EDITION 11

AUTUMN 2022

BROUGHT TO YOU BY WIGAN & LEIGH COLLEGE

RESULTS SUCCESS

FAMILY FUNDAY

SEE PAGE 3 SEE PAGE 10

LIONESS ELLA INSPIRES NEXT GENERATION

Lioness Ella Toone, who studied at the College as a Manchester United player, was one of the national team members who were instrumental in pushing the prominence of women's football this year.



GMCG SKILLS COMPETITION SUCCESS



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WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



Adam Finch, Sofology SEE PAGE 5

MILLIE IS GOING FOR GOLD



SEE PAGE 10

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PARSONS WALK CENTRE (WN1 1RR)

- CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN CONSTRUCTION & ENGINEERING
- CENTRE FOR ADVANCED TECHNICAL STUDIES

4.30PM - 7.30PM

· Monday 30 January 2023 · Monday 24 April 2023

LEIGH COLLEGE (WN7 4JY)

4.30PM - 7.30PM

Monday 6 February 2023





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SKILLS COMPETITION SUCCESS

After a two-year absence due to the pandemic, the Greater Manchester Colleges Group (GMCG) Skills Competition was back with a bang.



Students from across the region showcased their technical skills, with each College hosting a subject specialism.

This year the performing arts competition came to The Edge venue, where Wigan students Blake Lockley and Elisha Westbrook won the Level 2 Dance and Level 2 Music categories.

College Principal, Anna Dawe, said:

"We are immensely proud of the achievements of all our students. They have shown skill and determination, alongside the support of quality teaching."



A team of students from the Centre of Excellence in Health & Social Care travelled to Bury College, where they were declared champions, impressing judges with their quick thinking in critical incident and first-aid.

Meanwhile graphic design students secured top spot,

when they travelled to Stockport College, to compete with an online campaign brief set by mental health charity, Mind.

Finally, construction students came away from Bolton College with first place in Level 1 Brickwork and Level 2 Plumbing.



Anna added:

"Students have demonstrated confidence and technical ability to perform at the highest standards. Well done to all our winners!"

INTERNATIONAL TRIPS ARE BACK

European trips abroad were welcomed back by students from across the College last academic year, with everyone making the most of their freedom to travel.



EXPLORING BARCELONA ARTS

Arts students took two weeks out of the academic year, to gain an insight into life as an international freelancer in Barcelona, working in multidisciplinary teams for a Spanish client.

The project brief was to create a cross-platform digital guide for visitors. They also managed to fit in workshops, and explored the capital of Catalonia with a visit to Park Guell. The space was designed by Antoni Gaudi, the architect and innovator of Catalan Modernism, whose works include the world-famous Sagrada Familia.

ITALIAN SKIING TRIP

Health and Social Care students took their first post-lockdown trip abroad, with work experience in Folgarida, Italy. Alongside practising their people skills, working in hotels at the ski resort, they found time to hit the slopes learning how to ski.

The trip was part of the Erasmus+ Programme, which funds education, training, youth and sport in Europe.

SPORTS TRAINING IN EUROPE

The Sports department was delighted to see the return of annual training camps, with



Benfica in Portugal and Catalans Dragons in France.

The funded trips saw student rugby teams coaching more than 60 junior Catalans players.

Alongside altitude training, wrestling, weights and ice baths, the rugby team cycled the coastal path to the beautiful town of Collioure.

Meanwhile, those on the Football Development Programme took a tour of the Estadio de Luz, home to the Benfica team. Between training sessions and friendly games, they fit in a sightseeing trip of Lisbon.



RESULTS TOP NATIONAL AVERAGE

The College celebrated with the class of 2022, in what was the first fully examined series since the onset of COVID.

Every BTEC student passed their course, along with 99 per cent of those taking A Levels, 76 per cent achieving high grades.

Principal, Anna Dawe, said: "Students can now confidently take their next steps, either studying at university, or working towards a higher or degree apprenticeship.

