Edward Barnsley Sir John Beckwith

Sir Edward Herbert was Chairman of Governors at Loughborough College of Technology from 1957-63.

_18

news at lboro the staff magazine for loughborough university issue 76 | autumn 2013

inside this issue...

The Library transformed
Unveiling the £4.5m refurb, p8

Better at email
A new staff campaign to reduce time and stress, p12

Save money this winter
Our experts share their top tips, p14

Becoming Better at Email

70% of emails were reacted to within 6 seconds

1.5 minutes to read and recover from an email

Losing Control?
in this issue

Shirley Pearce portrait unveiled

A portrait of former University Vice Chancellor Professor Shirley Pearce was unveiled this summer.

The painting, by School of the Arts lecturer and President of the Royal Society of Portrait Painters Alastair Evans, has hung in the newly-remastered Pearce Committee Room on the ground floor of Hadley Court.

Professor Pearce unveiled the portrait on the same day she was presented with an honorary degree by the University.

Others to receive an honorary degree were: former deputy Vice Chancellor Professor Neil Halliwell, Chairman of the John Lewis Partnership Charlie Mayfield, Olympic gold medallist Adrian Moorhouse, Chief Executive of the Manufacturing Technology Centre Ltd Dr Chris Hickman, Director of the Institute of Public Safety Research (Tsinghua University, China) Professor Weicheng Fan, and Former Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of EDA Technology Ltd Professor Michael White.

Living Wage agreed for staff

The University and the campus trade unions (UCU, Unite and Unison) have agreed that the minimum adult hourly rate of pay for University staff should be increased to £7.45 per hour to match the current Living Wage set by the Living Wage Foundation.

This rate came into effect from 1 August 2013 and will incorporate the 2013-14 national pay award, which is still to be agreed. It comes as a result of joint working between management and union representatives, as part of the University’s Partnership Agreement.

The new rate of pay will see a significant increase to the hourly rate for the lowest paid staff and reflects a joint commitment to reinforce the University’s position as an Employer of Choice.

£7m funding to strengthen sports medicine research

Loughborough will receive more than £7 million from HEFCE’s Catalyst Fund to strengthen its position as a leader in sport and exercise medicine research and accelerate the translation of research to patient care.

The funding will help the University build new collaborative and sustainable research capacity in sport and exercise medicine across its engineering, technology and sport science disciplines, and will support the initiation stage of the National Centre for Sport and Exercise Medicine (NSEM).

Catalyst funding will enable Loughborough to make key new appointments including senior academic staff in regenerative medicine (School of Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences), healthcare technologies (School of Electronic, Electrical and Systems Engineering) and regenerative medicine (Watson School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering), as well as a series of new PhD posts for clinicians.

It will also fund a team of translational scientists and a marketing specialist to disseminate and deploy research findings into the clinical community, to achieve a rapid rise in understanding of the potential of sport and exercise medicine for patients.

Pro Vice Chancellor (Research) Professor Myra Nimmo said: “This funding will enhance our ability at Loughborough to draw on expertise within our strong engineering and technology disciplines, and use it in our sport and health research. This will ultimately lead to new approaches to patient care, disease management and prevention.”

Loughborough wins regional In Bloom gong

The University has played a key role in helping Loughborough win the coveted Gold City category of the East Midlands in Bloom competition for the third year running.

This year’s Royal Horticultural Society theme for the competition was ‘Edible Britain’ which tied in well with the University’s Fruit Route and new apiary – both of which featured on the town’s promotional bloom video.

During their announcement, the judges went out of their way to mention the input of the University in the town’s success.

Karen Setchell from the grounds and gardens team represents the University on the Loughborough In Bloom Board, and led judges on a tour of the campus on judging day.

“It’s not just what the judges see on the day that gets judged – my role was to communicate what we’ve been doing at the University throughout the year.

“The construction of new sports pitches and the huge amount of sustainable planting we do all contribute to the marks, and I was able to show them particular areas of interest including the flower bed by the swimming pool and other seasonal beds which some of the gardeners like to design themselves.”

New COO

Richard Taylor joined Loughborough this September as the University’s new Chief Operating Officer.

Richard previously worked at the University of Leicester where he was Deputy Registrar and a member of the senior management team. His varied brief included overall responsibility for the University’s planning activity, residences and catering, sport, the University’s conference centre, admissions, marketing, communications and fundraising activity. He is also a trustee of the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE).

Richard joined Leicester in 2003 after holding posts at Durham and Loughborough universities.

Richard grew up in Barnsley, South Yorkshire, and attended Barnsley College before studying at Durham University, where he was Students’ Union President in 1994-5. He lives local to Loughborough and is married with two young children.

