EUROSKILLS Budapest 2018 BUDAPEST 2018





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cial thank you to the Worldskills UK team



BILLY CAMDEN BILLY@FEWEEK.CO.UK

Being given the chance to travel around the world and report on Team UK in international skill competitions is without a doubt the best part of my job.

I've been lucky enough to follow our country's best young tradespeople on their tours to EuroSkills Gothenburg and WorldSkills Abu Dhabi before and been inspired by their journeys.

This year's trip to EuroSkills Budapest was no different.

I flew out with the team on September 24 and spent the following five days watching them wave the UK flag at an opening ceremony, endure three days of brutal competition and celebrate at an emotional medals ceremony.

The competition in Budapest brought together more than 500 young people, aged 18 to 25, from 28 European countries to compete in 35 different official skill areas from mechatronics to beauty therapy.

A crowd of around 100.000 spectators watched them as they all vied to be crowned the best in Europe in their trade.

Twenty two competitors were selected to represent the UK and were given the task of achieving a top 10 position

I start this special souvenir supplement by walking down the road to Budapest, detailing just how tough it is to win a place on Team UK.

All eyes then turn to Kazan in Russia, where next year's WorldSkills competition will take place - which is tipped to be one of the biggest and best vet.

Then it is back to EuroSkills Budapest. An opening ceremony, which mesmerised guests, got official proceedings for the competition underway see page 4 for my report. I then pay tribute to Team UK's

"unsung heroes" - their training managers. Without these 19 individuals it is safe to say the competitors would

not have developed into the world-class talents they are today

The closing and awards ceremony follow, in which all winners are celebrated. You can also find out which country claimed top spot in the overall medals table.

Then it is all about the competitors. From page 10 to 15 I list the individuals who make up Team UK and describe what each of them had to do over the three days of competition.

FE Week is proud to be the official media partner of Team UK and will be there every step of the way over the months leading up to WorldSkills Kazan.

Huge congrats to Team UK for everything you achieved at EuroSkills 2018

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THE ROAD TO BUDAPEST

W inning a spot on Team UK is a brutally hard task.

The journey to Budapest has been more than a year in the making, in which competitors have had to put everything they have into training, sacrificing their evenings and weekends in the process while juggling their study and work commitments.

It all started in early 2017 when most of Team UK's members competed against more than 3,000 other top apprentices and learners in the country through regional heats.

Those with the highest scores were then whittled down to around 500 competitors who appeared at the national finals at The Skills Show, now called WorldSkills UK LIVE, in Birmingham's NEC in November that year.

Standout participants were then put into a longer squad of 105 competitors who are training for WorldSkills 2019 in Kazan, with 22 of them being chosen to represent their country at sister competition EuroSkills.

The EuroSkills finals are held every two years. It has brought the most talented young people from 28 countries under one roof to compete across 35 skills – ranging from heavy truck maintenance and mechanical engineering to cooking and hairdressing.

Countless training hours have been put in by Team UK since being selected, as well as mental agility exercises to an Olympic standard.

International "pressure testing" is also used where



training managers see fit.

Team UK's mechatronics duo, for example, flew out to Hungary and other competitors went elsewhere in the world to "get that sense of what it is like to compete internationally," according to WorldSkills UK chief executive Dr Neil Bentley.

"Overall prep went really well," he said.

At the last EuroSkills in Gothenburg 2016, Team UK brought home two golds, one silver, two bronzes and eight medallions of excellence.

"We're aiming to keep up that pace that we set in Gothenburg," said Dr Bentley.

"But it is getting harder because lots of other countries are investing more."

Not all of Team UK's competitors at EuroSkills are strangers to competing on the international stage.

Among them is Shane Carpenter, who trains at Nescot College and is employed by BAE Systems.

The 22-year-old, who's competing in IT network administration, competed in WorldSkills Abu Dhabi last year where he achieved a medallion of excellence.

"I've mainly come back because the feeling I had after finishing that final day out in Abu Dhabi was just amazing," he said.

Before Team UK could get down to competitions, a special send-off event in Parliament was held where skills minister Anne Milton sang the praises of the young competitors.

She told them that they "are the future" as life today is "no longer about what you know it is about what skills you have as well".

