



  
worldskills  
Kazan 2019  
AUGUST 22 - 27 2019

# WORLDSKILLS KAZAN 2019



  
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**FEWEEK**

FE WEEK REPORTING ON  
WORLDSKILLS 2019 IN  
PARTNERSHIP WITH

 Pearson



# FEWEEK

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## A tribute to the team - from competitors to admin crew



**FRASER WHIELDON**  
Reporter

It has been a long journey for Team UK to get to Kazan and I've been privileged enough to spend some of it with them. They are a truly amazing bunch, the team, drawn from any number of different backgrounds and skillsets, bound by a common purpose of representing their home on the international stage.

And what a job they did! Two gold medals, one silver, one bronze, 15 medallions of excellence. A real tour de force.

Despite the many hours the 37 competitors have poured into honing their skills however, they would not have got this far without their training

managers.

An impressive cast of industry professionals, many of whom are former competitors, the training managers focus their charges' existing skillset towards the competition tests.

Those long hours spent practising and learning though, can have a toll on the team members.

So, it is to the immense credit of WorldSkills UK's team leaders for lifting competitors' moods when it all goes pear-shaped, and maintaining the morale of the team.

But neither they, nor the competitors or the training managers, would have made it to Kazan without the legion of administrative staff at WorldSkills UK organising everything.

So, this supplement is a tribute to everyone who made this great national success story happen.

We start with the road competitors took to Kazan, as well as a piece by WorldSkills UK boss Neil Bentley-Gockmann giving

his take on events.

Then, we introduce you to the competitors and training managers who performed so admirably to make the UK proud.

What follows is our account of the four days of competition, from the progress competitors made on the first day to the end of competing on day four.

For anyone who missed the breath-taking closing ceremony – never fear! We have all the highlights from Russia's fabulous farewell to WorldSkills.

And we have all the medal and medallion results announced on the night of the ceremony, along with pictures of all the UK's winners.

But WorldSkills isn't just about the victories, which is why we have two pages devoted to interviews with the new WorldSkills International president, and his predecessor, and a report of what Team UK got up to when they took in a performance of Hamlet at a Russian school.

I'd like to pass on my huge congratulations to everyone who took part in the WorldSkills 2019 event in Kazan, Russia last month and offer a special mention to Team UK who scooped two golds, one silver, one bronze and 15 medallions of excellence. WorldSkills is held every year with competitors from around the world to demonstrate their excellence in a range of different skilled trades.

As the global hub for skills excellence, WorldSkills has an important role in bringing together young people, education providers, governments, and industry to celebrate the power and importance of vocational education. And research shows there has never been a more important time to promote excellence in skills both in the UK and worldwide.

The workforce of today is shaping up to look very different from the workforce of tomorrow. Technologies such as artificial intelligence and automation are transforming the way we work and live, and the global economy will demand thinkers who can act and work effectively with others, and practitioners who can think as well as practice the hard and soft skills to do a great job. As a knock-on effect,



**CINDY RAMPERSAUD**

Senior Vice President for BTEC and Apprenticeships at Pearson

## WorldSkills 2019 and the future of work and skills

if education can deliver these skills it won't just help individuals; it will also have a positive impact on society in terms of social mobility too.

Here at Pearson, we commissioned the Future of Skills: Employment in 2030 report in 2017 with researchers from Nesta and the Oxford Martin School. The report showed that the importance of skills and a culture of lifelong

continuous learning will be crucial to flourishing in a changing world of work. Many jobs of the future have yet to be invented and it is likely that multiple careers will be the norm. The need to develop skills to help us to flex, adapt and prepare for this 'yet-to-be-imagined' future will be essential.

Employers too have a stake. A recent survey of CBI member companies, also

in partnership with Pearson, found that two in three businesses (68 per cent) expect the need for staff with higher level skills to grow in the years ahead, but more than half of those surveyed feared that they will not be able to access enough workers with the required skills.

The pace of change and technological advancement is accelerating fast, and students around the world will need to be prepared if they are to flourish. They will need a love of learning, as well as great careers advice, support and mentoring. Most of all, they will need a mindset and a skillset to thrive in this brave new world.

Events such as WorldSkills, that showcase such a huge and impressive array of talent from across the globe, prove that if we get skills education right (and based on what we saw in Kazan, it seems we are) there should be nothing to fear.



**Pearson**



# JOURNEY TO KAZAN



**R**eaching Kazan airport in the dead of night on Monday was a massive milestone for many on Team UK, who had spent years training for the competition that lay ahead of them.

WorldSkills is a biennial competition that took place this year from Friday 23 to Monday 26 August in the Russian city of Kazan.

It featured over a thousand competitors from 63 countries taking part in 56 competitions based around trade skills.

Team UK fielded 37 competitors in 32 competitions, chasing gold, silver or bronze medals in such varied disciplines as visual merchandising, restaurant service, and plastering and drywall systems.

The eyes and expectations of their home nations were upon them after the last WorldSkills competition, held in Abu Dhabi in 2017, where the UK came tenth in the total medal points chart.

In 2017, Team UK earned one gold medal, three silver medals, three bronze medals and 13 medallions for excellence.

The gold was won by Kaiya Swain, after she was voted the world's best young beauty therapist.

Those team members who made it to



Team UK in Charles de Gaulle Airport

Kazan had been whittled down from 150 apprentices and learners from all around the country, after heats in March and April.

FE Week visited one of these selection battles, in Nottingham in March, to see the rigour for ourselves.

There, we met the training manager for car painting, Richard Wheeler, who was having to choose between two good candidates for the squad: "Over the period of 18 months, I have been training these guys up in frequent intervals. They will obviously go away, practise, and their skill

set will get better.

"It's going to come down to their interpersonal skills, time management problem-solving and how they deal with pressure."

Once the final team was chosen, the competitors were put through their paces at a boot camp at Loughborough University, where they were trained by a number of professional coaches.

Competitors were taught how to diet, exercise and sleep to get them in prime condition and then each morning in Kazan,

the competitors would have to be up at 6.30 for yoga and stretching.

Their training managers, many of whom are former competitors themselves, helped the competitors get acquainted with what would be expected of them in Kazan.

WorldSkills UK deputy chief executive Ben Blackledge said: "The WorldSkills UK training managers are the unsung heroes behind the success of Team UK.

"With every medal and medallion, we brought home from Russia there is a familiar story of hundreds of hours of world class training developed and delivered by these skilled training managers.

"The knowledge and experience that they bring continues to yield success not just at this year's Skills Olympics but across many years.

"We thank these industry icons."

Before the team set off for Kazan, a special send-off event was held in Parliament where then skills minister Anne Milton told they competitors there were about to face the "biggest challenge" of their lives.

She told Team UK and their families she was "incredibly proud" of them, and that they are now ambassadors not just for their chosen skill but for all young people across the country.

## IT'S BACK TO THE CLASSROOM FOR TEAM UK WITH VISIT TO RUSSIAN SCHOOL

**T**eam UK took in a performance of Hamlet and even enjoyed a sports day on a visit to a Kazan school before competing began at WorldSkills 2019.

A traditional part of the WorldSkills event is when each country's team visits a school in their host country, so Team UK were welcomed to School No 9 in the suburbs of Kazan.

A graduate of the school helping out on the day, Alex, said: "At first, I was very surprised to see someone interested in our school.

"But now I'm very glad people can see how it is to be in our school and experience a piece of our culture."

Inside the school, each country gave a presentation on their homeland – the school pupils on Russia and Kazan and Team UK on England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

And there was a performance by the pupils of scenes from Shakespeare's Hamlet and songs by the Beatles, finishing with a collaborative rendition of With A Little Help From My Friends.

After that, the team was ushered into classrooms to take part in a

science experiment, where they mixed hydrochloric acid with magnesium to see it hiss and bubble.

They also got the chance to paint a wooden model of a tulip, which is the national flower of the state of Tatarstan, where Kazan is located (pictured below).

Beauty therapy competitor Rebecca West said: "It's nice to see a different kind of school and learn about what they do and to see their performances.

"And how good they are at speaking

English!"

But the school was not finished with them yet – there was also a dance from some younger pupils and a mini-sports day.

This involved Team UK taking part in activities like egg and spoon races, seeing who can carry two buckets of water on

a pole the fastest, and a version of Blind Man's Bluff where a blindfolded competitor had to figure out where a bucket was so they could hit it with a stick.

Team UK leader Greg Houghton thanked the school, saying: "It is a great life experience for our competitors to come here and meet some of the students."



Team UK having an egg and spoon race at the school



# GLITTERING OPENING CEREMONY



Team UK at the opening ceremony



The team baking the bread at the opening ceremony



**T**eam UK flew the flag at the dazzling opening ceremony for WorldSkills Kazan 2019.

Competitors from England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland joined a parade of national teams at the opening of the ceremony, and were cheered on by family, friends and team experts.