“My absolutely delighted to join Loughborough University,” he said. “It is an organisation that has enjoyed significant success in recent years and has huge potential to build on that record. I very much look forward to meeting new colleagues and students.”

UG courses go mobile

A mobile version of the University’s undergraduate prospectus is now available as a smartphone app for both Android and iOS.

The app supports the printed version and is regularly updated with the latest information about courses.

The app has an easy-to-use search facility that allows users to look through over 100 undergraduate courses, which are divided in two ways – alphabetically and by department.

Each course profile contains clear and simple ‘need to know’ information such as entry requirements and an overview of the course structure, alongside contact information for key figures and more in depth information about the course and the University’s departments. Prospective students can even use it to book their place on one of the University’s open days.

The app has been developed with Leicester-based marketing communications agency Rock Kitchen Harris.

To download the app log onto iTunes or Google Play and search for Loughborough University.
Help us do things better

Staff are being called upon to provide valuable suggestions and feedback to help the University cut costs and ‘do things better’.

For the next year, Director of Change Projects Dr Anne Mumford and a team of colleagues seconded from within the University will work on a range of projects that aim to ensure we work effectively and efficiently, and we use the financial resources of the University wisely.

“We want colleagues from across the University to help us shape the range of projects we look at over this next year,” Dr Mumford explained.

“From the staff survey we know that bureaucracy is something people find frustrating, sometimes because they do not understand why they are doing something, but perhaps because they rightly see the action has no value – or insufficient value relative to the work involved.

“We need people to flag up areas where staff think we’re not efficient so we can implement effective long-term changes to the way we work as a University. So we’re asking colleagues to tell us what they think can be done better, and we’ll see if we can help make that change.”

Suggestions can be sent to the change team between now and 30 November, to provide time for ideas to be reviewed and reported on in the next newsatlboro.

Although suggestions can be made anonymously, anyone giving their name and contact details will be entered into a prize draw for a £50 Amazon voucher.

Make you suggestion by completing the form at www.lboro.ac.uk/Better

If this works well a new window for ideas will open in February.

Library achieves IIP Gold

The University Library has been re-accredited with Investors in People, achieving Gold status for the very first time.

The Library was first awarded IIP Bronze status in 2003, and has been re-accredited twice, but now it has achieved the top award.

The external assessor was very impressed with team’s continued efforts to achieve the top status and said: “Perhaps one of the most important things for any organisation is to be seen as a great employer for the way you support, manage and develop people and this you have achieved with most people scoring you an eight or nine out of 10 employer – a great achievement.”

Library Head of Planning and Resources Graham Walton added: “This represents a major achievement of which the University Library is very proud.”

Cycle2Work is back

The Cycle2Work Scheme, where participants can save up to 41% on the cost of a bike and accessories, is now back at Loughborough.

Cycle2Work is a Government initiative to encourage people to cycle to work on a more regular basis. Staff on a contract of two years or more who commute to work by bike at least 50% of the time are eligible.

As part of the scheme, operated in conjunction with Loughborough’s on-campus bike shop cogs, the University buys the bike and leases it as a tax-exempt benefit. The employee pays the cost of the loan by salary sacrifice over a 17 month period, providing a saving of up to 23% for basic rate taxpayers and 41% for higher rate taxpayers.

For more information see the University’s online travel pages at www.lboro.ac.uk/sustainability/travel.
IT Services staff help local hospice

Staff from the University’s IT Services Department took part in a team-building day with a difference in July as they helped local hospice Rainbows clear space for a much-needed car park extension.

Members of the Corporate Systems team spent the day clearing an area of bricks, rubble and general waste at the charity’s Lark Rise residence. The day was used as a team-building exercise and as an opportunity to give something back to the community.

Loughborough’s Head of Corporate Systems Sally Brown said: “The team spirit, evident in planning the day’s work, solving some incredibly tricky logistical nightmares and doing so much sheer hard graft – on the hottest day of the year – was wonderful.

“It was quite clear that all members of the team really do enjoy working together and that any subset of the team is capable of working cheerfully and effectively together”

Rainbows is a local charity dedicated to meeting the needs of children and young people who are affected by life-limiting and life-threatening conditions.

Travel Survey shows encouraging signs

The 2013 survey showed real signs that the University is moving towards reaching its targets set in the 2010 travel plan. A total of 1,110 staff completed the survey and figures showed:

- a 5% reduction in single occupancy vehicles, a 5.5% increase in the number of staff walking or cycling as their main mode of transport, and a 2.5% increase in staff who occasionally use public transport.

