

# CLIPPINGS

January 2004

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Volume 1 Issue 2



**North Lindsey College**

**WELCOME TO EDITION 2 OF THE NORTH LINDSEY COLLEGE CLIPPINGS NEWSLETTER.**

## OFSTED REPORT PLACES COLLEGE NURSERY AMONGST BEST IN UK

**OFSTED, the government agency responsible for monitoring the childcare and education sectors, has recently published its official report on the Kingsway Children's Centre, North Lindsey's on-site crèche and childcare facility.**

"My staff are totally committed, motivated and enthusiastic about providing quality childcare. My thanks also go to the parents of all our children for their trust and support".

Ofsted graded the Kingsway Children's Centre "Very Good", the highest grade possible and one which is rarely given. This places the centre amongst the very best childcare facilities across the UK, a prized achievement for the college and great news for North Lincolnshire. The result is made all the more impressive by the fact that the lead inspector remarked that she had never given this grade before. The glowing report particularly commended the "outstanding team" that the Centre's manager Mavis Diaper has assembled.

The Kingsway Children's Centre is also a leading light in the government's new "Investors In Children" kite-mark scheme and, in recognition of her expertise, Mavis was invited to be a guest speaker at the launch of the scheme in October last year. The Kingsway Children's Centre is the only facility in the Yorkshire & Humber region to have reached Step 2, and is on track to achieve the third and final step in the coming months.

Ofsted especially commended the Centre's excellent teamwork, the priority given to children's safety, staff's relationships with children and parents, the quality and quantity of learning materials available and the support given to children with special needs, and states that the Centre "provides a happy and secure environment where children enjoy learning".

As the Yorkshire & Humber region is one of only two UK regions to have reached the necessary standard to take part in the Investors In Children scheme so far, this means that the Kingsway Children's Centre is leading the field nationally in this new and important initiative.

The manager of the Kingsway Children's Centre, Mavis Diaper, commented, "I am thrilled with the inspection report. To be officially graded 'Very Good' by Ofsted is a wonderful reflection on the whole nursery team."

North Lindsey College Principal, Dr. Roger Bennett, commented, "This is a wonderful achievement for our Children's Centre and, of course, the College. I am particularly pleased for the Centre's staff who have worked so hard in making the Centre one that is truly excellent. The inspection officially recognises the College as being at the forefront of crèche and childcare provision and is testimony to the very high standards achieved by Mavis Diaper and the outstanding team Mavis leads."

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### WHAT'S ON

**Thursday 29th January 4.00pm - 7.30pm**  
Guidance Event for Year 11's

**Sunday 8th February to Thursday 12th February**  
Hospitality and Catering students to Alsace and Strasbourg

**Every Tuesday, 7.00pm**  
Lindsey Suite Theme evenings

**Monday 1st March**  
Domestic Violence Awareness Day

**Monday 19th April 3.00pm - 6.30pm**  
Advice and Enrolment

For more information on any of these stories, or to order further copies, please contact the Marketing Team on 01724 281111, or email [peter.worrall@northlindsey.ac.uk](mailto:peter.worrall@northlindsey.ac.uk)



Mavis Diaper with her team.

## COLLEGE OPENS NEW H.E. CENTRE

**The North Lincolnshire Centre for Higher Education and Professional Development has recently been opened at North Lindsey College.**

courses such as the foundation degree in early years, as well as expanding postgraduate and professional qualifications such as marketing, personnel and administration.

Dr Roger Bennett commented "We are very committed to the further development of higher education in the area".

University of Lincoln vice chancellor Prof David Chiddick, who was at the College for the launch added "I applaud everything you are doing here in North Lindsey. It's a great pleasure to see the College going from strength to strength."

The College already caters for over 500 higher education students each year, introducing new

## COLLEGE CHAPLAIN SETS NATIONAL EXAMPLE

The work of North Lindsey College Chaplain Susan Walker has been recognised in a new national publication funded by the four major Churches in England, plus NEAFE, an organisation linking the churches with the Further Education sector.

In the publication, entitled "Whole People Matter", the work that Susan put into organising North Lindsey College's 2002 Christmas Fair has been held up to others in her position across England as an example of best practice.

Susan encouraged students of all faiths, or of no faith, to see Christmas as a time for thinking of others. The fair was a huge success, raising over £300 for good causes.

Following on from this success the 2003 Christmas Fair was held last month and raised over £800! Again, groups from across the College came together to support the event and monies were raised for a range of charities and societies.

