

CAMPUS ROUND-UP



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FE Week celebrating FE in partnership with Pearson



GOLD STANDARD AT WINTER GAMES

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AND SKILLS MINISTER
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BUCKINGHAM PALACE
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Apprenticeships

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**WE UNLOCKED TALENT
WITH BTEC APPRENTICESHIPS
DURING NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK**

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'UNLOCKING TALENT'
VIDEO WITH US

Welcome to CAMPUS ROUND-UP edition nine



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Welcome to edition nine of our digital Campus Round-Up magazine.

This week's guest editor is Sarah Hammill, aged 27, who is a third year journalism degree student at Harlow College.

She is our fifth paid intern having started with *FE Week* on Wednesday, March 5.

Sarah (right) has embraced the challenges of helping produce a high quality online magazine.

She has shown determination in finding the best possible photos, key facts and most suitable quotes for each story and was not afraid from her first day one at *FE Week* to



call, email, or tweet contacts with enquiries.

She also expressed opinions on what press releases should be turned into stories, as we planned and edited the magazine.

In this week's edition, we have featured stories on a visit from celebrity chef Brian Turner to City

College Norwich, Dragons' Den entrepreneur Peter Jones and Skills Minister Matthew Hancock launching a new business apprenticeship scheme at Westminster Kingsway College, and gold medal success for former MidKent

College student Charlotte Evans at the Winter Paralympics.

This week's feature is about single mum-of-four Amanda Scales who progressed from a belly dancing evening course to completing a degree in contemporary history.

She met Princess Anne at Buckingham Palace after being appointed as an ambassador for adult learning by the National Institute of Adult Continuing Education.

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Dragon and minister breathe fire into business apprenticeship scheme



From left: Apprentice Sophie Whitelock, aged 20, Skills Minister Matthew Hancock, chief executive of the Peter Jones Foundation Alice Barnard, Peter Jones, assistant principal of Westminster Kingsway College Geoff Booth, and apprentice Rhys Huggett, 19

Dragons' Den entrepreneur Peter Jones and Skills Minister Matthew Hancock launched a new business apprenticeship scheme at Westminster Kingsway College.

The new level five higher apprenticeship in business innovation will be run by the college and the Peter Jones Enterprise Academy, which was founded by Mr Jones in 2009.

The apprentices will work with a range of prestigious companies, including Grant Thornton UK, Jessops and Waltham Estates.

Mr Jones, who gained fame through BBC TV show *Dragons' Den*, attended the official course launch with Mr Hancock.

Mr Jones said: "There is a real need for people to learn how to run a business and we are incredibly proud to launch this higher apprenticeship."

Mr Hancock said: "It is great to launch this with the Peter Jones Enterprise. Westminster Kingsway College is at the leading edge of delivering these programmes"

EDITION 9

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Campus Round-up is a sister publication of the weekly newspaper *FE Week*. *FE Week* is the only newspaper dedicated to the further education and skills sector.

FE Week is offering a two-week paid internship for people who want to be journalists. They will be guest editors for two editions of our new Campus Round-Up magazine, under the guidance of our training manager. E-mail us at campus@feweek.co.uk to find out more.

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UNLOCKING
TALENT

WE UNLOCKED TALENT WITH
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DURING NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP
WEEK 2014. DID YOU?

BTEC
Apprenticeships



OUR VIDEOS
showed what some of our
providers, employers and
learners have to say about
BTEC Apprenticeships

SIGN UP FOR YOUR KEY
and win the chance
to create your very own
'Unlocking Talent'
video with us.



Giant Easter egg created by master chocolatier

One of the UK's master chocolatiers showed students from Northampton College how to create an elaborately decorated easter egg.

Mark Tilling, who won the national chocolatier championships four years running from 2006, led a three-hour workshop with 20 level two and three catering students.

He showed them how to make a giant Easter egg which contained

chocolate drawers that were full of sweets and edible floral decorations.

