

involve

LUSU 



our work



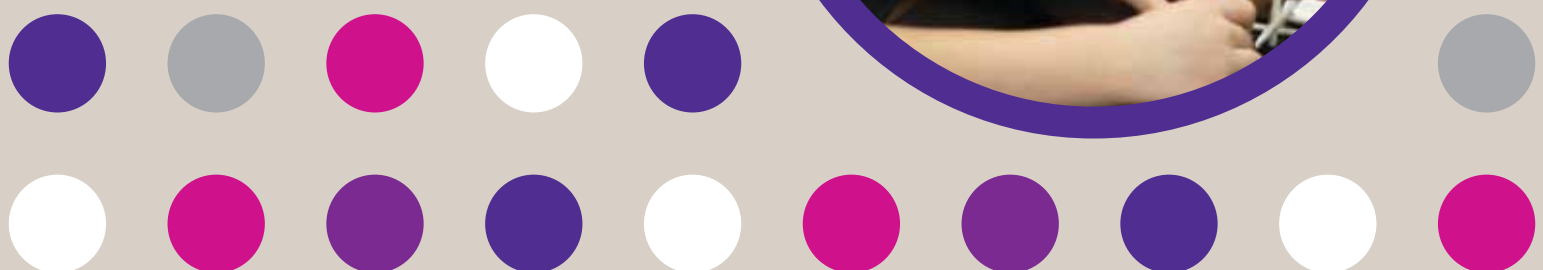
what we do

LUSU Involve offers University students worthwhile and interesting volunteering and enterprise opportunities. Many people would previously have known us as LUVU and Create.



We feel that volunteering helps to enhance and develop the student experience, whilst also widening the scope of employability options. With a range of enterprise support and a huge number of both community and environmental volunteering available to Lancaster students, LUSU Involve is one of the leading volunteering units in Higher Education Institutions.

Funding from LUSU, Lancaster University, v, Britannia Foundation and ESF have allowed all the fantastic work over the past year to be delivered. With new highs being achieved each year we want to communicate all of our best bits to you.



2009-2010 has seen a lot of students deliver significant amounts of volunteering across the region.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

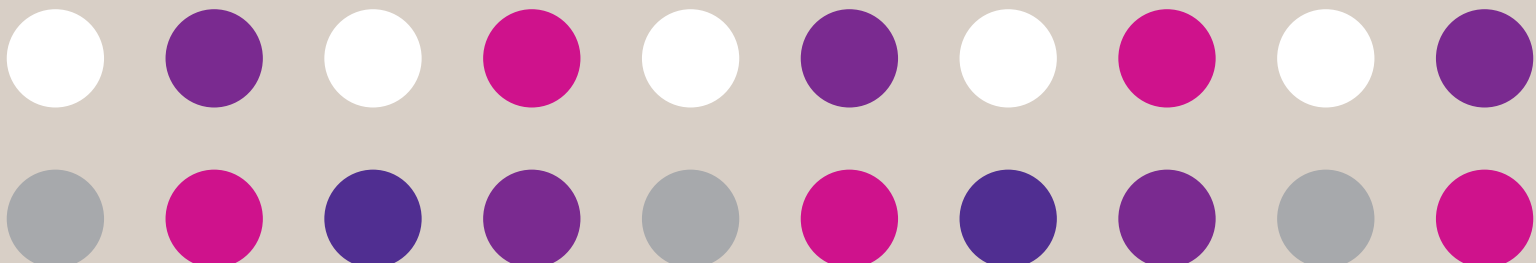
- 430 students have volunteered on projects that have engaged over 6000 children and young people across the North West.
- Nearly 200 students have volunteered on placements in local community organisations including Homeless Action, the British Heart Foundation and the Maritime Museum.
- Nearly 1000 students participated in GreenLancaster's new Carbon Competition, incentivised with trolley dashes, VIP nights out and cash prizes to reduce energy usage in their flats.
- Students have worked with over 185 young people who are NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training), 31% of whom progressed onto further education, training or volunteering.
- Enterprising students have created 38 start-up businesses with a combined turnover of just under £500,000.
- Voltage has worked with 1,628 young people aged 9 – 21 creating social enterprises across Lancashire that have benefitted their communities.

safe

The Safe project is a partnership with Lancashire Constabulary. The project trains students to be able to deliver doorstep crime prevention advice and devices to vulnerable older people in the local community. We are really proud of the direct impact this project has on the surrounding area.

The project trained 42 students this year who conducted 27 home visits. The Safe project also hosts a winter and summer social event for all the older people who have ever had any contact with the project. We have entertained over 100 people with performances from student groups including the big band, the ball room dancing society, even the cheer leaders got involved in the summer.

