

Friends of the College

June 11, Issue 6

LET'S ALL CELEBRATE THE COLLEGE'S MANY SUCCESSES

I hope that the Friends will join me in celebrating the recent successes of the College - the effective completion of the 100 apprentices in 100 days campaign, the success of students in national competitions and the enthusiastic support by the skilled of Bath to assist in the Love2learn programmes.

However, almost dwarfing these achievements is the raised profile and consequential higher regard for the College that has been achieved over the last months. Hardly a week goes by without a noteworthy mention in The Bath Chronicle, an achievement in its own right. All this must bode well for the secure future of the College, especially when the new building, now well under way, produces better cohesion of all College activities, provides enhanced facilities for the students, particularly those who may now seek Higher Education without the enormous expense of going to university, and aligns the College structurally with the city as a whole.

But apart from applauding the improvements, what else can the friends achieve? The first thing that comes to mind is to provide vocal or written support for the College with those with whom we come into contact. Despite the College's many successes there are still some in Bath with memories of unhappy experiences with the College and even the "Tech" as it used to be known. Many Bathonians have elephantine memories and very fixed views.

The second thing I would suggest is supporting the College with direct contact, visits and attendance at the many events which occur during the year. While the art exhibitions, musical events and fashion shows may not always provide material to everyone's taste, they are worth seeing if only to witness at first hand the enthusiasm of the students involved and often the sheer talent which is released and nurtured by the College.

The third idea, which is a possibility, is to provide real life projects for the students to undertake as part of their courses. Clearly these would have to be carefully selected by the tutors but there is a labour force within the College, and as you will see in technical press, young brains can often come up with original solutions to problems.

Finally, dining in the Shrubbery Restaurant on one of their themed evenings is an experience which all Friends of the College should try. You will then understand why so many of the catering and hospitality students move on into the upper echelons of the industry.

That brings me my closing note of regret that so few friends were able to make it to join us in our excellent meal in the College in March. It is hoped to arrange another gathering in the near future, combined with another event.

Kind regards

Trevor Dawson

President, Friends of City of Bath College



INSIDE ...

- College rebuild project
- Love2learn
- Students star in Chef v Chef
- Diary dates
- Plus much more...

PLUMBER MATT AWARDED TOP INDUSTRY ACCOLADE

An apprentice plumber training at City of Bath College has received a top industry accolade from awarding body City and Guilds.

Matt Taylor has been awarded the prestigious City and Guilds Medal for Excellence, which recognises and rewards exceptional work by both learners and tutors in the learning environment.

Matt, 17, from Clutton, works for Bath-based Acquaviva Plumbing & Heating, and received his medal for "outstanding performance in the construction and building sector".

Matt has completed his full-time Level 2 Technical Certificate in Basic Plumbing and is now working towards a Level 2 Plumbing NVQ.

"I was delighted to hear that I'd won the medal of excellence, especially from an organisation as well respected as City and Guilds," said Matt.

Matt attended a special reception at Buckingham palace on 19th May where he was formally presented with his medal by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh. Matt, along with his tutor John Culley, will also attend the Lion Awards Ceremony in London, which is the culmination of the annual Medals for Excellence programme.

Matt represented City of Bath College in the regional heats of the UK Apprentice Plumber of the Year 2011 competition, which took place at Camborne College in February. Matt performed brilliantly and took the runner-up spot, being beaten into second place by just one mark.

Matt said: "I would definitely recommend the College for anyone looking to move into the plumbing industry or for people looking to start an apprenticeship. The support and training has been excellent and the courses can provide you with the first step towards your chosen career."



Matt Taylor

COLLEGE £5 MILLION REBUILD PROJECT GETS UNDER WAY

City of Bath College's multi-million pound transformation to improve facilities for students and staff is now well under way.

The Kings Building has now been demolished and work has now started on constructing a new state-of-the-art entrance building on James Street West and Avon Street.

The new building, which could be open as soon as November 2011, will provide a bespoke reception area for students and visitors and see all of the College's Student Services housed in one area.

It will have new public hair and beauty salons and a dedicated Higher Education centre to cater for the increasing number of HE students studying at the College. There will also be a new College shop selling a range of products, from stationery and computer software to drinks and snacks.

The funding for the project is coming from a number of different sources, including a £225,000 grant from the Skills Funding Agency, the sale of the College's Westgate Building, the savings made from ending the lease on a rented building, and money from the College's own coffers.