"It is such an exciting time for them. We wish them all the best with the next stage of their academic and career journey. We are so very proud of them".

BTEC Level 3 Animal Management student, Elizabeth MacKenzie gained the highest grade of Distinction*, Distinction*, Distinction*.

Elizabeth, who was the College's Student Governor, is studying Animal Behaviour at the University of Chester.

BTEC Level 3
Electrical & Electronic
Engineering student,
Adam Chesworth,
secured a degree
apprenticeship with
Sellafield Ltd.

The former St
Edmund Arrowsmith
Catholic High School
pupil is now a
Power Engineering
apprentice, studying at
the College's University
Centre.



MEET THE EMPLOYER



Sellafield Ltd, Electricity North West, Wigan Council and Tyson Building Contractors were just some of the employers attending events at the Centre for Advanced Technical Studies.

Stacey Tordoff, was delighted with the outcome for her son, Ben, who was nearing completion of the BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Mechanical Engineering.

"We decided to come along to find out what his next steps might be. He met lots of employers in the engineering sector to discuss his career plans and ambitions."

The College held a series of Meet the Employer Events, with regional and national business representatives getting together with young people interested in securing apprenticeships.



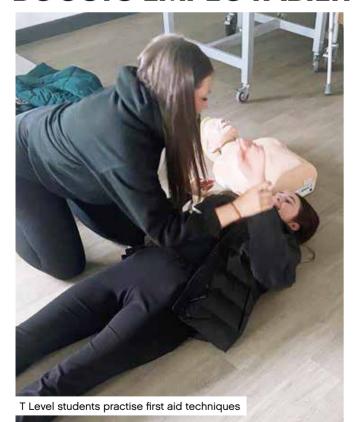
As a direct result, Ben secured an engineering degree apprenticeship at Erlson Precision Components.

Vice Principal, Employment & Skills, Alison Rushton, said:
"Employers are
pleased to see
so many young
people interested
in apprenticeships,
jobs and work
experience.



"It is a great platform for them to promote their job vacancies, work placements and apprenticeship opportunities, raise the profile of their businesses, work with the College to support recruitment challenges and develop a future talent pool."

TRAINING FOR INJURED CHILDREN BOOSTS EMPLOYABILITY



Students studying
T Levels, in Early
Years and Teaching
& Education, joined
trainee Teaching
Assistants to complete
the Level 3 Award in
Paediatric First-Aid.

The course, delivered by Health & Social Care Lecturer, Shai Hussain, covered a range of theoretical and practical aspects, crucial for helping children in an emergency situation, including: conducting a scene survey; roles and responsibilities of a first-aider; legal considerations; CPR and defibrillation; choking casualties; dealing with burns, fractures, seizures and much more.

Shai said:
"Paediatric firstaid is mandatory
for those working
in an early years
setting. Students who
already have this
qualification will be
more likely to secure
employment, once
they have completed
their College
courses."

T Level Childcare student, Katie Dixon Wilding, added:
"I enjoyed the practical side of the course. It will help me in my work placement, as I now know how to treat and care for an injured child."

HUMAN RIGHTS WORKSHOP



Representatives from Everything Human Rights Community Group visited the College to meet students and discuss civil-liberties in everyday life.

The Leigh-based group, is focussed on tackling barriers to integration, promoting community cohesion among migrant ethnic minorities and the wider community within the Wigan borough.

The workshop on

diversity, inclusion and integration included topics that support the College's culture of kindness and diversity in skills development.

Health & Social Care students visited The University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) for a higher education taster session.

They sampled courses in paramedic science, physiotherapy, nursing and social work, and enjoyed a campus tour including the halls of residence.



CENTRE FOR ADVANCED **TECHNICAL STUDIES**

Around 120 partners attended the official launch of the Centre for Advanced Technical Studies, representing the collaboration with Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh **Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation** Trust (WWL), Edge Hill University, Wigan Council and the College.

