



International Leeds



Summer 2011

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Voices against Apartheid



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AT LEEDS CITY COUNCIL HAVE INITIATED A PROJECT TO DOCUMENT THE HISTORY OF THE ANTI-APARTHEID MOVEMENT IN LEEDS, WHICH FORMS THE ROOTS OF THE LEEDS-DURBAN PARTNER CITY RELATIONSHIP.

The 'Voices against Apartheid' project aims to capture and raise awareness of the movement in Leeds in the 1970's and 80's, which concluded when Nelson Mandela was released from prison in 1990. The passionate involvement was led by the people of Leeds' deep rooted commitment to the cause and reflects the city's values of social justice and promoting equality and diversity.

Young people from across the city are involved in the project including pupils from Prince Henry's Grammar School, Garforth Academy and Primrose High. Following a media workshop, students interviewed key figures from the anti-apartheid movement, with support from International Relations and Oblong Video Cooperative. Interviewees who told their story include local politicians, a previous leader of the council, activists, campaigners as well as members of Leeds Women Against Apartheid and Leeds Anti-Apartheid Movement. Students from Prince Henry's also travelled to London to interview the South African High Commissioner, His Excellency Dr. Zola Skweyiya as well as Peter Hain, MP.

All interviews have been captured on film as a lasting record and are being now collated to produce a short documentary, which will be screened at a special event in July. Taking place at the City Museum, the Voices against Apartheid event will be attended by the new Mayor of Durban and the South African High Commissioner.

Artefacts relating to the anti-apartheid movement, such as a diary, letter from Mandela and campaign materials, have also been collected as part of the project. They will be displayed at the City Museum for all visitors to see during July.

Further information can be soon found at: www.voices-against-apartheid.org.uk



www.international-leeds.org.uk

part of the Leeds Initiative

Local partnerships making things happen

Louisville photo project

PHOTOGRAPHER MICHAEL BROHM FROM LEEDS' US PARTNER CITY LOUISVILLE COMMENCED A LEEDS/LOUISVILLE PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT WITH A VISIT TO OUR CITY WHERE HE CAPTURED HIS IMPRESSIONS OF THE HISTORY, CULTURE, ARTS AND BUSINESS THROUGH PORTRAIT OF LEEDS PEOPLE.



Michael taking photos backstage of Royal Armouries



Photo shoot at Cleopatra ballet rehearsal, Grand Theatre

Leeds City Council's international relations team matched Michael with Exposure Leeds photographer Jon Eland and together with him put together a busy programme for Michael to introduce him to Leeds and its people.

Michael was treated to a backstage tour at the Royal Armouries, which is linked with the Frasier Museum in Louisville. He also got a chance to photograph Leeds people at Kirkstall market, Temple Works, the Civic Hall, Old Broadcasting House, Leeds brewery, city walk as well as nearby countryside.

Coinciding with Michael's stay was an exhibition of his work at Project Space Leeds (PSL) gallery, where Michael was a guest speaker at the Exposure Leeds event and also ran a portrait workshop for local photographers.

Michael also got a chance to work with other local photographers, including Jacob Schuhle Lewis (<http://schuhlelewis.com/blog>) with whom he captured Northern Ballet Cleopatra rehearsals at the Grand Theatre. With photographer Lloyd Spencer (<http://headrow.wordpress.com>) Michael went on an eye opening Saturday night city walk, capturing the buzz of Leeds' nightlife.

During the ten day stay Michael captured many Leeds peoples from all walks of lives, including the Lord Mayor of Leeds Councillor Jim McKenna, ballet dancers, a butcher, a taxi driver, farmers, a railway worker, brewery staff, a young family, night clubbers, a baby christening, a biker, a waiter, shopkeepers, a web designer, bar staff, an elderly couple, a road worker, a barber, market stall holders. A selection of the portraits Michael took can be seen here: www.flickr.com/photos/brohmphotos

Photographer Jon Eland (www.joneland.co.uk), will be mirroring Michael's work in Louisville, during his visit in September this year. An exhibition of both their works will be shown in 2012 in both partner cities.



