

# CAMPUS ROUND-UP



FE Week celebrating FE in partnership with Empra

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Ed Miliband at  
Harlow College

## Tongues will be wagging...

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FINALIST



Welcome to CAMPUS ROUND-UP edition 34



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Welcome to Edition 34 of our Campus Round-Up digital magazine. The guest editor this week is our

latest paid intern Alyce Mctigue [pictured], aged 20, who is in her final year of a journalism degree at the Harlow, Essex, campus for Anglia Ruskin University.

She spent the last five months as a social media intern at London-based fashion label AngelEye, where she tweeted about the brand's clothing and wrote a fashion-based blog.

Alyce has worked really hard with writing and researching articles for this magazine. She has a first-rate 'can-do' attitude which will serve her well in journalism.

She has also



helped with designing the pages and learned about editing photos through Photoshop.

Highlights of this week's edition include stories on a visit to Harlow College by Labour Party leader Ed Miliband and the former City of Liverpool College drama student co-starring with Jude Law in a Hollywood action movie.

Another article told how level three public services students from Chichester College were encouraged to hurl rocks in a mock-riot for a police training exercise.

We also

reported on singer Tony Christie posing for a portrait photo at Walsall College after he was contacted by a student through Facebook and East Durham College learner Leigh Newton winning two world championship gold medals at Thai boxing, just two years after she took up the sport.

The feature is about agriculture returning to the syllabus at Berkshire-based BCA college after a 13 year absence.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Getting on their bikes to raise £2.3m for Children in Need

Further education learners John Dunwell and Jessica Davies helped raise £2.3m for Children in Need through a gruelling cycling challenge.

They raised the money as part of a team of inspirational young people sponsored to cycle 450-miles from Salford, Manchester, to London, on rickshaw bikes ahead of the main BBC fundraising show hosted by Terry Wogan on Friday



Jessica Davies

(November 14).

Leeds City College level two food preparation and cookery learner John Dunwell, aged 17, was chosen for the challenge after he competed in the British Transplant Games at a variety of sports including swimming and badminton in 2012 and 2014, after recovering from a kidney transplant in 2011.

Level one vocational studies learner Jessica Davies, 16, from Northamptonshire-based Tresham College, was chosen for the team by BBC bosses in recognition of her involvement with the Dwarf Sport Association (DSA), which is funded by BBC Children in Need. John said: "It was a shock to be picked for the challenge.

"But I was happy to be able to help out."

Jessica said: "By funding the DSA, Children in Need has really had such a positive benefit on me, so it was nice to have the chance to return the favour."



John Dunwell on his rickshaw

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

EDITION 34

The FE Week team:

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

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

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From left: Winning students Tony Newberry and Thomas Gill, Jan Hodges OBE, chief executive of the Edge Foundation, Theo Paphitis, the Skills Show patron, and students Phil Newberry and Steven Upton



From left: David Humpston and Mr Paphitis

## Cash boost for award winning entrepreneurs

A team of budding entrepreneurs from Barking & Dagenham College won £5,000 through developing digital business cards that can be shared via an app and online.

Animation and IT students Thomas Gill, aged 21, Steven Upton, 19, Phil Newberry, 22, and Tony Newberry, 21, scooped first prize in the team section of the Edge Challenge. The competition was launched last year by education charity the Edge Foundation, the Peter Jones Enterprise Academy and the Gazelle Colleges Group.

This year's finalists had to pitch start-up business ideas to an audience at The Skills Show in Birmingham on Thursday

(November 13) and Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg handed out the awards. Steven said: "Winning the Edge Challenge was a real boost for us. It process encouraged us to really think hard about our business and make the most of it."

David Humpston, 19, who graduated in June from a level three BTEc in enterprise and entrepreneurship at the Peter Jones Enterprise Academy, in Aylesbury, took home £3,000 for winning the individual category.

He impressed judges with his action video production company called Viewpoint Videos. He said: "The feedback I have had from the judges has been incredibly useful and I'm so excited to have won."



Ed Miliband speaking at Harlow College

## Labour leader speaks to college staff and students

Labour Party leader Ed Miliband came in for a grilling from journalism students from Harlow College during a visit. They quizzed him on tuition fees, youth unemployment and how he deals with pressure, among

other issues, on Wednesday, November 12.

Tom Powter, a 21-year-old learner studying for National Council for the Training of Journalists (NCTJ) qualifications, said: "Meeting and interviewing Mr Miliband was a fantastic opportunity for me as a trainee reporter."

"I felt the college set up the day excellently and it gave us an amazing insight into the dizzying world of political journalism."

Mr Miliband told staff and students that he faced "a fight that I'm up for".

He pledged to reduce university tuition fees to £6,000 per year if elected as Prime Minister next year. He also said Labour would extend the vote to 16 and 17-year-olds and promised that his party would not go back on promises to students.



Mr Miliband surrounded by staff and students

## Bob's big break in action film with Jude Law



Bob Schofield

A 20-year-old former City of Liverpool College drama student has co-starred with Jude Law in a Hollywood action movie.

Bob Schofield completed an HNC in drama at the college in 2012 and worked in theatre before securing his big break by being cast in the film, called Black Sea, which was directed by Oscar-winning film maker Kevin Macdonald and will go on general release next month.

It centres around unemployed submarine captain Dom Hemingway, played by Mr Law, who goes on the hunt for sunken Nazi treasure.

Bob plays Tobin, a homeless young man who becomes one of Dom's misfit crew hunting for the treasure.

It involved nine months of filming in Kent and Ukraine.

Bob said his time at college prepared him well for the demands of the industry.

He said: "The teachers care

and their passion makes you care.

