

## Welcome

This special edition of Hartbeat provides you with an insight into Hartpury life as a Higher Education student. Making decisions regarding which university or college, as well which course, to attend is both a daunting and exciting experience.

The information here complements the online information you receive via the UWE Welcome website, as well as information on the Hartpury College website. So, armed with all this information you should feel prepared for the start of a new and exciting journey in your life.

"Although large enough to provide all of the resources and specialist facilities you will need to succeed, Hartpury College is small enough to care."

## Hot off the press! An update of your fees

Higher Education fees have been confirmed and the good news is that studying for a degree at Hartpury will be less expensive than you thought! **Foundation degrees will be £7250 per year and Honours degrees £7450 per year.** We feel this represents the quality of our provision, while providing value for money in these challenging financial times.

Follow us on



Join us on



## Higher Education at Hartpury - a 'Personal Approach'

If you want to succeed, and are passionate about animals, sports or horses, or if you are committed to agriculture or conservation, then we speak your language. With an established record of individual academic and sporting success, Hartpury offers exceptional facilities in order to help you achieve your full potential. Although large enough to provide all of the resources and specialist facilities you will need to succeed, Hartpury College is small enough to care. You won't be anonymous at Hartpury, not simply another face among many in a large impersonal auditorium. At Hartpury you are an individual. Staff will know you and you will know them. You will have personal access to friendly, knowledgeable staff, who are able and willing to answer your questions in order to help, support and guide your studies thus enabling you to succeed and achieve. The personal approach and ready access to staff is one of the things that makes studying at Hartpury special, and with over 1200 other equally committed and motivated students you won't be alone. You will be part of a real 'HE Experience.'



Summer Ball 2011



Rachel Kent

## Insight to student life from the Campus Officer

First, let me take a minute to welcome you to Hartpury and to congratulate you on your successful application 😊, you made the right choice and you're going to love it at Hartpury.

I arrived at Hartpury in 2008, fresh from doing my A levels via home study in Cheshire. My time at Hartpury has been a complete adventure, from starting on a Foundation degree course, subsequently taking a sandwich year within the industry, and completing this year on a top-up Bachelor of Science degree programme. This is my last year and, so far, it has been the best. I have embarked on many new challenges and, although it's hard work, I wouldn't change a thing!

As Hartpury Campus Officer, I have many different responsibilities at the College and I work closely with the student union at UWE as well as the staff at Hartpury. This role has provided me with a great opportunity to get involved with events at Legends Bar, and to be more engaged with the staff at Hartpury.

Hartpury College is so unique to other colleges and universities and it really shines compared to other higher education institutions that offer similar courses. Over the last four years, the personal support I have received from tutors has been second to none, and I can honestly say I'll be leaving in July with some fantastic connections.

Away from College, Gloucester has provided me with so many good memories. There has been laughter and tears, but every moment has been worth it. So, enjoy your time at Hartpury... take on every opportunity that comes your way. Remember, work hard and play harder!

Rachel xx

## Get involved... A great way to meet friends and improve your CV

Here are some examples of how you can get involved while studying at Hartpury.

### 1. Join a club or society while at Uni

#### → LABsoc (Land & Animal Biology)

The Land and Animal Biology Society is based at Hartpury for those interested in animals, practical conservation work, further training opportunities and having fun. We have a weekly social which can be a meal in the pub or something more active such as bingo, bowling, scuba diving, paintball or even quidditch! Speakers this year have included Ian Redmond OBE, Ed Drewitt, Alan Mildren and Ben Long. The society has a range of events, trips, socials, and training courses running through the year and you can pick and choose to attend only those you are interested in or everything! This year we have qualified 40 new Marine Mammal Medics, carried out scrub clearance work and Otter Surveying with Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust.



LABsoc society members

### 2. Play a sport

#### → Hartpury Recreation

In addition to the Academy of Sport the College currently offers recreational Badminton, Table Tennis, Netball, 5-a-side football, Tennis, Basketball, Indoor Hockey, two female only fitness sessions and Zumba and Yoga, and we are set to start a mountain biking club in the spring term. There are also a range of recreational teams in each of our Academy sports plus women's football and mixed volleyball clubs, both of which are competing in leagues. Our new student led football team 'Hartpury Athletic' will also start a competitive programme in the spring term.