Celebrating 45th Anniversary with Siegen

THIS APRIL, LEEDS WELCOMED THIRTEEN ELDERS FROM ITS PARTNER CITY SIEGEN, WHICH IS SITUATED IN SOUTH WESTPHALIA, GERMANY.

Their visit marks the 45th anniversary – the oldest partnership that Leeds has developed as a result of the post-war twinning movement, with the twinning charter being signed with former county borough Morley in 1966.

Siegen has strong community based and educational links with Leeds that are promoted and maintained through the Siegen Circle – a voluntary group that meet quarterly in Morley to discuss future and ongoing projects. Similarly, there is the Morley Circle in Siegen.

Together with Morley Elderly Action, the Siegen Circle, chaired by Councillor Bob Gettings, put together a memorable five day programme for the Siegen elders and their Morley hosts.



The Lord Mayor of Leeds, Councillor Jim McKenna welcomed the guests and hosts at the Civic Hall, where they enjoyed a guided tour around the historic building. In the afternoon they saw the performance of "Distraction Burglary" at the West Yorkshire Playhouse.

A visit to the seaside at Whitby via the North Yorkshire Moors as well as the Bronte experience was also part of their programme.

The Mayor and Mayoress of Morley, Councillor Paul Cook and Mrs Kath Cook attended the farewell party, which celebrated the personal contacts between the cities that make the partnership so special.

Poet Antony Dunn reading his work at the exhibition opening. Bruce Rimmel work is also pictured

For their thousand years, history's eye, South Africa
It also? Happen quite like this, but this
will do for now: imagine how a class
of kids – left with the book on earth – began
to die to share themselves beyond the place:
And some walked off and some did not, some
came
to count where some had been and some did not
and some were pretty far away, in fact
as well as different weather, some were changed,
and some made bread and some made you, and
all
forgot the place that they had walked from,
and made up names for what they had become
and named their patch of earth and built their world.
How could such an, just fact, let's say so to come
to have ourselves, and have ourselves at home.

Antony Dunn



Dialogue Among Civilisations

THE 'DIALOGUE AMONG CIVILISATIONS' EXHIBITION, WHICH WAS FIRST SHOWN IN LEEDS' PARTNER CITY DURBAN IN SOUTH AFRICA, WAS ON DISPLAY AT UNION 105 GALLERY IN CHAPELTOWN.

'Dialogue Among Civilisations' is an international collaboration between artists and poets from the countries that participated in the 2010 FIFA World Cup. In total there were 82 participants, representing 35 countries including six partner cities from Durban.

The exhibition consists of images and poems from each country, that focus on the themes of identity, land, object and belief. East Street Arts and Leeds City Council's International Relations office selected 30 works from 11 countries that were displayed in Leeds including the contribution by Leeds and Durban artists.

The project forms the basis for a new initiative by Art for Humanities (www.afh.org.za) in Durban, an organisation that aims to open a dialogue worldwide around issues of inequalities and prejudice. Through art they appeal for renewed commitment to tolerance, harmonious co-existence and human rights.

The exhibition engaged with the local community of Leeds and opened a dialogue through art and poetry. As part of the project, Leeds artist Bruce Rimmel (www.biroz.net) ran an art workshop with Roundhay pupils, who responded to the poems, which the school's English literature class as well as Leeds Young Authors wrote at the workshop with poet Antony Dunn (www.antonydunn.org).

International Relations are looking at the possibilities of showing the poems and art produced by the young people alongside the whole Dialogue amongst Civilisation collection in the future.



Art workshop with artist Bruce Rimmel at Roundhay High School

Leeds girls team play international football



WIGTON MOOR UNDER 15 GIRLS TEAM REPRESENTED LEEDS AT THE ONE NATION CUP (ONC) U15 WORLD FOOTBALL FESTIVAL, WHICH TOOK PLACE IN BREMEN, GERMANY IN MAY.

The ONC was last held in Leeds' partner city Durban, South Africa in 2008 and is the brainchild of Marco Boede, who is Werder Bremen's all time top scorer. The concept behind ONC is to use the power of football as a vehicle to develop intercultural peace building connections between young people all over the world – no matter what cultural background or religion they have or what language they speak.

For the first time, eight U15 Girls teams participated in the ONC tournament this year, in addition to the eight U15 boys teams. A total of 14 nations from around the world were represented, with girls from Wigton Moor being only team from England.