Emma, 3rd Year Criminology student: "I genuinely feel that I have made a difference as the older members of the community seemed to really appreciate the time I spent with them. This project was a perfect way to incorporate aspects of my course with my volunteering".



schools

2009-2010 has seen the numbers of volunteers and schools involved increase while also allowing us to try inventive pilots and new projects. 2009-2010 saw us work on projects with 431 students, involving 52 schools and over 6,500 children and young people.

Nick Hair, Year 3 Teacher at Trumacar Primary School: "The children adored their music activities in class and their trip to the university. One was from the Channel Islands, another was from Norway and the third was from China!"



NEW DEVELOPMENTS

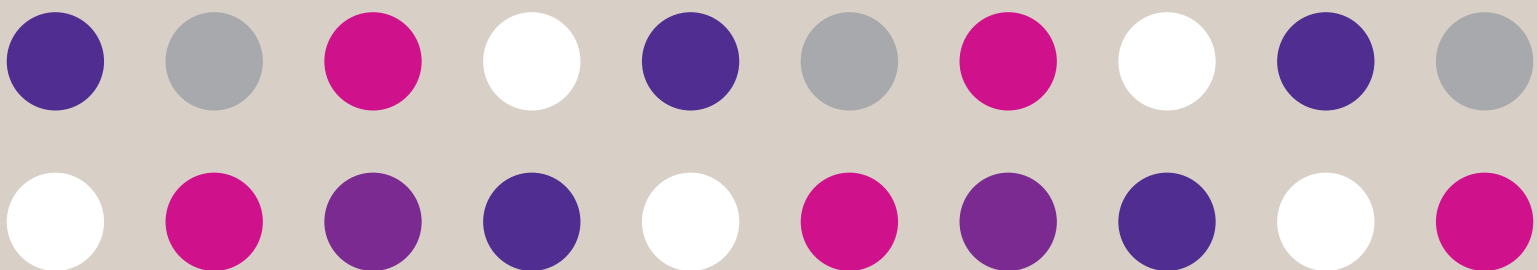
Maths Trails - After a successful pilot in 2009 we rolled the maths trails out to all primary schools this year. These trails help children for whom maths is a different language to break down barriers and access it in ways that they will enjoy: puzzles, exploration, sport and art.

Michelle Tidswell, Teacher at The Loyne Specialist School: "Thank you, the students had an incredible day, I saw them

doing things we would not have been able to persuade them to do with a whole day of persuasion."

Brendan Cronin, Year 3 Teacher at Morecambe Bay Primary School: "It was a pleasure to see the children having so much creative freedom and deciding how their performance would take shape for themselves."

Study Skills Projects - There has been a need for projects that enable our University students to pass on the abilities they possess to KS3 and 4 pupils who can benefit from skills such as: Research, Team Work, Communication and Work Organisation. These projects are bespoke to each school





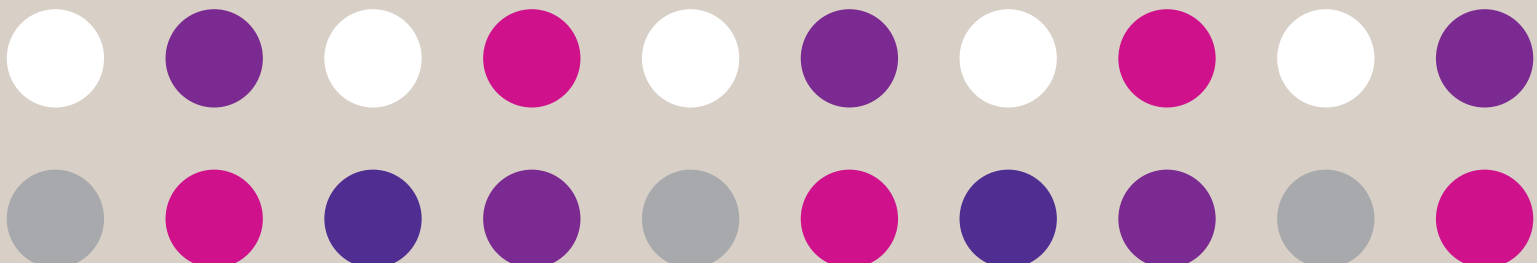
but revolve around a team of University students supporting a team of pupils to deliver an event for their school. As a result, pupils feel engaged in their school and experience the rewards of owning a project from start to finish, whilst developing the above skills in the process.

Tom Hallett, 2nd year Geography Student: “I thought getting involved with the project was one of the highlights of my second year at Uni. It was great to know that you could be with each of the projects from start to finish. The chance to work with and teach many different schools in the area was great and has definitely sparked my interest in teaching and volunteering in the future.”