ALL EYES TURN TO WORLDSKILLS KAZAN

Now the curtain has closed on EuroSkills, all eyes turn to Kazan where WorldSkills is being held next August.

The UK's team of 22 from the Euros will be plunged back into the longer squad of 105 competitors who are all vying for a place at the global competition, known as the 'Olympics of skills'.

But there'll be no "special treatment" for those who represented the country at EuroSkills.

"It is a complete level playing field now," said WorldSkills UK boss Dr Neil Bentley.

"What tends to happen is some people progress from the Europeans and do really well and others plateau for whatever reason.

"EuroSkills competitors for sure do not have a golden ticket, they need to keep working."

At national finals, competitors are tested at levels two and three, while EuroSkills is at level four.

At world competitions they'll need to improve to a level five and six standard to be in with a shot of winning a medal.

Experts, team leaders and the bosses of WorldSkills UK will run a boot camp weekend in January 2019 where they will carefully consider who in each skill is worthy of a place on Team UK.

Team selection for WorldSkills Kazan will be unveiled in March. Those chosen to represent the UK will then be "put through their paces" following an Olympic-style training regime in terms of both their skill level and mind-set.

Dr Bentley is expecting the competition in Kazan to be "huge".

"The Russians are investing a lot in the platform," he said. "They are focusing hugely on industry 4.0 and making a big splash out of new technology and skills for the future.

"The Chinese are going to piggy back on that for WorldSkills Shanghai in 2021." He said there is a "massive lesson" the UK "should be learning from the way the Russians and Chinese are approaching and setting up their skills systems and using WorldSkills as a platform for it.

"Russia and China are the new benchmark for global Britain," he added. "If we want to attract inward investment back into the UK to help create new jobs we need to demonstrate we have world class skills."

The 45th WorldSkills Competition will take place at the newly-built Kazan Expo. The site is currently under construction, with plans for completion

this year. The exhibition centre is on a plot of 748,000 square metres.

Russia's bid to host WorldSkills 2019 was headed by president Vladimir Putin (pictured). The competition will bring together participants from more than 70 countries who will compete in over 50 skills. It will take place from August 22 to 27.



EUROSKILLS BUDAPEST OFF

A Hungarian theatre group that will be familiar to the British public got EuroSkills Budapest off to a breathtaking start at an opening ceremony in which competitors were told it is now "game on".

Thousands packed inside the Papp László Budapest Sport arena for this year's opener, which was live streamed around the world.

It featured a speech from the Hungarian prime minister Viktor Orbán – who told the competitors they are part of a "greater" challenge than just competing in this competition.

Kicking off the night was Attraction Shadow Theatre, a group who rose to fame during a performance at the Hungary Olympic oath ceremony for the London 2012 Olympics before winning *Britain's Got Talent* in 2013.

They performed a rendition of many of the skills on show throughout the competition, including beauty therapy, welding and heavy truck maintenance. Following the performance were three speeches from László Parragh, President of the Hungarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dita Traidas, President of WorldSkills Europe, and Mr Orbán.

The prime minister told the competitors they were "part of a greater challenge".

"Europe faces a serious competitive disadvantage and the only way to overcome it is by training the bestskilled workers of the world." he said.

"Start working and kickstart your country – fight for it and lift it high."

A parade of nations followed where each of the 28 competing countries took to the stage with the teams waving their flag.

Flag-bearer for the UK was florist Elizabeth Newcombe – chosen by Team UK's team leaders for her standout commitment and hard work in the build-up to EuroSkills. The competitor and expert oaths were then read to declare the 2018 competition officially open.

Finishing the night was a special guest performance from Hungarian pop band Irie Maffia.

FE Week spoke with WorldSkills UK chief executive Dr Neil Bentley after the show to hear his thoughts on the spectacle.

"It was an amazing platform to see young people from across the whole of Europe getting ready to compete for something that is going to change their lives," he said.

"Favourite part of the night was seeing Team UK take to the stage, absolutely amazing. They waited a long time to get up there but seeing the Union Jack up there in its finest was just brilliant.

"It is game on now. Best of luck to Team UK and everyone else but especially our team."

Viktor Orbán



'THE BEATING HEART OF WORLDSKILLS UK'

Behind every UK competitor is a team of "unsung heroes" in the form of dedicated training managers and team leaders.