Wigton Moor Junior AFC, a charter Standard Club based in north Leeds, also had support from three players from Huddersfield Town, and together they learned a lot both on and off the pitch over the week.

The tournament kicked off with an opening ceremony at the impressive Rathaus (Town Hall), featuring hip-hop dancing and New Zealand haka performances as well as flag waving and expressions of goodwill.

The tournament, was largely funded by the Bremen municipality and by private sponsorship and took place at a magnificent sports complex called the Sportgarten.

Wigton Moors' first opponents were girls from Sarajevo in Bosnia, with final score of 2–2. Although the girls went down 0–2 in their game against the West Switzerland team, who

had beaten Israel 10–1 earlier on, they did have incredible double save in this match.

In order to qualify for the semi-finals Wigton Moor needed eight goals and did indeed win their next game against the Israeli girls with 8–0. The Israeli team is part of a peace project called Mifalot and consisted of a mixture of Arabic, Jewish and Muslim girls who played with great character, spirit and dignity.

The Wigton Moor U15 girls team came 4th in the ONC tournament after a 3–0 defeat to Louisiana Fire from New Orleans, who are not only the state champions, but also champions of 4 adjoining states. The US team went on to win the ONC by beating Holland by 3–1 in the girl's final. In the boys U15, Turkey won the One Nation Cup with New Zealand coming second.

As part of their visit, the team met with students from their partner school – a commerce college in Bremerhaven. A visit to the award winning Emigration Museum, as well as a party at the Klimahaus was part of their eventful week.

Howard Bowden, Head of Wigton Moor Girls Football (www.wigtonmoor.co.uk) said:

"It was great to see very high quality football, played competitively, but in a great spirit – without any bad fouls, shirt pulling, arguing with the refs, time wasting etc. It was also quite something to see young people commiserating with those who were disappointed, and genuinely happy for the successes of their friends in other teams also. The ONC motto of "Play Football Win Friends" shone through."

"It was a privilege to have taken part – and this was not lost on those Girls who said that they had just enjoyed the best week of their lives."

It is hoped that the next ONC will be the USA in 2013.



Roma SOURCE project launch

The Roma SOURCE project was officially launched with an event on April 14th at the Civic Hall in Leeds.

Roma SOURCE is a two year project, co-funded by the European Union's Fundamental Rights and Citizenship Programme. The aim of the project is to combat and reduce discrimination through developing mutual understanding between Roma and mainstream communities, promoting equal rights and showcasing best practice.

The partnership includes eight organisations from six European countries - the UK, Italy, Hungary, Greece, Bulgaria, and Spain.

Importantly for this project, the partners are from regions of Europe that are both traditionally home to Roma communities and those which have more recently become a destination. This allows regions, local areas and organisations

to learn from each other different ways of working with Roma communities looking at similarities and differences. Work on the Roma SOURCE project will include health, children, employment, research and participation in communities and society.



Representatives from each of the eight organisations attended the first project meeting in Leeds in April to begin working together to improve the situation of Roma in Europe.

Migration Yorkshire is the lead partner in the Roma SOURCE project. Migration Yorkshire is the Yorkshire and Humber regional migration partnership, hosted by Leeds City Council. It works with national, regional and local partners to ensure that the region can deal with, and benefit from, migration.

Find out more
www.migrationyorkshire.org.uk/?page=romasource

Cities in Balance congress in Germany

THE CITY OF HAGEN AND THE FERNUNIVERSITÄT (THE GERMAN OPEN UNIVERSITY) IN HAGEN HOSTED THE CITIES IN BALANCE (CIB) FINAL INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS IN MAY.

Representatives from Leeds attended, along with project partners, older people, and representatives from the Institute for work and technology and the Ministry for Intergenerational Affairs of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia.

The congress presented the training programme 'Become an Ageing Expert' that will be launched on 1 July. This programme was developed by FernUniversität as part of the CIB project. It also showcased all the work CIB partners have achieved over the last three years.

Along with the conference day

Hagen showed off some of their local CIB projects including an inspiring intergenerational house.

