm, and his quiet, listening ear. We remember how he has touched the lives of millions and how he has touched our own lives. He will be sadly missed, but his legacy will be with us for generations.

Written by Ian Smout and Rod Shaw, on behalf of WEDC

## Patrick Stone: 1934 – 2006

Pat was a student of Physical Education at Loughborough in the 1950s and is remembered as a talented sports performer in both Rugby and Athletics.

He first joined the staff of the University in 1962, prior to the amalgamation with the College of Education. Entering the Physical Recreation Unit, that developed the first MSc in Recreation Management, he began his work developing what has become the most extensive University Intramural Sports programme in the country. It is testament to Pat’s commitment and desire to involve all performers, from beginner right through to elite level, that he is honoured by the overall winners trophy carrying his name.

On amalgamation in the mid 1970s, the Physical Recreation Unit joined with the Department of Physical Education of the College of Education. Pat put in place the Recreation Unit that laid the foundations for the Centre for Coaching and Recreation, which in turn evolved into the Sports Development Centre. In addition to his role as Director of the Recreation Unit, Pat also taught Biomechanics in the undergraduate programme. Recognised as a dedicated teacher, who always put students first, his attention to detail was legendary.

In 2000, Pat’s dedication and commitment were acknowledged when he became one of the first ever recipients of the Loughborough University Medal - a special award created to mark outstanding service. Perhaps the most abiding memories of Pat are of him watching inter-hall soccer in the rain on a Sunday morning, when most others would still be in bed, or reading the papers.

Written by the Sports Development Centre



# Swimmers prominent at European Championships

Following-on from their Commonwealth Games successes, Loughborough’s swimmers were again prominent at the European Championships held in Budapest in August.

This was the most successful European Championships for Great Britain with 13 medals and the Team Trophy, and particularly tough in the wake of another major games earlier in the year. Many swimmers have also achieved qualifying times for the World Championships next year.

Highlights for Loughborough University swimmers included Gold for Mel Marshall in the Medley Relay in a British Record time; Silver in the 50m Breaststroke for Kate Haywood who trains at the Loughborough Pool; Bronze for first year student Caitlin McClatchey, although troubled with injury recently, in the 400m Freestyle; Mel Marshall also claimed Bronze in the 200m Backstroke; and two Loughborough swimmers, James Gibson and Liam Tancock, comprised half of the quartet which took bronze in the mens 4x100 Medley Relay, also in a British Record time.

Two other Loughborough swims in Budapest set British Records with Caitlin McClatchey and Mel Marshall breaking through the record mark in coming fourth in the 800m Freestyle Relay.

A full set of results for Loughborough based swimmers at these major Championships is given below:

Melanie Marshall	1st	400m	Medley Team (British record)
Kate Haywood	2nd	50m	Breaststroke
Melanie Marshall	3rd	200m	Backstroke
Liam Tancock	3rd	400m	Medley Team (British record)
James Gibson	3rd	400m	Medley Team (British record)
Caitlin McClatchey	3rd	400m	Freestyle
Liam Tancock	4th	100m	Backstroke
Melanie Marshall	4th	200m	Freestyle
Melanie Marshall	4th	800m	Freestyle Team (British record)
Caitlin McClatchey	4th	800m	Freestyle Team (British record)
James Gibson	5th	50m	Breaststroke
Kate Haywood	5th	100m	Breaststroke
Melanie Marshall	5th	400m	Freestyle Team
Rosalind Brett	5th	400m	Freestyle Team
Liam Tancock	6th	50m	Backstroke
James Gibson	8th	100m	Breaststroke
Rebecca Shaw	12th	200m	Butterfly
Joe Roebuck	13th	200m	Butterfly
Rosalind Brett	14th	100m	Butterfly
Matthew Bowe	15th	100m	Butterfly
Rosalind Brett	16th	100m	Freestyle

news@lboro is published by the Public Relations Office, Rutland Hall, Loughborough University, Loughborough LE11 3TU T 01509 222224 F 01509 223902 E news@lboro.ac.uk

Editor: Judy Smyth Ext 8697 E J.L.Smyth@lboro.ac.uk

Layout by: Sue Rowbottom

Unless otherwise stated, photos by Media Services  
Printed by John Price & Sons Ltd

Contributions to news@lboro should usually be made on disk or by emailing news@lboro.ac.uk

# Cricketer bowls ClubEasy over!

Student accommodation specialists ClubEasy.com are helping Loughborough student cricketer Ruel Brathwaite on his way to achieving his sporting dreams.

The company, which owns and manages several properties in the Loughborough area, is supporting the Loughborough University Development Trust with a three-year sports scholarship for Ruel.