Susan Walker commented "It was a great event bringing together many areas of the College and my thanks go to all those who took part, contributed and raised money for so many worthwhile causes."

## NEW ANIMAL CARE FACILITIES SECOND TO NONE!

North Lindsey's new Animal Care Centre was formally opened in September by the Mayor of North Lincolnshire Council, Cllr. John Berry.

The new centre provides the college's growing animal care department with more space for teaching students how to care for a range of small animals, including rabbits, chinchillas, chipmunks, guinea pigs and more.

Over the course of 9 months, the college's construction tutors, assisted by students, created the impressive single story centre, complete with built-in enclosures.

Dr Roger Bennett, North Lindsey College Principal, commented; "the opening of the Animal Care Centre is a real landmark for the College as it provides a much needed facility for the people of North Lincolnshire. The Centre has a focus on small animals and is supported by a number of local businesses. The College has also launched this year the National Diploma in Animal Management building upon the First Diploma in Animal Care it launched just 12 months ago. The Centre will provide a series of short programmes and weekend programmes during this year in addition to its full-time courses. The College is very pleased with this development and it promises to have a bright future."



# COLLEGE RECOGNISES LEVEL 3 ACHIEVEMENT

North Lindsey College held their second annual Level 3 Awards Ceremony on Saturday 6th December 2003, to recognise the successes of learners who studied at this level across the full range of curriculum areas.

Around four hundred people, including learners and their families, plus staff and special guests, attended the ceremony, where learners were recognised for their achievements at Level 3. Courses at this level include BTEC National Diplomas, National Certificates and AVCEs, all of which are equivalent to either two or three A Levels depending on the course. A wide range of courses from across the whole college were represented, including Construction, Engineering, Sports, Art & Design, Computer Studies, Administration, Child Care and more. Since completing their courses, a large number of the students have since progressed to universities across the UK, studying Degrees and HNDs in their specialist fields, and many travelled back to Scunthorpe especially for the ceremony.

Guest of honour Sheila Burden, Executive Director of the Learning & Skills Council Humberside, presented the certificates to the successful students. Sheila was accompanied on the stage by Dr. Roger Bennett, the College Principal, John White, Chair of the North Lindsey College Corporation, and other members of the college management team.

In addition to the certificates that each learner received from the various exam boards for passing their courses, the college presented twenty two special awards. These included four Outstanding Achievement awards, eleven Best Learner awards, six sponsored awards plus the new Golden Jubilee award which will be given each year to the student who has demonstrated the very highest levels of dedication and commitment, and who has been an inspiration to others. Each award winner received a shield or trophy, a gift voucher and a special certificate of recognition from the college.

The winners of the college's four Outstanding Achievement Awards were David Hill from the School of Applied Learning, Skills & Technology, Danielle Davies from the School of Arts, Leisure & Hospitality, Victoria Ekins from the School of Business & IT and Sandra Pike from the School of Health, Beauty & Care.

The Golden Jubilee Award, which was introduced this year to mark the 50th Anniversary of the College and which will be presented annually to the most deserving student, was presented to Jodie Bray for her outstanding achievement in the face of true adversity - having fulfilled her academic potential despite battling with ill health and managing to run both a successful business and a family. Jodie's Golden Jubilee award comes on the back of her receiving the Edexcel Student of the Year Award earlier this year, a prestigious national award presented annually by the UK's largest awarding body.

Dr. Roger Bennett, North Lindsey College Principal, commented, "The event was a tremendous success and was a real celebration of achievement. Over one hundred learners received awards on the day and it was a truly excellent occasion. We have now had two events of this nature and such events will now become part of the college calendar, further education successes should be celebrated and North Lindsey College will play its part in full."



Diploma in Childcare & Education students, Nicola Harrison and Sandra Pike, pictured with North Lindsey's Jilly Fenwick.

## LOCAL STUDENT WINS NATIONAL AWARD

Local woman, Sarah Sharpe has recently been presented with a national award in recognition for her tremendous success and achievements.

Having successfully completed the two year course in Advanced Diploma Administrative Management at North Lindsey College, Sarah has also been presented with the Institute of Administrative Management's Sir Joseph Burn Prize for Best Overall Advanced Diploma paper.