"It's that support which has helped me.

"I did the first audition [for the film] in London but it didn't really hit home that I had a chance until my third audition, which was a reading at Jude Law's house.

"That's when I thought 'this could really happen', then I heard the next day that I'd got the role."

Elaine Bowker, college principal, said: "I'm really pleased for Bob and I know the drama staff here at the college are made up that he has managed to win a role in such a major film.

"I think he's an inspiration for other students and shows the great work of the drama team here in harnessing young talent and giving students the opportunity to achieve their goals."

Jude Law



## 'Rioting' learners help to train the police

Level three public services students from Chichester College attacked the police with rocks and wooden planks in a riot re-enactment.

The event at Longmore Army Camp was organised by Sussex, Surrey and Kent police forces to give officers

experience of how to deal with large-scale public disorders. Public services lecturer Rob Giles said: "Every single one of the 36 students got into character and really played up to the role of rioters in a way that would be valuable experience for the police.

"They replicated a full-on civil disturbance by throwing bricks and wooden blocks, while controlled petrol bombs and pieces of rubber were also used make the 'disturbance' look as realistic as possible."

Sussex Police sergeant Helen Dunkling said: "The students appeared to throw themselves into their roles and made for an excellent and realistic cross section of society."



Riot police at the event



Learners hurling rocks

# Agriculture studies return to college after 13 year absence

Berkshire College of Agriculture (BCA) invited local farmers to a celebration of the re-launch of agriculture into its syllabus after a 13-year absence, writes Paul Offord.

A college that stopped offering agriculture courses following an outbreak of foot and mouth disease is now helping tackle the problem of farming's ageing working population.

There were farming-based courses taught at the 1500-learner Berkshire College of Agriculture (BCA) for more than 50 years until they were stopped in 2001.

The college was even rebranded — it is only called BCA on its website — to avoid confusion after it stopped teaching agriculture, but carried on offering a variety of FE courses including sport, equine studies, science, floristry and horticulture.

But it launched a level three extended diploma in agriculture in September which was celebrated this month with an official launch party.

It was attended by more than 20 local farmers, past and present students and representatives from the Country Land Owners Association and the National Farmers Union.

Victoria Beckwith-King, head of horticulture, countryside and agriculture, said: "Our slogan for the launch event was 'putting the A back into BCA' as it was obviously a shame that a college with our name had stopped teaching agriculture."

Current learners celebrated the return of agriculture to the syllabus at the launch event by restaging black and white photos taken of students in 1949.

Ms Beckwith-King said: "The college first opened in 1948 when we were the Berkshire Institute of Agriculture and mainly prepared servicemen returning from the Second World War to work in farming.

"We were sadly forced to stop teaching the subject after an outbreak of foot and mouth in 2001 because farmers weren't sending their children to train with us any more, as they weren't certain there was a future in livestock and arable farming."

Ms Beckwith-King said the outlook for the farming industry was now far more positive and they took the decision to launch the new course following a number of enquiries from local farmers.

She said: "We are seeing an ageing population among the agriculture workforce and decided we needed to do something to help train the next generation.

"The course itself covers livestock and arable

farming, estate management which involves things like managing fencing and hedgerows, and tractor skills."

Local farmer and college governor Colin Rayner turned 54 acres of grassland on college grounds into a working arable farm over the summer which the students will now train on.

Ms Beckwith Smith said: "They will gain hands' on experience of things like growing crops and how to work a tractor.

"They will also work at local farms which run dairy and livestock herds and help with looking after them and things like milking.

"We used to have Friesian and Jersey herds of cattle, but sold-off our old working dairy farm to developers after we stopped running the course."

A total of 11 women and seven men, aged between 16 and 28, have signed-up for the course so far.

Mrs Beckwith Smith said: "Farming used to be quite male-orientated but our first intake reflects how that is changing."



Learners waking away from the college 55 years ago



Current agriculture students outside the college



Current students and guests at the re-launch event



Learners outside the college in 1949



Staff and learners on the college's entrance steps



## Singer finds his way to Walsall College... via Facebook



From Left: Singer Tony Christie with photography student Kristofor Green

Singer Tony Christie found his way to Walsall College to pose for a portrait photo taken by a student who contacted him through Facebook.

Mr Christie, who topped the UK singles chart in 2005 when his signature tune *Is this the way to Amarillo?* was re-released, lives 10 miles away from the college in Lichfield.

Student Kristofor Green, 32, sent a message to the singer via his Facebook page asking if he could pose for a portrait and was thrilled when he agreed.

He said: "Our tutor set us the difficult challenge of taking a portrait photo of a famous person.

"I always try my best to complete a challenge, so I did some research about local celebrities and came across Tony Christie.

"I was amazed when Tony said he would be ok with being photographed."

Photography tutor Bryn Griffiths said: "In completing this task, Kristofor has shown a lot of passion and determination, two attributes of a great photographer and I'm confident he will have a successful career in the industry post college."

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## Thai boxer is wins double-gold in world championship

An East Durham College level two sport student has returned home from Italy with two world championship gold medals for Thai boxing.

Leigh Newton, aged 16, who took up the sport two years ago, fought in the World Kickboxing Association (WKA) finals in Tuscany this month.

She won the 48kg weight category and picked up gold in a second discipline, K1, which incorporates elements of karate and kung fu.

"Just to get to the world championships was a fantastic opportunity," said Leigh.

"It was great being part of the England team and going out there to compete on behalf of my country.

"I am really proud to have brought these medals home.

"I look forward now to continue to work hard and improve in the sport with the help of the boxing coaches at the college."



Leigh Newton with her medals

