



# International Leeds



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## Leeds honoured with Chinese friendship award



**LEEDS ONGOING PARTNERSHIP WORK OVER THE PAST 22 YEARS WITH HANGZHOU IN CHINA HAS BEEN RECOGNISED WITH AN AWARD AT A NATIONAL CEREMONY HELD IN SHANGHAI.**

Leeds was presented with the award for 'Friendship City for Communication and Co-operation with China' at The Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries annual awards ceremony.

The nomination for the award came from Leeds' long standing Chinese partner city Hangzhou

and was collected on behalf of the city by Helen Thompson, senior lecturer in accounting and finance at Leeds Met University.

The ceremony was attended by the rich and powerful from across the globe including former US president Jimmy Carter and Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping.

**The Lord Mayor of Leeds, councillor Jim McKenna said:**

*"We are delighted to have received this award and have always recognised the importance of lasting relationships in China. Our sustainable partnership continues to provide economic and business benefits for both our cities."*





## Volunteering at the Games

STUDENTS FROM LEEDS METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCED THE THRILLS OF A TOP MULTI-SPORT INTERNATIONAL EVENT AS THEY VOLUNTEERED AT THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES IN INDIA.

Eight students from Physical Education, Sport Development and Sport & Exercise Science volunteered at the Games in Delhi alongside two International students, two staff members and colleagues from the Leeds Met South Asia Office.

Based at the main Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, the volunteering programme began after a period of training as well as sightseeing. The group then assisted at the Commonwealth International Sports Science (CISSC) Pre Games Congress at Manav Rachna International University, which was held on 27 to 30 September.

Following the opening ceremony on 3rd October, which captured the best of Indian culture and talent, two days were spent working to transform the stadium back into an athletics venue.

The students from Leeds had sport specific volunteering roles, which involved direct contact with the athletes in the preparation and warm-up areas. They carried out pre-competition checks, escorted athletes onto the field of play and into the media areas afterwards. There was also time to watch some of the games at other venues.

Funding from The Prime Minister's Initiative (PMI2) student mobility programme, made it possible for the students to take part in such a large international sporting event.

In January 2008, Leeds Metropolitan became the official UK Education Partner for the 2008 Commonwealth Youth Games in Pune and the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi. The University successfully led a group of student volunteers to the Youth Games in 2008 in India, giving them the unique opportunity to experience and work in elite sport at an International event.



## Project Peru

**VOLUNTEERS FROM LEEDS MET HAVE BEEN SETTLING INTO THEIR PERUVIAN SURROUNDINGS AHEAD OF THEIR LATEST COMMUNITY PROJECT BASED IN THE SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRY.**

The latest group are currently in Zapallal near Lima re-visiting last year's project, a soup kitchen they helped to build, and to begin work on their next challenge.

Working with the charity Project Peru, the team are helping local tradesmen construct a centre for children with disabilities, build other sustainable buildings and update local houses. The team will also have the opportunity to teach basic English to the young people and help with the day to day running of the town's children's refuge during their time in the country.

As well as physical graft, the team are working hard to keep everyone up-to-date with their adventures via their blog posts.

# Celebration in Siegen



**LEEDS PARTNER CITY SIEGEN, IN NORTH RHINE-WESTPHALIA, GERMANY, WAS HOST TO THE REGION'S 64TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION THIS SEPTEMBER.**

The festivities saw 16 stages offering a weekend-long programme of music, comedy, dance and theatre. Siegen was transformed with stalls that were arranged in different themed "miles" throughout

the city including art, sport, religion and public services. Within the "international partners mile", visitors could find out more about Leeds.

The highlight of the event was a parade with over 2,000 participants from the region's many cities who showcased their cultural wealth and diversity. Amongst the 100 groups were

marching brass bands, depictions of historical figures, food, traditions and sport that the cities are renown for or represent.

The event was a great success and drew in

over 400,000 visitors from the region and internationally.

Leeds will be celebrating its 45th partnership anniversary with Siegen next year.



## Volunteering in Leeds & Europe

**TO MARK THE END OF THE 2010 LEEDS' YEAR OF VOLUNTEERING AND BEGINNING OF THE EUROPEAN YEAR OF VOLUNTEERING 2011, LEEDS HAS INVITED ITS PARTNER CITIES TO EXCHANGE WORKING PRACTICE.**

Leeds will be welcoming voluntary organisations from Brasov, Brno, Dortmund, Lille and Siegen to link them with local voluntary organisations.

