

# THE BLC Issue 12 MESSENGER



**BUXTON & LEEK  
COLLEGE**



## BUXTON & LEEK COLLEGE CELEBRATES GOOD OFSTED RATING

**Following a recent Ofsted inspection, the University of Derby has been rated 'Good' for its Further Education provision, which is mainly delivered by Buxton & Leek College.**

This is a magnificent achievement for the organisation and demonstrates commitment and focus from staff over the last two academic years to improve from the last inspection where the rating was 'requires improvement'. Every area of the inspection was rated 'Good', including the quality of teaching, learning and assessment, outcomes for learners, personal development, behaviour and welfare.

The report, which was made public on 8 March 2019, observed

that staff are well qualified and experienced in their subjects and provide very effective training in current industry and business practice, helping to develop students' and apprentices' practical skills and prepare them for the world of work or progression into Higher Education.

The Senior Leaders of the organisation were shown to have a clear vision to create a progressive education institution of the highest quality, giving opportunities from entry level through to degree level. This is rarely available through a single institution, as Buxton & Leek College is one of very few colleges in the country to be part of a Higher Education Institution.

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**Len Tildsley, Principal of Buxton & Leek College said:**

"Our inspection report sends a clear message to prospective students, parents, employers and our local communities that we are absolutely committed to providing the best possible vocational education and training experiences. Whether you are a young person leaving school or an adult seeking to improve your skills, there is nowhere with better facilities, better teachers and better opportunities in our local areas than Buxton & Leek College."

The safety and wellbeing of students is of paramount importance and inspectors found that managers and staff have developed a strong culture of safeguarding at the

College. Students are safe, they feel safe and know how to keep themselves safe, including when they are using the Internet.

Provision for students with High Needs also received strong praise, with teachers offering supportive challenge that helps to ensure that students work hard. As a result, students are well motivated. Students on higher level vocational programmes that have complex learning needs make better progress due to the highly effective support they receive.

**Olivia Dean, Chair of the Further Education Governance Committee said:**

"One of the focuses of the College is to inspire students of all ages and abilities to want to achieve and then exceed their

potential and we are delighted that the report supports this."

Full details of the report can be found on the Buxton & Leek College website. Visit <https://www.blc.ac.uk/news/buxton-leek-college-celebrates-good-ofsted-rating> where the report is available to read and download.



## Raising money for charity

Students and staff from Buxton & Leek College have been busy organising and taking part in a number of fundraising activities this year. Here's just a snapshot of some of the most recent activities that have taken place:

**Students at the Leek Campus** have worked with the Raise & Give Club, organised by the Union of Students and Enrichment team for a six week period. The students organised a sponsored charity walk around Tittesworth reservoir, raising money for Help for Heroes and Shelter.

**Outdoor Sports students** raised £85 earlier in the year by running a climbing wall event at Tideswell Primary School. The money raised will go to mental health charity MIND.

**Business students** organised a charity fundraiser in the Devonshire Dome with the support of local businesses. They raffled off a host of fantastic prizes and offered cakes and other sweet treats for sale. They raised a grand total of £261, which was split between three charities: Cancer Research UK, DEBRA and The Christie NHS Foundation Trust.

**Staff and students** took part in a Charity Football Match to raise money for Comic Relief. 30 students and 16 staff took part in the match, which raised a whopping £539 for the charity. The event was organised by the Enrichment team with staff and student support.

The winners of the tournament were the Sports students, led by Sport tutor Dan Tapley.



Anyone who would like to donate for this event can still do so at [uk.virginmoneygiving.com/BLCFootball](http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/BLCFootball)

## BLC EVENTS

Come along to one of our FREE events to find out more about Buxton & Leek College, our courses and how you can apply:



## BE PART OF OUR EVENTS AT BLC

**OPEN DAYS**

Come and experience College life for yourself at our Open Days.

**SAT 11 MAY 2019 10AM – 1PM**

### ADVICE EVENINGS

If you want to find out more about our courses, come and meet our friendly tutors and chat to some of our current students at one of our Advice Evenings.

### CAREER EVENTS

We also hold a series of sector specific events throughout the year. Come along and find out more about the subject areas available at BLC and how these can help

with progression into different industries. During these events you'll meet employers and education specialists to find out more about the careers in these sectors and take part in our free workshops.

Our dedicated Careers team are also on hand to offer information, advice and guidance on employability and progression within these sectors.