Described as the "beating heart" of WorldSkills UK, 19 experts have become more like family to Team UK over the past 12 months and dedicated thousands of hours preparing them for Budapest.

Juggling their strenuous work commitments, the trainers have given up their weekend and holiday plans to get competitors' skills and mind-set up to international level.

Despite the roles being a full-time job, the experts are unpaid. But there's a reason more important than money as to why they do it.

"Being involved with WorldSkills

UK is addictive," said Calum Knott, training manager for Mechatronics who works for Festo: Diadic Services Ltd.

"There is no better feeling than working with Team UK members as they are so passionate about their skill and you know the training they are completing for competition will be taken back with them."

Mr Knott was a member of Team UK at EuroSkills Lille 2014, competing in Mechatronics.

He said he "jumped at the chance to get back involved" as a training manager.

Linzi Weare is another ex-Team UK competitor who has turned into an expert.

She's now the salon director for

Reds Hair Company and competed in WorldSkills Calgary in 2009 in hairdressing.

"When I finished competing I knew I wanted to stay involved as I enjoyed every minute of it," she said.

"For me, developing young people who are passionate about hairdressing and seeing them grow is so rewarding and I think I also learn from them."

It's not just the competitors who benefit from having a Team UK expert.

Shelagh Legrave, chief executive at the Chichester College Group, employs cabinet making training manager Christian Notley, who trained two successive gold medal winners at the 2013 and 2015

WorldSkills championships.

"Christian has rejuvenated furniture

making at Chichester College," she said.

"His work with WorldSkills UK, as a training manager, has not only added a level of prestige to the courses we offer, but it has also elevated the aspirations of our students."

Team UK is also supported by three team leaders who support and care for the competitors.

Head of the trio is Joanne Maher, principal of Boston College.

"The team leaders for Team UK are passionate about supporting young people to thrive in a performance environment," she said.

"Building a team culture is a key aspect of the role and getting that element right is the most rewarding part for us."





euro**skills** Budapest 2018

P

Pearson











Beauty Therapy Jenna Bailey



Heavy Truck Maintenance Chris Carter



Cabinet Making Christian Notley



Kevin Large



Plumbing & Heating Paul Dodds



CNC Milling Mike Watson



Andrew Pengelly



Restaurant Service Dr Shyam Patiar



Cooking Sean Owens



Landscape Gardening Simon Abbott



Wall & Floor Tiling Paul Doran



Electrical Installation Gareth Jones



Mechanical Engineering Barry Skea



Web Design Mike David



Floristry Laura Leong



Mechatronics

Calum Knott



Welding



Hairdressing Linzi Weare



Painting & Decorating Peter Walters



Clive Bell



You beauty! Team UK wins gold

Team UK was full of jubilant celebrations after competitors bagged one gold and three bronze medals to retain its top-10 position at EuroSkills.

The team finished in joint ninth place overall when these successes were combined with its medallion of excellence haul of seven.

Picking up Team UK's gold was Holly-Mae Cotterell, who was voted Europe's best beauty therapist.

She also won Team UK's Best of Nation award.

"I feel absolutely over the moon and amazing," said the 20-year-old, who works and trains at Reds Hair Company in Herefordshire.

"I was sobbing walking up on stage. I didn't expect that to be the outcome but I am so chuffed."

She added that coming into EuroSkills she was "nervous and didn't know what it was going to be like" but she "took on all the advice from boot camp and the mind-set training" to succeed.

Her goal is to now "get back in training as soon as possible and fight to be selected for WorldSkills Kazan next year".

Holly-Mae celebrated gold at a sparkling closing ceremony in front of thousands of spectators tonight at the Papp László Budapest Sportaréna, which was streamed live for the world to watch.

Team UK's bronze medallists included mechatronics duo from Toyota, Danny Slater and Jack Dakin. "We're feeling speechless but on top of the world," said 24-year-old Jack.

> "We knew it was going to be tight, we could've come third, fourth, sixth or seventh, it was that close. To have just done enough to get bronze is

Mechatry ingsbronze medallists Danny Slater (left) and Jack Dakin

amazing."

And 22-year-old Danny added: "The end goal now is representing the UK at full international in Russia next year."

