

CAMPUS ROUND-UP



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Level two animal care apprentice Sophie Harvison, aged 17, holding a skunk. Inset: A ring tail lemur at the college

CREATURE COMFORT

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GIANT MURAL COMMEMORATES FALKLANDS WAR PAGE 8

Tongues will be wagging...

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FINALIST



Welcome to CAMPUS ROUND-UP edition 36



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Welcome to Edition 36 of our digital Campus Round-Up magazine. This week's guest editor is

Rebecca Jones, aged 21, who graduated in June from the University of Chester with a degree in journalism with photography. Rebecca was paid as a multi-media journalist and social media manager for six months at West View Publications, in Chester, while completing her studies from December 2013 to June. She previously spent six months in 2013 on an unpaid work placement that counted towards her course with Archant Publishing, where she wrote articles and features for Essex Life magazine, Coastal Life magazine and The East



Anglian Daily Times. During her time here so far, Rebecca has focused on writing-up stories, sourcing pictures and uploading content onto the FE Week Twitter page. She also attended an MPs' Education Select Committee hearing with me at Portcullis House, Westminster, that focused on how the number and quality of apprenticeships for 16 to 19-year-olds could be improved. Highlights of this week's edition include stories on a giant mural commemoration for the Falklands War created by South

Downs College learners and a talk by former Death Row inmate Nick Yarris to City College Norwich learners about his 23 years behind bars for a crime he did not commit. We also reported on level three business students from South Cheshire College pitching their ideas to a Dragon's Den-style panel of business leaders. The feature compared apprenticeships in 1914 with today.

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Walk for hospital that saved 'little miracle'

A Darlington College learner organised a 33-mile trek along Hadrian's Wall to raise funds for a hospital unit that saved the life of her younger brother. Abbie Taylor, aged 17, and more than 20 other uniformed and public services extended diploma learners spent two days walking the length of the wall built by the Romans in 122AD from West Cumbria to Northumberland to keep out Scottish invaders. They raised £1,200 in sponsorship for Freeman Hospital, in Newcastle, where her seven-year-old brother, Finlay, was treated as a baby.

When Finlay was born, x-rays showed that his heart was the size of a five-year-old's. Doctors found that he had a dangerously narrow aorta and performed a life-saving operation.

Abbie said: "Finlay was so poorly. He could have died in his sleep at any time. "Now he is great — just like an annoying little brother should be. "When our tutor asked us to choose a charity we all jumped at the chance of helping the hospital. "The walk was tough and we got soaked through but it was well worthwhile." Finlay said: "It is amazing to think I could have died. "When I go for my check-ups they call me the little miracle."



Above: Abbie Taylor [second from right] with other Darlington College uniformed and public services students ahead of the walk. Left: Finlay Taylor as a baby. Far left: Finlay today with his mum Gayle Taylor

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EDITION 36

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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. If you are interested in placing a product or job advert contact Hannah Smith. Details below: E: hannah.smith@feweek.co.uk T: 020 8123 4778