The visit will centre around the European Volunteering Conference which will take place on **7 December.**

Key European and UK decision and policy makers from the volunteering sector will be brought together



with experts and practitioners in the field to share volunteering experiences and plan joint actions and activities for the European Year of Volunteering in 2011.

Funding for the European conference and twin town visits has been accessed through the European Union.

For further information please get in touch with International Relations: [international@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:international@leeds.gov.uk)



**THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION FROM KWAZULU NATAL PROVINCE IN SOUTH AFRICA ATTENDED A SCHOOLS SEMINAR IN AUGUST, WHICH WAS ORGANISED BY LEEDS CITY COUNCIL.**

## Leeds-Durban schools seminar

The Minister, Mr Senzo Mchunu, was keen to add his support for the Leeds – Durban school linking programme, which has created and supported over 30 successful partnerships between schools in Leeds and its South African partner city of Durban.

Primary and Gledhow Primary in Leeds attended the seminar, together with their Durban partners, to present case studies on how to use school partnerships to add a global dimension to the curriculum.

The seminar brought together 22 primary schools from the Durban area which have a partner school in Leeds. Teachers from both Bramley

The seminar was also supported by the British Council's Global School Partnerships team who offer grants to schools to make reciprocal teacher visits and set up global curriculum projects.

## International schools partnerships award

Mrs Jo Speak, teacher and International Co-ordinator at Cookridge Primary School, has been chosen as the Link2learn International Co-ordinator of the Year (Primary). This award is to celebrate excellence and innovation in international schools partnerships and is organised by the British Council and supported by HSBC Global Education Trust.

Entrants were required to submit a series of descriptions of their international school partnership work, as well as evidence of the impact and enrichment of the international dimensions of the teaching and learning in their school.

Since arriving at Cookridge Primary school three years ago, Jo Speak has worked tirelessly to create strong links with schools in South Africa, Nigeria, Mexico, Paraguay and Spain. Together with other staff members, she also arranged exchanging visits with linked schools.

The awarded £2,500 will go towards inviting children from Cookridge's partner schools to join in a conference on global issues.

## A year in Valencia

**A LEEDS CITY COLLEGE LECTURER HAS SAID ADIOS TO THE UK AS HE VENTURES TO VALENCIA FOR A YEAR'S SABBATICAL IN SPAIN.**

ESOL tutor Richard Gresswell, along with his wife and two children, has recently embarked on a year's adventure abroad, funded through the European Union's Grundtvig programme.

In preparation for his placement, Richard undertook a Spanish language course at the Instituto Cervantes in Leeds to help his family integrate into the local community.

Richard, who is based at the College's Park Lane Campus, will teach English at the Escuela Oficial de Idiomas, Quart de Poblet. During his time away, he plans to set up and run a digital media project, using blogging and photo sharing as a means of creating spaces for learners in Spain to engage in English language communication. The school is one of a national network of state-run language schools and all its students are adult learners.

Leeds City College's International Unit supported Richard's application to the Grundtvig programme and his year's leave of absence has been approved through his department.

In addition to his teaching commitments, Richard is also looking at developing links between the Spanish school and Leeds City College to promote future project activities between the two organisations.



## International teachers help to develop global curriculum

LEEDS WELCOMED TEACHERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD IN OCTOBER, WHO CAME TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT AND HELP IMPLEMENT A GLOBAL ASPECT TO LEARNING IN THE CITY'S SCHOOLS.

Teachers from Africa, Brazil, the Czech Republic and Austria visited different schools across Leeds, met education experts, took part in workshops and got a flavour of life in Leeds and Yorkshire. As part of the official welcome they also received a tour around the Civic Hall with The Lord Mayor of Leeds, councillor Jim McKenna.



The visit which was European funded by the Global Curriculum Project 2010 to 2012, was organised by the Leeds Development Education Centre (LDEC). During the week, the group also visited New Bewerley Community School to help celebrate its Millennium Development Goals awareness day, which saw children raise money to buy Oxfam gifts relevant to the goals. These include calls for universal primary education, gender equality, empowerment of women and the eradication of extreme poverty.

Councillor Jane Dowson, executive board member for learning at Leeds City Council, said: *"It's great that these teachers were involved in recognising the international awareness and excellent work in Leeds."*

*"Many of our schools are already involved in the project and include a global dimension in teaching. Our international visitors took away some great ideas and passed on some of their experiences and knowledge."*



## Comenius project

Adel Primary School welcomed visitors from France, Germany, Spain, Italy and Iceland this September. This was to mark the launch of the school's two year Comenius project 'Fit for Europe, Fit for Life', which focuses on children's games, sports and healthy lifestyles.