Learners were then encouraged to try out their own chocolate creations.

Mr Tilling said: "I really enjoyed going to Northampton College as I feel really passionate about teaching the chocolatiers of the future and passing on my knowledge and experience."



Mark Tilling creates a chocolate flower to place on an Easter egg. Inset: Level three students Kate Sones, aged 22, and Sophie Fountain, 18, work on their own chocolate creations



Hairdressing apprentice Olivia Hardy with Erin Martin holding the hair she had cut off that was wound into a plait

Erin's hair will make wig for a sick child

A North Lindsey College student cut off 12 inches of eight-year-old Erin Martin's hair to make a wig for a sick child.

The youngster, who is the daughter of animal care lecturer Becky Martin, was sponsored £560 by students and staff at the college to have her hair cut.

Fundraising included a cake sale organised by the college's student council that raised £68.

The money will go to the Little Princess Charity, which provides wigs for children suffering hair loss.

The 12 inches of Erin's hair that was cut by level three hairdressing apprentice Olivia

Hardy, aged 19, will be used to make a wig.

Mrs Martin said: "We are incredibly proud of our daughter's compassion and generosity."

"Her only concern was that other children needed it more than she does, so she was more than happy to help. We are very grateful to everyone for their support and donations. Erin has been amazed by people's generosity."

Principal Anne Tyrrell said: "We think Erin has been very brave to have her hair cut in order to help others and were happy to help her."

Ready, steady, cook — celebrity chef takes charge in college kitchen



Student Sam Garood, aged 17, listens to cooking advice from Brian Turner. Below: Mr Turner oversees student Tammy Allen, 17, in the college kitchen



Brian Turner (far right) next to Stephanie Larking and Richard Chapman, relationship manager and head of business at Clydesdale Bank, and students

Celebrity chef Brian Turner gave students a masterclass in cooking at City College Norwich.

The college invited 50 local residents and business professionals for a three-course meal prepared by students at its restaurant.

A team of 14 level two and three professional cookery students were shown how to prepare à la carte dishes by

chef Mr Turner, who found fame on BBC2 show Ready Steady Cook.

The dishes were seared scallops on a bed of butter beans and chilli, roast lamb with roasted tomato and green beans, and white chocolate trifle.

Level two student Tammy Allen said: "It was a real treat to work with Brian."

"He was a lot quieter than

I thought he would be and explained well what we were doing."

Joe Mulhall, hotel, hospitality and catering programme manager, said: "We are proud of our students and Brian was very impressed with how they performed in the kitchen."

Mr Turner is on a tour of eight colleges, including City College Norwich.

DO YOU WANT TO BE IN CAMPUS ROUND-UP? Send your stories with pictures to campus@feweek.co.uk including names, ages and course details of students where applicable

From belly dancing to Buckingham Palace — Amanda’s amazing learning journey

From archaeology and belly dancing to a degree in contemporary history and lessons on the First World War, the adult education path of mum-of-four Amanda Scales is nothing if not varied. And it has culminated in her appointment as ambassador for adult learning at the National Institute of Adult Continuing Education, writes Paul Offord.

Shaking hands with Princess Anne, Amanda Scales could have been forgiven for taking a moment to reflect on her journey from belly dancing classes nine years ago to adult learning ambassador for the National Institute of Adult Continuing Education (Niace).

She was given the role in recognition of her commitment to adult learning, including the completion of a degree and training to be a teacher, all the while single-handedly raising a family-of-four.

And 49-year-old Amanda’s royal exchange happened during her first high profile ambassadorial appearance at a special event promoting adult education at Buckingham Palace.

She said: “Who would have thought my journey through adult education would lead to me visiting the palace and meeting the princess?”

“She was keen to hear from people like myself about the barriers faced by people who want to go back into education, so she can use her influence to help.

“The more I have learned, the more I have realised how much a lack of education can be a disadvantage. I now feel like a warrior fighting for fairer access to education for everyone who desires it.”