More than 50,000 people attended the ceremony, which was held at the Kazan Arena the day before the tournament, Thursday 22 August.

People in the UK could watch it live on the internet, or enjoy a special broadcast by WorldSkills UK on SKY 192 and Freesat 161.

The audience were treated to live musical and dance performances, as well as an appearance by Saudi Arabia's Robot Sophia,

the world's only android with citizenship and a passport.

Through a tailor-made app, the attendees could witness the spectacle with augmented reality.

At one point, this featured a giant whale swimming towards the audience before vanishing in a huge gush of water.

Throughout the show, bakers on a portable kitchen travelled around the arena, baking a traditional Russian loaf on a mobile oven and grain mill on a mocked-up tractor.

Three experts and three competitors tasted the bread when it was completed before the end of the show.

At the centre of the arena was a giant, upside-down pyramid, which the acts incorporated into their performances.

Entertainment was provided by various musical acts, such as Yolka, Alexander Panayotov, Yan Ge, and the indie band Therr Maitz, and around 300 dancers.

The pyramid eventually opened up to reveal a pulsing red column, with what looked like circuitry racing up its sides, and dancers waving the flags of all the participating countries.

The competition was officially opened by Russian prime minister Dmitry Medvedev, who said WorldSkills "has grown into a competition for the future, forming a diverse multicultural and international platform where participants can work, compete, and communicate".

This is the first time Russia has hosted a WorldSkills competition, and Medvedev

said his country was "very proud" of it.

After his speech, the WorldSkills flag was raised next to that of the Russian Federation – officially inaugurating the start of the competition.

WorldSkills president Simon Bartley also addressed the audience and said: "What our competitors show is that skills change lives.

"That they can transform societies and economies, and bring prosperity and stability across all the world's continents."



# KICKS OF WORLDSKILLS KAZAN





# MEET TEAM UK

## CONSTRUCTION AND BUILDING TECHNOLOGY

This sector covers all of the skills associated with the construction sector.

Competitors in this field had to do everything involved in a building project from the foundation, grounds, building, finishing and maintaining all sorts of buildings.

For example, the landscape gardeners had to sort out the backyard while the cabinet makers furnished the indoors and

the electrical installers had to fit the complex wiring systems.

And while the plumbing and heating competitors kept occupants warm, the refrigeration and air conditioning team were there for when it needed to be cool.

Thirteen skills featured in this category, and Team UK had a competitor in 12 of them, with the exception being concrete construction work.



Architectural Stonemasonry

Ethan Conlon

**Employer:**  
APS Masonry  
**Provider:**  
Bath College



Training manager

Marc Pate

**Employer:**  
Man of Stone



Bricklaying

Lewis Greenwood

**Employer:**  
PDS construction  
**Provider:**  
York College



Training manager

Michael Burdett

**Employer:**  
York College



Landscape Gardening

Samuel Taylor

**Employer:**  
Garden TLC  
**Provider:**  
Myerscough College



Training manager

Simon Abbott

**Employer:**  
Abbott Landscapes



Cabinet Making

Owen Aldous

**Employer:**  
Callow & Co  
**Provider:**  
Chichester College



Training manager

Christian Notley MBE

**Employer:**  
Chichester College



Landscape Gardening

Shea McFerran

**Employer:**  
Logan Landscape  
**Provider:**  
CAFRE



Carpentry

Jack Goodrum

**Employer:**  
Peter Goodrum Ltd  
**Provider:**  
The College of West Anglia



Training manager

Gareth Evans

**Employer:**  
University of Wales Trinity  
St David - Construction  
Wales Innovation Centre



Painting and Decorating

Callum Bonner

**Employer:**  
Clackmannanshire council  
**Provider:**  
Forth Valley College of  
Further and Higher Education



Training manager

Michael Swan

**Employer:**  
Dundee and Angus College



Electrical Installation

Thomas Lewis

**Employer:**  
Blue Electrical  
**Provider:**  
Cardiff and Vale College



Training manager

Gareth Jones

**Employer:**  
Coleg Gwent



Plastering and Drywall Systems

Curtis Johnson

**Employer:**  
Self-employed  
**Provider:**  
SERC



Training manager

David Kehoe

**Employer:**  
British Gypsum



Joinery

Christopher Caine

**Employer:**  
DH Carpentry & Joinery  
**Provider:**  
Pembrokeshire College



Training manager

Andrew Pengelly

**Employer:**  
Chichester College



Plumbing and Heating

Thomas Thomas

 Thomas has a BTEC in  
Business Studies - Merit  
**Employer:** Aer Cymru  
**Provider:** Coleg Meirion-Dwyfor



Training manager

Ronald Ferris

**Employer:**  
n/a

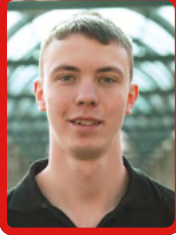




**Refrigeration**  
Orlando Rawlings  
**Employer:** Daikin UK  
**Provider:** Grimsby Institute of Further Education and Higher Education



**Training manager**  
Mark Forsyth  
**Employer:** Coriolis International Ltd



**Wall and Floor Tiling**  
Mark Scott  
**Employer:** J McGoldrick & Sons Ltd  
**Provider:** City of Glasgow College



**Training manager**  
Paul Doran  
**Employer:** Southern Regional College

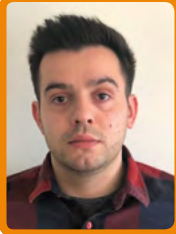


## INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

The information and communication technology sector encompasses everything from network creation and maintenance, to development and finishing information

technologies.

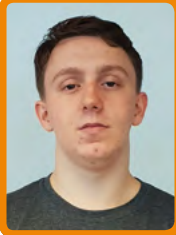
Five skills feature in this category including cloud computing and cyber security, which were the only ones contested by Team UK this year.



**Cloud Computing**  
Eduard Adam  
**Employer:** n/a  
**Provider:** Bradford College



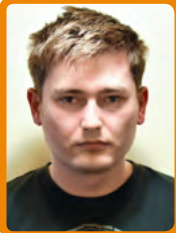
**Training manager**  
Wei Jie  
**Employer:** University of West London



**Cyber Security (team competition)**  
Kyle Woodward  
 Kyle has a BTEC in IT (Networking and systems support)  
**Provider:** Cardiff and Vale College



**Training manager**  
Kamadchisundaram Sureshkumar  
**Employer:** NESCOL



**Cyber Security (team competition)**  
Adrian Cybulski  
**Employer:** n/a  
**Provider:** Glasgow Clyde College

Floristry competitor Elizabeth Newcombe



## CREATIVE ARTS AND FASHION

Fine arts and fashionable design and creation are all included in this sector, which has six skills.

It covers everything from multimedia creative, interior decoration and fashion.

Team UK entered competitors in more than half of the areas. The categories not entered are fashion technology, and graphic design technology.

One category entered by the team this time around, unlike 2017, was floristry, with Elizabeth Newcombe.

The UK has, in the past, done well in this section – winning silver in visual merchandising in 2017.

Elizabeth had previously secured a medallion for excellence at EuroSkills 2018, before her WorldSkills debut this year.



**3D Digital Game Art**  
Patrick Buckley  
**Employer:** n/a  
**Provider:** West Cheshire College



**Training manager**  
Mike Spence  
**Employer:** Arcademic Ltd



**Floristry**  
Elizabeth Newcombe  
**Employer:** Self-employed  
**Provider:** Guildford College



**Training manager**  
Jane Benefield  
**Employer:** Moreton Morrell College



**Visual Merchandising**  
Konnar Doyle  
**Employer:** n/a  
**Provider:** City of Glasgow College



**Visual Merchandising**  
Julianne Lavery  
**Employer:** University of Westminster



Visual merchandising competitor Konnar Doyle



# MEET TEAM UK



The biggest of all the sectors, manufacturing and engineering technology covers 15 skilled areas that are related to industrial development and creation.

Team UK entered in six categories: CNC milling, CNC turning, construction metal work, electronics, manufacturing team challenge, mechanical engineering CAD, and mechatronics.

The areas it did not enter were: industrial control, industrial mechanic millwright,

mobile robotics, plastic die engineering, polymechanics and automation, prototype modelling, water technology and welding.

Team UK won a bronze medal in mechatronics and mechanical engineering CAD at EuroSkills 2018, and our competitors for both of those disciplines returned for WorldSkills 2019.

A medallion for excellence was also awarded to UK welder Scott Kerr at that competition.