Can't see what you're looking for? We hold regular events throughout the year. Keep an eye on our website for new dates. Visit [www.blc.ac.uk](http://www.blc.ac.uk)

## CONNECT WITH US:

To keep up to date with all of the latest events and news from the College, search BuxtonLeek to follow us on social media.



Follow us



Capture us



Like us



Snap us



Connect with us

### LEEK CAMPUS

Stockwell Street, Leek, Staffordshire. ST13 6DP

### BUXTON CAMPUS

1 Devonshire Road, Buxton, Derbyshire. SK17 6RY

### DERBY CAMPUS

Kedleston Road, Derby. DE22 1GB

**SPECIALIST TRAINING CENTRE** Unit 28, Harpur Hill Business Park, Buxton, SK17 9JL

For more information about getting to our Campuses by bus, train or car email [transport@blc.ac.uk](mailto:transport@blc.ac.uk) or visit [www.blc.ac.uk/transport](http://www.blc.ac.uk/transport). For more information call **0800 074 0099** or visit [www.blc.ac.uk](http://www.blc.ac.uk)



# BLC NEWS

## Charity abseil for College Principal



**Buxton & Leek College Principal, Len Tildsley, took part in a charity abseil organised by Outdoor Sports students.**

Leek Town Mayor Cllr. Brian Johnson also took part, with all funds raised going towards the Mayor's Charity which supports local youth organisations in the town.

The students set up the event by rigging a fixed abseil to the top of the Church tower, ensuring that all participants had the right safety equipment and ropes.

*"This is just one of the many activities that we get to do as part of this course that makes it so great," said student Tom Bailey. "We are really prepared for the world of work with this course because we get to experience a wide range of activities. Our tutors are brilliant and give us so much support; being based in the Peak District is also a perfect setting as we get to experience all this on our doorstep!"*



## Maths & English students in GCSE pass success

**136 Buxton & Leek College students passed their GCSE Maths and English qualification after not achieving a grade 4 (equivalent to a grade C) in their exams at school. 45 of these students achieved a high pass at grade 5-7.**

**If you're looking to brush up on your maths & English skills, or re-sit your GCSE exams, get in touch with our team on 0800 074 0099.**



## Students question Ruth George on Funding

**Ruth George, MP for High Peak, visited Buxton & Leek College to take questions from students and staff on the impact of funding cuts to further education (FE).**

Ruth's visit was planned in conjunction with Colleges Week 2018, a national event organised by College staff, students and supporters, plus the education unions to lobby the government to provide fairer funding of FE in the budget and the next spending review.

Students at the round table discussion held at the Buxton campus asked Ruth questions such as why the government had cut funding, the impact on Colleges in relation to Brexit and where the extra funding that Labour

proposes in their manifesto, would come from.

**Len Tildsley, Principal of the College, speaking to the students before the discussions began, said:**

*"Colleges Week is a national campaign to raise awareness of our plight; to seek additional funding for further education. The intention of this discussion is to get Ruth on side to lobby the government on our behalf."*

**Speaking after the discussion, Ruth George MP commented:**

*"I was delighted to call into Buxton & Leek College, where my own son studied Business a few years ago, to speak with current students and staff about the Love Our Colleges campaign which I fully support. Education up to 18-years-old is now compulsory and it's the most important time for young people to acquire the skills and qualifications they need to go into higher education or start a career."*

## Fun team building day at Tittesworth



**As part of their Buxton & Leek College induction, in September, new students attended a fun team building day at Tittesworth Water in Staffordshire.**

They took part in lots of different activities, worked closely with other students and staff and had a great day out to help them settle in at College.

After the event the College donated spare food from the event to High Peak Food Bank, based in Buxton.

## Befriending club pairs students with the elderly



**Students have been working on a befriending club with isolated older people from the local people within the local community.**

**Laura Stroud, Enrichment Officer at Buxton & Leek College said:**  
*"Students plan different activities and are encouraged to lead this inter-generational project. To take part students received an in-depth training session on understanding what it*

*means to be a befriender and the skills and qualities needed.*

*Part of the training session involved students writing letters to the guests to make them feel welcome and prepare them for the events ahead. As students take part in the project they build employability skills to help them progress. The club focuses on team work, communication and project management."*

## BLC students head across to the University of Derby

**Students from across Buxton & Leek College headed over to the University of Derby in September to find out more about university life and progression after they leave College.**

They took part in taster sessions, met students and staff from the university and attended presentations on progression and careers.