PGCE WEEK

This was a great success: consisting of a varied and exciting timetable of events. The week gives students a valuable insight into education before applying for teaching courses. 25 students volunteered to design and deliver events to 8 schools, benefitting over 300 pupils.

Sally Walsh, 3rd year Educational Research Student: “Being a volunteer with LUVU helped me become more confident in the classroom. I obtained hands on classroom experience, working both one to one with children as a ‘reading buddy’ and with small groups as a classroom assistant. I felt more comfortable working with children after the placements which will benefit me when doing my PGCE next year.”



voltage

Voltage works with young people aged 9-18 to deliver an exciting programme of activity that engages them in enterprise and the community. This year has been another fantastic year for Voltage, with over 1,600 number of young people being engaged in the project and over £9470 being reinvested into the community.

LEADERSHIP TRIP 2010

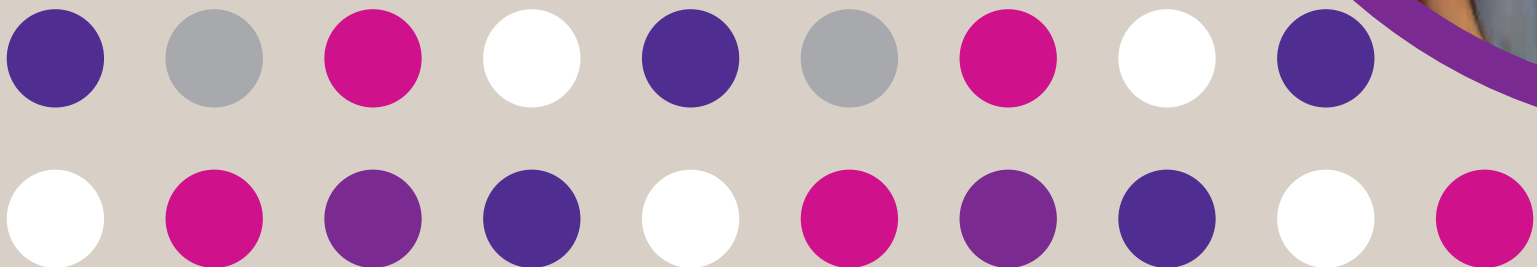
For the first time this year we took University volunteers along with sixth form students down to London for the annual leadership trip. Speakers at this year's event included, Philip Taylor (better known as Pants Man from The Apprentice 2009), Sophi Tranchell (Divine Chocolate), Ahmed Al-Aagam (Commission for Youth Social Enterprise), and Warren Nettleford (BBC). Our young entrepreneurs had the opportunity to develop their skills and input their ideas for next year's Voltage programme; many of which will be going on to deliver sessions and mentor students in the coming year.

Luke Power, 3rd year English & Creative Writing

Student: "The project has improved my confidence, my ability to work with a younger age group, and the ability to contribute, and help others to contribute, towards a particular task. The opportunities are extremely useful in terms of potential career experience, character building and CV improvement."

VOLTAGE FOR 9-10 YEAR OLDS

Student volunteers on Voltage have worked with children across the North West to create 19 new social enterprises. With the support of volunteers, the year 5 classes have helped to combat a range of issues which they feel are important in their community or the world. Social enterprises include one class that ran a smoothie business which used local produce and helped fund a clean water project in Africa. Another school focused on global warming and created a range of 'I Love Fleetwood' clothing and accessories using organic materials.



Joanne Martin, Highfurlong Specialist School:
“We have gained so much - Voltage has taken our enterprise curriculum and opportunities we offer up to another level.”

**VOLTAGE FOR NEET YOUNG PEOPLE
(Not in Education, Employment or Training)**

Students deliver high energy, three day workshops to NEET young people aged 16 – 18. This year, over 185 young people have been on the programme, with 31% progressing onto further training, education or volunteering. Though the young people do not start a social enterprise for real, they are encouraged to identify problems in their community and come up with business ideas that they would like to