Manufacturing Team Challenge  
Andrew Joyce  
**Employer:** Carnaud metalbox  
**Provider:** Stegta



Manufacturing Team Challenge  
Isaac Khan  
**Employer:** Carnaud metalbox  
**Provider:** Stegta



Manufacturing Team Challenge  
James Thomason  
**Employer:** Carnaud metalbox  
**Provider:** Stegta



Training manager  
Daytun Unitt  
**Employer:** Coleg Cambria



Chemical laboratory technician  
Tonicha Jade Roberts  
 Tonicha has a BTEC Level 3 in Applied Science (Forensic Science)  
**Employer:** Eurofins Forensic Services



Training manager  
Dr Dirk Wildeboer  
**Employer:** Middlesex University



Mechanical Engineering: CAD  
Ross Megahy  
**Employer:** University of Strathclyde  
**Provider:** New College Lanarkshire and University of Strathclyde



Training manager  
Barry Skea  
**Employer:** New College Lanarkshire



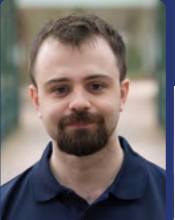
CNC Milling  
Elliott Dawson  
**Employer:** Fort Vale  
**Provider:** Training 2000 Limited



Training manager  
Mike Watson  
**Employer:** GKN Aerospace



Mechatronics  
Jack Dakin  
**Employer:** Toyota Manufacturing UK  
**Provider:** Toyota Manufacturing UK



Training manager  
Calum Knott  
**Employer:** Festo Didactic



CNC Turning  
Jack McCarthy  
 Jack has a BTEC Level 2 & 3 in mechanical engineering  
**Provider:** DMG MORI UK



Training manager  
Adam Youens  
**Employer:** Coleg Cambria



Mechatronics  
Danny Slater  
**Employer:** Toyota Manufacturing UK  
**Provider:** Toyota Manufacturing UK



Construction Metal Work  
Tyler Atkinson  
**Employer:** WEC Group LTD  
**Provider:** Burnley College



Training manager  
Andy Whitehouse  
**Employer:** Dudley College of Technology



Electronics  
Thomas Andrews  
**Employer:** Sonardyne Int Ltd  
**Provider:** Alton College



Training manager  
Steven Williams  
**Employer:** Gower College Swansea





Hairdressing competitor Phoebe McLavy



## SOCIAL AND PERSONAL SERVICES

Skills covered in this category are related to the service industry.

An incredibly varied area and one that's probably the tastiest, was social and personal services. This included competitions in the food and beverage industry, such as the restaurant service, bakery, cookery and patisserie tournaments.

And it also covered those in hospitality and

personal care, such as beauty therapy, hotel reception, hairdressing, as well as health and social care.

Team UK had competitors in all categories except bakery and health and social care.

The UK has traditionally done well in this area, scoring gold medals in beauty therapy at WorldSkills 2017 and EuroSkills 2018, and bronze in hairdressing at EuroSkills.



Beauty Therapy  
Rebecca West

**Employer:**  
Donagheys Garage  
**Provider:**  
North West Regional College



Training manager  
Jenna Wrathall Bailey MBE

**Employer:**  
Jenna Wrathall Bailey Training



Cooking  
Sam Everton

**Employer:**  
Crwst Council  
**Provider:**  
Pembrokeshire College



Training manager  
Sean Owens

**Employer:**  
SO Consultancy



Hairdressing  
Phoebe McLavy

**Employer:**  
Morgan Edward Salon  
**Provider:**  
Coleg Sir Gar



Training manager  
Linzi Weare

**Employer:**  
Reds Hair Company



Restaurant Services  
Collette Gorvett

**Employer:**  
n/a  
**Provider:**  
Gower College Swansea



Training manager  
Dr Shyam Patiar MBE

**Employer:**  
n/a

## TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS



Car painting competitor Conor McKeivitt

Six skills from the transportation world are covered in this sector, which includes creating, repairing and maintaining transportation vehicles.

Transportation in these competitions could mean anything, from repainting a small family hatchback to repairing a helicopter so that it's fit to take to the skies.

Team UK had a competitor in three of the

skills, but didn't enter anyone for automobile technology, freight forwarding, heavy vehicle maintenance or autobody repair.

Autobody repair was a success story of the UK at WorldSkills 2017, where competitor Andrew Gault picked up a bronze medal.

But the team surpassed itself in car painting, with Daryl Head earning a silver medal.



Aircraft Maintenance  
Haydn Jakes

**Pearson BTEC** Haydn has BTEC Qualifications in Level 2 Public Services, Level 2 Aviation Studies, Level 3 Engineering and Level 3 Aeronautical Engineering  
**Employer:** Marshall Aerospace and Defence Group  
**Provider:** Nottingham University



Training manager  
Martin Yates

**Employer:**  
n/a



Automobile technology  
Declan Porter

**Employer:**  
Donagheys Garage  
**Provider:**  
North West Regional College



Training manager  
Barry McDaid

**Employer:**  
North West Regional College



Car Painting  
Conor McKeivitt

**Employer:**  
Wrights Accident Repair Centre  
**Provider:**  
Riverpark Training



Training manager  
Richard Wheeler

**Employer:**  
Coleg Gwent



# DAY ONE – TEAM UK GET IN THE GROOVE

**T**eam UK made a good start on the road to medal success, when hairdressing and cabinet making both made strong progress after the end of the first day of the four-day WorldSkills 2019 competition.

Speaking to FE Week, hairdresser Phoebe McLavy said the day went “really, really well”.

“I am really pleased with the tests I have done, so I am feeling very confident, very excited and ready for tomorrow”.

FE Week first interviewed Phoebe at her training salon, Reds Hair Company in Gloucestershire, amidst an 85-day preparation course for the tournament, where she was competing against over 30 others.

The course also involved taking part in competitions in Thailand and Canada, and practising various cuts, including a wet shave and bridal hair.

On day one of the competition she had to do a men’s cut and dye the hair of a mannequin, as well as cut and colour female hair in a ‘fashionable style’.

“I had not practised the

styles much, but a little bit of each style, so I just incorporated them into the plan,” Phoebe said.

Watching Phoebe on her first day was her tutor from Coleg Sir Gar, Adrienne Chick, who had spoken to Phoebe the night before and described her as being in “good spirits”.

“She has worked hard for this and I think Phoebe is someone who takes things in her stride, one day at a time.”

Adrienne added that: “As long as she enjoys it and does her best, that’s all that matters.”

With Adrienne was Nicola Grant-Rees from Gell College, who tutored restaurant service competitor Collette Gorvette.

She said Collette had been on “a fantastic journey”.

“She’s totally committed for this and even put her career on hold for it.”

Team UK’s cabinet maker Owen Aldous competed on day one against roughly 30 other people.

While under the watchful eyes of his



Manufacturing team challenge competitor James Thomason

bosses from interiors and joinery company Callow and Co, George Callow and Luke Griffiths, both of whom are former WorldSkills competitors.

Ex-cabinet making hopefuls Luke, who competed at WorldSkills 2009 in Calgary, and George, who won gold at WorldSkills 2013 in Leipzig, said their employee had “matured very quickly” after joining WorldSkills UK, and it was a “great experience for him”.

Although he did not spot them while he was competing, Owen, who like his two employers, is from Chichester College, said: “It was really nice for them to be here, as we had a good chat about techniques.”

Besides that, Owen believed the day went “quite well,” and was only let down by a couple of mistakes.

He was tasked with making a side table with two doors and a drawer in the bottom, and he cut a groove in the wrong place so it would be showing; and he cut something

“She’s totally committed for this and even put her career on hold for it”

too short, so he will have to make it longer.

He was due to face a speed test as well, but the day’s competing in cabinet making was cut short when the afternoon sun streaming in through the windows of the hall they were competing in meant some participants could not see what they were doing.

Regardless, Owen said he was still confident going into the second day: “It should be OK by the end and it’s too late to get annoyed by it.”

Cabinet making competitor Owen Aldous





## DAY TWO – DINING OUT ON WORLD-CLASS SKILLS

*FE Week reporter Fraser Whieldon sampled the high life by taking part in the restaurant service competition at WorldSkills 2019 in Kazan.*

For someone whose idea of fine dining is eating pasta at the kitchen table, rather than in bed in front of the telly, I was a little sceptical of it and wondered whether I would enjoy all the pomp and ceremony.

Nevertheless, I kept my reservation at the restaurant service competition area for 11am, from when I would be served a four-course meal.

My apprehension was not lessened when, on approach, I saw the competitors crafting elaborate shapes out of napkins – what's the point of that, I wondered. They would be unravelled as soon as we sat down!

My reason for this brief foray into the high life was that fine dining is one of the areas of the WorldSkills restaurant service competition, which also includes coffee, bar service and casual dining.

Team UK was represented in the restaurant service competition by Collette Gorvette of Gell College.

However, competition rules forbade us from being served by a competitor from our home country – so having arrived at the fine dining area, myself and three other diners were escorted to our table by our server, French competitor Louis Cozette.

He first brought us bread and served some water, along with a shot of vodka (it was Russia after all!) and then the Gewürztraminer wine for our salmon and caviar aperitif, which was served on a teaspoon.