#### → Hartpury Rugby

With four senior sides competing at the highest level, Hartpury College has one of the best rugby programmes in the country. Each team is supported by a strong and professional coaching, medical and sports science network on site. Our sides have made a strong start to their 2011/12 campaign and the RFU National League side sits in the top half of the League having won 15 of its 21 matches, and will be expecting to challenge for promotion come the end of the season. The BUCS 1<sup>st</sup> sit second in the South Premiership and are eagerly awaiting the knock out cup matches in an attempt to reach Twickenham for the 4<sup>th</sup> time in six years. The BUCS 2<sup>nd</sup>s compete against many other University 1<sup>st</sup> teams in the Premiership B league and are currently 4<sup>th</sup> in the table.



Placement at the Equine Therapy Centre



Academy rugby



Academy football



Volunteer work placement at an animal shelter

We are also proud to announce that five students have been selected for the England Students squad for 2012. They will be representing their country versus Portugal, Italy Development and Wales Students in the coming months.

#### → Hartpury Football

The Hartpury Football Academy has started the 2011/2012 campaign in great style, trying to replicate the outstanding achievements of 2010/2011 when we were crowned BUCS National Championship Winners. The BUCS Senior 1<sup>st</sup> Team are currently sitting top of the Premier South Division, four points clear. The 1<sup>st</sup> Team also look forward to entertaining Northumbria in the BUCS Championship Cup quarter finals. The newly promoted BUCS Senior 2<sup>nd</sup> Team are currently sitting second, two points behind leaders Swansea University 1<sup>st</sup> Team in the Western 1A Division, with an all-important home tie against the leaders still to play. The BUCS Senior 3<sup>rd</sup> Team are also chasing the title in their promoted league, currently lying second in the Western 2B Division. They also await their last 16 Western Conference Cup tie against UWIC 1<sup>st</sup> Team. The Senior Futsal Team also sit second in the Premier League Western Division, and are looking likely to progress to the knockout stages held in Sheffield. All-in-all this is an impressive start.

### 3. Volunteer / complete a placement

Sara was on the FdSc Animal Behaviour and Welfare course. She volunteered throughout the year and then completed an eight week block placement over the summer as part of her degree.

This is Sara's work placement experience:

“My work placement at an animal shelter was both an enjoyable and insightful experience. Having specified a particular interest in learning more about the charity's work in relation to canine behaviour and training, I spent the majority of my placement working with the Kennel team. During my placement I handled a wide variety of dogs: taking them for walks, engaging them in off-lead play and working on command and trick training. The staff were incredibly helpful, and their input was invaluable as I worked to build my knowledge and understanding of canine behaviour and training techniques, whilst developing my practical dog-handling skills. I really enjoyed working with the staff and the dogs and feel that the long-term work placement is an ideal way to gain a realistic experience of what it would be like to be employed by the placement provider in a future career role.”

Sara has now completed her degree and achieved a permanent job with the organisation for whom she volunteered. For more information have a look at [www.hartpury.ac.uk/Hartpury-College/Our-Courses/Higher-Education/HE-Work-Placements](http://www.hartpury.ac.uk/Hartpury-College/Our-Courses/Higher-Education/HE-Work-Placements)

## Information and guidance

We know that when you receive an offer for a university course, it often prompts a lot of questions. Below, is therefore some useful information and links to further details. It is important you feel informed and, if you do have any further enquiries, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us via [academic.systems@hartpury.ac.uk](mailto:academic.systems@hartpury.ac.uk).



### Money matters

Fees, scholarship or bursaries... there is so much information out there! To try and help students we have put together key information on both the Hartpury and UWE websites, which provides you with key information about how you can maximise financial support during your studies.

Check out the following pages:

- Hartpury information: [www.hartpury.ac.uk/HE](http://www.hartpury.ac.uk/HE)
- UWE information: [www1.uwe.ac.uk/students/feesandfunding](http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/students/feesandfunding)

### Somewhere to live?

Whether it is your first time away from home, or you're a seasoned traveller, there are options to suit you and your lifestyle while studying at Hartpury. About one third of our 1200 students live in Hartpury-managed accommodation (onsite and offsite), with first years (among other groups such as disabled students) given priority. Many of our students live locally in accommodation sourced through external providers, thus allowing them to live closer to a town or maybe in a more rural setting.

