

## Welcome to our March 2010, College Newsletter

In this edition, there is a small selection of the many news, events and success stories for learners and the College. We hope you find it interesting and informative. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Customer Services on 01724 294030.



Back row: The Red Arrows Team: Graham Duff, Dave Davies, Mike Ling, Ben Murphy, Kirsty Moore, David Montenegro.  
Front row: Connor Burnett, Alex Chapman, Chris Toyne and Alex Hasselby

## Diary Dates

### Term Dates

#### Spring Term

Tuesday 5th Jan '10 - Thurs 1st April '10

#### Half Term

Monday 15th Feb '10 - Friday 19th Feb '10

#### Summer Term

Monday 19th April '10 - Friday 25th June '10

#### Half Term

Monday 31st May '10 - Friday 4th June '10

### Events

Tuesday 16th March '10 - 10:00am - 2:00pm  
**Careers Fair in the Beacon Centre**

Tuesday 16th March '10 - 6:00pm  
**Higher Education Student Funding Information Evening**  
Kingsway Centre

Monday 29th March '10 - Thurs 1st April '10  
**Full-time & Work Based Learners Parents Evening - Contact course tutor for more details**

Tuesday 4th May '10 - 6:30pm  
**Higher Education Information Event**  
Kingsway Centre

Thursday 20th May '10 - 4:00pm-7:30pm  
**Open Evening**

Week Commencing Monday 28th June '10  
**Award Ceremonies - Further details will be given nearer the time**

## Engineers Fly High with the Red Arrows!

**Engineering students became the envy of their friends after bagging a fantastic five day work experience with the Red Arrows.**

The Red Arrows flying squad, traditionally known as the Royal Air Force Acrobatic Team, are based at RAF Scampton, Lincolnshire and were formed in 1964. The Red Arrows have performed over 4000 displays in 53 different countries and represent the RAF at shows throughout the Summer months.

Four lucky Advanced Diploma in Engineering learners had a once in a lifetime opportunity, provided by North Lindsey College, when they got the chance to gain some real hands on experience working with RAF aircraft engineers as they maintained the hawk aircrafts ready for next year's display season, for which they are already in training.

Learners experienced some fantastic opportunities during their week long placement including seeing the planes fly out everyday and meeting the pilots at the RAF base. Each learner embarked on a health and safety course, got to grips with what they could expect from a career in engineering, worked on some of the most recognisable planes in the world, learnt about the history of RAF Scampton, the former home of the Dambusters, and had the opportunity to hang out in the crew room with all the staff working at the Lincolnshire base.

Work experience at the base enabled the learners to marshall the hawks on the aircraft dispersal when they landed, assist in the changing of a Ram Air Turbine and one learner also helped replace a hydraulic airbrake jack.

## Progress Reports & Parents Evenings

**Progress Reports (Individual Learning Plans) for learners on full-time and work based learning programmes are completed regularly throughout the year.**

In November and March, copies are shared with parents and/or participating employers, where appropriate. Parent's evenings for these learners are held during November and March where discussions about progress can take place with

tutors. If you were not able to attend any of these events, or if you have questions at anytime, please feel free to contact the Course Tutor who will be happy to discuss issues with you.

Parents and Employers are regularly surveyed by the College as we value your views and opinions. The College website contains a 'Have your say' form within the 'Contact Us' Section.

# Students Get Fired Up About Safety!

Scunthorpe firefighters staged a dramatic demonstration with ESOL learners to break down the language barrier to fire safety.

Humberstone fire and rescue held a unique workshop for 12 ESOL learners from the College to improve their fire safety awareness. The event was organised by firefighter Andy Fowler and allowed students to experience being involved in a mock house fire. Andy said: "The idea is to give the students an insight into what our role is within the fire service and to give them a small taste of what we do."

Earlier this year, firefighters from Scunthorpe's Red Watch took Polish lessons to help them interact with people for whom English is not their first language.

During the workshop, the students were shown videos and demonstrations about fires in the home. They also went through the BA chamber – a training facility at the fire station that simulates a house fire.