With a £0.8million investment in transformation, the building is home to the Centre of Excellence in Health and Social Care, a Digital Academy, as well as technical higher education in

social care careers hub. Those taking specialist courses attend the Centre. including T Levels in Health, aimed at future adult and mental health nurses, as well as healthcare

UCLAN TOUR WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

College Times caught up with former student Adam Finch, to find out more about how his drive to succeed resulted in a new career with Sofology.

Currently Learning and Development Partner for DFS, the parent company of the Sofology brand, 34-year-old Adam admitted to having a short attention span at school and difficulty applying himself to his studies.

Despite this, his ambition to become an electrician led him to study the HND **Electrical Engineering** at the College. Adam used his new-found skills working as an electrical tester at CLM in Golborne, but following redundancy, he took up a role as a driver for CSL, soon to be rebranded as Sofology.

"At first I saw the temporary driver role as a stop-gap before another electrical position came along," said Adam, "but I loved the organisation and the job - meeting and supporting customers and colleagues was a great experience. However I also had goals and ambitions to go further."

Following in his dad's footsteps, Adam decided to take up the CIPD evening course at the College.

"After dad took up the CIPD course, I saw his progression from delivering parcels through to a training position in Parcel Force, HR Director, then company director of his own consultancy business and I thought - I can do that too."

With the support and flexibility of CSL, he passed the Level 3 CIPD, gaining more and more confidence along the way.

"At first I felt a little bit daunted. As a delivery driver in a class among HR managers and directors, I auestioned whether I should be there, but as the course progressed, I gained in confidence. In fact I was inspired by fellow students and realised that I understood the concepts just as much as they did."

When a secondment was offered to him by his HR Manager, Adam jumped at the chance

to put his studies into practice, delivering training for company drivers and warehouse staff. From there he went on to take up the role of Learning and Development Manager for Sofology, and is now working as a Learning and **Development Partner** in the wider DFS group. With ambitions to progress further still, Adam hopes to move up the career ladder, as he continues to learn as part of his own professional

development.

"I would advise anyone thinking about going back to learning to go for it. Don't be fearful of trying something new. Going back to college may mean laying the foundations for the future - like it did for me - so just give it a go."





6 A LEVEL LIFE College Times

RESULTS DAY CELEBRATIONS



With national pass rates and high grades expected to drop from the COVID years, A Level students were nervous ahead of results day this year.

However, nerves soon disappeared, as they learned that the College's 99 per cent pass rate had exceeded the national average, with 76 per cent of our students achieving high grades.

A Level student Katie Winrow achieved A* in English Language and Literature, A* in History and A in Sociology.

The former Southlands High School pupil said: "I'm over the moon. I achieved higher grades than I expected to. Thank you to everyone in the A Level department for their support."

Fellow A Level student, Caitlin Warner, achieved A in Sociology, A in History and B in Politics.

The former Burscough Priory Academy pupil

has progressed to the University of Leeds to study Classical Civilisation.

Aspiring project manager, Anna Bonehill, celebrated an A* in Sociology, A in Psychology and C in Chemistry. At the time of writing she was in the enviable position of choosing either a undergraduate route of BSc (Hons) Psychology at the University of Edinburgh, or a graduate trainee role at BAE Systems as a project manager.



Anna Bonehill Anna Bonehill Anna Bonehill

NATIONAL CHEMISTRY AWARD

A Level Chemistry student, Drew Whittle, was placed in the top 30 per cent out of 8,600 students taking part in the Royal Society of Chemistry Annual Olympiad.

The aspiring medicinal chemist has progressed to the University of Liverpool studying MChem Medicinal

Chemistry with Pharmacology, with a Year Aboard.



A Level Sociology students visited the Moot Courts at Manchester Metropolitan University to take part in a mock trial, based on a local case.

Leigh learners met students from the Wigan group for the first time, providing a great opportunity to work together on the case.

Student, Jess Shovelton, said: "It was super interesting and gave us an insight into how the courts work."

Students worked in groups acting as defendants, prosecutors and the jury to find out more about how legal cases are presented in court.