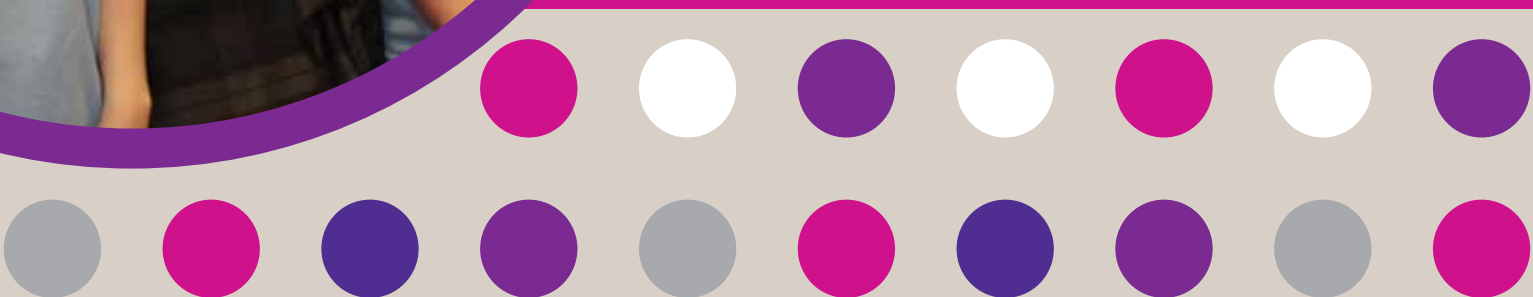
see happen. On the final day, they present

their ideas to a panel of judges and some of the young people will be supported to actually develop and run their enterprise.

Kirstie Ashurst, 3rd year Business Studies Student:
“I have been lucky enough to work with students with special education needs which has been a challenging but rewarding experience. Thanks to Voltage, I am now certain that a career in teaching is right for me.”

VOLTAGE FOR 16+ YEAR OLDS

University students have supported the running of 33 social enterprises set up across Lancashire with 23 sixth form schools and colleges. All of these enterprises have had a positive impact upon their local community; with businesses ranging from organic gardens, to the production of DVDs to educate, support and teach people with disabilities to play sports and compete on a level footing.



enterprise

2009 - 2010 has been a busy, successful year with over 245 students engaging in enterprise activities and setting up their own businesses. We saw an increase in media coverage with students and staff appearing on regional news and national papers, as well as local and regional newspapers and radio.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR

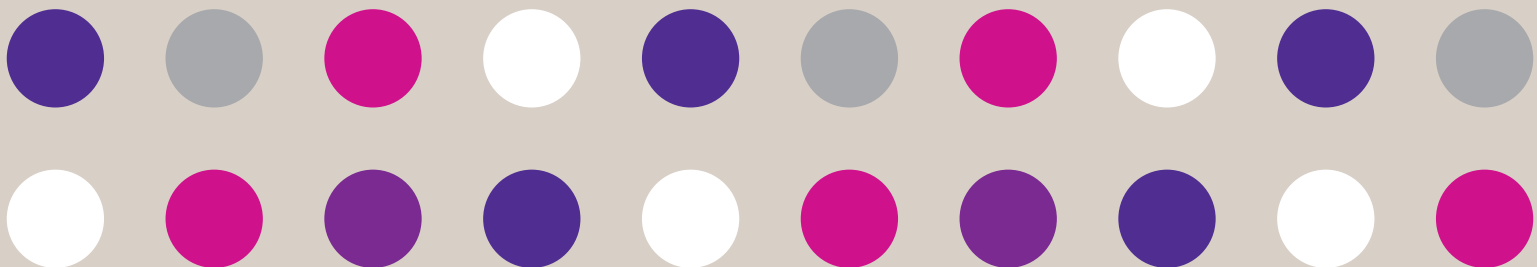


- Assisting 38 start up businesses who have a combined business turnover of just under £500,000
- Enterprise in Heels – a series of events for female students interested in business and enterprise that led to a group of students being invited to the House of Lords to take part in a discussion on women in enterprise.
- Create student Olive Su being interviewed on BBC North West Tonight about her business
- Create students Faye Hewitson (The Baystormers Cheerleaders) and Mitch Vidler (I Can See The World) appearing in the Mail on Sunday.

CASE STUDIES

Lucas came into the office looking for help with an idea for an iPhone game he had. *“Within weeks I was talking to people who could make the game for me and setting up my own business. I also went before a Dragons Den panel and got start up money which has been a great help. I am now the Director and Owner of Night Leaf Ltd”*. Lucas has received a lot of coverage in the media and his games are now being downloaded worldwide.