To see more of the results please visit the sustainability website at www.lboro.ac.uk/sustainability

Bite-size Sessions

Bite-Size Sessions are a series of stand-alone two hour sessions taking a pragmatic approach to current human resources challenges.

Each session will provide a practical approach, whilst also giving you the opportunity to practice the skills needed to implement best practice.

Available sessions include: Managing Through Change, Probation Review, Disciplinary Investigations, Monitoring Sickness Absence, Disability and Mental Health, Performance Management, Effective Induction and Effective PDRs.

Additional sessions will be added to the list in response to demand. Search ‘bite size’ from the University home page for the up-to-date list, or speak to your staff development adviser.

Loughborough to London bike ride

The University’s project managers led a Loughborough to London bike ride as part of the Discover FM day.

The team of Matt Clarke, Peter Upton, Colin Morgan, Martin Channell and Ian Woodhouse were joined by FM colleagues Rick Commons, Greg Watts, Debbie Grant, Andy Sweeney and Elle Roberts to complete the 138 miles in six hours and 20 minutes on an exercise bike.

The ride was designed to help promote Colin Morgan’s Land’s End to John O’Groats bike ride to raise funds for Diabetes UK. The team’s efforts raised £175 on the day, to help boost Colin’s total to more than £3,500.

ILM qualifications

The internationally recognised Institute of Leadership and Management (ILM) qualifications range from the Level 2 Award in Leadership and Team Skills to the Level 5 Diploma in Leadership and Management.

These programmes are fully funded by Staff Development and are specifically tailored for Loughborough University staff using our policies and procedures.

The ILM programmes on offer are:

Level 2 – Award in Leadership and Team Skills
Level 3 – Award in Leadership and Management
Level 3 – Award in Coaching
Level 4 – Certificate in Leadership and Management
Level 5 – Certificate in Leadership and Management
Level 5 – Certificate in Coaching and Mentoring
Level 5 – Diploma in Leadership and Management

For further details regarding the above programme, visit the staff development web page at: www.lboro.ac.uk/staffdevelopment/management/mdq.html

Awards and honours

Professor Ian Henry has been appointed as Specialist Adviser to the House of Lords Select Committee on the Legacy of the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Fourth year product design engineering student Simon Lyons has won if Only It Worked – a national competition to design solutions to daily problems faced by elderly or disabled people. Simon won the competition for his simple but effective cutting device that helps people with arthritis open various packages.

The Design and Print team won twice at the Association of Print Managers in Education (APME) annual awards, securing Best In-House Design for the School of the Arts graduates brochure and Best In-House Print for the graduation brochure.

Department of Materials PhD student Saranya Vemagopul won the Student Speaking Competition at the annual International Conference of the European Ceramic Society.

LSU Computer Society won the Bronze Award at the RBS ESSA (enterprise scheme) awards – their video submission was the most viewed of all 80 entries with 22,000 views.

A team of students from the Wolfson School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering has won the Best Use of Intellectual Property award at the 2013 nationwide Engineering Young Entrepreneur Scheme (YES).

Textile students Ruth Rennison and Lilly Tenant both scooped awards at the New Designers Exhibition 2013. Ruth received the Textile Society’s Lucienne Day Award and Lilly was presented with the New Designers Worshipful Company of Weavers Associate prize.

Social Sciences student Lukas Stepanek has received Loughborough’s top award – the Sir Robert Martin University Prize - which recognises one student each year for outstanding academic and non-academic achievement.
The University Library has undergone a major £4.5 million rebuild and refurbishment over the summer to upgrade facilities for students and improve the building’s sustainability credentials.

Use of the Library has increased by 35% since 2008/09 and the Library was looking tired and had fallen behind its competitors on space per student.

The transformation has seen Level 4 integrated into the Library to provide a variety of study spaces and increase available spots by 300, bringing the building total to around 1,370, including 70 silent study spaces.

The number of open access computers has been increased from 160 up to 200, with more short stay PCs and better access for groups.

The PC Clinic has been relocated to the Library from Haslegrave and the Level 3 entrance has been remodelled to improve its operation and make it more attractive to visitors.

New information and enquiry desks have been introduced on all levels, and the High Demand collection has been relocated to a custom designed space.

Toilet facilities have been replaced and increased from 20 to 39, and drinking water fountains are now available on all four levels.

An atrium has been opened up between Levels 3 and 4 and offices and walls have been removed to make the most of natural lighting.

The exterior of Level 4 has been replaced with a more thermally efficient structure that will help reduce the floor’s energy consumption by 59%, or 26.7 tonnes of carbon emissions each year.