Amanda’s initial education journey ended when she dropped out of an archaeology diploma at the University of Sussex in 2005.

She said: “I couldn’t afford childcare for my two youngest kids while I attended lessons and felt there was a lack of understanding of the pressures I was under.

“I was devastated when I had to give it up.”

But she enrolled on a belly dancing course a few months later at Whitehawk Inn community learning centre, in Brighton.

She added: “I went on the course to allow myself time to be Amanda and not just a mum for a couple of hours a week.”

An adviser suggested she enrolled on its year-long new career options for women course. She completed it in June 2007.

Amanda said: “They raised my aspirations and suggested I should do a degree. I really wasn’t sure, as no one from my family had gone to university before.”

The journey continued with a degree in contemporary history before Amanda focussed on becoming a teacher, spending a year studying for a maths GCSE at Portslade Community College then 12 months working as a teaching assistant at Varndean School, in Brighton, where she sat an English GCSE with pupils.

She then returned to the University of Sussex to do a year-long teacher training course, which she completed last year.

She is now working as a freelance teacher for East Sussex Records Office and also developing a history course on the First World War for people who have learning difficulties or have been out of education for many years for local libraries.

She said: “Learning is hard work and there were times I thought I might quit, but I’ve achieved so much, and I’m very proud.”

A spokesperson for Niace said: “Amanda is an exceptional success story. Our ambassadors have first-hand experience and are the best advocates for the value of learning as an adult.

“We want to empower Amanda to reach as many people as possible with her stories.”



Amanda Scales clutching a history textbook (left), meeting Princess Anne (top), on her graduation day (above), and on the belly dancing course with her teacher Julie Campbell (right)

Business leaders help launch employment hub



Students James McGuire and Ryan Rhagoo, both 17, at the launch event. Inset: Principal Frances Wadsworth with Stewart Wingate, chief executive of Gatwick Airport

Representatives from firms including John Lewis, Estee Lauder, Toyota and Google attended the official launch of Croydon College's new employability hub.

Students can visit the hub, which is situated on the ground floor of the main college campus building and cost £30,000 to set up, to search for vacancies, arrange work experience, get careers advice, and receive coaching for interviews.

Its official launch dinner was attended by students, college staff, and senior staff from several major employers, which have agreed to support the hub by for example offering work experience, interview coaching workshops and tours of their offices to learners.

Diners also heard a speech praising the scheme by Stewart Wingate, chief executive of Gatwick Airport.

Level two hospitality and catering student James McGuire said: "All the employability support and guidance will ensure that I am well on my way to becoming a qualified and skilled sous chef. I'm making the right contacts now for my future."



Nikkos Savvas being handcuffed in his office. Inset: The principal is led into a police van

Principal 'arrested' for charity

West Suffolk College principal Nikos Savvas was arrested and locked up in a police cell — to raise money for a local hospice.

Police handcuffed Mr Savvas in his office before leading him to a police van outside.

He was driven to Bury St Edmunds Police Investigation Centre, where officers took his fingerprints and a mugshot before locking him in a cell for around an hour.

Mr Savvas was released after handing over around £700 to St Nicholas Hospice Care, in Bury St Edmunds.

The money had been raised through his JustGiving internet fundraising page and a bucket collection around the college.

He said: "Being arrested, even in fun, was a sobering experience. The high security police investigation centre is a very harsh environment and the microwaved all-day breakfast I was given was a punishment in itself."

Mr Savvas was one of a dozen people arrested as part of a fundraising event, called Jail and Bail, for the hospice.

ROUND-UP IN BRIEF

Football shirts for orphanage

Students from TyneMet College sent dozens of football shirts to a Thailand orphanage.

The learners from across the college visited the Baan Nok Kamin Foundation Orphanage last July, where they provided support in English lessons and played football with the children.

After returning to the UK the students launched an appeal for football shirts to send to the orphans.

They received around 40 shirts from family, friends, and college staff which were sent to Thailand.