MOCK TRIAL





CAREER CATCH UP FOR FORMER STUDENTS

Former A Level students returned to College to update tutors on their progression through university and the start of their career journeys.

Keri Barlow graduated from the University of Manchester with a 2:1 degree in children's nursing. She is now a Registered Children's Nurse on the Newborn Intensive Care Unit at St Mary's Hospital, Manchester.

Classmate Katie Turner graduated with a first class degree from Edge Hill University, in Primary Education with Qualified Teacher Status. She has taken up her first teaching job at Oxford Girls' Primary School.

Both felt that the subjects they took on the A Level pathways were highly relevant to their university and employment careers. "Taking Biology provided a great foundation for nursing, and developmental psychology was really helpful," said Keri.

NATIONALSTUDENTSURVEY RESULTS EXCEED NATIONAL AVERAGE



FIRST CLASS FUTURE ENGINEERS

Engineering students celebrated top grades for BEng (Hons) degrees.

Three students achieved firstclass BEng (Hons) Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering Top-up degrees, while more than half of the class of 11 graduated with a 2:1.

Out of a class of 12, BEng (Hons) Electrical and Electronic Engineering graduates, more than half achieved a first-class degree, with three picking up 2:1 grades.

Head of Higher Education Engineering, Ursula Hoyles, said: "All their hard work has paid off. Our graduates will have lots of opportunities ahead - we are very proud of their achievements, in particular the proportion of high grades this year. Our expert tuition combined with student resilience has led to some exceptional results."

Sellafield Degree Apprentice, Simone Wilson was delighted with her first-class degree in BEng Electrical & Electronic Engineering.

"The five-year experience has been priceless,"

said Simone.

"I have industry experience and a dearee. as well as a decent salary."



System Engineer at Morson Projects, Joseph McGuire, achieved top marks for the Electrical and **Electronic Engineering** degree.



The degree apprentice

"The five years of hard work has finally paid off. Thanks to Morson **Projects and** the University Centre for the continued support over the years."

The University Centre improved in every category assessed in the National Student Survey (NSS), with an overall satisfaction score of 86.84 per cent - more than four percentage points up on its 2021 ranking.

The new score beat the national satisfaction rate of 76.29 per cent.

Students rated the **University Centre** higher than the national benchmark in every category, including: teaching; learning opportunities; assessment and feedback; academic support; organisation and management; learning resources; learning community; and student voice.

Principal, Anna Dawe, said:

"These achievements are not only down to the incredible commitment of our lecturing staff, but

also as a result of our collaborative relationships with employer networks and local communities."

Students were particularly pleased with opportunities to be heard – the Student Voice category. Almost 90 per cent of them claimed that tutors value their views and opinions about the course - significantly higher than the national average of 68.64 per cent.

More than 88 per cent of learners, felt they have had the best opportunities to provide feedback on their course, almost

8 percentage points up from the national average.

"The results are extremely positive,"

added Anna, "but the real value of the NSS is that it highlights further improvement, so that we can put measures in place to make sure that the student experience improves year on year."

STUDENT PRESENTS AUTOMATED ATTENDANCE SYSTEM FOR PUPILS



Computing degree student Selina Culshaw wowed visitors to the **University Centre Research** Symposium with her automated attendance system for schools, which can even assess pupils' moods.

The 22-year-old from Wigan has progressed from a traineeship programme to Level 3 BTEC Computing, achieving a triple

distinction star, and now she is studying the BSc (Hons) Computing Top-up programme.

As part of her course,

Selina designed an attendance system for schools, using facial recognition and attribute analysis, which could make taking the daily register a thing of the past.

As well as the automated attendance system, her design generates emotional data for attending students, using heat map technology, so that teachers may gauge pupil moods at the start of the day.

The design should stand her in good stead for her tech career aspirations.

"I'd like to be a lead software engineer, manage a team or go on to do a Master's," said Selina.