Its completion marks the final step of the Central Park Masterplan.

Over The Summer

A range of foyers, receptions and toilet areas across campus have been improved this summer. Buildings and departments to benefit include William, Chemistry, John Hurdle, LUSAD and Civil and Building Engineering.

One of Loughborough’s largest lecture theatres – T003 in Wolfson building (above) – has been completely refurbished. The seats, benches and audio visual system have been replaced, the walls have been relined and acoustic panels have been fitted to improve the room’s acoustic performance.

The campus infrastructure for the IT network has been upgraded with many new underground ducts and cable runs to provide greater resilience.

There has been a string of moves between Hazlerigg and Rutland. The Enterprise, Research, Student Outreach and Recruitment, and International offices have moved into the Hazlerigg Building, swapping places with Human Resources and Finance who are now housed in Rutland. Design and Print have moved up to Admin 1 (below).

Falkner-Eggington Court is nearing completion of a major refurbishment programme that has seen significant improvement and modernisation of its 73 blocks.

The revitalised halls on the Central Park provide ‘budget plus’ accommodation for 520 students and will boast a new social hub with launderette and refurbished games room.

Eggington Court welcomed its new students ready for Fresher’s week on the 26th September. Falkner Court will have a phased handover from late October to the end of term.

To help meet student demand for self-catered accommodation, kitchens and bathrooms in David Collett G Block and Faraday 22-27 have been extended and refurbished over the summer in readiness for becoming part of the self-catered Telford Hall.

Landsaping adjacent to the new Telford Hall has also been significantly improved to make suitable outside space for the larger numbers of students. This new area includes a social space with seating and BBQ areas.

And to mark main entrance points into the student village, new mini gateway schemes have been introduced.

STUDENT VILLAGE

ACCOMMODATION MAKEOVERS

FALKNER-EGGINGTON COURTS

The Library Transformed

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Its completion marks the final step of the Central Park Masterplan.
Whilst most of us will just view the University as a place of work, there are plenty of opportunities to explore your creative talents, learn something new or exercise your body and mind on campus...

Book Club
Share and discuss a good read at the Loughborough University Arts book club. The club is free to join and meets on a Tuesday lunchtime, approximately every six weeks, in the LUA Project Space above the Cope Auditorium. Anyone interested in joining should contact Jo Mardell on luarts@lboro.ac.uk

University Choir
A love of singing is all that’s required to join the University Choir - there are no auditions, no previous experience is required, and you don’t even have to be able to read music.

The choir is open to all staff and students of the University and members of the public aged 16 and over. New members are welcome to join for free at any time - just pop along to one of the rehearsals. The choir meets every Monday during term time from 7pm to 9pm in the Cope Auditorium.

Each year the Choir gives two or three public performances, including their annual Christmas and Spring concerts.

Art classes
Explore your creative side by signing up to classes in painting and drawing or pottery. The 8 session courses take place on a Tuesday evening and cost £120 (£60 concessions). This year’s course kicks off on 29 October, so contact organisers soon to secure your spot as places are limited. For more information or to enrol visit www.arts.lboro.ac.uk

Let’s get physical
As you’d expect from a University like Loughborough, there are lots of opportunities for physical activity all year round.

Organised classes include pilates, zumba, aqua aerobics, fitness attack and yoga and cost £3 per session. To book your place, visit the Students’ Union reception or any of the sports facility receptions, or call 226250 or 226470.

Visit www.loughboroughsport.com/my-lifestyle for the latest timetables.

Swimming
With one of the country’s top training pools on our doorstep, it’s a shame not to make the most of it. As well as public swim sessions, the University pool hosts a wide variety of courses and activities including adult swimming lessons and first aid and life guarding courses. For the latest timetable and course information call 226200.

Landscaping and Gardening Society
If you’re green fingered, or want to learn more about gardening, the Landscaping and Gardening Society (LAGS) is right for you. Members grow organic vegetables, herbs and flowers on a dedicated plot on campus.

The society encourages active involvement through collaborative work, discussion and education on topics surrounding art, politics, sustainability and gardening, and meets most Friday afternoons at The Shed (by Car Park 5). LAGS is open to everyone, regardless of skills. Visit the group’s facebook page for details of their latest activities.

Inaugural lectures
Find out more about the work of the University’s professors at one of 12 inaugural lectures scheduled each year.

The lectures take place four times per term and provide a valuable insight into the varied research taking place at Loughborough. Lectures typically last an hour and are preceded by a tea and cake reception from 4.30pm. They are open to everyone – all you need to do is register your attendance in advance.