Mechanical engineering CAD competitor Ross Megahy from New College Lanarkshire also picked up a bronze.

"It's been an unbelievable experience this," said the 21-year-old.

"With the media crews and so many people watching you it feels like you're a mini celebrity. It's just amazing."

And hairdresser Gavin Jon Kyte, who is also from Reds Hair Company, was "buzzing" to come third in his skill.

"It's been a massively emotional but brilliant journey," said the 21-year-old said.

"I'll go back and have a couple of beers with my mates then smash the training for selection. I'll take all the experience I have form this onto the next."

Medallions of excellence were

t) and Jack Dakin evaluation to the second s

Dr Neil Bentley, chief executive of WorldSkills UK, said it was a "fantastic result for Team UK and the country as a whole".

Christopher Caine.

"We were gunning for a top ten position and we got it," he added.

"These brilliant young people – training and preparing them to be among the very best across Europe – are the UK's new generation of high flyers."

The Russian Federation led the medal table with nine golds, eight silvers, two bronzes and 10 medallions of excellence in Budapest.

Following up in second place was Austria who won four golds, 12 silvers,





two bronzes and nine medallions of excellence. France finished third with three golds, three silvers, six bronzes and 10 medallions of excellence.



bronze medallist

Hairdressing

Gavin Jon Kyte



EuroSkills 2018 medal table

Position	Member	Total Points	Number of Competitors	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Medallion for Excellence
1	Russian Federation	74.00	37	9	8	2	10
2	Austria	65.00	32	4	12	2	9
3	France	43.00	25	3	3	6	10
4	Hungary	35.00	26	3	3	3	8
5	Germany	31.00	19	3	3	2	6
6	Switzerland	22.00	8	4	0	2	2
7	Finland	18.00	22	1	0	4	6
7	Norway	18.00	12	1	1	3	5
9	Sweden	17.00	26	3	0	1	3
9	United Kingdom	17.00	19	1	0	3	7
11	Netherlands	15.00	25	0	0	3	9
12	Belgium	14.00	23	0	1	0	11
12	Italy	14.00	12	1	1	2	3
14	Denmark	13.00	10	0	3	1	2
15	Spain	12.00	21	2	0	0	4
15	Portugal	12.00	15	0	0	3	6
17	Latvia	10.00	10	1	1	0	3
18	Iceland	6.00	8	0	1	0	3
18	Slovenia	6.00	10	0	0	1	4
20	Slovakia	5.00	6	1	0	0	1
21	Estonia	2.00	11	0	0	0	2
22	Cyprus	1.00	7	0	0	0	1
22	Croatia	1.00	11	0	0	0	1
22	Kazakhstan	1.00	22	0	0	0	1
22	Lithuania	1.00	6	0	0	0	1
22	Poland	1.00	6	0	0	0	1
27	Luxembourg	0.00	3	0	0	0	0
27	Montenegro	0.00	4	0	0	0	0



PICTURE HIGHLIGHTS F















ROM EUROSKILLS 2018

















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Max Whitlock MBE

Double Olympic Gold Medallist, BTEC Sport



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ICT specialists Shane Carpenter (left) and Cameron Barr





Florist Elizabeth Newcombe

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ROM EUROSKILLS 2018

















TEAM UK'S SUCCESS AT

Finding out who on Team UK has won a medal is always the most nervous but exciting part of international skills competitions.

Up for grabs are golds, silvers, and bronzes, as well as medallions of excellences – given to competitors who reach the international standard in their skill.

Each skill was scored differently, but competitors had to reach a minimum of 500 points to claim a medallion.

The top three medals were handed out at the closing ceremony, where each of the winning competitors took to the stage to stand and celebrate on a podium.

On the same night, WorldSkills UK holds an awards reception with all of the Team UK supporters, and of course the competitors, where the medallions of excellence are handed out.



KEY:



Silver

Bronze

Medallion of Excellence

BEAUTY THERAPY HOLLY-MAE COTTERELL, 20

Gold



Employer: Reds Hair Company Provider: Reds Hair Company Trainer: Jenna Wrathall Bailey MBE, consultant

Holly-Mae was required to carry out pedicure, manicure, facials, body treatments, massage and make-up. Marks were awarded on completion of tasks in the specified time. Hygiene and safety was also taken into account in the assessment.