ENGINEERING LECTURER DEVELOPS CLINICAL DIAGNOSTIC TOOL

After a hiatus due to the pandemic, the University Centre's Annual Research Symposium made a welcome return this year.

Mechanical
Engineering Lecturer,
Nic Gaskell, provided
an insight into his PhD
research to develop a
new clinical diagnostic

His talk, My Doctorate and where it came from, focused on his research working with Mr Richard Wain and Dr Justin Whitty, on their arterial coupling device that works with blood flow.

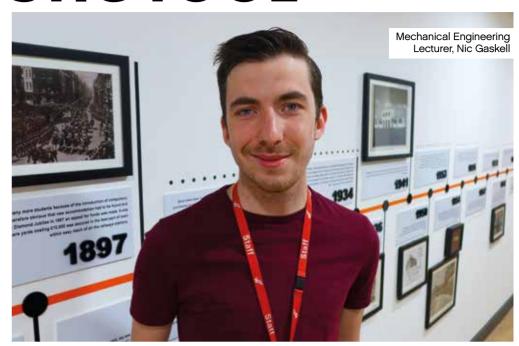
Nic showed how his simulation was significantly more effective than using stitches to join an artery together.

He made a model of a small artery and used his own heartbeat to act as a structural load for blood pressure.

He then measured his blood pressure on his artery. This showed a model of how blood flows through small arteries. He hopes that his findings will result in a new clinical diagnostic tool.

Nic joined the higher education team two years ago, from the University of Central Lancashire, to complete his masters.

He is currently working on his PhD in the John Tyndall Institute.



NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR GRADUATE

First Class Honours graduate Ryan Naylor was delighted to win the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) prize for his outstanding performance as an undergraduate.

Ryan works as a Senior Manufacturing Test Engineer with MBDA. He recently completed the BEng Electrical and Electronics degree at the University Centre.

"It is an honour to receive this prestigious award from such a renowned professional engineering institution."

said Ryan.

His perseverance and dedication during challenging times paid off.

"Balancing work and academic commitments was challenging, but I thoroughly enjoyed the experience."

Ryan acknowledged his tutors' support and guidance in achieving top grades.

"The experience developed my technical knowledge and equipped me with the fundamental skills for progression to accredited Engineer status," he added.



ADAM SECURES DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP WITH SELLAFIELD

Student, Adam Chesworth, secured a degree apprenticeship with Sellafield Ltd.

The Level 3 BTEC Electrical & Electronic Engineering student is a Power Engineering apprentice, while continuing his studies at the University Centre. Adam said:
"I wanted to start work straight away and progress my skills.
The degree apprenticeship allows me to do this. In my

second year I will be in the office four days a week putting my learning into practice."



STUDENTS OF THE YEAR CELEBRATE IN STYLE

Students, their families and their tutors enjoyed a welcome return to the Student of the Year celebrations, held remotely during the COVID years.







A packed-out Parish Church of All Saints was the venue for the class of 2021, with awards presented by College Principal, Anna Dawe.

Award winning students completed their final academic year at the College, with the highest grades and places at some of the best universities.

A total of 36 awards were presented covering every subject area.

FAMILY FUN DAY

More than 300 families from across the Wigan borough dropped in to the College for fun in the summer sun.

The Family Fun day was an opportunity for the College to open up to people of all ages, to find out more about the range of study options and try a taster for themselves. Alongside taster sessions, from dog grooming to floristry or first-aid, visitors enjoyed live music, ice creams, mocktails, face-painting and a barbeque.











MILLIE IS GOING FOR GOLD

T Level Health student Millie Gallagher reached the UK finals of WorldSkills UK.

The former Lathom High School pupil is taking part in the national competition this month, where she's planning to go for gold.

Not only did she get through the regional heats of the competition, but she also impressed her industry placement bosses so much, that they offered her a part-time job to fit around her studies.

Millie is loving her experience at One Vision Studios, the non-profit group that provides training courses for people with learning disabilities in all aspects of media production.