For details of forthcoming lectures, log onto www.lboro.ac.uk/inaugural

Piano Practice and Rehearsal Rooms
Loughborough University Arts have a number of music rehearsal spaces available for staff and students to use free of charge. Located at the rear of the Cope Auditorium they are equipped with pianos and can also be used with your own non-electronic instruments.

These rooms operate on an informal, first come, first served basis between 7am and 10pm, and can be accessed using the swipe card system. To register for access to these rooms please email your student/staff ID number and full name to luarts@lboro.ac.uk

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Becoming Better at Email

A new staff campaign has been launched to improve email efficiency and reduce staff stress.

The latest staff survey showed that people find email overwhelming at times, and some find it overwhelming all of the time.

Professor Tom Jackson from the Centre for Information Management is the University’s resident email expert, and has undertaken research on the time taken to deal with emails, and the pressure people feel due to the amount of email being received and the expectation of a quick turn-around.

Tom’s research shows that 70% of emails are viewed within six seconds of receipt, and each time someone checks their emails there is an interrupt time of 64 seconds before continuing the task in hand, on top of the time it takes to deal with the email.

If we assume 2,400 of University staff receive 40 emails a day on 230 working days and allow themselves to be interrupted for each one then they are distracted and unproductive for an hour a day. The cost of this to the University adds up to a staggering £32,000 a day or £7.4 million a year.

Can we do better?

Tom has been working with Director of Change Projects Anne Mumford and colleagues in his school, IT Services and Marketing & Communications to develop ideas for new ways of working to help people gain some time in their busy lives.

BEFTER AT EMAIL is a suite of resources to support and advise staff and they include:

- Short videos to get you to look at your volume of emails, your email addiction, and your ability to communicate well.
- A software analysis tool (available on a standard PC desktop) to evaluate how you are doing, how addicted and/or pressured you are, and how well you communicate.
- Some advice on better practice.

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- Some advice on better practice.

The average employee spends 40 minutes a day managing their inbox.

Those who don’t file email away are more likely to be stressed.

A task takes 1/3 longer when being interrupted by email every five minutes.

85% of messages could be communicated in another way so managing your inbox to deliver only the very important messages will save you time and effort and let you regain control of your email.

39% of email is information only (read only).

17% irrelevant or untargeted (inc. SPAM).

29% copied unnecessarily (cc & reply-to-all).

39% of email is information only (read only).
When you turn on the news or read a paper there is usually something about the recession and the financial challenges being faced by families across the UK. Also hard to miss are the concerns of scientists about climate change and the need to conserve energy to help prevent global warming.

With the help of in-house experts from the Department of Civil and Building Engineering and the Sustainability Team, newsatlboro brings you top tips for keeping warm this autumn and winter, saving money and helping the environment.

**GOOD BEHAVIOURS**

Good behaviours in the home are a great place to start, says Energy Technician Jenny Sawbridge:

“Getting into just a few good habits is easy and a no cost option to saving energy, there are a few very simple things we can do that together can make a difference to fuel bills and the environment.”

- Instead of reaching for the thermostat – reach for that woolly jumper.
- Only boil the water you need for your cuppa. Don’t overfill the kettle for one brew.
- Put lids on pans when cooking. This not only saves energy but also reduces cooking times.
- Close fridge and freezer doors properly – keep the cold in.
- Only run the washing machine and dishwasher with a full load (or use half load features).
- Use a cooler wash cycle – most of the heat used by your washing machine is for heating the water.
- Line dry rather than tumble dry.
- Take short showers instead of a bath - a shower uses only a third of the energy of a bath.
- Bleed radiators and maintain your boiler regularly to ensure it is working efficiently.

**NO COST AND LOW COST OPTIONS**

Greg Watts, Energy Manager says there are plenty of low cost options we can take advantage of:

- **Switch off…** lighting, TVs, DVD, games consoles. It’s simple but effective: remember to switch off the lights when you leave the room.
- **Try to switch off appliances when not in use rather than leave them on standby.**
- **Unplug…** chargers and transformers.
- **Remember to unplug your mobile phone chargers once your phone is fully charged.**
- **Turn it down…** central heating thermostat, fridge thermostat, hot water tank thermostat.
- **Reducing the temperature of your property could reduce your bill significantly.**
- **Control it…** use automatic timers on central heating (set to be on the minimum level possible).
- **Change light bulbs for energy efficient alternatives, like compact fluorescent. Take it one step further and install low energy lights like LED.**
- **Seal drafts around windows and doors.**
- **Use timers on lighting.**
- **Insulate your hot water tank.**

**MEDIUM TO HIGH COST**

Professor Dennis Loveday, from the School of Civil and Building Engineering says that if you are considering major home improvements to improve energy efficiency it is important to consider the order in which you undertake improvements:

“The performance of individual technologies depends on the other energy saving systems in the home so this makes it important to consider the order in which measures are installed to ensure that optimal energy and carbon emission reductions are achieved. Start with loft and wall insulation if you can, then think about glazing and finish with your boiler. If you do it the other way round you may end up with a boiler that is oversized and operates less efficiently.”