# EMPLOYERS

## 'Future Engineers' start work at Flowflex

Working in partnership with Buxton & Leek College, local engineering firm Flowflex Components launched their 'Future Engineers' programme. The programme was developed to motivate, mentor and train Engineering apprentices, leading to a full time job in engineering.



Engineering students from the College were invited to take a tour of Flowflex's manufacturing facility in Buxton before being given the opportunity to apply for a six week paid work placement over summer. Following the work placement opportunity, Flowflex recruited three Engineering students to start an apprenticeship with the firm.

Students Sam Sharkey, James Birks and Fred Smith are all now working at Flowflex as Engineering apprentices – getting on-the-job training from experienced engineers at Flowflex as well as being assessed in the workplace and attending the College's specialist Engineering facility in Leek to gain their recognised qualifications.

**David Roberts, Business Development Manager at Buxton & Leek College, who has managed the project said:**

"We are delighted that Flowflex has chosen to work with us on this apprenticeship project.

It is a fantastic opportunity for our young engineers to work for a company that we know is really going to support them, pay them a decent salary, mentor them and give them every opportunity to move into a full time job, with excellent prospects."

Steve Millward at Flowflex believes the partnership will be rolled out over a number of years in order to secure the factory going forwards.

"A lot of very skilled people here are nearing the end of their careers so the new apprentices will likely be the managers, the supervisors and the setters of the future. We imagine to get sufficient people to run the factory in the future we will need to recruit two or three apprentices each year over the next eight to twelve years. So we are looking at a considerable amount of time and investment in terms of people being fed into the system." added Steve.

## Success for jobseekers in forklift truck & warehousing

Over the past 18 months, after completing a two week forklift truck and warehousing programme at Buxton & Leek College, a record number of people have secured employment within the manufacturing and logistics sectors.

**Candice Daley, Senior Recruitment Consultant at Best Connections said:** "We work with lots of local clients in Derbyshire and when someone has completed this course with Buxton & Leek College they are much easier to place in work as employers look favourably at the skills they gain, especially having a forklift truck licence."

**David Roberts, Business Development Manager at Buxton & Leek College said:** "We have a really positive partnership with Best Connections and Job Centre Plus. It is fantastic to see so many candidates securing employment within the local economy."

Buxton & Leek College offers a wide variety of employer training courses at campuses in Buxton and Leek, find out more at [blc.ac.uk](http://blc.ac.uk) or call 0800 074 0099



## Local businesses in Staffordshire benefit from skills and training funding

As a member of Skills Staffordshire, Buxton & Leek College received a share of £2.5 million awarded by the European Structural Investment Fund (ESIF). The funding was to be used to develop the skills and potential of employees working for small to medium sized enterprises in Staffordshire.

Since January 2017, Buxton & Leek College has delivered fully funded training to over 200 employees from 60 companies situated across Staffordshire.

The training has ranged from Hybrid Vehicle Operations, Computer Aided Design, Accountancy, Coaching Teams, Health and Safety, Understanding Autism and a variety of different NVQ's.

**David Roberts, Business Development Manager at Buxton & Leek College said:**

"We have delivered both accredited and non-accredited courses; for one business, we created a bespoke six-day Preparation for Effective Leadership programme for 12 staff members. Student feedback was fantastic."

**He added:** "We have used the funding to form partnerships with new businesses; some of whom have taken on apprentices with us. Overall, the project has been very successful it has been great to see employees being able to take on new responsibilities at work as a result of the training they have undertaken."

## Employer network success for Childcare & Education

Local childcare and education employers attended an Employer Network event in October.

Run by the Childcare & Education team at Buxton & Leek College, these events aim to support local employers with their training and CPD needs. Attendees heard from guest speakers from the awarding body NCFE CACHE and an Oral Health specialist promoting dental health in an early years setting.

They also heard from the team about opportunities in apprenticeships and the training that students studying Childcare & Education at Buxton & Leek College receive, including work placements and hands-on learning.



We hold employer events throughout the year at Buxton & Leek College. To find out more about our next events please contact [marketing@blc.ac.uk](mailto:marketing@blc.ac.uk) for more information.



For more information about employing an apprentice, or to book a free business skills assessment, contact [FEApprenticeships@blc.ac.uk](mailto:FEApprenticeships@blc.ac.uk) or call 0800 074 0099



## New career for apprentice Justin

Justin Harrison, 29, returned to College as an apprentice having taken time out to care for his mum following the completion of his Degree. Working as a Customer Service apprentice at the University of Derby's Chesterfield Campus, Justin started his apprenticeship at the start of the academic year in order to enhance his employability skills and gain greater knowledge and experience to equip him for the future.