CIB is built on improving chances and opportunities for older people in the context of demographic change. For many people and organisations, the ageing population is considered a challenge for the social welfare and health care systems. The fact that the older generation with its knowledge and abilities holds a valuable potential for society is often not taken into account. Central themes of the project include: empowering seniors to participate fully in community life; information and communication provision; securing social, financial and digital inclusion; business and employment opportunities.

In Leeds, CIB has developed older people's skills and confidence in using the internet to find information via

Infostore (an accessible website for older people in Leeds, their carers and the professionals who work with them), and set up a number of ongoing groups. CIB has also enabled the city to develop a Leeds-wide Intergenerational Strategy and Resource Pack.

CIB website: www.cib-online.eu/index.php?id=235

Infostore:

www.olderpeopleleeds.info



Prince Henry's welcomes European partners for project finale



Students and staff from Prince Henry's Grammar School welcomed over 60 visitors from the Czech Republic, Denmark and Spain, as the school's two year Comenius Project reached its finale.

During the four-day visit, students from all four countries worked together to explore cultural similarities and differences, and also took part in a mock United Nations Summit to consider global issues such as access to education and clean water.

The Mayor of Otley, Councillor Ray Smith presided over a special conference where each school presented its

view on what we can do to address the negative impact of our choices as consumers on the global distribution of wealth.

One of the highlights of the visit was the 'Cultural Celebration Evening', which included music and dance performances by each school, as well as a Ceilidh band and the opportunity to sample traditional British cuisine.

Assistant Headteacher Chris Lillington said:

"By learning with one another and from one another, students develop their understanding of and appreciation for other cultures, as well as their own. This also

encourages them to consider their sense of identity as young Europeans, and to think collectively about some serious global issues. Most importantly, it gives them the opportunity to establish cross-cultural friendships, and celebrate their similarities as well as their differences as young people from different countries."

Comenius Projects are part of the European Union Lifelong Learning Programme, and provide funding for schools in European countries to work on joint projects.



Stephen Lawrence Celebration Event at Adel

CHILDREN, STAFF AND PARENTS OF ADEL PRIMARY SCHOOL STAGED A SPECTACULAR SHOW IN MARCH AS A PART OF THEIR WORK TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE STEPHEN LAWRENCE EDUCATION STANDARD. THIS ACCREDITATION RECOGNISES THE ONGOING EFFORTS OF THE SCHOOL IN COMBATING RACISM AND CELEBRATING THE DIVERSITY OF OUR COMMUNITY.

The students welcomed their guests, wearing traditional costumes of the seventeen different home languages spoken at the school. The event included a varied display of dance from many different countries including Latin American zumba dance, Indian scarf dance, Spanish flamenco as well as streetdancing.

African songs were performed

and the choir 'Free Range' sang songs from around the world. The fashion show that followed, featured children of all ages in a wonderful display of different costumes – from Scotland to China.



Guest also sampled food from around the world, including India, Iran, Italy and Jamaica as well as traditional English afternoon tea.

As a finale, all performers and audience in the packed hall joined in a moving and electrifying rendition of 'Wavin' Flag', complete with a rainbow of flags symbolizing the colourful and joyful school.

This song has become the special anthem in Adel Primary school's quest to achieve the Stephen Lawrence Education Standard.

Building school partnerships with Lille

A group of teachers and headteachers from eight Leeds primary schools visited Leeds' french partner city of Lille in March, as part of a British Council funded project to link schools and education authorities in Leeds and Lille.

The eight Leeds schools involved are Adel St John Primary, Beeston St Anthony's, Yeadon Westfield Junior School, Gledhow Primary, Drighlington Primary, Rothwell Primary, Wigton Moor Primary and Lady Elizabeth Hastings Primary in Thorp Arch.

The purpose of the visit was to develop the school partnerships upon which the schools have recently embarked and to look at the teaching and leadership of Modern Foreign Languages as an area of professional development.

Janet Booth, headteacher from Rothwell Primary School said:

"I found my visit to Lille memorable, enjoyable and informative. It was a very valuable experience, both in terms of my own professional development and in terms of strengthening the links between our school and our partner school in Lille.

The visit gave me the opportunity to learn more about school education in France and also reflect on the British education system and current practice in my own school."