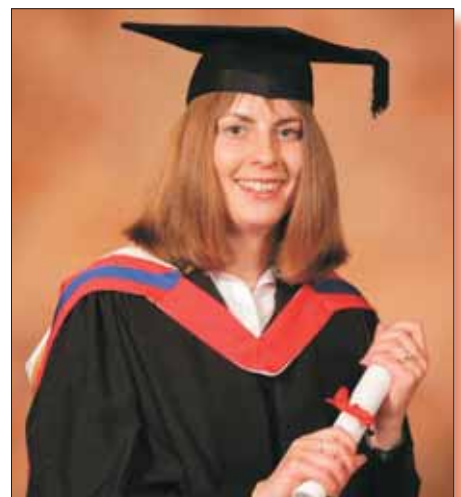
Sarah said "I've been studying at night school for years, all sorts of different subjects and courses, but none of them taught me as much about working with people, and using systems and processes, as the Institute of Administrative Management course at North Lindsey College. I was especially surprised I won this prize - having had my son Jack just a few months before, the revision wasn't easy!"

Lord Preston of Mile End, Honorary President of the IAM presented Sarah with both her Diploma and the special award at a prestigious graduation ceremony held at the Merchant Taylor Hall in Central London recently.

Georgina Hotchin, Business & Administration Curriculum Manager at North Lindsey College added, "We are delighted at Sarah's achievement and feel very proud that she has received this National Award for her efforts."

The course has proved very popular in recent years and is going from strength to strength."

Sarah has now found part-time employment at the Kingsway Centre which is North Lindsey College's business training organisation, and is looking forward to continuing her studies in due course.



## HORTICULTURE DEPARTMENT GOES GREEN

**North Lindsey College's Horticultural Department took another step forward recently in their drive to ensure that learners are taught best practice for the environment while still enjoying quality gardening.**

The department has teamed up with Doncaster based Hercules Products to switch from traditional peat based compost to a more eco-friendly alternative, known as "Neopeat".

Horticultural lecturer Kevin Wheatley commented "There is currently much debate about the rights and wrongs of using peat for gardening. Here at the college we take our environmental responsibilities seriously and want to help people get the best out of their gardening while feeling comfortable about how they achieve it. Neopeat is a sustainable product that actually out performs peat-based compost, particularly in its ability to hold water. We are looking forward to some excellent results as our learners use this new product to grow healthy plants on our horticulture unit."

In addition to this eco-friendly move, a new wild flower area has been created, and projects to improve the college woodland and plant a mixed hedgerow are underway.

Kevin said, "the wild flower area was planted with native flowers grown from seed by learners. We also found a previously unseen drift of Bee Orchids on the site. An exciting discovery this year was of one purple orchid that has so far resisted all attempts to identify it. We are looking out for its reappearance so we can investigate further. It could be we have a new species for the people of Scunthorpe to claim".

## VEHICLE DONATED TO IMPROVE TRAINING

**As reported in the last edition of Clippings, North Lindsey College students are now benefiting from some of the most advanced auto tuning technology in the North of England, and now Eddie Wright Motors has donated a car to further improve the facility.**

The car, a Vauxhall Vectra, will be used by students at North Lindsey College in the newly opened Auto Tech Diagnostic Centre. The car will be used as part of the NETCAR pilot project to set tuning problems for the students to solve.

As previously reported, the centre boasts international quality equipment, supplied by Degem Systems, worth around £100,000.

The NETCAR project allows staff at North Lindsey to remotely train students and trainees at linked sites around the North of England.

The diagnostics centre is one of only three in England, the other two are in Portsmouth and Kent, which leaves Scunthorpe tutors monitoring and assessing students from the whole of the north of England.

## COLLEGE OPEN EVENING ANOTHER SUCCESS

**North Lindsey College in Scunthorpe recently held its Annual Open Evening, which once again proved a real success for budding learners, their parents and staff.**

The whole range of College facilities were opened to the public, in addition to stands in the main hall, with demonstrations, exhibitions and displays on show for all to enjoy.

The event, which has been going for over 10 years, is designed to give local people of all ages a chance to look around the college, see what's on offer, see examples of work and talk to staff. It especially appeals to both mature learners and Year 11's, who find it useful to look around the college and talk to staff before applying. The evening also attracts local businesses and organisations with links to the college.

North Lindsey has long been proud of its facilities, and for the last few years has been ready and willing to show them off to the community. The college is one of only 15 Beacon Colleges nationwide, meaning that local learners are in the fortunate position of having access to the very best further education facilities right on their doorstep.