His role in Customer Service sees him liaising with students and the general public on a daily basis, finding solutions to their enquiries and supporting them with requests.

**Justin said:** "I wanted to do an apprenticeship as I felt it was a good way to get back into work. I really enjoy interacting with people as this is something that I've done previously in voluntary work. I've also worked as a Student Ambassador at Sheffield Hallam which I really enjoyed."

**He added:** "My favourite part of the role so far has been the friendly and warm people that I work with every day."

Buxton & Leek College have offered a bespoke apprenticeship for Justin to fit with his role and previous experience.

**Bev Meredith, Staff Apprenticeships Advisor, said:**

"It's great to see that the Resource Centre at Chesterfield have committed to providing an apprenticeship opportunity for Justin which will equip him with the requisite skills, knowledge and behaviours to be successful in his role. In addition, being able to support his training in-house through Buxton & Leek College has worked really well in terms of quality and flexibility. I wish him every success in his future with the University."

Find out more about Business, Customer Care and Management apprenticeships at [www.blc.ac.uk](http://www.blc.ac.uk)



## APPRENTICESHIPS

### Engineering apprentice secures first role in industry



**Danny Graham successfully completed his Level 3 Apprenticeship/HNC in Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering.**

Having undertaken his three-year apprenticeship with Buxton & Leek College, Danny has secured his first role within the technical team of the University of Derby's College of Engineering and Technology.

**Bev Meredith Apprenticeships Advisor at University of Derby said:** "Growing our own talent through the apprenticeship pathway, and seeing individuals securing established roles, is what the apprenticeship agenda is all about. Well done Danny and also a big thank you to his managers who have supported him throughout the programme."

To find out more about a career in Engineering and the opportunities we offer at Buxton & Leek College – including Engineering apprenticeships - visit [www.blc.ac.uk](http://www.blc.ac.uk)

Read all about our Apprentices on our course news pages 6-11

## Are you a business looking for an apprentice?

We have students who are ready and waiting to start an apprenticeship in a variety of different subjects including Team Leading, Accountancy, Business Administration, Hairdressing, Beauty, Carpentry & Joinery, Hospitality & Catering, Engineering, Health & Social Care and Education.

If you're a local employer who's thinking about taking on an apprentice there's never been a better time to get in touch with us. With the introduction of the Apprenticeship Levy last year it could also benefit you financially if you're already paying into the levy.

**Buxton & Leek College's Business Development Manager, David Roberts, said:**

"Employing an apprentice can be a real asset to your business. A number of our students have progressed from one of our full-time courses on to an apprenticeship so they already come with some industry skills and experience, as well as transferable skills."

"We're working with a number of local employers to support them in their future planning and address training needs or skills shortages within their business. The best place to start is with one of our free, no-obligation skills assessments where we can look at your current workforce, future goals and skills gaps."

The College is always looking for employers who would be interested in taking students as part of an industry placement or work experience.

Please get in touch with the Employer team on 0800 074 0099 if your business would be interested in taking part in supporting students in their future careers.



## Celebrating regional businesses at the Apprenticeship Awards

The College celebrated regional businesses and their commitment to training the workforce through apprenticeships at the annual Apprenticeship Awards, which took place at the Devonshire Dome in Buxton.

Nominees for the awards were selected from the 150+ businesses that the College works with to deliver apprenticeships.

Check out our current apprenticeship vacancies with a wide range of local employers on our website at [www.blc.ac.uk/apprenticeships/vacancies](http://www.blc.ac.uk/apprenticeships/vacancies)





# BLC COURSE NEWS

## MEDIA, IT, BUSINESS



### Supporting Staffordshire Safer Neighbourhood Panel

**Students from Business and Health & Social Care are working with the Staffordshire Safer Neighbourhood Panel to help make their neighbourhood safer.**

The students raise concerns and issues about crime and safety and offer their perspective on the prevention of crime and anti-social behaviour in the local area.

The project is just one of the real-world learning modules that the students undertake as part of their course to give them real, hands-on experience.

### Students record at Peak FM

**Media students headed to Peak FM to work with the station's presenters and writers in the studio.**

They wrote and recorded links for a radio show and advert in the Peak FM studios, giving them a fantastic taste of what it's like to work in radio. They also got to watch a show go out live on the radio.

In addition, they attended a talk held by freelance TV editor Chris Blood. They heard all about life in the media industry and the projects that he's worked on including the Olympics, Match of the Day and Blue Peter.