That was followed by a shrimp cocktail for a first course; a Russian okroshka soup consisting of raw vegetables, boiled potatoes, eggs, and cooked meat for second course; a beef stroganoff with a glass of cabernet sauvignon for third; and a cheese board paired with a ruby port for the fourth and final course.

All of the meals, by the way, were



Restaurant service competitor Collette Gorvette



Fraser Whieldon (far right) pictured at the fine dining

prepared by Louis next to the table – and were to die for. As was the booze – I squirrelled away a note of the Gewürztraminer's brand for the purposes of good journalism and to see if I could pick up a bottle after I flew home...

And it was my immense disappointment as a Team UK supporter to find... that Louis was very good.

Attentive, helpful and informative, he kept everyone's glass topped up, he answered my question about why he twice distilled the Cabernet Sauvignon (it's basically to artificially age the wine), and did not wait until my mouth was full of food to ask if I was enjoying my meal.

However, it wasn't me he needed to impress, it was the experts, who were checking every detail.

They even tested the temperature of the plates Louis was serving the food on, and corrected him when he tried to serve us a selection of cheeses rather than the full board.

Whilst I doubt that I'm going to be giving up my own approach to fine dining, I am much closer to becoming a convert to Louis' way than I was before.

Yes, there is a lot of pomp and ceremony and yes, I had to keep telling myself not to put my elbows on the table, but it is a great experience – and free as well!



The shrimp cocktail course



# DAY 3 - THOMAS FLUSH WITH SUCCESS AS HE STEAMS PAST THE FINISH LINE



The day before the WorldSkills 2019 competition ended, Team UK's plumbing and heating competitor Thomas Thomas soldered his last joint and bent his last pipe in the final test of his discipline.

On his third and final day, the Coleg Meirion-Dwyfor learner had to finish constructing a toilet room and a speed test.

As he finished, a throng of Team UK supporters gathered by his work station and burst into applause.

After Thomas came to greet them, roaring in delight and draped in a Union flag, he told FE Week: "I can't believe I actually managed to finish.

"The first two days could have gone better. I was second-guessing myself and did not feel as confident as I should have

been.

"Then I thought I had to go for it and get it done. I really pulled it together and managed to get it all finished."

Thomas was keen to thank everyone that has helped him, including his college Coleg Meirion-Dwyfor, his training manager Ronald Ferris, and WorldSkills UK.

He was not the only one to finish on day three, however; also crossing the line was CNC turning competitor Jack McCarthy who, like Thomas, received a rapturous reception from a crowd of UK supporters.

Beforehand though, FE Week had another go at the restaurant service competition – this time: bar service and casual dining.

Along with fine dining and coffee, these are two other tests of the competitors'

skills. Irish competitor Ruairi Grealish was the competitor whose bar service skills were tested on our group.

He had to prepare cocktails for our party: a Singapore sling, a vodka martini and a screwdriver.

I do not know if they get marked on their panache in this test, but if so, Ruairi would receive good marks: he had good patter with us, had plenty of the party tricks like catching the ice in a glass to entertain with, and spoke knowledgeably about the drinks he was preparing.

And I'm sure they tasted great too. Unfortunately, we were only allowed a sip before being rushed off to take part in casual dining.

This test is much like fine dining, except

it's a table of two and consists of only two courses.

Myself and my dining partner both had salmon with baby potatoes, cherry tomatoes and creamy sauce with caviar for our main course; and cheesecake for dessert.

It was served to us by French competitor Louis Cozette... hold on a second.

Yes, the same guy who served us at fine dining also served me at casual dining – what are the chances!

The meal itself was of as good a quality as the fine dining food was, and the setting was much more my speed than the fine dining.

## TEAM UK HELPS BUILD TOILET ROOMS FOR RUSSIAN ORPHANS

Team UK plumbing and heating competitor Thomas Thomas joined with former WorldSkills rivals to build three toilet rooms for a Russian orphanage.

Following three days of competition, the plumbing and heating competitors worked as a team with their training managers to

help build the facilities for Derbyshkinskiy Orphanage in Kazan.

Thomas told FE Week he was "happy to be involved," adding: "It sounds like a really good thing they are doing."

Open since 1976, the orphanage cares for 179 special needs children and teenagers between the ages of four and 23.

Residents are provided with social adaptation help, education, medical care and work experience by the 171 staff who work there.

Outgoing WorldSkills International president Simon Bartley said: "We are so pleased competitors from so many nations have come together to improve the plumbing and fresh water systems of a local orphanage.

"This project brings together young people from across the globe to use their skills for the good of others in the host community.

"It's a real example of how skills changes lives."

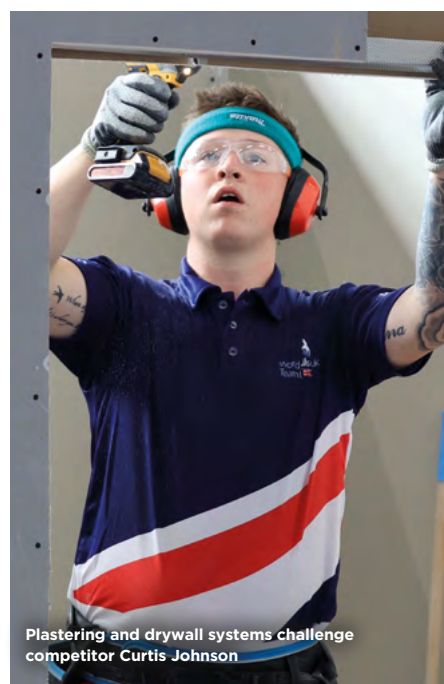
After the toilet rooms were built on the Monday of the tournament, they were installed between Wednesday 28 August and Saturday 31 August.



Thomas Thomas and his training manager Ronald Ferris



Manufacturing team challenge competitor Isaac Khan



Plastering and drywall systems challenge competitor Curtis Johnson



Architectural stonemasonry competitor Ethan Conlon



# DAY 4 - TEAM UK RALLY AS THEY CROSS THE FINISHING LINE

**T**eam UK finished WorldSkills 2019 with thunderous applause and deafening cheers from a caravan of supporters.

A crowd of fellow competitors, team leaders, family members, friends and WorldSkills UK leaders cheered and clapped as each of the 35 competitors finished on the final day.

Floristry competitor Elizabeth Newcombe, who finished shortly after 3pm, said she was “overwhelmed” by the support, while Rebecca West thanked her supporters in an emotional interview straight after she had finished her beauty therapy competition earlier in the day.

“I’m feeling very overwhelmed, but happy with my performance today,” she said. “I want to say thank you to all of my training team – especially my training manager Jenna – and all of my supporters at home.”

As numerous competitions were finishing on the fourth day, many of which at the same time, supporters communicated via a number of WhatsApp group chats to ensure there was a good crowd to cheer on each competitor as they finished.

This roving group bounced around the competition halls, armed with Union flags, horns and chants.

Hairdresser Phoebe McLavy was among the first to finish on the final day, and felt her tests went “really, really well” and she was pleased with what she had done after finishing her task on time.

There was a big reception for joinery



Chemical laboratory technology competitor Tonicha Roberts

competitor Chris Caine, who said he was “happy overall” with the way he had finished his piece, which he had completed over four days - less time than it would take in his day job.

Chemical laboratory technician Tonicha Roberts was surrounded by supporters and flags when she said her competition had been a “rollercoaster”.

According to Tonicha, the first day had been “horrific”; the second “amazing”; and the third had been “horrific” again.

Jack Goodrum said he was “over the moon” after he finished his carpentry competition and “couldn’t be happier” he managed to get to compete at WorldSkills.

“Feeling positive” about the result of his labours was refrigeration and air conditioning competitor Orlando Rawlings, after he “cracked on” and “managed to get a lot done” on the final day.

Eduard Adam found his cloud computing competition “very challenging”, but he had “definitely” learned some skills that would

help him in his future career – calling WorldSkills a “life experience”.

Painting and decorating competitor Callum Bonner took time out after he finished his tests to tell FE Week how one of his pieces, a mural of a man up a ladder painting the Russian flag had been inspired by Banksy.

Asked which of the pieces he was most proud of, he said “all of them, to be honest. I think I’ve done well with everything.”

It was a long day for the supporters, who were joined throughout the day by a growing band of competitors after they had finished, with the competitions running until just before 7pm.

This marked the unofficial end of the competition, but the official closing ceremony, where medals would be presented to those chosen few who had risen above the other competitors, was yet to take place.