Matt Atkinson, College Principal, said: "I'm pleased to say that this major building project is running to schedule and we are on course for a November opening.

"The College's estates team have been working hard to minimise disruption to students and our learners have been very understanding, realising that this new development, once completed, will benefit everyone at the College."



Top: How the new College building will look
Bottom: Demolition begins

COLLEGE TEAMS UP WITH LOCAL COMMUNITY AND BUSINESSES TO DELIVER NEW COURSES



City of Bath College has launched an exciting programme of more than 500 new part-time leisure courses – and is appealing to talented people in the local community to help deliver them.

The new Love2learn courses will cover a diverse range of subjects, from art, DIY and cookery to health, local history, fitness and floristry. There are also a range of professional courses available and even workshops on how to make the most of your wedding day on a budget.

The College is now using its unrivalled community and business links to appeal to skilled and talented local people to help deliver these courses, alongside its talented tutors.

For example, local landscape gardeners could help deliver horticulture courses, while qualified complementary therapists could contribute to one of our new well-being courses.

You do not already have to be a teacher to deliver these courses, just experienced in sharing your skills and knowledge. All the part-time positions are paid at attractive rates.

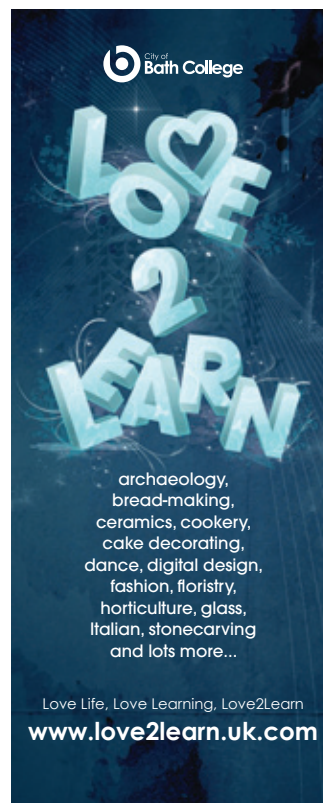
The College has already recruited Jon Monie, a regular performer at Bath Theatre Royal, to run a series of comedy improvisation workshops, while American jazz singer Joan Davis will be running singing classes.

Two recent recruitment events saw more than 100 people visit the College to find out more about how they could help deliver courses. Artists, construction specialists, dancers, health and fitness trainers and even a magician were among those who offered to use their talents to train students.

Matt Atkinson, College Principal, said: "City of Bath College is based at the heart of the city and is proud of its strong links with the local community and leading local businesses.

"We want to use these links to deliver our amazing new Love2learn courses in a truly inclusive way, looking to work with talented and skilled local people and leading businesspeople to train our learners.

"Our community is full of talented people and successful businesses and through this approach we will be able to ensure all of our exciting part-time courses are being taught by the best in the business."



STUDENTS LEARN FROM AUSCHWITZ VISIT

Four City of Bath College students have returned from an emotional visit to Auschwitz, the infamous collection of concentration camps at the centre of Hitler's World War Two Holocaust.

James Hamilton, Felix Marland, Stacie Fenton and Jodie Kesterton visited the German concentration camps as part of the national Lessons From Auschwitz project.

Run by the Holocaust Educational Trust, Lessons from Auschwitz explores the history of the Holocaust and aims to increase knowledge and understanding of the horrific events in today's young people.

Their trip began with a visit to a Jewish graveyard where they also talked about what Jewish life was like before the war.

They then moved on to look around the 'Auschwitz 1' concentration camp, followed by a tour of the even bigger 'Auschwitz 2 – Birkenau' – the biggest of all of Hitler's concentration camps.

The day was completed with a memorial ceremony held by a Rabbi to mark the lives lost during the Holocaust.

Felix said the visit had made a big impression on him. "Every so often there is something that makes you realise how much you take for granted, and this was definitely one of those times," he said.

For more information on the Lessons From Auschwitz project visit: www.lfaproject.org.uk



Pictured, left to right, are: Stacie Fenton, Jodie Kesterton, Felix Marland and James Hamilton.