### Science & Media Museum visit



**Year 1 and 2 Media students visited The Science & Media Museum in Bradford as part of their course.**

They found out about the history of TV, film and animation – as well as having a go at playing some vintage video games!

Both groups also toured the extensive archive at the museum, checking out the earliest photographs, TV and camera equipment.

Students also attended the Countdown studios at Media City, finding out more about producing a TV programme and the studio set up. They even met Rachel Riley!

## HOSPITALITY, CATERING, TRAVEL & TOURISM

### Michelin starred kitchen for student Julia



**After completing her Hospitality & Catering course, student Julia Knowles has gone on to work for Raymond Blanc's Michelin starred Belmond Le Manoir aux Quat'Saisons.**

After completing her work experience at the Hilton Hotel in Manchester and getting a taste for working in a world-class kitchen, Julia attended a presentation from a previous Buxton & Leek College student who also works at Le Manoir. This inspired her to apply for a work placement and the restaurant offered her a job.

Julia also received an Outstanding Achievement Award at the Buxton & Leek College Annual Student Awards Ceremony, in recognition of her passion and determination.

### Alisha is flying high with Thomas Cook Airlines

**Previous Travel & Tourism student Alisha is flying high after fulfilling her dream of becoming cabin crew with Thomas Cook airlines.**

**Alisha said:** "My Travel & Tourism course at Buxton & Leek College was really great for preparing me for a life in the air. We learnt about the administration and organisational aspects of the job."

**Carol Walker, Lecturer in Tourism at Buxton & Leek College said:**

"I am immensely proud of Alisha in fulfilling her dream of flying as cabin crew. From her first day in College she was determined to do whatever she needed to do to achieve this. She completed a separate cabin crew qualification and performed really well in the practical activities within our cabin mock up. She worked really hard to get the highest grades that she could and secured a placement with a leading airline during her time with us."



**Thomas Cook Airlines**



# HAIR & BEAUTY

## Hair & Beauty Show is a cosmic success

Dozens of students from Buxton & Leek College showcased their hair and beauty skills at Buxton's Devonshire Dome, as part of the College's annual Hair & Beauty Show on Sunday 10 June 2018.

Students from the hair and beauty courses at both campuses were given a theme to develop their own make up, hair, nail and beauty looks. Following a period of research the students competed at the event in front of industry judges and members of the public.

**Carl Lomas – Co-opted Member of Further Education Governance Committee - who attended the event said:**

*"We had a grand finale of winners from aliens to suffragettes. Well done to all the students, judges and staff taking part and the family and friends for their support. A great afternoon for the College and the Dome and all concerned."*

**This year's show will be taking place on Sunday 19 June 2019 in the Devonshire Dome, Buxton.**



## National win for Media Make Up students

Level 3 Media Make Up students competed in the National Make-Up Awards at Beauty UK in May 2018. Student Alison Cartilage entered the category Predators or Mermaids and won 2nd place.

## Beauty student kickboxes her way to the top

Beauty student Kimberley Graf studies Beauty at Buxton & Leek College by day, but in her spare time she's a kickboxing champion who has competed in the finals of the World Kickboxing Championships.



# FOUNDATION

## SEN event success



Special Educational Needs (SEN) Teachers and Specialists from Derbyshire and Staffordshire were invited to meet the SEN and Foundation Learning teams at Buxton & Leek College. The event was held to find out more about the staff, admissions and facilities available at the College for students with Special Educational Needs.

**Operations Lead Sheila Hughes said:** "We wanted to hold these events to support local schools in finding the right pathway for High Needs students so that they can develop their skills and progress. The feedback from both events was great and we hope to plan some future events that we can invite specialist staff to."

Reed Recruitment supported the event, donating an Amazon Echo to give away to one lucky winner – Julie Brookes from Swanwick School.

## Students work with Staffordshire Wildlife Trust

Students from the Learning for Living and Work Department at Leek campus have been working in partnership with Staffordshire Wildlife Trust to complete their John Muir Award.

This has seen them learning all sorts of new skills like drystone walling, hedge laying/coppicing, bird box making and woodcraft whilst keeping fit and active in the great outdoors.

**Chris Haywood, a Tutor at Buxton & Leek College said:** "This fantastic project has really done wonders for some of our students. It is great to see them working together as a team, developing their communication and problem solving skills which are all valuable transferable skills for the real world."



## Chatsworth visit for Foundation students

Foundation students visited Chatsworth House as part of their Independent Living programme and development.