Automobile technology competitor Declan Porter



Mechatronics competitors Jack Dakin and Danny Slater



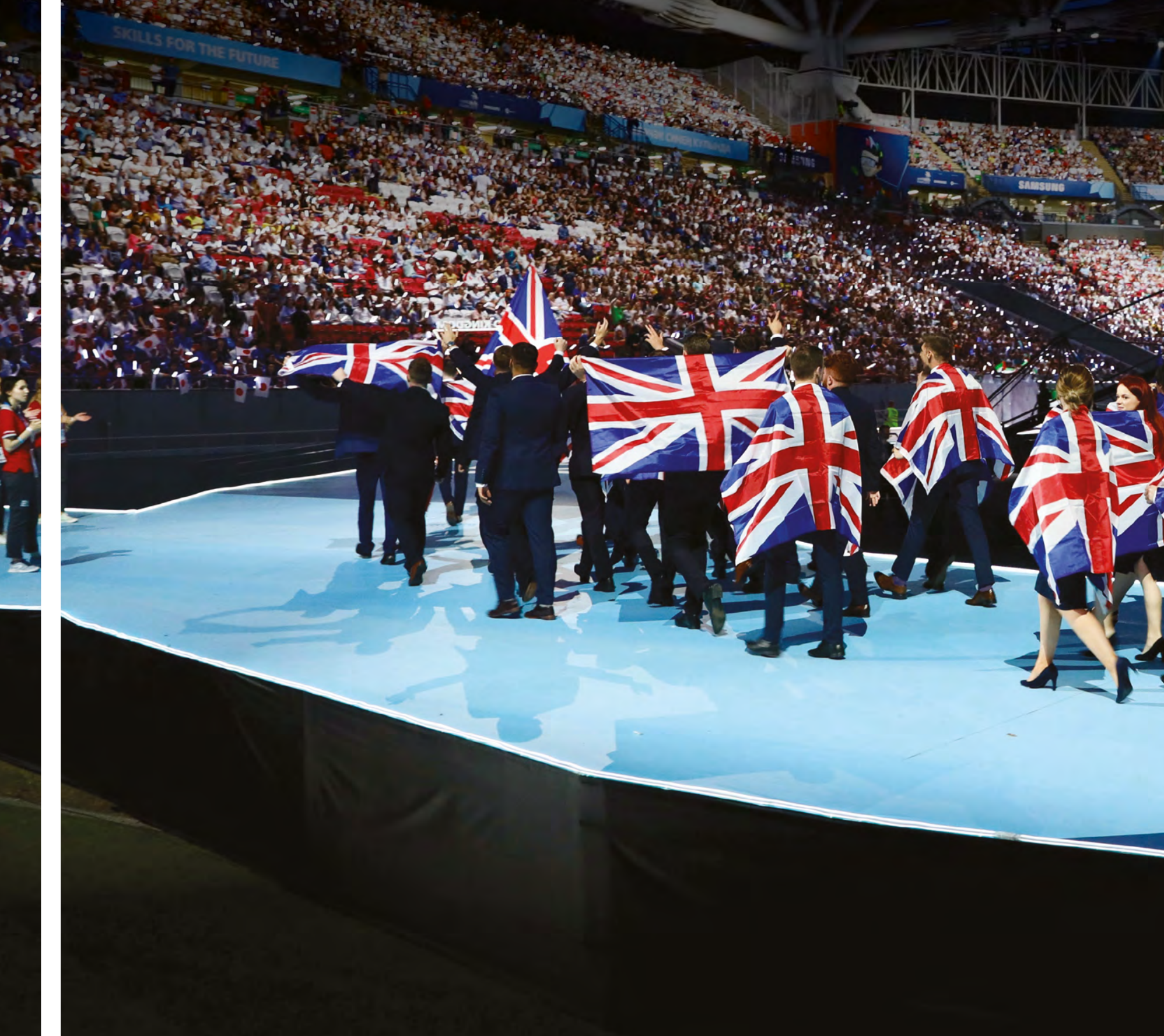
Electronics competitor Thomas Andrews with training manager Steven Williams



Carpentry competitor Jack Goodrum and training manager Gareth Evans



# CONGRATULATIONS AT WORLDSKILLS KAN





# TO #TEAMUK KAZAN 2019!

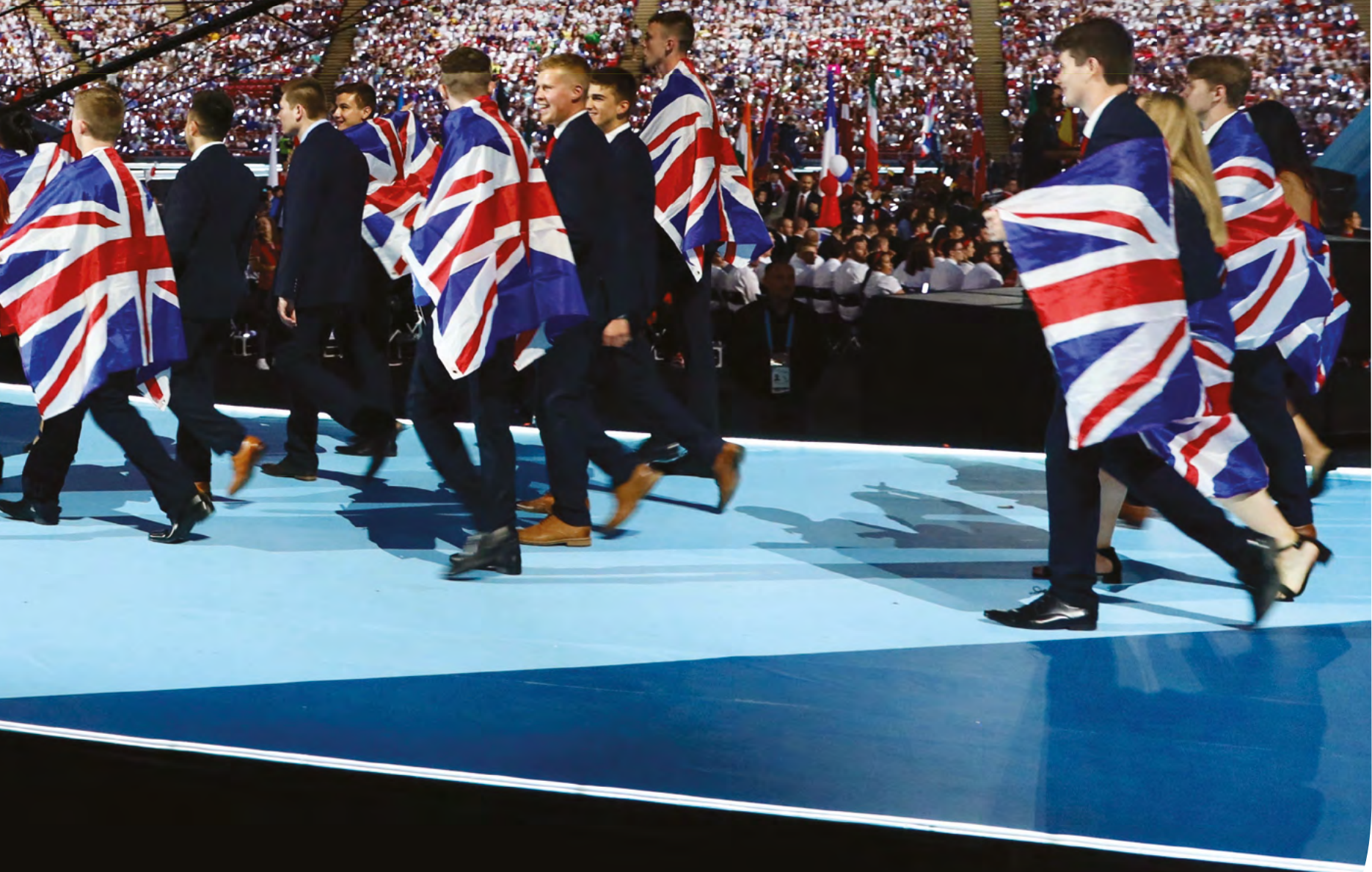
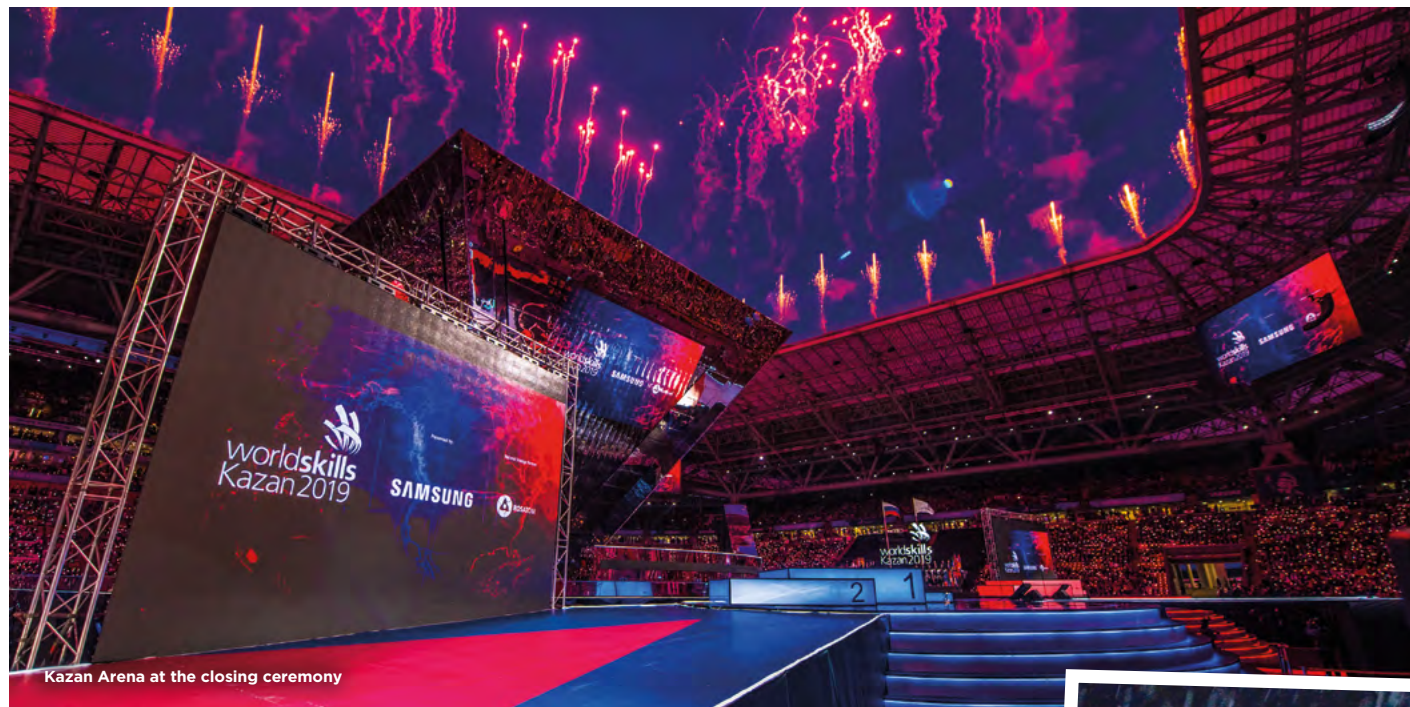