- **Fit thermostatic radiator valves (TRVs) on radiators to individually control the temperature in each room.**
- **Effectively insulate loft areas. Heat rises and in an un-insulated home a quarter of its heat is lost through the roof.** 270mm is the recommended depth for mineral wool insulation.
- **Look at your windows. All properties lose heat through their windows. Energy-efficient glazing will keep homes warmer (and quieter too). Consider double, triple or secondary glazing, or even just thicker curtains.**
- **Install radiators. If your home was built after 1920, the chances are its external walls are made of two layers with a gap or cavity between them.** Cavity wall insulation fills that gap, keeping the warmth in to save energy.
- **Fit solar panels. These capture the sun’s energy using photovoltaic cells. They convert the sunlight into electricity which can be used to run household appliances and lighting.**
- **Consider a new boiler. Boilers account for around 55% of energy bills so an energy efficient boiler makes a big difference.**
- **Purchase new A* rated appliances.**

For more information, visit the Sustainability Team’s webpages which are full of helpful tips and advice: www.lboro.ac.uk/saveenergy

See also: www.calebne.org.uk

Help available for energy efficiency improvements

The Green Deal is a financing mechanism provided by the Government that lets people pay for energy efficiency improvements through savings on their energy bills. It was launched in January 2013 and more information is available from: www.thegreendealfinancecompany.com
Influencing policy

Across the University, academics are working with government departments in the UK and overseas to affect change. newsatlboro takes a look at some of Loughborough’s success stories.

Advising banks worldwide

David Llewellyn is Professor of Money and Banking in the School of Business and Economics and is a world authority on banking and financial markets and their regulation.

David has served as a consultant to regulatory agencies including the Financial Services Authority (FSA), the World Bank, the European Banking Authority (EBA), the South African National Treasury and National Reserve Bank, and the UK, Indian and Egyptian governments.

His research and expertise is instrumental in helping the FSA develop its guidelines for the application of economic analysis to financial regulation.

He is currently Chair of the EBA’s Banking Stakeholder Group and is developing and guiding its approach to EU-wide banking regulation and supervision.

Putting children first

Professor Harriet Ward CBE is Director of the Centre for Child and Family Research (CCFR), a research centre also in the Department of Social Sciences.

Her leadership of the Looking After Children Programme (1993 - 2001) was highly influential to Government policy and practice in the UK, and the work done by Professor Ward and her team continues to have both national and international significance.

It provides the evidence base for a wide range of policy initiatives responding to diverse issues with an emphasis on those related to vulnerable children and their families.

CCFR has established links with over 30 local authorities and a number of leading charities including NSPCC, Action for Children and the Fostering Network.

Its most recent report was on Intensive Family Support and has provided the research-based evidence to bring the issue of concentrated student housing to the attention of the Government.

His work has influenced policy at national and local level, in particular recent changes to legislation for houses of multiple occupation (HMOs) which allow local authorities to withdraw permitted development for converting a family home to multiple occupation if they believe it will be detrimental to an area.

Former Housing Minister Grant Schapps MP praised Darren’s research, saying: “The Government strongly encourages this type of evidence-based, sector-led work.”

Darren has worked with numerous universities and local authorities to develop student housing strategies.

Helping business schools support local business

Dean of the School of Business and Economics Professor Angus Laing was a key advisor to Growing Your Business – a report written by Lord Young, the Prime Minister’s advisor on small business and enterprise.

The report highlighted the important role business schools and universities could play to boost the economy by working more closely with small businesses.

In his role as Chair of the Association of Business Schools, Angus is working with Lord Young and the Department for Business, Innovation & Skills (BIS) to deliver a business school-led and self-sustaining Charter scheme to challenge and incentivise business schools to help small businesses.

Championing young carers

The UK is attractive to overseas students?

Research by Dr Adam Warren and Liz Majumdi (Geography) was used by the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Migration in November 2012 to help Government understand the challenges of keeping the UK an attractive destination for students.

The researchers conducted interviews with 54 postgraduate international students and academic staff based in the UK as part of a project looking at migration of changing UK immigration policy by non-EAA nationals based at English universities.