We have recently updated the information regarding accommodation options on the Hartpury website. Have a look at the pages which contain a lot of information about how and when to apply. It is key to remember that applications open from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2012. These applications are considered after the 9<sup>th</sup> May based on a priority list, providing you having selected Hartpury as your firm / first choice with UCAS. Successful applications will be confirmed via a letter sent to you by 1<sup>st</sup> June 2012. Applications received after 9<sup>th</sup> May will be considered on a first come, first serve basis.

There is lots of information on the website which help with sourcing external accommodation; something which is very popular with students.

Hartpury managed accommodation key dates:

<b>1<sup>st</sup> March 2012</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applications for accommodation open (Application forms available via <a href="http://www.hartpury.ac.uk">www.hartpury.ac.uk</a>)</li> </ul>
<b>9<sup>th</sup> May 2012</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applications received are allocated rooms based on our priority list</li> <li>• Applications are only considered if you have selected Hartpury as your FIRST / FIRM choice</li> </ul>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> June 2012</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Letters will be sent confirming the accommodation you have been allocated</li> <li>• Any applications received after 9<sup>th</sup> May are considered on a first come, first serve basis</li> </ul>



Hartpury College campus



Students on campus

## Top 10 questions and answers

**Has a decision been made on my application?** If you applied via UCAS or GTR you will be able to view the University's decision on your 'track record' as well as your UWE Welcome Website.

**Can I change the course I have applied for?** Please e-mail [admissions@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@uwe.ac.uk) including 'change of course' in the message header. Let us know which subject and why, and we will consider your new application.

**What is meant by a 'conditional' offer?** Conditional offers require you to meet tariff point, subject and levels of qualifications. This will include everything from GCSEs to A2s or National Diplomas. Make sure you check the details on the offer letter and on the UWE Welcome Website.

**What equivalents to GCSEs are accepted by UWE?** Please check [www1.uwe.ac.uk/whatcanistudy/applyingtouwe/undergraduateapplications/entryrequirements.aspx](http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/whatcanistudy/applyingtouwe/undergraduateapplications/entryrequirements.aspx) for details.

**Where can I find information on accommodation?** For information on the range of options please visit the Hartpury website [www.hartpury.ac.uk/Accommodation](http://www.hartpury.ac.uk/Accommodation)

**Where can I find information on DIY horse livery?** This is available via the Hartpury website [www.hartpury.ac.uk/Hartpury-Equine](http://www.hartpury.ac.uk/Hartpury-Equine) As soon as you confirm us as your FIRM choice; your application will be considered.

**I want to play elite sport; how do I get involved?** Information is available via the Hartpury website, which includes information about our academies: [www.hartpury.ac.uk/Hartpury-Sport](http://www.hartpury.ac.uk/Hartpury-Sport) Students who are interested in sports outside of these should contact [matt.birch@hartpury.ac.uk](mailto:matt.birch@hartpury.ac.uk) who will be able to offer advice.

**How should I make sure I have learning support in place?** It is important that you have your DSA (Disabled Student Allowance) in place before you start university if you have a disability or specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia. If you are unsure how to do this, please email [beth.leo@hartpury.ac.uk](mailto:beth.leo@hartpury.ac.uk)

**How do I find out about term dates?** These are on the Hartpury website on [www.hartpury.ac.uk/Hartpury-Life](http://www.hartpury.ac.uk/Hartpury-Life)

TOP TIP: make sure you are in attendance ALL weeks including those listed as 'Assessment'.

**When do I start?** Welcome weekend is Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2012. All new students are expected to come to Hartpury that day and will gain information for the rest of Welcome Week including Freshers and academic activities.

## Hartpury students in the news

### Hartpury are Grassroutes winners!



Hartpury Grassroutes winners

A delighted Hartpury student team were recently voted 2011 winners of the prestigious DHL sponsored Grassroutes Challenge competition at the Royal Agricultural College. Nine university teams pitched their business strategy solutions to a panel of experts, culminating in a presidential style head to head between the top two teams- Hartpury and Harper Adams.

"We would highly recommend future participation of students in Grassroutes as this is an eye opening experience into the real world of business"

Students from Equine and Sport Business Management competed for Hartpury and, along with the other teams, had to develop an innovative solution to a current problem facing the industry, create a solution and then communicate it. The students said about winning the competition, "Taking part in Grassroutes has significantly increased our employability by giving us experience in the world of business, in public speaking, group working and innovative thinking. We would highly recommend future participation of students in Grassroutes as this is an eye opening experience into the real world of business. We would like to thank lecturers Gill Reindl and Mike Parsons for their help in organising and orientating our team, as well as Kevin Ball and Caphas Chisangowerota for their insightful advice."