Image credit: WorldSkills UK

Partner with WorldSkills UK



# WORLDSKILLS COMES TO A CLOSE



**T**eam UK celebrated a brilliant night of medal victories including two golds, one silver, one bronze and 15 medallions of excellence, at the closing ceremony to WorldSkills 2019.

Centre to the ceremony was the medal presentations, where the best competitors in each of the 56 WorldSkills competitions were presented with medals based on whether they came in first, second or third place.

Those who picked up medallions of excellence did so because they achieved the international standard in their chosen skill.

Proceedings at the ceremony took a turn, however, when the heavens opened and competitors, VIP guests awarding the medals and the event presenters were drenched by the rain.

This did nothing to dampen the celebrations of Team UK medal winners, with a picture of aircraft maintenance gold medal winner Haydn Jakes' half-shocked, half-ecstatic celebration making many newspapers over the next few days.

He told FE Week after the ceremony: "I'm feeling really excited about what is going to happen next.

"I wasn't really expecting a gold medal. So, for that to actually happen was a really pleasant surprise."

The other UK gold medal winner on the night was Rebecca West for beauty therapy, and she told FE Week she felt "really, really amazing and so proud".

Picking up a silver medal for car painting, as well as the best of nation for getting the highest score of any UK competitor, was Conor McKevitt, who said he was

"absolutely buzzing".

"Just makes you feel all of the hard work has all paid off. A massive thank you to everyone who was a part of my training and all my support team. A big thank you to everyone who has helped me out."

"Amazing" was how bronze medal winner for hairdressing, the UK's Phoebe McLavy, described her own feelings.

The ceremony was an incredible way to close out the event in host city Kazan, which also included a special appearance from one of the world's most powerful leaders.

The audience of 50,000 in the stadium were addressed by Russia's president Vladimir Putin, who offered his wholehearted congratulations to the competitors, adding: "Our common responsibility is to preserve and use

WorldSkills 2019's legacy for the benefit of citizens of all our countries so that each person, regardless of his or her age and health status, could realise their potential, choose their own path of training and development, and acquire highly needed skills throughout their lifetime.

WorldSkills International president Simon Bartley addressed the competitors at this, his last competition as the international president, saying: "You came here as the best of the best and leave even better.

"You are WorldSkills ambassadors and I ask you to use every opportunity to spread the message that 'skills change lives'."

At the end of the medal ceremony, the WorldSkills flag was handed over by the Russian hosts to China, marking the start of the run-up to WorldSkills 2021 in Shanghai.



# WITH GLORIOUS MEDAL CEREMONY



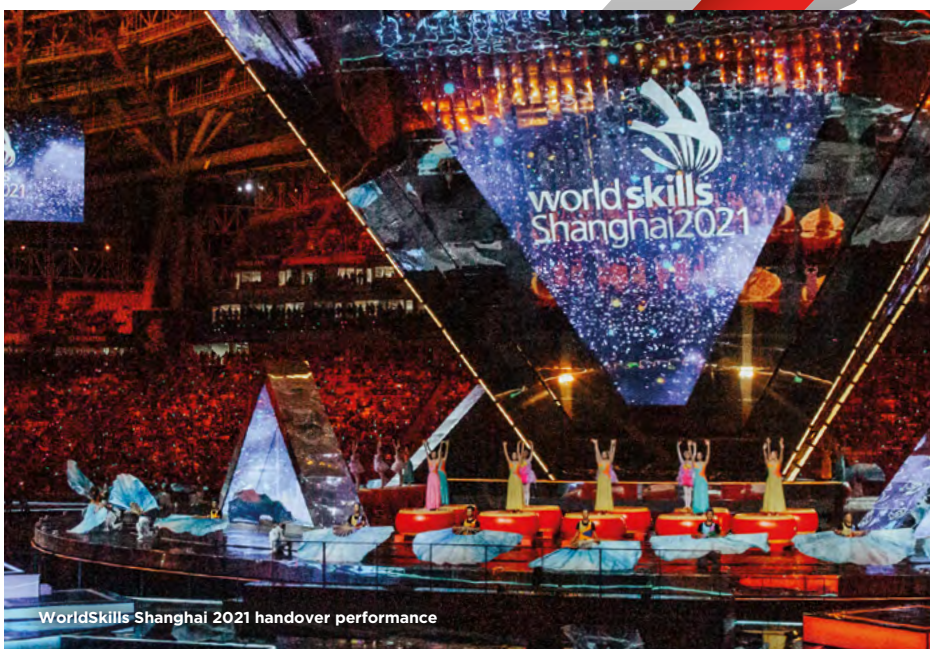
Russian president Vladimir Putin



Construction metal work competitor Tyler Atkinson



Beauty therapy gold medal winner Rebecca West



WorldSkills Shanghai 2021 handover performance



# TEAM UK - THE RESULTS

**W**inning a medal at WorldSkills is the driving force of every Team UK.

Whether it be a gold, silver or bronze one, or a medallion for excellence showing they have reached an international standard in their trade, it is what all 37 of them will have been working towards over the past days, months and years.

The three medals were presented to the winning competitors at a ceremony at the Kazan Arena that was broadcast to an international audience via TV and the internet.

Competitors took to the podiums at the centre of the arena to be given their medals, and were cheered by the thousands of people sat in the stadium.

The medallions were presented at a separate gathering of WorldSkills UK in the city of Kazan, during a reception to celebrate all of the team members.

At the reception, team leader Greg Houghton said: "The whole team is a

fantastic bunch and we could not have asked for much more of you from this cycle.

"Working with you for the past 18 months, we've seen some massive development; we've seen some real lows – and we've seen some absolutely amazing highs.

"Some of you are leaving with medals, some of you with medallions. Some of you might not leave with something in your hand.

"But you've all got the experience you've been through, you've all got the memories you've made. You've got the people sat around you.

"All of those, every past competitor will tell you, will mean far more than anything you can hang around your neck."