Loughborough sports scholarships help talented students realise their sporting potential. Under the scheme students benefit from financial awards, free access to sports science and medicine support, flexible degree programmes and preferential access to a range of University facilities.

Ruel (aged 20) is currently one of the most talented young cricketers in the country. A fast bowler, he has represented Barbados at U15 and U19 levels, and played for the full Barbados team against the West Indies. This summer he has been netting with the West Indies ‘A’ team on their tour of England, and playing with Surrey.

He was also part of the Loughborough University Cricket Centre of Excellence squad, who won the British Universities Championship.

Ruel, who has just started the second year of his Civil Engineering degree, is delighted that ClubEasy.com are assisting him in furthering his cricket. “My ambition is to play for the West Indies and to help them return to the top of the world game,” he said. “This support from ClubEasy will help me on the way to achieving my goal, I’m sure!”

Jason Hayes, chairman of ClubEasy.com, said: “We are delighted and proud to be able to help such an impressive young talent. We are very busy on the accommodation scene in Loughborough and believe in supporting the students wherever we can. Following on from our sponsorship of rugby at Loughborough, we hope that this support for a three year sports scholarship will be the first of many.”



Claire Jackson of ClubEasy.com is pictured with cricketer Ruel Brathwaite.

Due to space restrictions, not all submitted material can be printed. The editor reserves the right to amend or withdraw articles without notice.

Extracts from news@lboro should not be reproduced without prior permission from the Public Relations Office.

Issue No 45: Tuesday 5 December 2006  
Copy deadline: 5pm Tuesday 21 November 2006

news@lboro is also available online in pdf format at [www.lboro.ac.uk/publicrelations/publications/newsatlboro/newsletter44.pdf](http://www.lboro.ac.uk/publicrelations/publications/newsatlboro/newsletter44.pdf)



## Cancer survivor dives into championships

A Loughborough University swimmer who beat cancer to win a place in England's lifesaving team made a big splash at the sport's Commonwealth Championships.

Fine Art student Neil Rutter, 22, took part in the Royal Life Saving Society (RLSS) Commonwealth Lifesaving Championships 2006, where he won a gold medal in the simulated emergency response competition, as well as a silver and two bronze medals in other events.

But just one year ago Neil, from Enfield in London, was undergoing four gruelling bouts of chemotherapy to fight testicular cancer. He first sought help in 2004 after he discovered a lump. His suspicions were confirmed and he was taken into hospital to have it removed. The operation was a success and Neil, who was set to compete in the RLSS European Championships in Germany in August 2005, returned to training as usual. But a few months later he returned to the doctor after experiencing chest problems and wheezing.

Tests showed he had a small shadow on his lungs, which within four weeks had grown to four times its original size. He was forced to put his training and university career on hold and return to London for urgent chemotherapy. Despite his life-threatening condition, Neil refused to give up – even opting for a night out with friends the night before his chemotherapy started.

He said: "It wasn't about getting sympathy, that wasn't what I needed. I much preferred people to take the mickey than be sympathetic. It sounds shallow but I was far angrier that my plans had been interrupted. I couldn't stop thinking that the chance might not come again. I was angry that it had messed up my training – I didn't stop to think how dangerous my condition was." Throughout his treatment, Neil was buoyed by his fellow team mates, who kept a journal for him, and by a biography of cancer survivor and seven time Tour de France champion Lance Armstrong.

He said: "Lance had the same treatment ten years ago and that absolutely destroyed him. That helped me come to terms with the situation. It made me think that I was lucky to be having the treatment now instead of then. I only had a bit of nausea and didn't even vomit. The scariest thing was going into it and knowing what might happen."

Just three weeks after his chemotherapy ended, Neil forced himself to join his fellow team mates in the pool. As he was about to dive in he

caught a glimpse of his reflection in the water. He said: "I was chubby and bald with no eyebrows – I just didn't recognise myself. I was shocked at the sight but it was still a high point – I knew I could only get better."

The sight spurred Neil on to get back to full fitness and amazingly, weeks later he was only half a second away from his personal best speed in the water, an achievement which won him back his place in the team for the Commonwealth Championships. Neil added: "On the back of what was the worst year of my life, I have had the best year and I want it to continue. I am delighted with the medals I won at the Commonwealth Championships - the team as a whole put in a fantastic performance."

England team manager Gary Lee described Neil's progress as 'tremendous'. He said: "Neil is a great inspiration and role model. I hope anyone who has the same condition looks at Neil and can see that it won't stop you from competing or achieving your goal."

For further information about the sport of lifesaving contact the Royal Life Saving Society UK on 01789 773994, or email [lifesaving@rlss.co.uk](mailto:lifesaving@rlss.co.uk)

### Fighting fit – Neil Rutter