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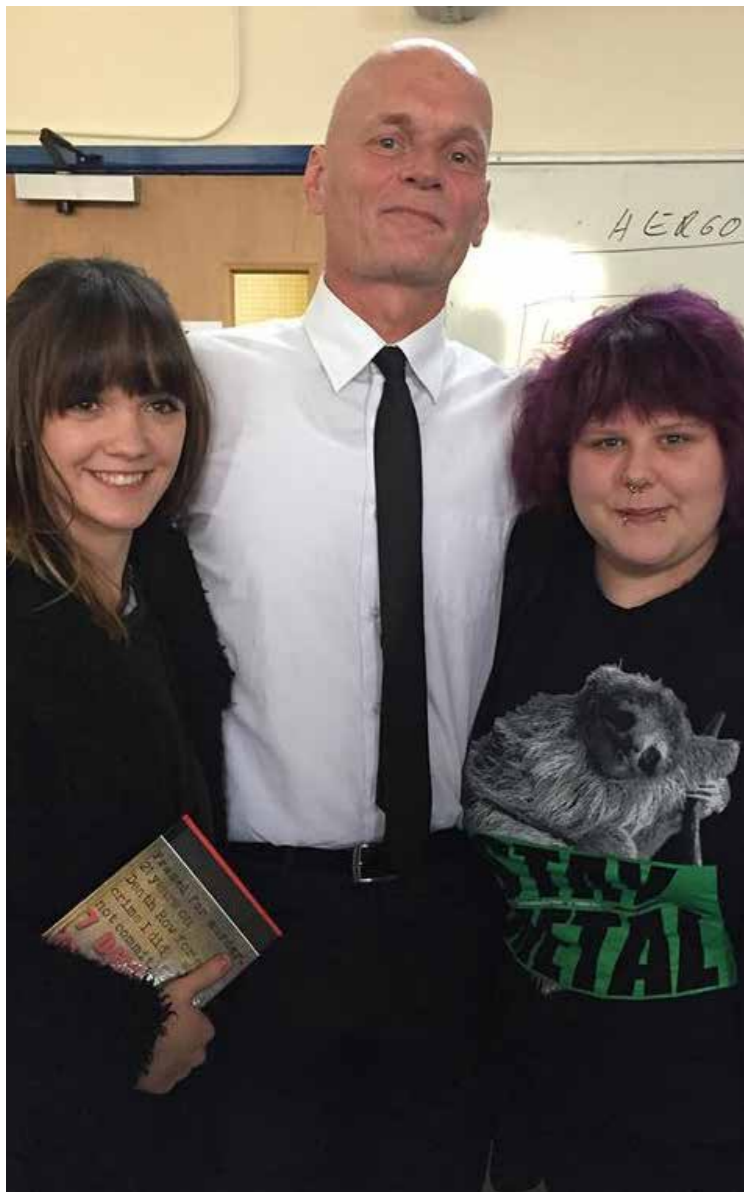
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From left: Learner Lily Fox, aged 18, Nick Yarris and learner Charlotte Jones, 16

Ex-Death Row inmate tells how studying helped clear his name

A former Death Row inmate told City College Norwich learners how studying behind bars helped clear his name.

American-born Nick Yarris, aged 52, was wrongly convicted of the rape and murder of a woman in Pennsylvania in 1982.

Mr Yarris told more than 100 A-level psychology, law and sociology learners that he educated himself from his maximum security cell and learned about advancements in DNA testing.

He successfully campaigned for key evidence in his case to be

re-examined using DNA testing, which ultimately led to his release in 2004.

Mr Yarris also spoke about the brutal treatment he was subjected to from other inmates and guards.

A-level law student Tia McAleese, aged 17, from Norwich, said: "It actually left me speechless and it's disgraceful that he was put through all of that."

"Listening to his story has made me want to change the law and has motivated me to be a better person as he is so forgiving — I wish I was like that."



From left: Peter James, chair of the Green Gown Awards Steering Group, Sara Sands, college vice principal for finance and corporate services, Shane Woodhatch, college financial controller, and Simon Reeve, writer and broadcaster



Staff and students at the fashion show

Green award for 'E-Collegey' scheme

Uxbridge College took the Best Newcomer title in the national Green Gown Awards which recognise sustainability initiatives by education institutions.

The college was recognised for its E-Collegey initiative launched two years ago to boost staff and student interest in green issues.

Activities have included car-sharing and cycle purchase and maintenance schemes to limit the number of people driving to and from college.

There was also a 'sustainable' movie-themed fashion show where all the outfits were adapted from clothes bought in charity shops.

Learners also ran a 'Shift it and Gift it' sale where staff and

students brought in toys, books and other potential gift items they no longer needed to sell at college, which raised around £400 for the Michael Sobell Hospice in nearby Hillingdon.

Lorraine Collins, executive director of enterprise and development, said: "It was really nice to be recognised with an award."

"We wanted a sustainable focus in the college and thought the best way to do that would be to create a clear brand that everyone recognised."

"Teams of students now wear high visibility jackets showing the logo when they do sustainable work around the college, like picking up litter and planting flowers."

Zoo license granted to college

Pics: Mat Austin Images



Level two animal care learner Charley Ann Nicks, aged 18, feeding a chinchilla



College animal enclosures



Alpacas in the college grounds

Bicton College has been granted a zoo licence allowing it to show its collection of exotic animals to the public.