Wayne Dewick, Assistant Director for Marketing and Admissions commented "this occasion gives learners an opportunity to see what is on offer at the college, in terms of the wide range of excellent courses and the facilities which support them. There is also the chance to ask questions of guidance staff, tutors and current learners. This year's event has been no exception and we have been delighted with the response and feedback we have obtained."

Once again, staff pulled out all the stops to make the event as interesting as possible. Events and displays took place right across the college, from the professional standard hair and beauty facilities, through performing arts and engineering. The college's impressive motor vehicle workshops, which once again boasted a display staged by BMW British Champion Martyn Bell with his race winning saloon car, and a classic Ferrari 328 GTB brought in by Trentside Classics, that has come all the way from Amsterdam for restoration work in the UK.

The Horticulture and Small Animal Care areas yet again proved popular and visitors were able to look at a range of small animals and view horticultural displays.

The Catering department too put on an impressive display, with delicious samples on offer to visitors. The demonstrations even included a Year 11 student from Huntcliff School who, under supervision, flambéed "Scampi Provencale"!

The college would like to thank everyone who came along, and would invite you to look out for next year's event, which promises to be even better.



Images students busy during the Open Evening

## COLLEGE LAUNCHES NEW PLUMBING WORKSHOP

**In November, North Lindsey College was proud to announce the official opening of its new Plumbing Workshop. Opened in response to overwhelming local and regional demand for plumbing training, the new centre has effectively doubled North Lindsey's plumbing capacity and provided a major boost to the sector across the region.**

The college often has more than 150 people on the waiting list for its popular plumbing courses, which are delivered by the college's highly experienced tutors, and the new workshop will benefit these people by allowing North Lindsey to train a much greater number of would-be plumbers than ever before.

## COLLEGE TAKES PART IN EUROPEAN SAFETY WEEK

**North Lindsey College recently took part in National European Safety Week 2003 focusing on the theme of Dangerous Substances. A twelve-question quiz was devised and distributed to approximately 2000 full and part-time learners. The questions focused on hazardous chemicals found at work and in the home.**

First and second prize winners Terri Arnold and Richard Nicklen can be seen here with David Simons, Assistant Director Central Services, and John Holland, Health & Safety Manager, receiving £25 and £20 Our Price Vouchers respectively.

Rachel Johnson, Event Organiser commented, "a very high number of completed quizzes were received and we were delighted with the results -

it seems that a high number of learners are aware of key Health and Safety issues. Terri and Richard were however clear winners."





## COMES TO SCUNTHORPE

Local students are enjoying culinary delights the likes of which have not been found in Scunthorpe before. Completed on time and open as planned for September 2003, new and returning students are enjoying the College's restyled Food Court.

Following market research carried out last year North Lindsey College identified changing needs within their customer base and took the decision to take these ideas on board. The College now offers a wider selection of food outlets including, Harry Ramsdens, New York City Diner and Don's Pizzeria as well as a newly refurbished shop, provided by specialist education caterer, Scolarest. The shop offers a "Grab and Go" service offering hot and cold snacks, confectionery and stationery and is open from early morning to early evening.

A new seating area for over 170 students completes the refurbishment and has improved the overall level of service and quality of the new facility.

David Simons, Assistant Director Central Services for North Lindsey was the Contract Manager and commented, "This was a major project for us to undertake within very tight deadlines. In total the College invested over £100,000 upgrading the catering services and we are delighted that the original plans and concepts have now been turned into reality. Our thanks go to all those who have supported the project. Importantly we are delighted that the new facilities have received such an excellent customer response."

As a further result of the project, North Lindsey College has further cemented its strong links with Foxhills School Technology College. The school was able to utilise the surplus furniture from the college to open a fourth diner this academic year, offering an extension to their healthy options and their grab and go system. Mrs Denise Wraith, Assistant Head Teacher added "We are grateful to North Lindsey College for their ongoing support and our continuing partnership".

As part of this rolling programme of improvement across the College, other outlets have also been upgraded. This included a new staff lounge for the 400 members of staff at the College.

The Beacon Centre Lounge has also been upgraded with a new and expanded menu selection designed to meet the needs of North Lindsey's growing Higher Education population. Meanwhile, the ever-popular Café Trois facility at the Kingsway Fitness Suite is still proving to be a great success.