They toured the house and grounds and had the opportunity to find out more about the history and current use of the estate.



# EDUCATION & CHILDCARE

BEFORE



AFTER



## Play environment project supports local children

Childcare & Education students took part in a live project at Mini Me Nursery in Fairfield to makeover a tired play area.

This project was carried out as part of the "Enabling Play Environments for Children" project. The students have developed a brief which they worked towards and project managed the refurbishment, with the assistance of Lecturer in Childcare Sara Wheatley. They have also been seeking contributions and resources from local businesses.

## Students create story sacks to support learning

Childcare & Education students created specially crafted story sacks to help make stories more interactive and engaging for the children they care for.

This helps the children to learn and also supports them in improving literacy.

Students will be using the story sacks during their placements at nurseries and schools throughout the year.



## World champion rides to success

Katie Toft, 25 from Chinley, started a Level 3 Childcare course at Buxton & Leek College when she was 16, with aspirations to train to become a teacher. As someone with Cerebral Palsy, she knew that it was going to be tough, with physical factors such as being unsteady on her feet.

Katie said: "One College wouldn't accept me because of my condition but Buxton & Leek College had faith in me that I could achieve what I put my mind to in spite of my condition. The Childcare course was a really good grounding for my Degree in Early Childhood Studies at the University of Sheffield."

After taking up cycling as a way to relieve stress, she started training and the club she cycled with supported her to become semi-professional.

Katie claimed her first British National C3 time trial and road circuit titles in 2016, and since then she hasn't looked back, winning seven national titles as well as three world championships and is now hoping to compete in the Paralympics next year.

# HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

## Students & staff visit House of Lords

## Phoebe progresses to Uni



Health & Social Care student Phoebe Middleton has progressed on to Keele University to study Adult Nursing.

Through the College's excellent links with industry, Phoebe Middleton carried out her work experience at The Royal Stoke Hospital on the Neurology ward.

She said: "I really enjoyed my course and it's certainly got me to where I wanted to be. The tutors were great and we got so much help and support. There are lots of opportunities to follow your particular interests within a subject – I can't recommend it enough."



Buxton & Leek College was invited by the AoC to take some students to the Parliamentary Reception for Midlands College. The event was hosted by Baroness Garden of Frognal who is an ardent advocate of FE provision.

Students Lauren Harvey (Diploma in Hospitality) and Grace Davies (Diploma in Health and Social Care) accompanied by Alison Loxton and Olivia Dean (Chair of FEGC) attended the reception at the House of Lords. The visit coincided with an historic day at parliament with the Prime Minister facing a vote of no confidence after MPs voted against the Brexit Deal the day before.

Lauren and Grace met the South Derbyshire MP Heather Wheeler who is currently the Minister for Housing, and they talked with students and staff from other colleges about their experiences. They thought the event was very interesting, especially at this historic and important time for the country.

## Buxton & Leek College host The Big Event

The Big Event was held in conjunction with Joined Up Careers, Derbyshire County Council, the NHS and Derby City Council and was created to offer insights into Careers in Health & Social Care.

Taking place at the Devonshire Dome in April, attendees met employers and education specialists to find out more about the different opportunities available in the Health & Social care sector.

Free workshops took place throughout the day that all attendees were welcome to take part in, including:

- Information about Employability in the Sector
- Information about Careers in Social Care
- Information about Careers in Health
- Find out about your career choices
- Session for Health & Social Care Employers

## THE BIG EVENT Discover Careers in Health & Social Care

Joined Up Careers  
Derbyshire

Devonshire Dome, Buxton





# VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS



**LEEK SCHOOL OF ART**  
HERITAGE INSPIRING PROGRESS



## Leek School of Art students enjoy visual research visit to Liverpool

Art & Design students visited the Tate Liverpool in order to see the Op Art in Focus Exhibition. They also got to view the Walker Art Gallery, John Moores Painting Prize 2018 and the Sean Sculley Exhibitions.

Students took lots of inspiration to develop their project work further.

Art & Design students also went on a research visit to Chester Zoo as part of a project called Cycle of Good where they worked on a live project brief to design new products using recycled inner tubes.



## Leek School of Art marks its 150th anniversary with an astounding exhibition

Art & Design students from Buxton & Leek College displayed their work at the Astound 2018 exhibition. The event was held at the Nicholson Art Gallery in Leek.

All artworks produced – including ceramics, prints, soft furnishings, textiles, glass and paintings – were created by students in their final year of their part-time Foundation Degree.