The Devon-based college opened an animal husbandry school in March for animal care, husbandry and conservation courses, which

was paid for with a £2,880,000 grant from the Skills Funding Agency.

It contains a number of animal enclosures and paddocks that house animals including ring tail lemurs, alpacas, chinchillas, skunks, snakes, terrapins and spiders.

The college has now been granted a zoo licence.

Sue Merrett, head of animal care, said: "Our plan is to open for programmed education events for schools, youth and community groups and themed activities including junior keeper and face your

phobia days.

"Our students will take a primary role in handling the animals and presenting to the public, providing them with extra experience and real-world training to further embellish the skills they present to future employees."

Grant pays for anti-bullying training

Learners from Coventry-based Hereward College's peer support team received anti-bullying training.

The team, which was launched in 2005 to help first year students

adjust to college life, received a £1,500 grant from coffee retailer Starbucks. It paid for a two-day visit from the The Diana Award Anti-Bullying Training Team, launched in memory of the former

Princess of Wales, which taught the 22 learners how to change the behaviour of bullies.

Level two ICT learner Warren Fletcher, aged 17, said: "The training was very helpful. It gave

us the skills we need to deal with bullying — which are confidence, listening and communication."

The grant will also fund a film showcasing the team's anti-bullying work.



Members of the peer support team who did the anti-bullying training

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Looking back 100 years to when apprentices could be jailed for 'idleness'

New research by a Lincoln university professor of history, commissioned by the Skills Funding Agency (SFA), shows how apprenticeships have changed since the outbreak of the First World War, writes Paul Offord.

Today's apprentices might expect to be hauled before their employer or tutor if they are not pulling their weight — but not a judge.

As part of the government's Made by Apprentices 1914-2014 campaign, the Skills Funding Agency (SFA) commissioned professor of history at the University of Lincoln Krista Cowman to study historical records and prepare an overview of early 20th Century apprenticeships.

Professor Cowman found that apprentices who, according to their bosses, were performing below par a century ago could be summoned to appear in court.

It could be for turning up late, being "idle" or just having a bad attitude and could even result in a prison sentence.

A spokesperson said: "There were strict systems and consequences for bad behaviour — 'idle' apprentices could be summoned to court or even spend time in jail.

"An apprentice from Manchester was taken to court for reading a novel and smoking cigarettes during working hours and for wrestling with other boys."

A selection of photos of apprentices taken around 100 years ago in North East England were released to coincide with the campaign,

launched as part of commemorations of the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War, that aims to help boost awareness of apprenticeships among young people and employers and show how they have changed.



An apprentice fitter sits on a large pile of cables at a shipyard in Tyneside
Pics: Tyne & Wear Museum



Apprentices in a brass foundry in North East England in 1914. Inset: A female apprentice working in an iron foundry at around the same time



Edward Padgett (third from right) with his staff who are all past apprentices. Inset: Arthur Padgett

It was supported by Edward Padgett, owner of Arthur Padgett plumbing business in Lancashire, which started trading almost 100 years ago and was founded by his grandfather, Arthur Padgett.

He said: "My grandfather started as an apprentice in plumbing over a century ago. "Since then our trade has evolved enormously, but the need for skilled labour is still as relevant today. That's why we continue to support apprenticeships."

Sue Husband, director of apprenticeships at the National Apprenticeship Service, said: "We urge employers to take stock on what has been achieved in the last century and consider how apprenticeships could help their business deliver for years to come."

Professor Cowman's research allowed the SFA to compare the 10 most popular apprenticeships in 1914 with those of today (see table).

Traditional trades including dress making, carpentry and millinery dominated back then, but it is more varied today with health and social care, business administration and

management topping the list.

There were 851,500 people taking part in apprenticeships in 2013/14 across all ages and all levels, according to government figures in last month's Statistical First Release, compared to around 192,000 in 1914, according to the SFA.

Most apprentices in 1914 started work aged 15 to 17, according to the report. But nowadays the 25+ age group is home to the greatest number of starts, at 161,600. For 16 to 18 in 2013/14 the figure was 119,800.

Funding arrangements also differed in 1914, as apprentices were "indentured" — which meant they were legally required to work for an employer for a number of years and had to pay a fee to their employer to cover the cost of training and tools.