FRIEND OF THE COLLEGE PROFILE

TREVOR OSBORNE; CHAIRMAN, THE TREVOR OSBORNE PROPERTY GROUP LIMITED

Trevor Osborne first worked in local government. He trained as a Chartered Surveyor by correspondence course qualifying as a Chartered Surveyor at the age of 21.

The achievement of a qualification gave Trevor the confidence to begin his own property business and, in more than four decades, he has been responsible for a wide range of development and property investment activity. He has chaired major development and house-building companies and sat on the Boards of others.

For the past 50 years, his activities have been concentrated as the principal shareholder and Chairman of The Trevor Osborne Property Group, undertaking major developments throughout the United Kingdom, many of which include the restoration and adaption of historic buildings often in conjunction with local authority and other public sector partners.

He believes that success in business often follows the gaining of qualifications, hard work, attention to detail and a passion for the project or product.

Trevor lives in Combe Hay, is married to Barbara and has two grown up children and one grandson. He is involved in many City activities including Future Bath Plus, Bath Initiative, Public Events and Public Realm Groups as well as Bath Architecture and the Holburne Museum Trust.

In past years, Trevor has served as a Royal Fine Arts Commissioner, as the president of the British Property Federation and the Chairman of the Prince of Wales' Villages Forum. He is a Member of the Court and a visiting Fellow of Oxford Brookes University.

He says: "The College offers a wide range of vocational training and education and is key in providing a career path for the many students who sign up to gain the tools for rewarding employment and business."



COLLEGE'S BUDDING FLORISTS TO EXHIBIT AT CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW

Trainee florists from City of Bath College have exhibited their work at the world-famous Chelsea Flower Show.

The students created a range of eye-catching designs and carried out a series of demonstrations for visitors to the show.

The demonstrations included a display inspired by the wide range of subjects that can be studied at City of Bath College. Flowers were displayed in copper piping to represent the College's plumbing courses, while sieves, whisks and colanders were included in a display representing catering courses.

To be invited to exhibit at such a high-profile show is the latest in a line of achievements for the College's Floristry department.

Last year, talented florist Bethan McGivern beat a number of top florists to land the Bronze award in the under 25s section of the Chelsea Florist of the Year competition.

This was followed by a team of six students scooping the coveted New Covent Garden Market College Award, beating off competition from 20 other UK colleges in the process.

Floristry tutor Louise Rawlings said: "Chelsea Flower Show is one of the world's most prestigious flower shows and to be invited to exhibit there is a real privilege.

"It reflects very well on the national reputation of the College's Floristry department and our talented students whose high-profile competition victories have really helped put us on the map.

The department has a new range of one-day workshops in horticulture as well as floristry. For more information, visit our website, www.citybathcoll.ac.uk



Pictured, from left to right, are: Michelle Miller, Jasmine Pullwitt, Hannah Lee, Debra Morgan, Lucy Price, Roisin Spence, Karen Mallon.

MAJOR APPRENTICE RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN IS A SUCCESS

A major campaign to increase the number of apprenticeships in Bath and North East Somerset by 100 in just 100 days has been a success.

The B&NES 100 in ONE HUNDRED campaign comfortably exceeded its target and has seen young, talented people from across the area find employment with a range of leading businesses.

The project was spearheaded in B&NES by the Learning and Skills Partnership - chaired by City of Bath College Principal Matt Atkinson - in partnership with The Bath Chronicle, Norton Radstock College, B&NES Council and JHP Training.

Each week The Bath Chronicle carried features about the businesses which had recruited apprentices, as well as updates on how the campaign was progressing.

Matt Atkinson, City of Bath College Principal, said: "The success of the 100 in ONE HUNDRED campaign is the result of a great deal of hard work by everyone involved in the project.

"The campaign really captured the imagination of people throughout the local area and its success will make a massive difference to the lives and careers of more than 100 people in Bath and North East Somerset.

"Apprenticeships are an ideal way for talented people to get their foot on the career ladder and provide businesses with their workforce of the future.

"I would like to thank all of the businesses who backed this campaign for their invaluable support, and wish all of the new apprentices the very best of luck for the future."

For more information about the 100 in ONE HUNDRED campaign and apprenticeships at City of Bath College, contact Stacey Harper, Customer Relationship Manager, on harpers@citybathcoll.ac.uk or **01225 328729**.