Her experience has helped her decide to follow a career supporting those with learning disabilities.



POLICE CAREER CALLING FOR STUDENT OF THE YEAR

Valentin Dolomon celebrated the Public Services Student of the Year achievement.

The award acknowledged his 100 per cent attendance, alongside his effort and progress in English.

The aspiring police officer moved to the UK from Romania in 2017.

He began his College career learning English for Speakers of other Languages (ESOL), followed by an Entry

Level 3 Foundation course, before progressing to Level 1 Public Services.

After completing Level 2, he has now progressed to Level 3.

"When I first came to England I didn't speak much English, but after studying ESOL it's a lot better. "The tutors helped me so much - with my language skills and explaining things to me so it was easy to understand."

Valentin is planning to progress to university and then to a career in the police force.



STUDENTS DIG PUBLIC PICNIC SPACE

Carpentry and Joinery learners benefited from community work experience at Haigh Hall Woodland Park.

They put their learning into practise, digging

trenches and mixing concrete, to create a

level area for public picnic benches.



AWARD WINNER MIA'S CAREER TAKES OFF WITH MAJOR AIRLINE

Student Award winner Mia Lees progressed from the Level 3 Travel and Tourism course, to secure a role working for leading airline, Jet2.

Mia was selected for the College award for her effort and enthusiasm, which helped her stand out in the classroom.

Always one step ahead she achieved top marks across the board, as well as a job working as passenger services agent and boarding crew at Manchester airport. She hopes to secure a role as cabin crew very soon.



An increase in adults returning to learn means that many more people are taking up courses across the Borough.

This year more adult students than ever have signed up for subjects, ranging from animal management to accounting, beauty therapy to business, catering to computing.

Motivation to return to learning includes those who want to achieve promotion at work, start a new career or just learn something new for fun. College Times caught up with some of those attending the busy enrolment events at Parsons Walk Wigan.



Sean enrolled on to a PGCE course, as he wants to become an arts or gaming teacher. The former call centre operative is looking for a rewarding career and feels that now is the time to pursue something he is passionate about.



Waqaar enrolled on the Level 1 Plumbing course. Currently working in customer services, he sees this as a stepping-stone towards a new career.



Businesswoman Elaine's interest in animals led to her sign up for a dog-grooming course she's also hoping it will lead to a new career.



Returning student Alisha is taking up GCSE Science and Maths. The stay-at-home-mum of three wants to become a district nurse through Access to HE Diploma in Health route.



Friends, Caroline and Sarah signed up for different courses and couldn't wait to get started. Caroline, an administrator at a chiropractor clinic, is looking for a career change through the Level 3 Sports Massage course. While care worker, Sarah, wants a new career working with animals, taking up the dog-grooming course as a starting point.



Husband and wife Mohamad and Maryam are making learning a family affair. Mohamad is starting Level 2 Plumbing, while Maryam is improving her culinary skills on the NVQ Level 2 Food Production course.

KAY SWAPS HAIRCUTS FOR

HAUTE CUISINE

Hairdresser turned chef Kay-Dionne Spencer took up her first full-time professional chef role at Duxbury Park Golf Course - Nineteen Bar and Kitchen, thanks to her return to learn at the age of 39. And now she's progressed to Head Chef at Tonis Pita Pan in Chorley.

The mother of four and grandmother of one is a former hair salon owner, who had experience in bar work, before she decided to take the plunge and swap to a career doing what she loves most.

"I have always loved cooking.
My mum taught me from around the age of nine," said Kay.

Returning to College to take up Level 2 then 3

Professional Cookery course came with its challenges.

"I struggled a lot with anything to do with the computer but I have thoroughly enjoyed College. My course has help me to excel in everything and has built my confidence, so now I can just walk into a kitchen and make the most of it. I love being a chef."

Busy Kay is also using her skills to help others, volunteering at Chorley Food Club on Thursday mornings, where she prepares soup and sandwiches for lunch.