CABINET MAKING THOMAS PENNICOTT, 19



Employer: n/a

Provider: Chichester College **Trainer:** Christian Notley, MBE, Chichester College

Over the three days, Tom had to make a tea cabinet to a specific criteria. The design included a frame, drawer and decorations. He had practised making the table ahead of the competition but once he arrived on site, 30 per cent of the design was changed to test his ability under pressure.



EUROSKILLS

CNC MILLING

ELLIOTT DAWSON, 20



Employer: Fort Vale Provider: Training 2000 Limited Trainer: Mike Watson, GKN Aerospace

Elliott had no idea what modules he had to complete before he arrived at the competition. This is to fully test the competitor's ability in a pressure environment. He had to complete three modules, two using aluminium and one using steel to create three different complex shapes. The creations were then inspected and marked based on accuracy of brief provided.

COOKING NICOLLE FINNIE, 20



Employer: Andrew Fairlie at Gleneagles Provider: City of Glasgow College Trainer: Sean Owens, SOFOOD Consultancy

Nicolle had to prepare seven dishes over three days. The dishes included fish, meat and vegan based recipes. Nicolle was allowed to use a wide range of herbs, spices and accessories. She was also given a mystery ingredient to use which wasn't revealed until the start of the competition.



ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION

THOMAS LEWIS, 21



Employer: Blues Electrical Provider: Cardiff and the Vale College Trainer: Gareth Jones, Coleg Gwent

On day one Thomas had to first fix an electrical system – where he designed the structure before placing the parts together. On day two he second fixed the system before programming it on day three.

FLORISTRY

ELIZABETH NEWCOMBE, 21



Employer: Rhubarb and Bramley Provider: Guildford College Trainer: Laura Leong

Elizabeth had to complete six modules. On day one she had to create a hanging wreath inspired by a museum followed by a standing piece for a large foyer. On day two she created a hand tie bouquet followed by a floral necklace. On the final day she created a bridal bouquet and a top-table arrangement.





HAIRDRESSING

GAVIN JON KYTE, 19



Employer: Reds Hair Company Provider: Reds Hair Company Trainer: Linzi Weare, Reds Hair Company

Gavin had to complete six different cuts in a specified time, all requiring a different creative approach.

These included: ladies' long hair down fashion, bridal hair, ladies' fashion cut and colour, men's fashion cut and colour, ladies' fashion perm, and a men's modern classical haircut.

HEAVY TRUCK MAINTENANCE

KIERAN LEYLAND, 21



Employer: Ryder Ltd Provider: Ryder Ltd Trainer: Christopher Carter, Stephenson College

Kieran completed a range of different tasks including mechanical check of the engine, check of the steering and wheel assembly and alignment, assessment of the brake system to find any faults over the three days.

JOINERY

CHRISTOPHER CAINE, 20



 Employer: DH Carpentry θ

 Joinery

 Provider: Pembrokeshire

 College

 Trainer: Andrew Pengelly

Chris made a three module project in 18 hours, incorporating a design of the holy crown of Hungary. The structure was made from European oak using hand and power tools with traditional and modern techniques.



LANDSCAPE GARDENING SHEA MCFERRAN, 19



Employer: n/a Provider: CAFRE Trainer: Simon Abbott, Simon Abbott Landscapes

Working with Sam Taylor, Shea produced a garden from precise plans provided at the start of the competition. Some of the areas of the garden, which included paving, planting and a water feature, had to be designed in accordance with the instructions provided, while other areas offered scope for creativity.



IT NETWORK ADMINISTRATION

CAMERON BARR, 20



Employer: n/a Provider: Nescot

Trainer: Kevin Large, Remote Training Solutions Limited

On day one Cameron had to build a network suitable for the requirements of a small and medium-sized organisation including building the server, the VPN and telephone system. On day two he and Shane had to replicate this using Microsoft operating system. On day three they had to create an infrastructure using Cisco technologies.



IT NETWORK ADMINISTRATION SHANE CARPENTER, 22



Employer: BAE Systems Provider: Nescot Trainer: Kevin Large, Remote Training Solutions Limited

On day one Cameron and Shane had to build a network suitable for the requirements of a small and medium-sized organisation including building the server, the VPN and telephone system. On day two he and Cameron had to replicate this using Microsoft operating system. On day three they had to create an infrastructure using Cisco technologies.