For the future, North Lindsey College is looking forward to the expansion and development of the hospitality and conference services at the Kingsway Centre, the college's business training arm. An enhancement programme will see exciting plans to build on the facilities already in place, to be able to offer hospitality facilities that can cater for both small informal events right through to functions catering for up to 150 people.

**NEXT ISSUE: MAY 2004**

## JODIE WINS NATIONAL AWARD

**A local businesswoman has achieved incredible personal success in the face of true adversity. Jodie Bray from Scunthorpe has been named as the Edexcel Student of the Year, a national award, having completed her HND in Business Studies recently at North Lindsey College. This achievement is all the more remarkable considering that Jodie has not only been running her taxi business Fastcabs and a busy home with two young children, but in April 2001 was diagnosed with breast cancer.**

Following the diagnosis Jodie decided to embark on the business studies course and throughout her first year managed to juggle her studies around chemotherapy and radiotherapy treatments. Additional surgery was required in January 2002 and Jodie managed to time this to coincide with the intersemester break so as to not affect her studies.

In February of this year Jodie received the unfortunate diagnosis of secondary breast cancer. The chemotherapy began again as did the final assessments but Jodie continued with her studies despite the extreme tiredness resulting from the treatment.

Throughout, Jodie maintained excellent attendance, managed to meet all assignment deadlines and passed all of her examinations. Jodie commented, "I was determined to show what can be done when all the chips are down. There were times when I felt really low but I was supported and encouraged by all my tutors. I owe a big helping of gratitude to them."

Helen Simpson, Course Leader, added "Jodie has achieved excellent grades throughout her course, achieving predominantly distinctions and merits and now is considering a final year top-up degree. We felt that a more worthy candidate for this award would be difficult to find and are delighted that Jodie's remarkable achievements have been recognised."

After more than a decade of providing high quality degree level education to over 500 students each year, North Lindsey College is pleased to announce the launch of The Higher Education & Professional Development - making the College a regional campus of The University of Lincoln.

North Lindsey College can offer flexible timetabling, and a friendly atmosphere, as well as a supportive learning environment - key elements in helping Jodie achieve her goals.



Jodie Bray, pictured with Dr. Roger Bennett and Prof. David Chiddick, Vice Chancellor University of Lincoln.

## TEACHING & LEARNING CENTRE OPEN

**North Lindsey College has recently opened a brand new Teaching and Learning Centre (TLC) offering a resource specifically to support current teaching staff as well as those on teacher training courses.**

The College offers a wide range of teacher training courses and the area has seen considerable expansion in the last few years. Training over 100 people per year for teaching jobs in the compulsory and post-compulsory sectors.

The Centre, comprising two large teaching rooms, one with an interactive wipe board, and a resource centre, will also be used as the base for a new training and development programme for North Lindsey College teaching staff - known as the "Teachers Toolkit". This is an exciting new training programme aimed at meeting the development needs of all teaching staff. Training events, planned as part of the toolkit, will be happening regularly over the next few months.

Staff can use the centre as a resource exchange, sharing lesson plans, examples of "best practice" and transferable ideas. The Centre contains key documents from organisations including the Learning and Skills Council (LSC), the Association of Colleges (AOC) and the Dept

for Education & Skills, which will be valuable points of reference for both trainees and College staff.

David Lea, Head of Education, Learning & Achievement Services at North Lincolnshire Council opened the new Centre in October 2003 and can be seen here with Helen Groves, North Lindsey's Vice-Principal, who commented "this is a great resource and will be the home of the College's new INSPIRE project, responding to both "Success for All" and the recent Ofsted inspection. Ofsted reported that 94.6% of lessons observed were satisfactory or better, 67% being good or better, however the College intends to improve its grading profile yet further, to a predominance of very good and outstanding grades."



David Lea, Head of Education, Learning & Achievement Services at North Lincolnshire Council opening the new Centre in October 2003, with Helen Groves, Vice-Principal and Kim Ellis Asst. Director, School of Business & IT.

## ART DEPARTMENT STEALS THE SHOW

**North Lindsey College's Art department was recently invited to exhibit examples of fashion and textile work once again at the annual "Fashion & Embroidery" show in Harrogate, one of Europe's most important textile shows. Also on display were students' sketch books which proved very popular.**

Visitors commented that the work compared favourably with work from older students from other colleges and universities. In fact many visitors thought that North Lindsey must be a Higher Education institution, because the work was so good! Comments from the visitor book included "Wonderful", "Inspiring" and "Exciting".

This newsletter was designed, printed and produced by North Lindsey College.