At a special assembly, the children presented their traditional games including ring, skipping, clapping and chasing games – visitors were particularly interested in the game of conkers. Games from different countries were compared with similarities and differences being found – including many variations on hopscotch.

During the week the visitors worked with the children and taught them games from their country and also how to cook traditional dishes such as Icelandic soup with dried fish, Spanish tortilla and 'tarte tatin' from France.

Over the next two years, books and videos will be created of children's games. They will include research done by the children of games of the past through parents' and grandparents' childhood memories, as well as games from other countries that they learn about through links with their European partner schools.

The visit coincided with the European Day of Languages on September 26, so the children also practised their language skills with the visitors. The new Comenius project is an integral part of the international ethos in the school, which was recently recognised in their renewed International Schools Award status.





# Social Enterprise in Lille and Leeds

FRANCES JONES FROM SOUTH LEEDS ALTERNATIVE TRADING ENTERPRISE (SLATE) REPRESENTED THE CITY OF LEEDS AT THE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE CONFERENCE IN LILLE ON 16TH OCTOBER. SHE PRESENTED THE SLATE PROJECT TO THE AUDIENCE, TELLING THEM HOW SLATE COLLECTS PRE-LOVED FURNITURE AND SELLS IT ON AT AFFORDABLE PRICES IN AN INNER CITY AREA OF LEEDS, AND PROVIDES WORK FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DIFFICULTIES.

Lille has its own "ressourcerie" which takes in old furniture and re-sells it, but they are targeting a different and more well-to-do market. They produce some beautiful avant-garde pieces from old sideboards, for instance.

One of the important subjects under consideration at the conference was the calculation of the "added value" (l'utilité sociale) that social enterprises bring to their community. Frances said that SLATE sees the contact between customers and people with learning difficulties as particularly valuable, reducing suspicion and contributing to social cohesion.

The city of Lille is very supportive of social enterprise and has an informative section on its web-site for anyone who is interested. This includes advice on where to go if you have a business idea which you want to develop and finance.

See

[www.mairie-lille.fr/fr/Vie\\_economique/Economie\\_solidaire](http://www.mairie-lille.fr/fr/Vie_economique/Economie_solidaire)

At the same time as the conference, there was an event run by the organisation Alimenterre, which works to support sustainable agriculture both in the third world and in France. There was a wonderful range of stalls, plus a fashion show of ethically produced clothes and a most thought-provoking and disturbing play about the absurdities in the world's food distribution.



# Danish wind farm experts tour region

A DELEGATION OF DANISH COMPANIES INVOLVED IN THE OFFSHORE WIND INDUSTRY VISITED YORKSHIRE IN SEPTEMBER AS PART OF A DRIVE TO MAKE THE REGION A MULTI-BILLION POUND PLAYER IN OFFSHORE WIND AND ENERGY GENERATION.

The inward mission showcased the growing offshore wind energy sector in Yorkshire and Humber and developed partnerships between regional businesses and their Danish counterparts - the pioneers in offshore wind power.

Coordinated by Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) Yorkshire and supported by AEM Yorkshire and Team Humber Marine Alliance and

other key regional organisations, the three day visit program included matchmaking event at the World Trade Centre Hull & Humber, one-to-one meetings, site visits and informal network sessions.

As getting a foothold in new markets can be a challenging, EEN offer a local gateway to the European marketplace. They are Europe's largest business support network with a presence in 46 countries and 280 cities and work with businesses, universities and research bodies to help them make the most of opportunities overseas.



Tim Barraclough, a consultant at Enterprise Europe Network Yorkshire said:

*“Estimates suggest that the wind farm industry could be worth up to £50bn the region by 2020, bringing jobs and wealth to the people of Yorkshire and Humber.*

*“This visit will lead to new ventures and partnerships that drive growth in the sector to the next level.”*

# Shanghai Expo a success for the UK

THE UK PAVILION WON THE GOLD MEDAL FOR DESIGN IN THE CATEGORY FOR THE LARGEST PAVILIONS AT SHANGHAI EXPO. THIS WAS THE TOP PRIZE IN THE EXPO AND COVERS EVERYTHING FROM ARCHITECTURE AND CONSTRUCTION TO COMMUNICATIONS.