"I have learned such a lot at College. Even though I loved cooking and have been doing it for a long time there was quite a bit that I didn't know. I was good before, but I'm better now!"

"And the course definitely helped me get the jobs I wanted."



PROFESSIONAL RUGBY LEAGUE PLAYER COUNTS ON LEARNING FOR THE FUTURE

Warrington Wolves player Gil Dudson signed up for accountancy training in a bid to to keep his career options open.

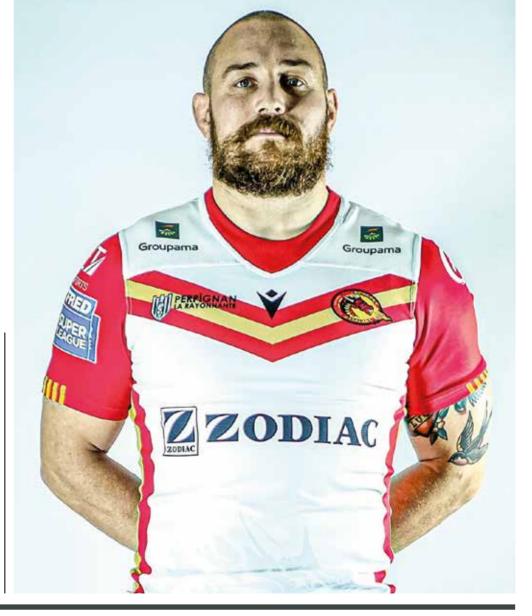
The 32-year-old spent two seasons with Wigan Warriors, before being released and joining Widnes Vikings. As he still lived in the Wigan area he decided to take up accountancy on the part-time evening course.

The former Catalans Dragons player has a background in mechanical engineering and a head for figures.

"I'm quite good with numbers and the course was very accessible for me. I have a young family and this course gave me the chance to do something else and upskill at a convenient time too."

Gil progressed from Level 2 AAT to Level 4.

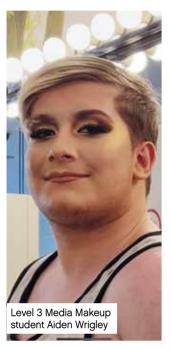




JUST PEACHEY VISIT FOR BUDDING MAKEUP ARTISTS

Students studying media makeup took a trip to Liverpool's Peaches & Cream cosmetic retailer.

Aspiring makeup artists saw the professionals in action with demonstrations and lots of tips and tricks, and they had the benefit of shopping discounts and offers. Just one of many visits for students to see the professionals at work.





WORK EXPERIENCE REAPS REWARDS

Animal Management student, Ellie Sherville, impressed her work experience bosses at Woofits Doggy Daycare so much, that she was offered a full-time contract after she finished her College course.

The former Our Lady Queen of Peace High School pupil, said: "I have always wanted to work with animals, so it was great to be offered the full-time position. Work experience is definitely worth it and it's helped to improve my communication skills."

Allie Travis, who co-owns the business, added:

"Ellie's confidence has grown and she communicates with clients really well. Taking on work experience students is great for us, as they often bring new ideas. Ellie could run this place on her own! She's very capable."



STUDENTS LEARN MORE ABOUT THE IMPACT OF HOMELESSNESS

Health & Social Care and Access to HE Diploma -Criminology and Psychology - students enjoyed a barge trip on the Manchester Ship Canal, stopping off at a homeless charity to provide donations to their food bank.

The Mustard Tree charity's aim is to prevent homelessness. Students learned more about the barriers to healthcare for people on the margins of society, and the positive impact that art therapy has on the charity's clients.





CULTURE DAY CELEBRATIONS

Students celebrated Culture Day, when those of different nationalities and backgrounds came together to share food, customs and fashions from across the globe.

The event was initiated and organised by the College's Student

Council, with Level 3 Travel & Tourism student Jomana Aref

taking the lead.