Lucas Gordon, MSc Management, www.nightleaf.com

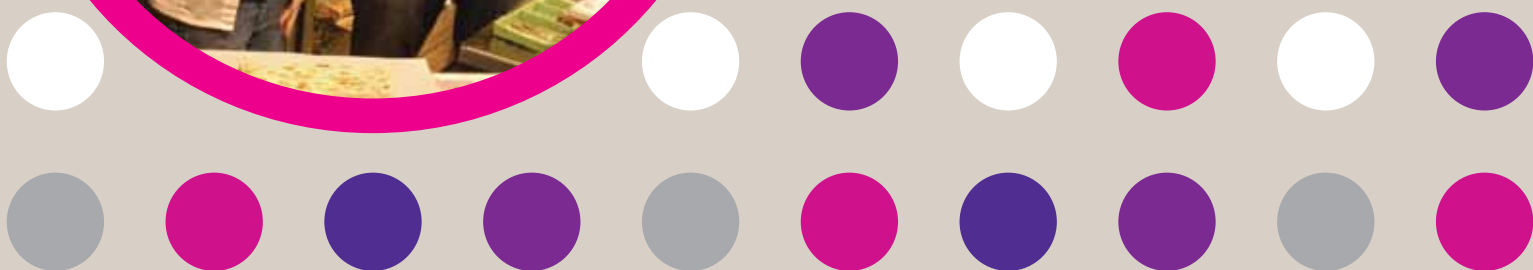


Rick had designed cardboard furniture specifically for the festival market but didn't have a clue what to do with it. ***"I'd sat on it for five years (no pun intended). Then I heard about LUSU Involve and visited them on the off chance that they might be able to help me out. They exceeded my expectations! Within weeks I had a business plan and start up funds and they put me in contact with a guy who is now my business partner."***

Rick's furniture caught the interest of the designer Wayne Hemingway who has agreed to let Rick use his designs on the furniture. Since setting up Fold Ltd Rick has sold his furniture at a number of festivals, the most recent being Whitehaven, and has caught the interest of major corporations. ***"It's amazing when I look at where I was just before Christmas and the progress I've made since walking into the LUSU Involve office."*** Rick Casson, MSc Product Design, www.fold-uk.com



Andrew and Annabel managed to get an exclusive contract to sell organic nougat made by a Michelin rated French chef in the UK. They came to see us because they had no business experience and needed start up funds. ***"We knew we had a really good product but we didn't know what to do with it"*** says Annabel. Their most recent success is gaining sponsorship from Slow Food and appearing at the BBC Good Food Show in Birmingham. **Andrew and Annabel,** www.twitter.com/_nougalicious



green lancaster

GreenLancaster supports students to translate their concern for environmental issues into action. In October 2009, thanks to external funding secured that was matched by University Facilities, the GreenLancaster hub was created at the heart of campus.

KEY SUCCESSES:

- 276 students volunteering on a variety of projects
- Nearly 1000 students actively participating in the Carbon Competition
- Locally Sourced Festival in June saw the square filled with students and staff enjoying acoustic music and local food
- Creation of woodland paths and conservation areas on campus
- 60 recycled bikes sold to students and staff
- A gold award in the national Sound Impact Awards
- Gaining 'Highly Commended' in the Green Gown Awards for the Carbon Competition

CARBON COMPETITION

In September 2009 GreenLancaster launched a pilot initiative which involved fitting 52 OWL electricity monitors to Pendle College flats, enabling students to be incentivised for reducing their energy consumption. The monitors allow electrical consumption to be viewed in real time on the digital display in individual flats and also on the internet. Students are incentivised with trolley dashes, cinema tickets, VIP nights at local bars and cash prizes to encourage them to use less energy.

Both the software and hardware have been adapted to ensure they fit this purpose and we believe this to be the largest deployment of such technology in any HEI. Results show the best



performing flat involved in the competition used just 20% of the total electricity when compared with the worst performing flat. For a successful rollout incentives need to be established such that all flats are brought below the average consumption line.

“We had a house meeting at the beginning of term where we decided that we were going to actively take part” Jenny Turton, 1st year Environmental Science

LOCALLY SOURCED CELEBRATION

The Locally Sourced Celebration was held in Alexandra Square during the summer term. The event aimed to promote a sustainable life through environmentally friendly activities that were run throughout the day. During the event, lunch was provided to the students and staff who had walked or biked onto campus earlier in the morning. Other local catering was provided for the general staff and student population to sit down and eat their lunch whilst enjoying the acoustic acts that were put on by student bands.

Other entertainment included a smarter driving simulator, arts and crafts area, bring and buy book store and a bike-powered smoothie-making machine.

To fall in line with the purpose of the event, all food, suppliers and activities were locally sourced to ensure that emissions for the celebration were as low as possible.

“The concept of this event has really evolved from last year and was a huge success. This was a great way to raise awareness of green issues to university students.”

Marc Handley, VP Sports Elect

EXODUS

The end of year re-use and recycle scheme on campus, partnered this year with Global Renewables to improve the collection areas and monitor the amount of waste that students are throwing away. Results showed almost 4 tonnes of goods were diverted from landfill to local charities, saving the University a carbon equivalent of 30 tonnes.