You can find out more about the campaign here: www.citybathcoll.ac.uk/apprenticeships and by following us on Twitter – search for **@100apprentices**



APPRENTICES CASE STUDY – SHANNON WILCOX AND SOPHIE MILES

City of Bath College apprentices Shannon Wilcox and Sophie Miles supported the successful 100 in ONE HUNDRED campaign – saying more needed to be done to promote apprenticeships to young people.

Sophie, 19, a Business Administration apprentice in the College's Services to Business team, said: "I don't think enough young people know about apprenticeships – what they are and how they work.

"When I left school nobody told me about them, I didn't even know it was an option. If I had, I would have started an apprenticeship straight away."

Shannon, 17, a Business Administration apprentice in the Marketing and Client Services department, said: "I was studying IT at City of Bath College but it wasn't for me and I wanted to try something different. I was lucky that my tutor suggested an apprenticeship as I probably wouldn't have known about it otherwise.

"The staff in the College's Student Advice Centre – where I now work – were fantastic. They explained to me all about how an apprenticeship works and gave me all the support and advice I needed.

"I would definitely recommend apprenticeships to young people, especially those who don't want to follow the traditional Sixth Form route when they have finished school. I'm really happy here at the College and know I've made the right decision to take on an apprenticeship."



Pictured are Sophie (left) and Shannon.

COLLEGE BANDS TAKE CENTRE STAGE AT GLASTONBURY

Two acts from City of Bath College's BA1 Records label will be performing in front of hundreds of people at the legendary Glastonbury music festival.

Largo Embargo, a five-piece ska/reggae fusion band, whose members all hail from Bath and Bristol, beat off tough competition to win the south west's Live and Unsigned competition.

The group wowed the sell-out audience and judges at Bristol's Colston Hall with their performance and will now star at this summer's Glastonbury festival.

Jake Williams, from Largo Embargo, said: "Our main goals in life are to make people dance and help create world peace – in that order!"

The band will join up-and-coming singing sensation Gabrielle Aplin, who will also be playing at the music festival.

Gabrielle has built up a massive online following and has performed a series of sell-out gigs around the country. She has already been interviewed and performed on BBC Introducing's website and will be recording a session at London's world-famous Maida Vale studios for BBC 6 Music later this month.

Gabrielle is currently recording her next EP and is about to embark on a second nationwide tour.

BA1 Records bands also played to a crowd of thousands at Bath's Royal Wedding party, which took place in Victoria Park. The public event was a massive success with people of all ages coming together to watch the wedding on a big screen and enjoying performances from some of Bath's top musical talent.



Gabrielle Aplin

STONEMASONRY STUDENTS WORK ON AN UNFINISHED MASTERPIECE

Talented trainee stonemasons have been helping to restore a stunning 19th century Victorian Gothic mansion.

Woodchester Mansion, tucked away in the secluded Cotswold Valley, just outside Stroud, was mysteriously abandoned mid-construction in 1873. The Grade 1 listed building has been saved from dereliction and partially restored, but will never be completed.

The building boasts incredible architecture and the carvings are among the best in the world.

Thanks to a partnership between City of Bath College and Woodchester Mansion Trust, stonemasonry students have been taking part in a 10-week project at the Mansion, which has seen them work on numerous different areas of the building.

One of the students, Jitka Palmer, created a Gothic-inspired carving, called Wooster, which could be installed alongside others high up on the Mansion roof.

Jitka said: "Working at Woodchester Mansion has been an incredible experience. It's the perfect place for a stonemason to work and learn. These kind of opportunities are the reason that I chose to study stonemasonry at City of Bath College."

Matt Atkinson, City of Bath College Principal, said: "Projects like this are inspirational. There is something special about the enthusiasm that our stonemasons show, and this is evident in the work they have done at Woodchester Mansion."

For more information about Woodchester Mansion visit: www.woodchestermansion.org.uk



Stonemasonry student Jitka Palmer with her carving

STUDENTS STAR IN CHEF V CHEF

College students Chris Emery and Claire Wilkins were among the top performers at Chef v Chef 2011.

Chris, who works at The Wheatsheaf at Combe Hay, won the gold award in the Under-23 section, whilst Claire picked up bronze. James Horwood from Hunstrete House was awarded silver.

Twelve year old Seb Shore proved to be a chip off the old block when he scooped a top prize. The son of a former Michelin starred chef put all the experience he had picked up in dad's kitchen to good use, and the proof of the pudding was in the eating.