College Times SPORT 15

LIONESS & FORMER STUDENT FLIES THE FLAG FOR WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

Lioness Ella Toone, who studied at the College as a Manchester United player, was one of the national team members who were instrumental in pushing the prominence of women's football this year.

From the bench, Ella netted a crucial goal as England overcame Spain 2-1 after extratime to progress to the semi-finals of UEFA Women's Euro 2022.

She went on to score the first goal of the historic final against Germany, which led to England taking home the trophy and putting women's football firmly in the spotlight for future generations.

"I think a lot of people have fallen in love with women's football this summer,"

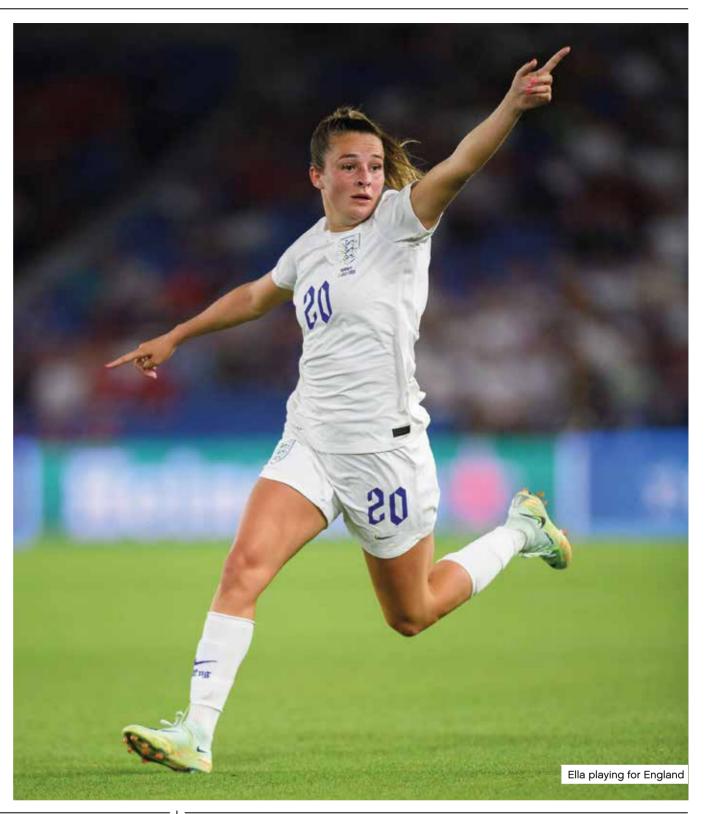
said Ella. "That's what we set out to do. So hopefully the crowds that we've had this summer we can get into our

grounds at club level and some more fans at the stadium to be on the journey with us."

Head of Sport Gareth Hayes has been following Ella's career since she left the College with a Level 3 Sports Science qualification in 2019.

"From her first team debut for Manchester United, to scoring a crucial goal for England in the Women's Euros 2022, her performance has been nothing short of exceptional.

"As a Talented Athlete Scholarship Scheme (TASS) accredited College, we support our athletes with a dual career, offering a flexible approach to studies alongside their professional sport commitments."



SPORTS REPORTER ALUMNI SHARES THE SECRETS OF HIS SUCCESS

ITV Granada News Sports Reporter, Chris Hall took time out of his busy schedule to speak to Sports Science and HE Sport students about his role and experiences in the media.

The former Leigh College student provided an insight into the complexities of live reporting, sharing anecdotes of high profile interviewees, such as Sylvester Stallone and Sir Alex Ferguson.

He took time to answer lots of students' questions, as well as offering career advice.



UNDEFEATED CHAMPIONS

The College's Men's Football team achieved champion status in the Association of College's North West Football League 2021/22 after going the season undefeated.





NEW COURSES FOR ADULTS STARTING SOON



Visit the website for New Year enrolment dates wigan-leigh.ac.uk/adult-courses



We hope you enjoy reading news from the College. If you no longer want to receive College Times in the post you can opt out by emailing dataandfunding@wigan-leigh.ac.uk