ESOL learner Agne Bagduncute, 16, from Lithuania said the day was really enlightening. She said: "It was quite scary in the room and it was very dark. The day with the firefighters helped me learn about smoke alarms, fire and fire safety. It was a very good experience."

Ignas Burvydas, 17, also from Lithuania, added: "If it was a real fire it would have been very scary. It would have been horrible in the heat. It was very dark and I had to hold onto the fireman and feel my way through with my hands and feel on the floor with my feet. I learned a lot. They taught us how to survive a fire. Now we know how to understand everything better."

Deborah Thurston accompanied the learners on the trip and said: "This is a really important lesson because learners have come to this College from a number of different countries and they may have had a different level of fire safety than we have here. We have learners from Belgium, Poland, China, Afghanistan, Lithuania, Portugal and Latvia. Four or five different nationalities attended the fire station, all with different levels of the English language. It is very important they have a visual to understand how things work and how to keep safe."



ESOL learner Agne Bagduncute, 16, from Lithuania

# Smooth Talking with Gordon Brown

Social Sciences student pitches his social enterprise idea to Gordon Brown and his cabinet.

Kieran Pettitt (20), who is currently studying for a Degree at the College, recently entered a competition hosted by internet site Bebo called 'The Big Think – Take Your ideas to the Top'. Kieran had an idea to operate a mobile smoothie bar which he would run on a not-for-profit basis that would give the young and unemployed an opportunity to boost their CVs and gain vital work experience whilst offering healthy drink choices.

Bebo organised for the six finalists to take a trip to Downing Street to present their ideas to the Prime Minister and his Cabinet. Each of the finalists received vital coaching beforehand by expert mentors Henry Bonsu, co-founder of Colourful Radio and Andy Hamflett, Chief Executive of the UK Youth Parliament. Kieran also got the opportunity to have his photo taken on the steps of 10 Downing Street.

Following his visit to Downing Street, Kieran commented, "We had a tour around the place. The three winners presented their ideas in full. The other three, including me, got to give a brief piece about ours. Some of us got to talk to members of the Cabinet and we all talked to Gordon Brown, he came out to greet us, he's obviously a very

busy man. Tessa Jowell indicated there might be a few people interested in funding my idea."

Kieran, who unfortunately didn't make the final three, also spends time working as a regular volunteer with groups such as V-Involved project with VANL and continues to succeed at the University Centre at North Lindsey College.



Kieran Pettitt with his smoothie idea

# North Lindsey College wins prestigious AoC Beacon Award

North Lindsey College is named as an Association of Colleges Beacon Award winner for its excellent approach to employer engagement.

This is the third Beacon Award to be won by the College in the last four years with the College having previously picked up honours for its provision for 14-16 year olds and commitment to Health and Safety.

The Awards, which this year celebrate 16 years of rewarding outstanding teaching and learning in further education Colleges, were announced at a ceremony hosted by comedienne and author Shappi Khorsandi. Sponsored by the Learning and Skills Council, the Award recognises exemplary practice in the development of provision that is responsive to the needs of employers.

With it being widely accepted that many businesses prefer to work with private training providers as opposed to further education Colleges, North Lindsey College overcame this hurdle by creating

a subsidiary company, Kingsway Consulting Limited (KCL). KCL provides training assistance and business support to local, national and international businesses. The company prides itself on working closely with businesses to identify their training and education requirements. All staff employed by KCL are recruited for their business expertise and appropriate experience.

The UK-wide Beacon Awards provide national recognition for excellence and innovation as well as acknowledging the talents of staff at all levels. They highlight the breadth and quality of education in the College sector.

North Lindsey College will host a local celebration event later on this year and will be presented with their Award by the Rt. Hon. Kevin Brennan MP, Minister of State for Further Education, at a national presentation ceremony due to be held at Westminster in February 2010.