Staged car crash in college grounds

Uniformed public services students at Derby College took part in a car crash training exercise with Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service.

They took the role of drivers and passengers who were trapped in a two-car accident in the college grounds.

The event was organised to warn students about the dangers of careless driving.

Student Mark Doherty, aged 17, said: "I was cut out of the car. It was a very scary experience and certainly made you think about the consequences of dangerous driving."

Students urged to report hate crime

East Durham College and Durham Police joined forces to help raise awareness of hate crime among young people.

The event at the college included a series of talks on assaults and intimidation motivated by prejudice against ethnic minorities, gay people, and disabled people.

Students were also urged to report hate crime.

Simone Collpitts, director of learning, said: "This has helped bring some important issues to the attention of our students."

Golden girl shows life after college is anything but downhill



From left: Kelly Gallagher with Charlotte Evans in their Team GB outfits on the ski slope in Sochi. Inset left Charlotte when she was a student at MidKent College. Inset right: Charlotte skiing in Sochi

Golden girl Charlotte Evans credited MidKent College with helping her triumph in the winter Olympics.

Charlotte, aged 22, was the guide for visually impaired skier Kelly Gallagher, 28, as they finished first in the super-G super-giant slalom event in Sochi, Russia.

The former sport and exercise sciences student has kept in close contact with her former tutors since graduating in 2009 and received £500 sponsorship from the college in the build-up to the games to help fund her training.

She has agreed to return to the college later this month to talk to students about her experiences in Sochi.

Charlotte said: "My time at MidKent College was the happiest of my life. The staff there helped me to compete at the highest level I could."

The college gave Charlotte its prize for outstanding achievement in sport and exercise sciences in 2009.

Principal Sue McLeod said: "We are all immensely proud of Charlotte for winning a gold medal.

"She was a model student and deserves nothing less than the tremendous success she is currently enjoying."

Fundraising students spend night in a cardboard box

Two Seevic College students were sponsored to sleep rough overnight in a cardboard box.

Holly Mead and Daisy Baker, both aged 18, joined dozens of other people who took part in a sponsored sleepover in Southend YMCA's car park to raise awareness of homelessness in the town.

The level three media production students shared a cardboard box for shelter and crawled into sleeping bags to keep warm in near-freezing temperatures.

They were inspired to help after making a documentary about homelessness for their course at the Benfleet-based college.

The teenagers raised £390 in sponsorship, including £75 donated by the Seevic College Student Association, for Southend YMCA.

Holly said: "Sleeping rough for the evening was scary and mentally draining but luckily we had each other to get us through.

"The experience helped us to appreciate everything that we have."



From left: Seevic College students Daisy Baker and Holly Mead in the Southend YMCA car park. Inset: Daisy and Lucy at Seevic College

APPRENTICESHIPS KEY FACTS



BTEC Apprenticeships are available across 27 sectors with over 235 career paths to choose from.²

After finishing, the majority of apprentices (86%) will stay in employment, with two thirds (67%) staying with the same employer.⁴

69%

The proportion of employers involved in Apprenticeships has risen to more than two thirds.³

LOYALTY CARD MEMBER

96% of employers have reported a benefit to their business.⁵

The average Apprenticeship completer increases business productivity by £214 per week.⁷

96%

In England over 100,000 employers are employed quality apprentices in more than 200,000 locations.⁵

Employers think that qualified apprentices are 15% more employable than those with other qualifications.⁶

£214

88% of employers are looking first and foremost for aptitude and attitudes that enable people to be effective in the workplace.³ These are work readiness skills that BTEC Apprenticeships provide.

15%

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1 gov.uk
2 pearsonwbl.com
3 Changing the pace CBI/Pearson Education and Skills Survey 2013
4 Department for Business Innovation and Skills, Apprenticeships Evaluation: Employer, August 2013
5 apprenticeships.org.uk
6 realbusiness.co.uk
7 Cebr, Productivity Matters Report, March 2013