Richard Selfridge, teacher at Lady Elizabeth Hastings Primary with Lille students

Minister Senzo Mchunu in the art department at St Mary's School in Menston



South African education minister visits Leeds schools

A DELEGATION FROM THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION FOR THE KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE IN SOUTH AFRICA VISITED THE CITY IN MARCH TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN SCHOOLS IN LEEDS AND DURBAN.

Senzo Mchunu, the minister of education in KwaZulu-Natal, and Edwin Pillay, the manager of intergovernmental relations, spent three days visiting schools and meeting the city's education experts.

In 2010, Leeds City Council's international relations team secured British Council funding to work with the KwaZulu-Natal department of education to set up 15 new school partnerships across the city.

As a result, two South African teachers and a department of education official visited Leeds earlier this year but this is the first ministerial visit to the city since 2008. Three years ago there were 14 successful school partnerships between Leeds and Durban schools, in 2011 that number has increased to 37.

The partnerships allow children and young people in Leeds to learn more about different cultures and ways of life and develop skills, knowledge and inter-cultural awareness that are essential in an increasingly globalised economy.

Nigel Richardson, director of children's services, said: *"This visit highlighted the excellent work going on in our schools and showed the KwaZulu-Natal minister of education how much pupils in Leeds benefit from the partnerships. I hope that even more schools can benefit from partnerships with Durban."*

For more information on how your school can get involved please see back page (12).

Brigshaw students embrace European artistry



STUDENTS AT BRIGSHAW ARE INVOLVED IN THE **BRITISH ARTS COUNCIL COMENIUS SOS ART PROJECT** WHICH AIMS TO PROMOTE CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING AND SHOWCASE YOUNG PEOPLE'S ART WORK.

They visited schools in Europe and enjoyed collaborating with other young people from the Czech Republic, Germany, Italy and Slovakia to create some fantastic pieces of artwork.

After completing art inspired projects in Ostrava, the Czech Republic, and Kosice, Slovakia, Brigshaw students were delighted to welcome their European visitors to the UK. Guests spent time in school and with host families as well as exploring the Yorkshire Sculpture Park and the City of York. They created a stunning tapestry celebrating each country's culture and presented an art exhibition of their work.

Brigshaw students received a warm welcome from Italian hosts when they visited Pescara and met with friends from Slovakia, Germany and the Czech Republic. They were amazed by the art and history when they visited Rome and spent time in school, learning about Italian culture.

Brigshaw's latest visit involved meeting up with European partners in Stommeln, Germany, to work together on a German art exhibition. They produced some fabulous art which will also be showcased in the UK later this year.

A selection of student work will be available to view at www.creative-comenius.eu



Schools cotton on to Fairtrade

Schools from across Leeds, including Swinnow and Summerfield Primary took part in breaking the world record for the longest strip of bunting.

The children's flags, all communicating a message about Fairtrade, were sewn together with thousands of others. The over two miles long bunting was displayed in Battersea Park, London on World Fair Trade Day, the 14 May.

"Bunting is a brilliant way for people in this country to show their support for cotton farmers who are struggling to survive."

said Hannah Dalrymple from Leeds DEC, a charity working with schools on Fairtrade and global justice issues.



"By breaking the world record, we hope to raise awareness about the problems faced by many cotton farmers in the developing world, as well as the difference that Fairtrade can make."

To date, 7.5 million people in the developing world – farmers, workers, their families and communities – have benefited from Fairtrade, but there is a long way to go as Fairtrade still accounts for a tiny percentage of world agricultural trade.

For more information visit www.fairtrade.org.uk

Students take to the slopes

Travel and Tourism students from Leeds City College have been swapping study for skis as part of a European work placement programme at a popular Italian ski resort.

The students, from the BTEC National Certificate in Travel and Tourism, jetted off to Folgarida, Italy, in March.

Funded by Leonardo da Vinci Mobility Programme, which supports vocational training organisations to send staff and students on European work placements, it is the first time the diverse ski resort businesses have been brought together to give students experience in a variety of settings.

They worked in roles including reception duties, housekeeping, bar and restaurant, ski hire, ski school and ski rep and après ski at businesses such as the continental Hotel



Luna Group chain, local ski schools and ski hire shops and the ski tour operator Max Ski.