The Norton Hill schoolboy impressed top chefs, Stuart McLeod of Zuidam uk Ltd, Gary Jones, Executive Head Chef of Le Manoir aux Quat'Saisons and TV Celebrity Chef Martin Blunos with his two dishes which featured pan fried filet of sea bass followed by poached pears with sponge.

The young chef kept his nerve to win the Under-16 section of the competition. Second place went to Alfred Lewis from Ralph Allen School and third to Joshua Hobbs, also from Norton Hill School in Midsomer Norton.

Top honours in the Over-23's went to Timothy Ashton from the Cheltenham Park Hotel, runner up was Kevin Francis from Guyers House Hotel and third was a former winner, Kamil Nawalka Wojciech from the Bowood Hotel.

Bath Chef v Chef, a partnership between the City of Bath College, Bath Chamber of Commerce and Initiative, Catering Services International and Woods Restaurant, was set up six years ago aiming to highlight improving skills and to promote high quality, modern cooking, wherever possible using seasonal produce.

Steve Benison, catering lecturer at City of Bath College, said: "Without the efforts of all the partners and the continued support of our sponsors, we couldn't possibly run this competition. It just goes to show what Bath can achieve when we all get together."



Claire Wilkins



Chris Emery

GENEROUS STUDENTS RAISE MORE THAN £1,000 FOR CHARITY

Generous students have been working hard to raise money for a number of good causes.

Health and Social Care students raised more than £200 to help those affected by the devastating Japanese earthquake and tsunami.

The students, all studying the BTEC National Diploma in Childcare, included Japanese student Junko Lu.

The group held a cake sale at the College and Junko wrote students' names in Japanese for a £1 donation. They also walked around the College campus to collect donations from students and staff.

By the end of their day of fund-raising they had collected an impressive £224 which will be donated to the international aid effort.

Junko, who now lives in Bath, said: "All the students and staff at the College have been very generous and happy to donate money – everyone has seen the pictures of devastation on TV and know what a worthwhile cause it is."

Meanwhile, more than £1,100 was raised for charity as part of an action packed week of events and activities.

RAG (Raise and Give) Week raised money for Comic Relief, as well as a host of other charities, including Help for Heroes, Great Ormond Street and the Teenage Cancer Trust.

A range of activities were organised to raise cash, with many of the ideas coming from Enterprise and Entrepreneurship students.

Popular activities included 'sponge the tutor', a raffle and a cake sale and student Chris Webb even agreed to have his legs waxed to raise cash.



Estates Manager Sean Stephenson gets a soaking



Junko (centre) with Jenny Dunn (left) and Natalie Bracey



WHAT'S ON AT CITY OF BATH COLLEGE THIS SUMMER

- 31st May to 4th June** Fashion Show showcasing Art and Design Students' work in MAPA, from 9am to 5pm (open until 9.30pm Fri and Sat). The runway show will take place on 4th June at 1pm, 3pm and 7pm.
- 9th June** Summer Rendezvous, gourmet three course dinner in The Shrubbery (£20) at 7pm. To book call 01225 328502.
- 15th June** Level 2 Diploma in Performing Arts showcase in the Performance Space at 2.30pm or 6pm.
- 17th to 25th June** **Art and Design Students Annual Assessment Exhibition**
 Private View for Opening Night: Friday 17th June from 6pm to 8.30pm
 A reception for College Friends will be held at 5.30pm in The Shrubbery Restaurant. Please RSVP to Rachael Collier.
Public Opening
 Monday 20th to Thursday 23rd June from 10am to 6.30pm
 Friday 24th June from 10am to 5.30pm
 Sat, 25th June from 11am to 4pm
- 22nd June** Extended Diploma in Performing Arts showcase in the Performance Space at 2.30pm or 6pm.
- 29th June** End of Year Film Show at the Little Theatre, showcasing Media, Music and Performing Art Students' Work at 8pm.
- 4th to 8th July** **Schools' Art Show:**
 Mon, 4th July from 6.30pm to 8.30pm
 Tue, 5th to Fri, 8th July from 10am to 5pm
- 14th July** Graduation Ceremony, The Guildhall, Bath at 2pm
- 21st September** Celebrating Success Awards, The Guildhall, Bath

If you would like to attend any of the above events please contact **Rachael Collier** on **01225 328734** or **collierR@citybathcoll.ac.uk**