**University installs high rise Peregrine perch**

A nest box with a view has been installed on the University of York’s 60-metre high boiler house chimney in a bid to attract Peregrine Falcons to the campus.

The new high rise box and perch have been fitted on supports near the top of the steel chimney, one of the highest structures on the University’s Heslington West site. The box was installed by estates staff as part of on-going efforts to increase the diversity of wildlife on the 500-acre parkland campus.

1  [Peregrine Falcon nesting box being lifted into position on the boiler house chimney](image)

2  [Nesting box secured in position 50 metres up the chimney with solar panel attached to power a remote camera fitted to the box](image)
The Grounds Section has also put up 100 new nest boxes in time for the bird breeding season and will put up around 50 bat and 10 owl boxes across Heslington West and East campuses in the coming weeks.

Peregrine Falcons are known to be around the city and they were spotted over the Heslington East campus on several occasions last year scoping out potential foraging and territory. They prefer to nest on high buildings and structures so we thought the Boiler House chimney could be a good vantage point for them.

Extensive landscaping and habitat creation work on the Heslington East campus is attracting birds such as Little Ringed Plovers, Skylarks, Lapwings and Oyster Catchers. Work has also recently finished on the construction of a new wildlife hide which looks out across the lake and wetland areas, so that keen local bird watchers can now enjoy observing these bird species at close quarters.

Find out more about the abundance of wildlife on the University of York campus [www.york.ac.uk/about/sustainability/biodiversity/](http://www.york.ac.uk/about/sustainability/biodiversity/)

Discover the delights of the University’s ‘Duck of Day’ on Facebook and Twitter [www.duckoftheday.co.uk/](http://www.duckoftheday.co.uk/)

Peregrine Falcons are making a comeback in the UK with numbers increasing fourfold since the 1960s when the population was devastated by the effects of pesticides. One of the fastest animals on earth, Peregrines are often found on wild crags or cliffs although increasing numbers are colonising cities where prominent buildings provide a perfect cliff top alternative.