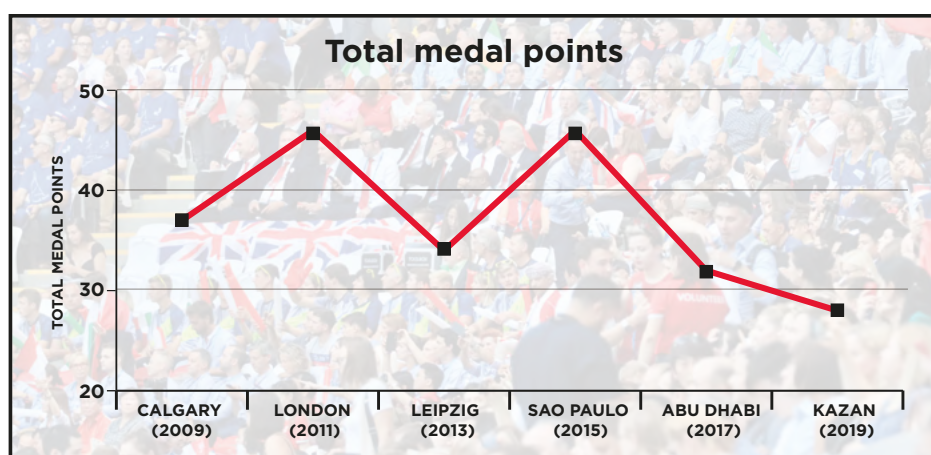
Well done to every single member of Team UK for getting to Kazan and thank you for representing us – here are the medal and medallion winners.







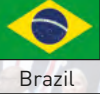


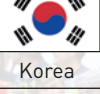








## WORLDSKILLS UK BOSS: NO QUICK FIX FOR MEDAL POSITION

**T**here is no quick fix to improve Team UK's medal position at WorldSkills, says WorldSkills UK chief executive

Neil Bentley-Gockmann.

Speaking to FE Week in Kazan, Bentley-Gockmann had said during



Competition	First place	Second place	Third place	UK
Kazan (2019)	 China	 Russia	 Korea	12th
Abu Dhabi (2017)	 China	 Korea	 Switzerland	10th
Sao Paulo (2015)	 Brazil	 Korea	 Chinese Taipei	7th
Leipzig (2013)	 Korea	 Switzerland	 Chinese Taipei	10th
London (2011)	 Korea	 Japan	 Switzerland	5th
Calgary (2009)	 Korea	 Switzerland	 Japan	6th

the competition that he hoped Team UK would finish in the top ten of participating countries – as they have done for the past ten years of competitions.

In the end, the team brought home a haul of medals and medallions, but did not break into the top ten for medal points; instead falling to twelfth place.

"We did not hit the mark," Bentley-Gockmann admitted to FE Week after the tournament, "but what I saw in Kazan is countries are investing more and bigger countries are taking huge teams".

China, which entered 29 competitions in Sao Paulo in 2015, entered 56 in Kazan; while host nation Russia, having entered 30 in 2015, this year also entered 56.

The bigger entrants, Bentley-Gockmann found, had long-term funding from their governments and had invested in training up their training managers.

Whereas, the WorldSkills UK chief was unable to say how many people they could afford to send to WorldSkills 2021,

despite it being only a matter of months before the national finals at WorldSkills LIVE, where competitors will start to be picked out.

Meanwhile Germany, whose success Bentley-Gockmann has measured the UK against over recent years, beat the UK in the medal points table for the first time since WorldSkills Leipzig in 2013.

Asked about this, he said Germany's government had ordered a review after Sao Paulo, but he was "not sure" what they had done to improve.

"I do not think there is more we can do right now. With regards to the preparation the training managers put on for Team UK, we could not have asked for more.

"There is no easy, immediate solution. No quick fix."

He said that winning two golds, one more than the final tally won at the 2017 Abu Dhabi competition, felt "absolutely fantastic" and the "whole of Team UK has delivered for us".

## MEDAL POINT COUNT

United Kingdom	Total medal points	Position	No. of competitors	Gold	Silver	Bronze	MfEs
Kazan (2019)	28	12	32	2	1	1	15
Abu Dhabi (2017)	32	10	30	1	3	3	13
Sao Paulo (2015)	46	7	36	3	3	2	21
Leipzig (2013)	34	10	29	2	1	3	17
London (2011)	46	5	36	4	2	6	12
Calgary (2009)	37	6	25	3	0	6	13

Germany's position	No. of countries competing
11	63
14	59
8	59
8	53
12	51
12	47

Medal point count: Gold = 4, Silver = 3, Bronze = 2, Medallion For Excellence = 1  
 (Number of competitors=skills entered by the Member. Concurrent skills competitions run for the home nation are excluded from all the calculations.) (Number of competitors=skills entered by the Member. HM Skills are excluded from all the calculations.) All data sourced from the WorldSkills website.





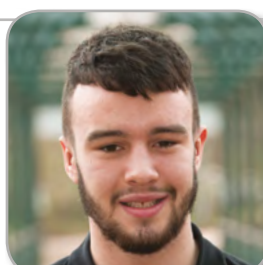
### Aircraft Maintenance Haydn Jakes

**Employer:**  
Marshall Aerospace and  
Defence Group  
**Provider:**  
Nottingham University



### Beauty Therapy Rebecca West

**Employer:**  
Donagheys Garage  
**Provider:**  
North West Regional  
College



### Car Painting Conor McKevitt

**Employer:**  
Wrights Accident Repair  
Centre  
**Provider:**  
Riverpark Training



### Hairdressing Phoebe McLavy

**Employer:**  
Morgan Edward Salon  
**Provider:**  
Coleg Sir Gar

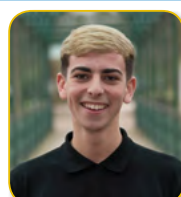


# Medallions of excellence recipients



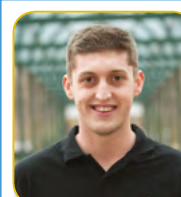
### Electronics Thomas Andrews

**Employer:**  
Sonardyne Int Ltd  
**Provider:**  
Alton College



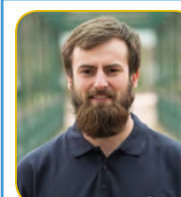
### Painting and Decorating Callum Bonner

**Employer:**  
Clackmannanshire council  
**Provider:**  
Forth Valley College of Further  
and Higher Education



### Joinery Christopher Caine

**Employer:**  
DH Carpentry & Joinery  
**Provider:**  
Pembrokeshire College



### Mechatronics Jack Dakin

**Employer:**  
Toyota Manufacturing UK  
**Provider:**  
Toyota Manufacturing UK



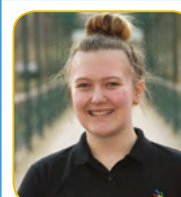
### Mechatronics Danny Slater

**Employer:**  
Toyota Manufacturing UK  
**Provider:**  
Toyota Manufacturing UK



### Cooking Sam Everton

**Employer:**  
Crwst Council  
**Provider:**  
Pembrokeshire College



### Restaurant Services Collette Gorvett

**Employer:**  
n/a  
**Provider:**  
Gower College Swansea



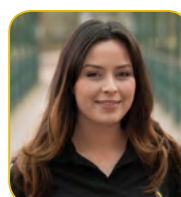
### Bricklaying Lewis Greenwood

**Employer:**  
PDS construction  
**Provider:**  
York College



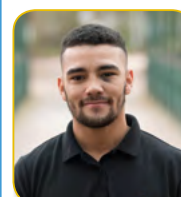
### Electrical Installation Thomas Lewis

**Employer:**  
Blue Electrical  
**Provider:**  
Cardiff and Vale College



### Floristry Elizabeth Newcombe

**Employer:**  
Self-employed  
**Provider:**  
Guildford College



### Refrigeration Orlando Rawlings

**Employer:**  
Daikin UK  
**Provider:**  
Grimsby Institute of Further  
Education and Higher Education



### Chemical laboratory technology Tonicha Jade Roberts

**Employer:**  
Eurofins Forensic Services  
**Provider:**  
n/a



### Wall and Floor Tiling Mark Scott

**Employer:**  
J McGoldrick & Sons Ltd  
**Provider:**  
City of Glasgow College



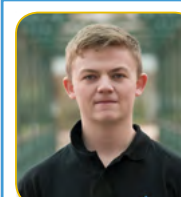
### Landscape Gardening Samuel Taylor

**Employer:**  
Aer Cymru  
**Provider:**  
Coleg Meirion-Dwyfor



### Landscape Gardening Shea McFerran

**Employer:**  
Logan Landscape  
**Provider:**  
CAFRE



### Plumbing and Heating Thomas Thomas

**Employer:**  
Aer Cymru  
**Provider:**  
Coleg Meirion-Dwyfor



# WHAT HAPPENS NEXT FOR

# WORLDSKILLS' DESTINY WITH NEW GUY DE GOEY

**T**he new WorldSkills International president wants to support new member countries in developing a competition infrastructure and spread the benefits of implementing skills competitions in national curriculums.

The Dutch 56-year-old spoke with FE Week a week after taking the reins of the international organisation, about how he wants to share best practice with countries that are new to the fraternity.

“The UK, the Netherlands, Korea, Russia – those are all strong WS members, but there are a few countries where it is not developed as such and with the knowledge we have from countries who brought it to the next level, we should be able to help them and make them stronger.

“One of the big objectives in that is that we want to have Africa more involved in skills competitions.”

Namibia, one of eight African members, was announced as the next host of WorldSkills Africa at Kazan, and de Goey believes this will be an opportunity to get other African countries involved in the organisation.