The insight into the industry is invaluable in helping the students decide on their future career paths.

Curriculum Leader Travel and Tourism Dan Baker said:

"This trip has given the students invaluable skills to equip them in the work place, boost employability and build their confidence in a different environment away from home. We hope that this venture can develop into a long-standing relationship in the future."

The ski tour operator Max Ski, which was involved in the placement and is based in West Yorkshire, will be returning to College to discuss future employment opportunities with the group.

Top International Marks for Leeds Met

LEEDS METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY HAS BEEN RATED THE TOP UNIVERSITY IN THE UK FOR ITS LANGUAGE SUPPORT, ACCOMMODATION QUALITY AND LEARNING SPACES IN A PRESTIGIOUS INTERNATIONAL SURVEY OF STUDENTS. IT WAS ALSO TOP FIVE IN THE UK FOR EIGHT OTHER MEASURES INCLUDING LABORATORIES, EMPLOYABILITY AND MARKING CRITERIA.

The latest 2010 Autumn Wave of the International Student Barometer (ISB), which tracks the opinions of over 400,000 international students at 203 institutions worldwide, shows that Leeds Met's international students rated the Yorkshire institution second overall in the United Kingdom, out of 59 participating institutions.

The IBS survey looks at student satisfaction with arrival, learning and living experience and includes

responses from students from countries including India, Australia, Nigeria, China and the United States.

Worldwide Leeds Met ranked in the top ten of all in the following areas: 6th in quality lectures; 8th physical library; 9th in language support and 10th in good teachers.

The survey also reported that 87 per cent of Leeds Met's international students would strongly recommend the University to other students.

One respondent said:

"Leeds Met is a great place to study your year abroad. Its central location in the UK and vibrant city make it a great destination for anyone interested in English and European culture. The university attracts students from all areas of study

with large physical education and business departments. The nightlife is great and the international community at Leeds is incredibly warm and inclusive."



International Cities Inspire Creativity for Students

First year events management students were challenged to create event concepts and creatively showcase their ideas at an internationally inspired Themed Events Expo in May. Student teams were challenged to respond to a brief to develop an event inspired by a global city to take place in Leeds in the run up to the Olympics. As well as being assessed on their proposals and concepts, the students had to produce a three dimensional exhibit to demonstrate their event experiences.

Module leader Jackie Mulligan commented: *"The assessment gave all of our events management students an opportunity to practically apply their learning in a real events context. As well as being assessed by academics, we invited an audience from industry and partner*

organisations to view their showcases."

The Expo which saw the teams produce event concepts within their own constructed marquees, tunnels, gardens, restaurants, circus tents took place in the world famous Headingley Carnegie Stadium and attracted over three hundred academics, industry representatives and students - providing a real opportunity for the first years to experience the excitement and energy required for the events industry.

Themed Events Lecturer Michelle Lanham added: *"We were all impressed by the standard of production and creative ideas that emerged from our students, all inspired by the cultures, events and festivals from cities across the globe."*



Leeds City College's international projects continue

INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES ENHANCING SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND QUALIFICATIONS FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF AT LEEDS CITY COLLEGE ARE SET TO CONTINUE, AFTER IT HAS SECURED MORE THAN €500,000 FUNDING FOR INTERNATIONAL PROJECT WORK.

The College's Transnational Funding & Initiatives Team submitted six applications to the Leonardo National Agency to support sending staff and students around Europe on vocationally-specific work based placements – all of which were successful.

The Leonardo programme forms part of the European Commission's Lifelong Learning Programme to increase student mobility throughout Europe – developing skills and enhancing employability.

The secured funding will cover three key types of placements: to provide

a first glimpse of working life, and often European travel, to students; to place students due to leave the college in the labour market, for example sending Travel & Tourism students to Spain to engage with the tourist market in a way not possible in the UK; and to send staff on work placement to share best practice and ideas with counterparts around Europe.

These new projects will see the College, the UK's third largest FE establishment, working with a wide variety of existing and new contacts in European colleges, businesses

and other institutions in over ten countries including Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Italy, Sweden and Turkey.