### Find out more information... attend an open day

Feedback from previous applicants has really highlighted the benefit of coming to visit Hartpury. Open days provide a great opportunity to view the campus, see the facilities and on-site accommodation, but most importantly meet the academic team. You can discuss everything from how your timetable will work, to what careers previous graduates have gone into in both a group

## Hartpury Animal, Land and Equine Careers Fair

On 29<sup>th</sup> October 2011, Hartpury played host to the South West Regional Animal, Land and Equine Careers Fair in the Hartpury Arena. The event was attended by 250 students from universities and colleges from all over the country.

Local and National employers were on hand to offer advice to students who were exploring future career opportunities in preparation for when they graduate. There were also a number of presentations including a CV Surgery, Postgraduate study, Teacher Training, and getting into Vet School. Conservation Africa and Frontier also gave presentations on the opportunities for students to work abroad during their university holidays and after graduation, and they also identified the important impact volunteering can have on future careers.

Special guest speaker Simon Watt, from Channel 4's Inside Natures Giants, presented a talk entitled "Dissections Uncut," where he discussed some of the fascinating science that didn't make the final cut. He also gave advice to students looking to get into work within the media industry, including television work.



### Freshers' Rugby at Hartpury

To date, Hartpury have won all games bar two and they sit at the top of the South West Fresher's League, a league that includes highly competitive teams such as UWIC, Bath, Exeter, Bristol and Gloucester. The Freshers play competitive tournaments every other week, travelling to different host universities. The format is 20 minute games, thus promoting fast, expansive rugby and encouraging mass participation. The players have

shown great maturity and togetherness providing, at times, scintillating rugby. With mixed playing abilities, the fact that all students are first year undergraduates allows for a great social culture and the chance to build friendships on and off the field.

The rewarding aspect of the freshers' rugby is the student experience gained. The head coach is Ryszard Chadwick, one of our current third year students. He has helped develop the rugby culture for first year students over the last two years and has gained invaluable experience to support his Sports Coaching degree. Finally, the whole Sport Performance cohort (level 1) successfully ran the RFU South West Fresher's rugby tournament at Hartpury. This consisted of eight teams from the South West and Wales, and the students formatted the event, arranged for qualified referees, organised food, liaised with coaches/managers throughout the day, arranged for a paramedic on site and managed the day to day tasks. Maturity beyond their years was demonstrated and a fantastic CV building exercise completed.

The Freshers train twice a week and all are welcome to attend. In addition to improved performance, the freshers' rugby culture tries to encourage high levels of social engagement in order to build and maintain strong relationships for the future.

### Winning ways... Newbury Challenge

Hartpury Higher Education students, Harriet Evans and Jenny Lewis, won this exciting competition to put on their idea for a themed race day at Newbury Racecourse. This initiative was conceived by Newbury, in partnership with the British Equestrian Federation, to help raise awareness of the equine industry. The presentation was made by Alice Plunkett and William Fox-Pitt at the Hennessey Gold Cup race meet at Newbury.

"An opportunity like this looks great on CVs no matter what type of job you want to do after university"

Harriet and Jenny said, "Newbury Challenge has been an extremely valuable competition for both of us, as we would like to work within the racing industry when we graduate. The competition allowed us to be creative with what we wanted to do and we could put some of our business lectures into our proposal. An opportunity like this looks great on CVs no matter what type of job you want to do after university. We both feel that winning this competition is great for us and for Hartpury College."

### Get a 'taster' of the Hartpury academic experience!

On 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012, we open our doors to students who have applied to join us in September 2012 for a one day introduction to Hartpury life. The event includes opportunities to meet staff and current students, experience a HE lecture and find out more about preparing for HE. Booking is a must and should be done via [www.hartpury.ac.uk](http://www.hartpury.ac.uk). If you have any questions about this event, please contact [chris.murray@hartpury.ac.uk](mailto:chris.murray@hartpury.ac.uk).

and 1:1 situation. This really is the best way to make an informed decision about where and which course will be the best for you.

Dates to remember...

- 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2012 (careers advice)
- 28<sup>th</sup> March 2012 (evening careers advice)
- 9<sup>th</sup> June 2012 (open day)