An SFA spokesperson said: "Today, in contrast, apprentices have quality apprenticeship frameworks, their training funded by the government and employers, their tools are provided, they have access to higher education and employers provide further support through mentoring."

Most popular types of apprenticeships:

	1914:	2014:
1.	Dressmaking	1. Health and social care
2.	Engineering	2. Business administration
3.	Carpentry	3. Management
4.	Drapery	4. Hospitality and catering
5.	Millinery	5. Customer service
6.	Fitting	6. Children's care learning and development
7.	Joinery	7. Retail
8.	Tailoring	8. Construction skills
9.	Plumbing	9. Engineering
10.	Printing	10. Hairdressing

Giant mural commemorates Falklands War

A giant mural telling the story of the Falklands War was created by A-level art and design students at the HMS Excellent Royal Navy base in Portsmouth.

Base warrant officer Simon Hayman had the idea for the 12ft by 12ft mural while attending a recent commemoration dinner for the conflict between Britain and Argentina in 1982.

He emailed South Downs College to ask if students would like to take on the project.

Around 20 learners developed the concept and a number of stencils over six months, before spending eight days painting it onto a wall in the officers' mess at the navy base.

Lyn Surgeon, college principal, said: "It's quite amazing when you think of the quality of work that our young people have been able to produce and the incredibly creative and respectful way they honoured the veterans from the Falklands."



Above: The mural

Mr Hayman, said: "The students delivered something monumental in my eyes. What the students have produced tells a story and they've captured every aspect of it."

"For that I am eternally grateful, my mess is grateful and I am proud to be associated to it."



Art and design lecturer Mark Kellett, student Luke Aris, aged 21, principal Lyn Surgeon, Fleet Commander Vice Admiral Jones, and students Amelia Fewings, 17, and India Benton, 18 at the unveiling ceremony



Back row from left: Students who pitched ideas Tommy Locklin and Jake Toal, both aged 16, and Mulenga Kangwa, 17, with Phil Taylor from Alextra Accountants. Front row from left: Learners Jess Brown, 18, and Michael Madeley, 16, and Jamie Stewart from Momentum Factor

Learners enter 'Dragons' Den'

Level three business students from South Cheshire College pitched their business ideas to a Dragons' Den-style panel of business leaders.

A total of 75 learners presented proposals to representatives from organisations including marketing agency Momentum Factor UK and accountancy firm The Alextra Group.

Ideas included a relaxation zone in a shopping centre, featuring computer games, where people who hate shopping could wait while their

partners visited stores. Another learner wanted to open a night club without DJs where clubbers chose songs at the touch of a button.

The panel selected the 18 best ideas which will be further developed ahead of the college's Business Exhibition in January, where an overall winner will be chosen.

Claire Finney, business lecturer at South Cheshire College, said: "The students have all worked exceptionally hard on their business ideas and put forward some excellent proposals to employers."

ROUND-UP IN BRIEF

Lunar samples exhibited

Samples from rocks taken home by astronauts from the moon were exhibited at Walford and North Shropshire College.

The lunar samples were collected during 1960s and 1970s NASA missions. Science lecturer Rupert Boyle also allowed college learners and visiting secondary school students to touch hand-sized meteorites.

Professor John Womersley, college chief executive, said: "It was an unforgettable experience to be able to hold such an important part of history and one we hope will inspire the scientists of the future."

Olympic training for Brazilian learners

Bournemouth and Poole College is helping train Brazilian travel and tourism students to cope with the influx of visitors expected for the 2016 Rio Olympics.

A group of 10 learners from universities across Brazil arrived at the college last month for 13 weeks of intensive classes in all aspects of customer care.

Sue Sharkey, director of international studies, said: "They are all enthusiastic to improve their knowledge of the tourism industry. "It will be especially important with the Olympics approaching."

Voting reform chat with MP

Liverpool West Derby MP Stephen Twigg discussed voting reform during a visit to West Cheshire College.

He met learners on a number of different courses during a tour of the Chester Campus and discussed the merits of lowering the voting age with student union president Sarah-Jayne Wiggins, aged 19, and level three business student Alex Bintley, 20.

Principal Nigel Davies said: "We encourage all our students to take an active interest in politics so they understand how decisions locally and nationally affect them. The students that spoke with Stephen were a huge credit to the college."

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