**Student Marie Keane said:** "Although I'm not local, I was recommended to study for the Foundation Degree at Leek School of Art because it's a part-time course that's both affordable and accessible for mature students."

**She added:** "The course is well structured, and teaching and technical staff are supportive and very knowledgeable. Combining 'hands on' practice with art history, critique and theory has really made me think. On the practical side, my newly learnt skills have already enabled me to enjoy some commercial success as a printmaker."

The event was sponsored by Staffordshire Moorlands District Council with additional support from local businesses.

## Art students raise money for the Alzheimer's Society

Year 3 Art & Design students raised money for the Alzheimer's Society by baking a range of delicious cakes and selling them at the Leek School of Art end of year show.

**They raised a fantastic £115 for the charity.**



## Dean's Award for Art student Sally

Sally Furness went back to College to study her lifelong passion of art – a subject that she showed promise in but didn't pursue.

She completed the University of Derby Foundation Degree in Creative Art & Design at Buxton & Leek College and was so successful that she won the Dean's Award at the end of the year!

**Sally said:**

"I am very proud to receive this award. I thoroughly enjoyed my studies at Leek and had excellent support and tuition over the three years. It has been challenging and very hard work especially with having a day job but well worth it. I would encourage anyone thinking of going back to College as a mature student to give it a go."



## Staffordshire Contemporary Art Fair a great success

Students and staff from Buxton & Leek College organised the Staffordshire Contemporary Art Fair in December 2018.

Over 1,100 visitors attended to see - and buy - the art on display in Leek, with great feedback received throughout the weekend.

Students were involved in the whole event, from planning to promoting and running the event on the day.

**For more information about studying Art at Buxton & Leek College visit [www.blc.ac.uk](http://www.blc.ac.uk) or call 0800 074 0099.**



**Did you know?** Our Art & Design courses are validated through the prestigious University of the Arts, London

**ual:** university of the arts london





# ENGINEERING & MANUFACTURING

## Students engineer a bright future at Sheffield Hallam University



Engineering students Jordan Hine and Josh Towers completed their Level 3 course at Buxton & Leek College and have both been offered unconditional places at Sunderland University and Sheffield Hallam University to study Engineering.

Jordan completed a Maths & Science Bridging Unit as part of his Engineering course at Buxton & Leek College. Without this, Jordan wouldn't have been able to progress to university as he wouldn't have had the right qualifications.

**Both headed off to Sheffield Hallam University last September and we wish them the best of luck!**



## Digging a pathway to JCB success

Previous student Harrison Tudor-Jackson secured an apprenticeship in Engineering with market leader JCB following his Level 3 Engineering Course.

**Find out more about our Engineering apprentices at local firm Flowflex on page 4.**

# MOTOR VEHICLE



## Students head to Autosport International

Motor Vehicle students went to Autosport International in Birmingham as part of their course. The event, held at Birmingham NEC, allowed students to see a range of different racecars and motorsport displays, see the UK's largest indoor racing track and meet industry professionals.

Students also have the opportunity to visit the University of Derby to take a look at the facilities and skills needed to study Motorsport Engineering at their specialist workshops at the Markeaton Street campus.

This is just one of the progression routes available to Buxton & Leek College students after they finish their Motor Vehicle course.



## Special feature for students in Land Rover Owner magazine

**Buxton & Leek College students made it into Land Rover Owner magazine, following their hard work on a project to refurbish an old Land Rover that had fallen in to disrepair.**

Students worked on the project from start to finish after the Land Rover had been neglected for a long time.

## VW Beetle refurb success

Students at our specialist motor vehicle campus at Harpur Hill have been busy renovating a vintage VW Beetle which is now enjoying a new lease of life, having been left in a garage for a number of years.

This is just one of the exciting projects that Motor Vehicle students based at Buxton & Leek College have worked on in their specialist facility at Harpur Hill.

In previous years students have worked on everything from racing cars for Buxton Derby to fire engines for North Yorkshire Fire Service.

**You can keep up with their projects on their Facebook page - Motor Vehicle at Buxton & Leek College**



**Have you got an exciting project that you'd like our Motor Vehicle students to take part in? Contact [enquiries@blc.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@blc.ac.uk) or 0800 074 0099 to tell us more.**



# SPORTS & PUBLIC SERVICES



## Downhill mountain bike rehab for Billy

**After completing an Outdoor Sports Leadership course at Buxton in 2016, Billy travelled to Canada and Mexico before securing his current job in bike rehab in Sheffield.**

Billy completed further industry training in bike mechanics, following his favourite hobby – downhill mountain biking. He's also a product ambassador for bike manufacturer BTR Fabrications and is working with them to design a new bike.