In addition, Dr Warren provided consultancy to the Home Office in May 2013 on a report on the student visitor immigration category.

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Championing young carers

Based within Social Sciences, the Young Carers Research Group (YCRG) conducts high quality research, evaluation and consultancy on small matters relating to children with caring responsibilities in order to advance knowledge and inform the development of health and social care policy and good practice.

Its research has had a direct influence on the development of law, policy and practice in the UK, including informing the development of more than 120 young carers projects across the UK, the Government’s National Carers Strategy, the Department of Health’s Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and their Families (2000, 2010), the 1995 Carers (Recognition and Services) Act and the Carers and Disabled Children Act 2000.

The YCRG is part of the National Young Carers Coalition which is lobbying to ensure young carers are represented in the new Children and Families Bill and the Care Bill.

YCRG Director Professor Jo Aldridge is a specialist on young carers that live with and care for parents with illness/disability. She is also a specialist in the field of parental mental health and child well-being.

She has contributed evidence on the needs of vulnerable children and their families to government committees (including a Parliamentary Select Committee), Think tanks and policy makers in the UK and overseas.

DRS ADAM WARREN & LIZ MAJUMDI

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Research Grants and Contracts

Here is just a small selection of the many new projects to be funded across campus:

Michael Hayler and Dr Heike Jons from the School of Social Sciences and Geographical Sciences have received a Mike Baker Doctoral Programme award of £56,922 by the Higher Education Academy (HEA) for their project ‘Internationalising HE students through migrant academic staff’.

The research will examine how international staff and student perspectives acquired in non-UK, educational environments to students at UK universities. It will also look at the opportunities and challenges migrant academics face in engaging in such knowledge transfer, its impact on student learning and the support structures available.

Dr Rachel Sandbrook from the Institute of Youth Sport was awarded £25,816 to evaluate the Matalan youth Activitie programme funded by the Ministry of Defence. The research aims to promote alternative sports – such as Pakeur, Ultimate Frisbee, and Tchoukball – in secondary schools as a means to engage and keep young people participating among young people aged 14-16 who are not currently attracted to mainstream activities.

The evaluation examined the impact of programme participation on schools, pupils and the young leaders.

Dr Diane Gyl from the Loughborough Design School and Professor Alastair Gibb from the School of Civil and Building Engineering have been awarded £14,250 from AGE UK to investigate the role of elder, experienced construction workers in healthy design in workplace.

Changing demographics means that there are now twice as many workers aged 50 and older than those aged 25 years or younger. The construction industry is losing the skills and experience of older workers because they can no longer cope with the demands, particularly the physical demands of their jobs. Design in the workplace has an important influence on healthy behaviours and working practices and an individual’s ability to undertake aspects of their work. The research will lead to guidance for evidence-based practice promoting the productivity, workability and quality of life of older workers.

16 17
England RL team choose Loughborough for World Cup base

The England rugby league squad will be based at Loughborough in the build-up to and during the Rugby League World Cup 2013.

The team arrives this month (October) to start preparations for the tournament that brings together the top 14 rugby league teams in the world to compete over five weeks in venues across England, Wales, Ireland and France.

England have been frequent visitors to the University since their first preparation camp back in October 2010.

Kevin Sinfield, the England Rugby League captain said: “There’s a familiarity with us coming to Loughborough now. Over the last two and half years we have built and improved a lot having this as our base.

“To be in this sort of environment where everybody here is trying to learn, improve or better themselves, we fit in great because that’s what we are trying to do.

“Burleigh Court hotel is fantastic and they really look after us. The facilities here are as good as you can get anywhere and really suit what we need.”

Rugby League World Cup 2013 starts on 26 October with a clash between fierce rivals England and Australia at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff. The final will be played at Old Trafford, Manchester on 30 November.

Further information, including ticket details, can be found on the Rugby League World Cup 2013 website at www.rw2013.com

Loughborough cricketers help England to regain the Ashes

England’s women cricketers have regained the Ashes after a comprehensive series of performances against Australia.

The team, which included current Sports Scholars Natalie Sciver and Ania Shrubsole, graduates Laura Marsh, Tammy Beaumont and Arran Brindle, former coach Kate Cross and former college student Lydia Greenway, won the first ever multi-format Ashes series by an emphatic margin of 12 points to four.

After drawing the Test Match and losing the first One Day International (ODI), England went on a tremendous five match unbeaten run, winning the two remaining ODI’s and completing a clean sweep of all three T20 matches.