North Lindsey College Principal Professor Roger Bennett with Janice Elliott (Director of Enterprise and Innovation)

# Student Success Rates Soar!

North Lindsey College is celebrating an outstanding year of success across all curriculum areas as more and more learners leave the College with the qualifications they need to succeed in their chosen careers.

The College has shown a consistent improvement in success rates over the last five years and now has an overall success rate of 78.5 per cent – 3.5 percentage points above the national benchmark, with more and more learners progressing on to university proving that the vocational route is a real alternative to traditional A Levels. Last year the College saw more than 120 applications to universities, plus many more applications to midwifery, nursing and foundation degrees.

Behind the overall success figure lie a number of courses that are breaking all the boundaries and achieving 100 per cent success with many more achieving results well above national benchmarks. Courses with 100 per cent success include: Level 3 Certificate in Using ICT, Level 2 Diploma ICT Systems Support, Level 2 First Certificate IT Practitioners, Level 1 Diploma Hospitality, Travel & Tourism, Level 2 Resort Representative, NVQ 3 Sport

& Recreation, NVQ 3 Beauty Therapy, National Certificate in Health, BTEC Introductory Diploma in Health & Social Care, Life and Vocational Skills, NVQ 2 PEO Mechanical, NVQ 2 Vehicle Refinishing, NVQ 2 Vehicle Body Repair, IMI Technical Certificate in Motor Vehicle Mechanical and the Foundation Construction Award – Carpentry & Joinery.

The College has set itself the ambition of becoming an outstanding College when it is next inspected by Ofsted in 2011. Over recent years the College has made a huge investment in learning opening a whole host of new facilities to benefit learners including a new car care centre, spa treatment room, reconstructed aircraft cabin and the acquisition and transformation of Global House to create some of the best facilities for construction learners to be found at any college in the country. With the purpose built Dransfield building and dedicated facilities within Global House, the College has also invested heavily in facilities for its higher education students enabling more people to access higher education courses such as HNC's, HND's, foundation degrees and degrees without having to leave Scunthorpe.

## College Extending its Care for Animals

North Lindsey College officially opened its staggering £65,000 Animal Care Training Centre extension.

Animal care learners were delighted with the investment as the extension created a new state of the art grooming salon which doubles up as an animal handling room and a new classroom. Modernisation to the centre has also enabled three dedicated rooms for exotics and aquatics, domestic mammalian species and an exotic mammal and bird room. Externally the extension has allowed four new superior rabbit houses and a large purpose built aviary.

Tree frogs, a bearded dragon, giant African millipedes, snakes and chinchillas are to name just a few of the animals homed within the Animal Care Training Centre at the College



Professor Roger Bennett (College Principal) with Richard Morley (Chair of Governors at North Lindsey College) open the Animal Care Extension

and the reason why Animal Care is becoming increasingly popular at North Lindsey College, particularly with the vocational route allowing students to progress onto University.

## College Learners Help Save the Environment

Eight learners help save over 1000 trees at Waters Edge Visitors Centre, Barton upon Humber as part of a community project.

A celebration of achievement took place at the College thanking the learners for their hard work and commitment to the centre. Sarah Carre (Ranger at Waters' Edge Country Park) attended the celebration, gave out certificates and personally thanked the E2E learners for their much valued volunteering contributions at the centre after taking off over 1000 tree guards.

Tree guards are used for the protection of seedling trees. They stop animals from damaging or destroying seedlings and can greatly increase the success rate of tree plantings by reducing wind damage. Tree guards are also of great use in public areas, streets and parks to help prevent damage to both new and established trees.

The V-Involved team, hosted by Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire help to support the learners on the E2E programme by finding learners a

range of interesting volunteering activities in the community to help the development of transferable skills. The learners also have the opportunity to develop their confidence and self esteem at the same time as helping others in the community.

Learners at the College have also been involved with other community groups including a project for Scunthorpe United and hope to continue supporting further conservation work in the community due to its success.