**Billy said:** "I made some great friends on the course and I have good memories of all the trips we went on. I chose Buxton & Leek as it seemed to be the best College around my area, and it was the only College that did the outdoor leadership course."



## Careers for Outdoor Sports students

The head of recruitment at PGL Travel visited Buxton & Leek College's Outdoor Sports students to discuss progression after College and the career options available to them.



She was so impressed with the students she met that she offered all students aged 18 and over employment in their centres across Europe, including working in centres in Ardeche.

Students were also offered employment from another provider called Endeavour at an outdoor centre in Buckinghamshire for the summer.



## Residential Army Camp visit for Public Services students

**Public Services students completed a British Army Residential at Altcar Army Camp near Liverpool.**

They took part in drills and training that will give them the knowledge and skills needed to pursue a career in the armed forces or other public services such as policing or the fire and rescue service.

## Haydon goes the extra mile

**Buxton & Leek College Outdoor Sports graduate Haydon Hanby got a taste of royal life when he was invited to Buckingham Palace to collect his Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award.**

Haydon was greeted by members of the royal family including Prince Andrew, Prince Edward and Sophie Countess of Wessex.

Following his Duke of Edinburgh Award and his Outdoor Sports course at Buxton & Leek College, Haydon is now in employment as a Trainee Outdoor Instructor on a practical training course at the Bendrigg Trust.

## Swiss adventure for student Oli

**Congratulations to Oliver Morrison Chapman** who, after successfully completing his Outdoor Sports course at Buxton & Leek College and working at a Scouts Camp in Essex, is heading off to Switzerland to become an Outdoor Activities Instructor.



Find out more about Buxton & Leek College's Sport students on Facebook!



## Sport students volunteer at Football Festival

**Students studying Sport at the Leek campus helped to run a Football Festival at the Crescent Academy in Meir.**

They gave their time on a voluntary basis to support as officials and administrators at the event, which included teams from different primary schools across Stoke-on-Trent.





www.blc.ac.uk

# COURSES AT BLC:

At Buxton & Leek College we offer courses for all ages at our campuses in Buxton, Leek and Derby.

## FREE TRAVEL ON BLC ROUTES

If you live along one of our Buxton & Leek College bus routes, you can apply for a pass which will allow you to travel on our bus services for FREE. For more info, and to find out what routes are covered, visit [www.blc.ac.uk/transport](http://www.blc.ac.uk/transport)



## FULL-TIME PROGRAMMES

We offer a range of full-time courses for school leavers and adults across different subjects including:

ART & DESIGN

BEAUTY

BUSINESS

CARPENTRY

CHILDCARE & EDUCATION

COMPUTING & IT

DEVELOPING SKILLS

ENGINEERING

HAIRDRESSING & BARBERING

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

HOSPITALITY & CATERING

MEDIA

MOTOR VEHICLE

PERFORMING ARTS

PUBLIC SERVICES

SEN

SPORT

TRAVEL & TOURISM

## APPRENTICESHIPS

Apprenticeships can be a great route into full-time work or Higher Education – they're not just for school leavers either, an apprenticeship can be started at any age. As part of the University of Derby we are able to offer apprenticeships from Level 2 – 7.

Some of the subjects that we offer apprenticeships in include:

ACCOUNTING

BARBERING

BEAUTY

BUSINESS, CUSTOMER SERVICE & TEAM LEADING

CARPENTRY

EARLY YEARS, EDUCATION & TEACHING

ENGINEERING

HAIRDRESSING & BARBERING

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

HOSPITALITY & CATERING

MOTOR VEHICLE

## VACANCIES

Check out our latest apprenticeship job vacancies at [www.blc.ac.uk/vacancies](http://www.blc.ac.uk/vacancies) or contact us on 0800 074 0099

## ADULT, PART-TIME & UNIVERSITY LEVEL COURSES

Check [www.blc.ac.uk](http://www.blc.ac.uk) for the latest courses we offer for adults at Buxton & Leek College. We offer a range of hobby and interest courses, as well as part-time qualifications, Access to Higher Education courses and Higher Education courses.

Want to find out more about a course at Buxton & Leek College?  
Visit [www.blc.ac.uk](http://www.blc.ac.uk), contact us on [enquiries@blc.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@blc.ac.uk) or call 0800 074 0099.