LANDSCAPE GARDENING

SAM TAYLOR, 18



Employer: Garden TLC **Provider:** n/a **Trainer:** Simon Abbott, Simon Abbott Landscapes

Working with Shea McFerran, Sam produced a garden from precise plans provided at the start of the competition. Some of the areas of the garden, which included paving, planting and a water feature, had to be designed in accordance with the instructions provided, while other areas offered scope for creativity.

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING: CAD Ross megahy, 21



Employer: n/a

Provider: New College Lanarkshire Trainer: Barry Skea, New College Lanarkshire

Ross had to complete four different modules. On the first he had to follow a brief to create a 3D model of a product. Ross then focused on mechanical fabrication where he was judged on his accuracy of assembling sheet metal parts. The third involved Ross providing a detailed drawing for a manufacturer, and for the last module Ross was judge on accuracy of dimensions of a product created, its surface texture and its presentation.



MECHATRONICS



Employer: Toyota Manufacturing Ltd Provider: Toyota Manufacturing Ltd Trainer: Calum Knott, Festo Didactic Services Ltd

Over three days Jack had to build and maintain a series of mechatronics systems. He and Danny had to program and commission the equipment, taking into consideration speed, efficiency, energy saving measures, and reliability.

Day one they had to build a handling system with an electrical drive, day two they built a joining system using vacuum technology, and day three they focused on system optimisation and efficiency.

MECHATRONICS

DANNY SLATER, 24



Employer: Toyota Manufacturing Ltd Provider: Toyota Manufacturing Ltd Trainer: Calum Knott, Festo Didactic Services Ltd

Over three days Danny had to build and maintain a series of mechatronics systems. He and Jack had to program and commission the equipment, taking into consideration speed, efficiency, energy saving measures, and reliability.

Day one they had to build a handling system with an electrical drive, day two they built a joining system using vacuum technology, and day three they focused on system optimisation and efficiency.

RESTAURANT SERVICES COLLETTE GORVETT, 19



Employer: The Grill House Provider: Gower College, Swansea Trainer: Dr Shyam Patiar MBE

Collette provided services in a different dining environment each day. On day one she was in fine dining and had to serve a three course meal to guests. She was judged on every detail of her service including which direction she served food and how she poured the wine.

On day two she was in the bar section and on her final day she was serving in a bistro for casual dining.



WALL AND FLOOR TILING



Employer: McGoldrick & Sons Provider: City of Glasgow College

Trainer: Paul Doran, Southern Regional College

Mark was required to cut tiles to provided specification and tile designs including St Stephens Basilica in Budapest. He was scored on accuracy and health and safety.



PAINTING AND DECORATING CALLUM BONNER, 20



Employer: Clackmannanshire Council Provider: Forth Valley College Trainer: Peter Walters, Stoke-on-Trent College

Callum was provided with a booth consisting of three walls and was given 18 hours to plan and complete five different competition elements including free decorative painting, wallpapering, painting woodwork and doors, colour nuancing and picture transfer and stencilling. Callum choose the design of the Union Jack for his free decorative painting which he decorated with sparkles.

PLUMBING AND HEATING MATTHEW BARTON, 20



Employer: WE Barton Provider: Kendal College Trainer: Paul Dodds MBE Skills, Educational Training (SET) Ltd

Matthew had to create a mock apartment, fitting pipe work, hot and cold water, and gas systems. Everything had to be as accurate as possible to the drawing, with all angles within one degree and measurements within two millimetres.



WEB DESIGN



Employer: n/a Provider: Highbury College, Portsmouth Trainer: Mike David, Coleg Sir Gar

Lewis first had to create a website, he then managed databases in accordance with a set of instructions and on the third day he used programs to make changes to the website content. His work was judged on client and server functionality of the website, design and layout, communication and work efficiency.

WELDING





Employer: PFS Provider: Coleg Menai Trainer: Clive Bell, Lakes College

Scott had to weld together plates and pipes in accordance with instructions provided. He was also was tasked with welding an aluminium and stainless steel structure before welding a carbon steel pressure vessel.

The judges awarded points to work that was visually good and passed tough quality and pressure tests.





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