Skills competitions were what de Goey used to turn around Netherlands' own WorldSkills organisation in the early 2000s.

After having started as an expert in manufacturing team challenge to encourage other nations to take part, he took a role at WorldSkills Netherlands in 2001.

Beforehand, the Netherlands focused only on participating in WorldSkills competitions and did not do any other activities or competitions.

But de Goey helped them spread their wings, and embed skills competitions in the country's national curriculum – now, 95 per cent of schools there are involved in such tournaments.

They appear to be something of a must with de Goey, who said: “I think there are still countries who can benefit from skills competitions.”

He says he has found it “challenging” taking over the new role from his “good friend” Simon Bartley.

Although he had been president of WorldSkills Europe before, this is a different scale, he says – with 82 member nations meaning more diverse challenges to manage.

But, he warned: “The real work still has to start.”



WorldSkills International president Jos de Goey

## WorldSkills UK looks to the future after Kazan

**W**orldSkills 2019 may have only finished in August, but Team UK is already setting its sights on future competitions...

It has been revealed WorldSkills UK

is looking at three new competitions for Team UK to partake in at the next global competition, Shanghai in 2021.

An advert to recruit new training managers lists positions overseeing

five new skills; including industry 4.0, industrial robotics, and building information management.

A notice underneath these skills says these are the skills that WSUK are currently scoping, but stressed “there is no commitment for a UK entry in this skill in WorldSkills Shanghai 2021”.

A WorldSkills UK spokesperson said: “In line with the industrial strategy we are developing our portfolio of skills competitions to reflect economies which are essential for UK productivity and growth.

“By demonstrating these skills on an international stage will showcase the breath of talent across the UK manufacturing and engineering industries.

“In order to progress with our plans, we need industry experts to join our community of training managers to spearhead the development of a training programme for BIM and industrial robotics.

“For Industry 4.0 we need investment from education and business to establish local level skills competition activity in the lead up to WorldSkills Shanghai in 2021.”





# R WORLDSKILLS?

## Looking back with Bartley

“Young people are the whole purpose of what I was doing,” said the former WorldSkills International president Simon Bartley as he spoke with FE Week after stepping down from the role last week.

Bartley took the job in 2011 after having run UK Skills and WorldSkills London 2011, and ended his tenure by being publicly thanked by Vladimir Putin at WorldSkills Kazan for his trust and support.

Yet when asked what he will miss most about the role, it is not the hobnobbing with world leaders, but: “Visiting the young people, more than anything else.”

It was a desire to involve young people more with the work of WorldSkills that led to his proudest achievement from the presidency, the WorldSkills Champions Trust.

Made up of former competitors (who are all called champions), trust members act as ambassadors for the organisation while also feeding into its actions.

“It accelerated the move of bringing young people into the centre of our consciousness, giving them a real voice in not only the affairs of WorldSkills, but in setting out a future that would be good for them, based on skills,” Bartley explains.

On what he regrets, he said he would have liked to have embarked on a project to create parity of esteem between people who go to university and those who do further education, which he believes will take two generations.

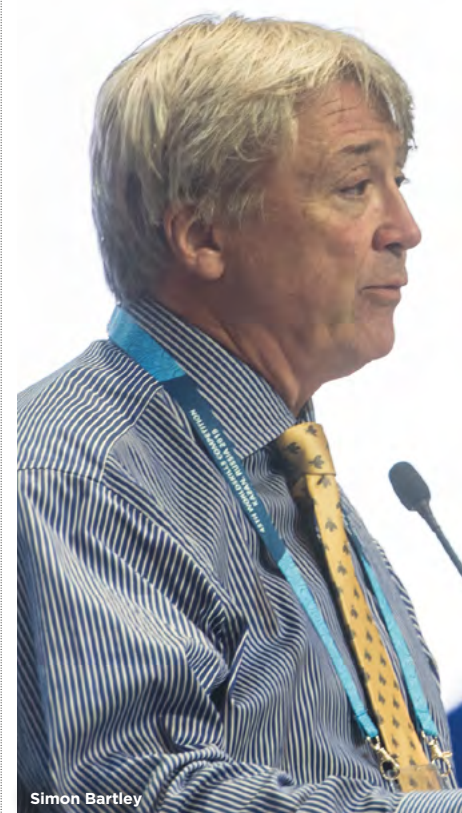
But he says WorldSkills has played a “significant” role in helping more people understand skills are important; through competitions, conferences, and through encouraging nations to use their skills

organisations to reach out to parents, teachers and decision-makers.

“I think it would do any harm whatsoever for the UK government, through its skills policies, to put as much emphasis on skills and crafts and technical education as it does in university education,” he said.

“I hope in due course the UK government comes to some sort of understanding with the Russian government, and would allow UK ministers and officials to understand what has been happening in Russia with regards to their work in spreading vocational, craft and technical excellence.”

On what is next for him, he does not know. But he has been polishing his UK enamel badge, and told us: “Given the opportunity I will be out there supporting the UK team”.



Simon Bartley

**WorldSkills UK chief executive Neil Bentley-Gockmann on Team UK’s “amazing success” and why we need to be a bit more Russian...**

**A**mazing. There is not a better word I can think of to sum up the past couple of weeks which saw the Skills Olympics take place in Kazan, Russia. It was a spectacular global celebration of young people and skills that will live long in the memory of all who attended. And I’m so proud of the young women and men of Team UK who made the journey home with 19 medals. That means that well over half the team attained the all-important world-class standard in a wide range of skills. All of this not only underlines the UK’s worldwide reputation for excellence, it also clearly highlights the further contribution WorldSkills UK can make to boosting workforce development through our network of expert training managers.

The secret of Team UK’s success is, after all, a combination of talent and hard work from the young people who compete and the training managers who impart their expertise. The latter are often in the background, but without them none of this success, year after year, would be possible. Our beauty therapy gold medal in Russia was an unbelievable third in



## DR NEIL BENTLEY-GOCKMANN

Chief Executive,  
WorldSkills UK

### Let’s take our global experience to boost workforce development to world-class levels

succession at international competition for Jenna Wrathall Bailey our training manager, who was awarded the MBE for her dedication to helping young people succeed. And our aircraft maintenance gold this year was yet another success for one of the stalwarts of the WorldSkills UK family, Martin Yates. Jenna and Martin are simply world-class, at the top of their respective games and, crucially, work within our skills systems.

If we want to get to the top of our

collective games in skills, then we need to get much better at learning from them and so many others that work within our network and the skills system. As our recent report, based on interviews with our training managers, and produced in partnership with the University of Oxford, makes clear: too much of the focus in skills development is currently around ensuring a level of competency, rather than consistent levels of excellence achieved by our training managers. So,

if we want to create world-class systems, we need to be better at mainstreaming the pedagogical innovation, training and assessment methods that lie behind Team UK’s success into colleges and training providers across the UK.

How? By taking a leaf out of the book of our international peers in WorldSkills. We need to be a bit more like China, Russia, Brazil and Korea, the nations at the very top of the benchmark medal tables. Each of these nations has set up dedicated training centres not just to elevate their young people and training managers to the highest global standards, but to embed these standards back into their national systems of technical education to boost training standards for all. Now is the time for us to follow suit. We should establish a WorldSkills centre for global excellence in the UK. Our training managers would be at the heart of it, able to share with their peers their world-class know-how and insights across skill systems and draw on international expertise from other centres of excellence in leading WorldSkills members. This has got to be the solution to help boost workforce development and technical education systems to world-class levels to help better prepare young people and employers for the future.





# WELL DONE TEAM UK!



Landscape Gardening competitors Samuel Taylor and Shea McFerran



Joinery competitor Christopher Caine



Bricklaying competitor Lewis Greenwood



Manufacturing team challenge competitor Andrew Joyce



Painting and decorator competitor Callum Bonner



Hairdressing bronze medal winner Phoebe McLavy

Car painting silver medal winner Conor McKevitt





3D digital game art competitor Patrick Buckley



CNC turning competitor Jack McCarthy



Restaurant service competitor Collette Gorvett with training manager Dr Shyam Patiar MBE



Cyber security competitors Kyle Woodward and Adrian Cybulski



Mechanical engineering CAD competitor Ross Megahy



Wall and floor tiling competitor Mark Scott



Refrigeration competitor Orlando Rawlings



CNC milling competitor Elliott Dawson



Electrical installation competitor Thomas Lewis



# CONGRATULATIONS TO HAYDN!

**GOLD MEDAL WINNER IN  
AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE AT  
WORLDSKILLS KAZAN 2019**

**Congratulations to #TeamUK  
on their achievements at  
WorldSkills Kazan 2019**

*Pearson is proud to support  
WorldSkills UK to inspire the UK's next  
generation of skilled professionals.*

Image credit: WorldSkills UK