Learners enjoyed their time spent at the Waters' Edge Visitors Centre



Professor Roger Bennett (College Principal), Harry Barrowcliff (Technical Instructor) and David Clelland (Unipart Business Development Manager)

## Driving Training Forward

Young mechanics at North Lindsey College are in the fast lane to success as they celebrate the opening of a new Car Care Centre on the Kingsway campus.

The fully equipped garage means students can now learn and work in a fully functioning car garage – the first of its kind in North Lincolnshire and one of only a handful in the country.

The Centre is a replica of what students can expect to find when they enter the industry and will help to enhance the students' learning – making the transition from College to career much smoother.

Staff at North Lindsey College are able to book their vehicles into the Car Care Centre for services, repairs and warranties, which are all carried out by the students under supervision.

Professor Roger Bennett, Principal of North Lindsey College, said the garage is a brilliant asset to the motor vehicle department and shows FE and industry partnership working at its best with the garage being fully fitted by Unipart, the UK's largest independent supplier of after-market components in the UK.

Mechanic tutor and technician Harry Barrowcliff said: "Seven weeks ago this garage was an empty shell, it's amazing to see it all finished and kitted out with wonderful modern equipment. This will help to inspire students and give them the best start to their future careers."



Learner working in the new Car Care Centre at North Lindsey College

# Learner of the Month Awards September 2009 - February 2010

North Lindsey College strongly believes in rewarding its learners for achieving – not just at the end of the academic year, but all the way through it. This recognition empowers and encourages learners across all abilities and groups to achieve the best that they are able.

Every month, learners from all curriculum areas are selected to recognise their contribution,

effort and/or achievements and invited to attend a lunch time celebration, where school staff present the recipients with a certificate before enjoying a complementary lunch!

Congratulations to the 'Learners of the Month' for September - February, we hope to keep you updated of future winners in forthcoming editions of this newsletter.

Curriculum Area	Name
Construction	Matthew James, Hawk RyanAshleigh-Ellan Kavanagh, Tommy Sweeting, James Warrington
14-16 Skills Centre	Hannah Driscoll, Jessica Watson, Danny Horton
Etec (Engineering)	James Roberts, Alex Brooks, Charles Horn, William Smyth
Motor Vehicle/Welding	Jamie Mitchell, Stewart Johnson Daniel Amys, Kevin Burrows, Joshua Chamber
Foundation Studies & E2E	Ryan Mumby, Martin Wilson, Kirstie Sanderson, Sarah Lucas, Zak Jollands, Matthew Ironmonger, Ryan Twells, Natasha Sikora, Mark Jarvill, Jonathan Henderson
Functional Skills	Charlotte Cromack, Devon Blood, Kelly Hopkins
Skills for Life	Marietta Hahn, Lorah Jury, Antony McDonald
ESOL	Valentas Dargis, Sahaq Mohammed, Mohammad Jebri
Childcare	Leanne Oades, Maxine Burdess, Lima Akther, Laura Brothwell
Health & Social Care	David Taylor, Fiona Stewart, Hannah Bushell, Kirsty Baker
Hairdressing & Beauty Therapy	Amy Humphreys, Bobby Foster, Zoe Goude, Laura Picklesy, Melanie Panton, Joanne Meggitt, Victoria Clark, Jessica Hall
Hospitality	Emma Brasier, Joshua Thompson, Hannah Fisher
Sport & Land Based Industries	Blake Boswell, Danny Dreggs, Danielle Leonard, Rebecca Dent
Art, Design & Performing Arts	Emily Clark, Rickdeesh Singh Takhar, Gemma Page, Luke Mallender
Business, IT & Travel	Jason Rennie, Sam Fowler, Rafaela Di Renzo Bortoni, Steven Webb
Sustainability	Ryan Krajnyk

## Quality at North Lindsey College

As part of the quality procedures within College, we conduct a number of 'mini inspections' in different curriculum areas throughout the year, which we call standards teams.

The areas covered in the Autumn term of this academic year were Childcare, Education and Counselling and Foundation Studies and E2E.