Natalie Sciver made her Ashes debut in the second ODI to help England to a 51-run victory. She kept her place for the rest of the series and finished with a batting average of 105.

In the second T20 match Lydia Greenway hit 80 runs to set up another victory for England.

 Earlier this summer, Sciver and batter Lauren Winfield made their international debuts for the England Women in a series of fixtures against Pakistan – one of which was hosted at Loughborough.

Loughborough athletes’ podium performances

A busy summer of sport has seen current and former Loughborough students, alongside athletes based on campus, competing in senior World and European Championships.

Here are some of the highlights…

- **World Athletics Championships, Moscow**
  - Former student Hayley Jones bronze – 4x100m relay
  - Loughborough based athlete Tiffany Porter bronze – 100m hurdles

- **European Wheelchair Basketball Championships, Frankfurt**
  - Sports Scholars Amy Conroy, Judith Hamer and Lizzie Neave, who with graduate Clare Strange, won the bronze medal for Great Britain.

- **IPC World Athletics Championships, Lyon**
  - Former students
    - Jonathan Broom-Edwards silver - F44 high jump
    - Dan Greaves silver - F44 discus
    - Libby Clegg, silver - T12 100m and 200m

- **IPC World Swimming Championships, Barcelona**
  - Loughborough based swimmer, Fran Halsall, won the 100m Freestyle bronze medal.

- **IPC World Swimming Championships, Montreux**
  - Ellie Simmonds won three gold medals in the S6 category 100m Freestyle, 400m Freestyle and 200m Individual Medley.

- **European Canoe Slalom Championships, Krakow**
  - Current Loughborough Sport Scholar Bethan Latham became a European silver medallist in the Women’s K1 team event, alongside graduates Fiona Penrice and Lizzie Neave. Fiona Penrice also won the gold medal in the K1 individual event.

- **ICF Canoe Sprint World Championships, Duisburg**
  - Loughborough graduates and London 2012 bronze medallists Liam Heath and Jon Schofield won the silver medal in the K2 200m event.

Sprinter James breaks through the 10 second barrier

Great Britain sprinter and former Loughborough college student, James Dasaolu, dipped under 10 seconds for the 100 metres at the British Athletics Championships and World trials. James, who is based at Loughborough, ran a fantastic time of 9.91 seconds to set the second quickest time ever run by a British sprinter.

Online bookings system for sport goes live

Loughborough Sport has introduced a new online bookings system for casual sport activities.

Staff members can now register on the website to book a range of activities including badminton, squash and tennis courts, cricket nets, and zones or pitches for indoor and outdoor team games at: www.loughboroughsport.com/online-bookings

Uni hosts Family Bike Ride

The University was host to Loughborough’s first ever Big Family Bike Ride in August. The event was organised and run by Leicestershire County Council in an attempt to promote more sustainable modes of transport as well as the associated health benefits.

The Big Family Bike Ride was very successful with around 600 people attending the day. There was a wide range of events from mountain bike displays, BMX farland (pic) performances and led rides around Loughborough.

Sport and health
In the news...

Mapping the national mood
Prof Tom Jackson and colleagues in the Centre for Information Management have developed a new computer program that can map the mood of the nation and its reaction to big events through Twitter.

Why Brits love the Ashes
Dr Dominic Malcolm (SSEHS) features in a news package exploring why the Ashes hold such a special place in the hearts of the British population.

Cool clothes
Professor George Havenith (Design School) gives advice on what clothing to wear to keep cool in the heat.

Tackling football abuse
Dr Jamie Oeland (Social Sciences) speaks to the BBC about new guidelines to tackle football fans who abuse players and supporters online.

Universal credit?
Some working families will be worse off under the Government’s flagship Universal Credit, according to research led by CRSP’s Donald Hirsch.

A new promise
Dr Sarah Mills (Geography) responds to news the Girl Guides are to drop the reference to God from their promise.

Archives
The first Loughborough College Rag took place on 19th November 1920 when the Minister of Labour, Dr Macnamara, came to present the prizes at the Junior College Speech Day. The Senior College students organised a ‘Rag’ to meet him at the Midland Station and to send him off after the ceremony.

In a procession headed by a jazz and bugle band the Minister was conveyed in a cart pulled by ropes, flanked by an escort of sports teams, including the hockey club with ‘sticks at the slope’, with students in fancy dress bringing up the rear. After this, a Rag was organised annually for the College Diploma Day.

Loughborough students have always used Rag to raise money for charity – in the early days it was for Loughborough Hospital. Loughborough Rag is now the biggest and most profitable student fundraising effort in the country and last year raised over a million pounds for local and national charities.

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