Shanghai Expo was the biggest ever held, and ran from 30 April to 31 October 2010. Chinese investment on infrastructure doubled that for the Beijing Olympics and over 180 countries and 50 international organisations participated.

The UK Pavilion was nicknamed PuGongYing (dandelion) by the Chinese public, and received 45,000 visitors per day. It also won the prestigious RIBA Lubetkin Award for international architecture for its unusual and innovative design by Thomas Heatherwick.

The Lord Mayor of Leeds, Councillor James McKenna saw the British Pavilion as part of his visit to Leeds partner city Hangzhou. There he attended the “2010 International Summit of Mayors of Hanzhou’s Sister Cities”, which included a Forum of “City and Liveable Environment”. The Lord Mayor shared Leeds’ approach on protecting the environment and creating more liveable cities.

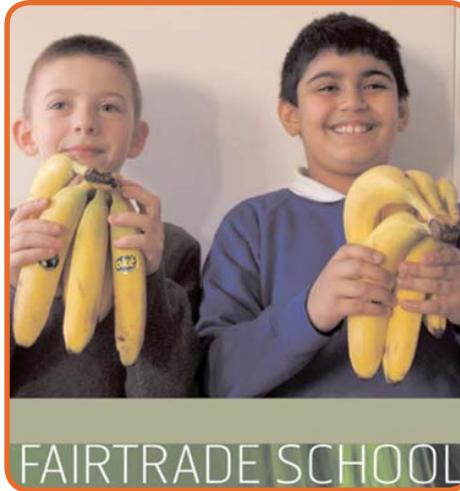


## Fairtrade workshops

Leeds Development Education Centre (DEC), is working in partnership with the Fairtrade Foundation and the EU to offer schools free teacher training and subsidised pupil workshops on fair trade, as part of it's "Awareness for Fairness" project.

A teacher training session will be held on **December 9th** at Leeds DEC to deepen their knowledge on the need for fair trade and equip them with a range of teaching activities.

Leeds DEC is also bringing it's fair trade expertise, developed over a number of years, to build stronger networks between fair trade supporters and schools wanting to learn about fair trade.



*"Traditionally there has been fantastic work going on in cities and towns to achieve Fairtrade status, and creative work happening in schools around fair trade issues, but the two haven't always overlapped. One of the aims of "Awareness for Fairness" is to link the two closer together so they can find ways to support each other"* says Hannah Dalrymple, Awareness for Fairness Co-ordinator.

The project is working with Leeds Fairtrade Steering Group to put on a regional networking event in January next year, so schools and supporters can swap ideas and contacts in preparation for Fairtrade Fortnight which is taking place between 28 February and 13 March 2011.

To find out more contact Hannah Dalrymple, [Hannah@leedsdec.org.uk](mailto:Hannah@leedsdec.org.uk), 0113 380 5655.



## Multinationals pitch up for conference

Companies involved in formulated product design have the chance to join over 200 delegates and some of the world's largest companies at an international one day business matchmaking and networking event.

Held in Harrogate on **November 25th**, 'Formulated Product Design: Kick-Starting Open Innovation' will give companies the opportunity to pitch their business and technology ideas to organisations such as Procter & Gamble, AkzoNobel, Cadbury Kraft, AGFA and Reckitt Benckiser.

Delegates will get to learn more about exactly what large companies are looking for and how best to approach working in the supply chain of big multinationals. Also attending will be advisors from across Europe scouting for new opportunities on behalf the world's largest business support network – 'Enterprise Europe Network'.

The event is open to any company involved in food, pharmaceuticals and healthcare, personal and homecare products, coatings, construction or industrial products.

For more information and to register visit [www.eventelephant.com/open-innovation](http://www.eventelephant.com/open-innovation)

## Trade visit to World SME Expo: Hong Kong

A trade visit has been organised to the World SME Expo in Hong Kong from the **29th November to the 5th December 2010**.

The Expo (<http://hktdc.com/worldsmeexpo>) is an annual event designed to make it easy for buyers, sellers and partners to meet and connect over three intensive days of business matching opportunities, presentations, seminars, forums and networking events.

In addition to the World SME Expo three other events will run in Hong Kong:

- Inno Design Tech Expo 2010  
[www.hktdc.com/innodesigntechexpo](http://www.hktdc.com/innodesigntechexpo)
- Business of Design Week 2010  
[www.bodw.com.hk](http://www.bodw.com.hk)
- Federation of HK Business Associations World Wide Forum  
<http://hkfederation.org.hk/forum/forum2010>

South Yorkshire International Trade Centre are offering a package that includes transport, accommodation and entry.