### Childcare, Education and Counselling - Grade awarded: Outstanding

Strengths of the Area include:

- Excellent Success Rates across courses/ cohort groups for 16-18 and 19+ years
- Very good lesson observation grade profile – 87% of lessons observed were outstanding or good
- Excellent examples of learner engagement in decision making and feedback to learners
- 100% learners, parents and employers rate the professionalism of the staff delivering the training
- Very high standards of learner and classroom management, illustrate mutual respect

- Fully Integrated and Highly Effective Work placements enabling learners to achieve and progress
- Excellent physical resources used effectively to support learning

### Foundation Studies and E2E - Grade awarded: Good

Strengths of the Area include:

- Outstanding e2e provision.
- Good success rates.
- Effective and varied support for learners.
- Comprehensive enrichment opportunities which enhance learning and development.
- High level of learner satisfaction demonstrated in surveys though evidence lacking of action taken regarding learner issues raised, or feedback given.
- High level of satisfaction demonstrated by parents.

In the Spring term standards teams are taking place in Etec, Skills for Life and Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy. A further five teams are planned for the Summer term.

## Management Observations

Alongside the Standards teams activities, so far this academic year, there have been management observations conducted in twelve curriculum areas.

The key strengths identified across all the management observations are:-

- Excellent relationships between learners and tutors which encouraged participation in support activities
- Creative use of a good range of resources/ activities to meet learner needs
- Support tutors develop vocationally related knowledge and understanding to enhance the support process
- Effective target setting at the start of sessions ensuring sessions are focused to meet learner needs
- Very good recording of learner attainment from session to session to enable progress to be measured
- Seamless links between theory and practical activities
- Excellent direct questioning of learners, and strategies used to do so.

- Excellent management of learners, and strategies used to do so.
- Excellent use of Q and A to engage, motivate and challenge learners
- The staff were very successful in creating work realistic environments and the learners were always encouraged to behave in a professional manner which was re-enforced by many learners wearing colour coded uniforms.
- Throughout the sessions many opportunities were taken to use various question and answer techniques very effectively to both engage learners and test understanding.

Areas for development identified within standards teams or management observations are taken forward into the relevant curriculum area action plan in order for the issues to be addressed.

## Higher Education Partnership

Following the success of its existing collaborative arrangements with the Universities of Lincoln and Hull, North Lindsey College has signed a collaborative agreement with Bishop Grosseteste University College Lincoln.

The signing of the agreement marks another step forward in the expansion of Higher Education opportunities within North Lincolnshire.

Formal institutional approval for the academic partnership was signed at the Kingsway campus by Professor Muriel Robinson, Principal of Bishop Grosseteste and Professor Roger Bennett, Principal of North Lindsey College.

The first programme to be available in Scunthorpe is the foundation degree, FdA Children's Services (Early Childhood). This foundation degree provides a 'platform for developing new standards of practice in Children's Services' and further provides a pathway to Early Years Professional Status through progression to the final year of the BA (Hons).

There are approximately 40 students currently enrolling onto this new foundation degree, joining a further 60 students currently studying for a foundation degree in Early Years at the University Centre at North Lindsey College in Scunthorpe. Professor Roger Bennett also hopes the programme can help attract more students to the College.

Following the signing of the agreement Sally Bentley, Dean of Culture, Education and Innovation at Bishop Grosseteste commented: "The agreement represents an exciting development in the delivery of HE in North Lincolnshire. As well as extending opportunities for learners, the agreement also provides scope for staff to work together and share expertise. There is also the possibility of working together in the future to offer further foundation degrees and progression routes."



**Back L-R:** Maxina-Butler Holmes (North Lindsey College Head of Higher Education), Sally Bentley (Dean of Culture, Education and Innovation of Bishop Grosseteste), Janice Keithly (North Lindsey College Assistant Principal) and Joy Clews (Bishop Grosseteste Vice Principal of External Affairs). **Front L-R:** Professor Muriel Robinson (Principal of Bishop Grosseteste) and Professor Roger Bennett (Principal of North Lindsey College).