Carolyn Booth, Leeds City College Transnational Funding & Initiatives Manager, said:

"Transnational placements provide opportunities for students to not only apply their knowledge but also to develop the softer skills which are much in demand by employers (e.g. self-confidence, team working, problem solving, decision making). Staff are able to develop their curriculum skills and knowledge, sharing good practice and developing new links."

"Leonardo funding covers the cost of travel, accommodation and insurance as well as giving participants an allowance to support their daily living expenses; this funding is essential for the College to be able to continue with such placements."





Gap years designed to fight poverty in Africa

A new organisation called International Common Sense has been set up in Yorkshire, offering trips of three weeks or longer to Malawi to get involved in social projects to help widespread poverty.

Volunteers are offered the opportunity to help train ten people in basic business skills, help pull over 60 people out of poverty and make a real contribution to global development. The trip is also about having an incredible holiday in Africa, experiencing the vibrant culture, the exotic wildlife and nature.

Ian Pennington, who founded the business with wife Judi and Henry Mussa, a Malawian MP, said they hope to offer trips to other African nations, such as Kenya, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia in future, but in the first instance work done by volunteers would be mainly in the south of Malawi, near Blantyre.

International Common Sense knows Malawi well through Mrs Pennington, a former Conservative agent in the UK who has worked as an electoral campaign adviser to African political parties.

"It is not difficult to find areas in Malawi (that need help). The country is poor and 85 per cent of people are subsistence farmers and they need training and to be given basic business skills."

International Common Sense are hoping to attract volunteers aged between 35 and 65, including the recently retired and are expecting to turn over about £123,000 for 2011-12, its first full year of trading.

To find out more visit:
www.commonsenseabroad.com

Leeds returns to Barcelona for a creative encounter

A COLLECTIVE OF LEEDS' CREATIVE, TOGETHER WITH MARKETING LEEDS, VISITED BARCELONA THIS MAY TO PROMOTE LEEDS' EMERGING CREATIVE ECONOMY AND FURTHER STRENGTHEN THE TIES BETWEEN THE TWO CITIES.

The Leeds delegation, which included fashion designers, musicians and key influencers from the creative sector, gave an audience of over 700 opinion formers from Barcelona a snapshot of Leeds through a number of fashion events and performances.

As part of the 'Leeds in Barcelona – a creative encounter' the Leeds delegation participated in a conversation with representatives of the European Institute of Design (IED), where they explored ways in which a city can support its creative talent and the importance of creative industries to helping sustain and grow a city's economy. The discussion were in front of a live audience and illustrated the unique attributes of both cities, featuring best practise examples in fashion, music and design.

Delegates also took part in a series of one to one meetings with counterparts in Barcelona to build business relationships.

International trend observers LeLook, who visited Leeds as part of the Leeds in Barcelona festival last year and who managed the event said:



"When we came to Leeds we expected a grim northern industrial town, but were blown away by the great mix of art, culture and heritage and the cool initiatives happening in the city."

For more information visit:

www.leedsinbarcelona.com



Exciting international partnership opportunity for schools

Would you like to link up with a school in South Africa?



THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS TEAM IS LOOKING FOR AT LEAST 10 SCHOOLS WHO WOULD LIKE TO FORM PARTNERSHIPS WITH SCHOOLS IN DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA.

We are entering a bid to the British Council funded local authority grant scheme, which aims to create international relationships and support partnerships with a focus on global education. If we are successful, schools who take part will add a global dimension to the curriculum and reap the benefits of a sustainable, equitable learning partnership with their colleagues in Durban. Topics that can be covered include sustainable development and globalisation, peace and conflict, diversity, social justice and equality. The partnerships also provide an opportunity to celebrate cultural diversity in schools and local communities and enhance community cohesion.

Participating schools will be invited to British Council workshops on global school partnerships. There will also be an exciting opportunity for two Leeds teachers to visit their partner schools in Durban, and two Durban teachers will come to Leeds. Schools can then apply for further British Council funding to undertake reciprocal teacher visits if they wish.

The international relations team will submit an application on behalf of Leeds schools who register their interest.

If your school would like to take part please send us your contact details and tell us how you would like to use your new South African partnership, email:

karen.murgatroyd@leeds.gov.uk

For more information please contact **Karen Murgatroyd: 0113 247 4484**

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