Please contact Stuart Steel on [ssteel@syitc.com](mailto:ssteel@syitc.com) or 0114 201 8924 for more details.



# Over Yonder : exploring town twinning

A THREE MONTH PROGRAMME OF ART AND CULTURAL EVENTS BY EAST STREET ARTS (ESA), THAT EXPLORES THE CONTEXTS OF PARTNER CITIES HAS BEGUN.

Involving 12 artists at 20 venues over 2 countries during 12 weeks, the events will explore the relationships between West Yorkshire and the Ruhr Valley in Germany where Leeds partner city Dortmund is situated.

The project aims to encourage people to get involved in activities that range from walking, mapping, taking photographs, discussions and visiting art works, responding to and reflecting on the history, culture and political similarities and differences of both regions.

The **Over Here Over There** walk took place with Artist Graeme Murrell on the 17 October between Leeds and Huddersfield, where participants were invited to map the terrain though tweets, blogs, photographs and discussions and at the same time using new technologies superimpose a walk between their twinned counterparts Dortmund and Unna.

The project **Boatelier** had the artists collective Contents May Vary live on a narrow boat – The Northumberland. During their week on the Rochdale canal they stopped off at Todmorden, Hebden Bridge and Sowerby Bridge. Activities included a mail art project, a temporary juke box



and a museum of contemporary rubbish. At **Propellart**, the artists will present the outcome of their **Boatelier** journey. (22 Nov to 9 Dec at ESA Union 105)

**Snap into Place** used disposable cameras that were given to a wide range of people in both regions (from civic dignitaries to vagrants) in a bid to circumvent the political motivations of 'celebratory art'. (until 9th Jan at Dean Clough Galleries, Halifax)

Alex Dunn's **Urban Icons** photography portraits some of the many customers passing through her own sandwich shop in Harehills, twinning it with Maureen's Caribbean takeaway in Chapletown. (18 Oct to 4 Nov at ESA Union 105)

Still to come is the **Open Window to the City** where Megan Smith makes use of new technologies and opens portals and live links to places in Leeds and Dortmund, part of Leeds Digital Festival from 8 to 12 November.

Lastly, there will be a **final celebration** with live performance by Rebekka Kill, Socialist Juke Box, and a publication launch by ESA. (2 Dec at Patrick Studios)

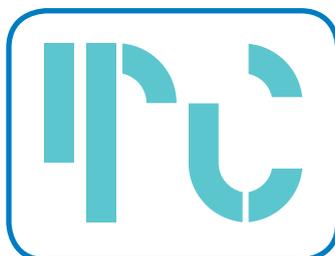
More details about all the events can be found on the website [www.veryonder.org.uk](http://www.veryonder.org.uk)





# The art of Teaching

LEEDS COLLEGE OF ART SPEARHEADED THE DISCUSSION ON ISSUES FACED BY ART AND DESIGN TEACHERS WITHIN HIGHER EDUCATION, BY HOSTING THE CITY'S FIRST 'INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES ON ART AND DESIGN PEDAGOGY CONFERENCE'. THE DAYLONG CONFERENCE CLIMAXED WITH THE OPENING CEREMONY OF LIGHT NIGHT, A CITY-WIDE PUBLIC ART EVENT WHICH SHOWCASED THE CREATIVE TALENT NURTURED AT THE COLLEGE ALONGSIDE OTHER ARTISTS IN AND AROUND THE CITY.



In the current economic climate there is no doubt that universities and colleges



will have to work harder to produce cutting edge graduates. To remain an industry leader, Leeds College of Art invited many notable international delegates to debate their way through issues that affect teaching professionals as a whole, including technology and innovation, employability and enterprise and collaboration and co-operation.

Keynotes Sir Drummond Bone and Sir John Sorrell, both pioneers of art and education, delivered thought provoking presentations alongside speakers from the United States, China, Middle East, South Africa and Europe, to leading practitioners and academics from universities and art colleges throughout the UK.



Conference organiser Toby Juliff said, "The conference was an international hotbed of innovation and national and international collaborations were forged throughout the day. It highlights Leeds College of Art's commitment to new and emerging teaching practices and the warm welcome Leeds extends to its international visitors."

The International Leeds newsletter covers all kinds of international activity in the city and is produced by International Relations, Leeds City Council.

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