

Summer, 2013

Your SCENE

NORTON RADSTOCK COLLEGE

News and learning opportunities from your local College



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P2

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Bath Rugby stars at College for unique team building exercise **P3**





Working for you

Welcome to the autumn/winter edition of Your Scene, our biannual magazine covering a wide range of inspirational stories about our learners and their achievements.

I'm proud to be part of an organisation that has been helping local people into work since 1947.

From our early days providing skills for the mining industry to today's modern qualifications which provide solid career options into the future; the College is here for you.

Pick up one of our course guides to discover full-time, part-time and work-based training options to suit you and your career aspirations.

We work closely with local employers to tailor courses to suit the needs of the local employment market, working at all levels from beginners to Higher Education.

Our apprenticeship programmes are flexible to suit both employer and employee and we have a wide range of workplace training in professional trades.

We continue to provide a wide range of qualifications that are free to jobseekers on certain benefits.

From Care and Construction to Administration, IT and Landbased Studies, these qualifications are especially suitable for local unemployed people to help them find work.

The Phases programme supports this with free weekly drop in workshops providing skills in CV writing, jobsearch and interview skills.

Whilst at Main Site, our new building is on schedule to open for students in September.

It will house new state-of-the-art workshops for Engineering, teaching spaces, a café and student social areas... an exciting time for students and staff alike.

Remember we also provide a free College bus service from surrounding areas.

Why not check out www.nortcoll.ac.uk or come along to an Open Day – I look forward to meeting you!

Student and lecturer combine for horse glory

Equine student Emily George is celebrating after the horses she prepared for competition scooped a host of rosettes and a silver salver.

The 18-year-old Norton Radstock College student is studying Level 3 Horse Management at the College which has equine study centres in Keynsham and at HorseWorld in Bristol.

She was given the task of preparing Lady Lorines and Darcy Spice – rescue horses now used by the College to teach practical handling skills to students – to take part in the individual and team lance tentpegging competition which involves galloping in a straight line with a sword or lance and hitting a range of small targets.

At the Royal Windsor Horse Show, College lecturer Dawn Watkins and her husband Jerry Watkins, who was riding Darcy Spice, rode to victory and scooped first place in the team event with Jenna Copley their

Darcy Spice with equine student Emily George, 18, of Knowle, Bristol and lecturer Dawn Watkins



third team member. Dawn and Lady Lorines were also awarded fourth place in the individual lance competition. The duo went on to complete the Golden Horseshoe Endurance Ride and were placed silver.

Emily said: "You learn something every day and when there are competitions you learn loads of new things. It's really

interesting and he did really well."

Dawn said: "It's hard to believe that when Darcy was rescued he was emaciated.

"He has done really well and Emily did a great job in preparing him.

"The equine students get real hands-on experience due to the link up with HorseWorld."

Grand design effort by Marty

Teenager Marty Woodland's simple design for a writing desk won the eye of television presenter Kevin McCloud and businessman Ross Charlton in a design competition at Norton Radstock College.

A dozen carpentry students entered the Charltons 2012 Furniture Design Award, an initiative which is part of Charltons' commitment to the community and was open to 16-21 year old College students.

The students had to design a piece of interior wood furniture, with special credit given for ones which can have multiple uses and be developed into a range of furniture.

Grand Designs presenter Kevin, and Ross, head of



product and design at Charltons Furniture, spent hours examining the entries, quizzing the shortlisted student designers – Marty, Jason Cox, Elliot Parfitt and Kieran Young - and giving feedback to all those who entered.

Declaring Marty the winner,

Kevin said: "I think it could be a really beautiful piece."

"These guys are carpenters and joiners and have been asked to step up to the plate of becoming cabinet makers. In Marty's piece there was a lightness of touch and the adaptability suggests he has a commercial mind as well."

Marty, 17, from Radstock, who is a Level 2 Site Carpentry student, said: "I'm really surprised but pleased."

Mr Charlton presented Marty with a £500 cheque and he saw his design manufactured into a piece of furniture by craftsmen at Charltons Furniture then exhibited at the Interiors UK 2013 Exhibition at the NEC in Birmingham.

Norton Radstock College's summer festival had a real West Country flavour, with "Scrumphy and Western" band The Mangledwurzels entertaining the crowds.

Despite the rain, visitors enjoyed the new-look Spring Fair which was raising money for three good causes - the Teenage Cancer Trust, to help improve the lives of young people with the illness, the Trussell Trust, which runs hundreds of foodbanks across the country, including the Somer Valley Foodbank, to provide emergency food and support to people in financial crisis and the College's Student Hardship Fund will also receive a share of the money raised.

For the first time the event was held outside the horticulture and animal care centre at the College's main Radstock campus as well as indoor stalls providing some shelter from the summer showers.

College Principal Shirley Arayan said: "It was a great event showcasing all the College had to offer and the staff and students worked hard to put on the show; lots of people commented on how the new location worked well. We have raised a lot of money for the charities which are close to the hearts of those at the College and the community it serves.

"Large numbers of young

Annual event a real 'WestFest'



Rachel Neenan (left) animal care lecturer with Sparky, a 16-year-old Barn Owl who made an appearance at the event with Shirley Arayan, College Principal.

people are diagnosed with cancer and as we work closely with this age group we feel it's important to support an organisation such as the Teenage Cancer Trust.

"In our community there are

also rising numbers of people in need and The Trussell Trust is a local charity which can make a real difference to some of those people at the time they need it most."

Team building exercise at College for rugby stars

Bath Rugby players had to tackle a different type of challenge when some took a College course.

They were taking a 10 week property maintenance course which covered a range of subjects with bricklaying, plastering and tiling being taught at Norton Radstock College. Bath Rugby's Player Development Manager Richard Bryan, from the Rugby Players' Association, said they wanted to cater for the players' interests outside of rugby.

He said: "The players were keen to learn some new DIY skills and so the aim has been to give the players a taste of the different property maintenance based courses on offer at Norton Radstock College and City of Bath College. The College provides



Bath Rugby stars Guy Mercer and Ross Batty with Mark Hopkinson from the College

a wide range of courses in Bricklaying, Carpentry, Painting

& Decorating, Maintenance and Green Skills.

Receiving GCSE or A Level results and not sure what to do next?

Information Day
Thursday 22nd August,
10am-2pm
Main Site, Radstock

Results Helpline
Thursday 15th-Friday 23rd
August, 9am-5pm
01761 433161

Mission Statement

Norton Radstock College will be recognised for excellent learning and support, inspiring and nurturing success for all.

Norton Radstock College is at the vanguard of a series of Euro The 'age-friendly' city

"Anyone can get old, all you have to do is live long enough" – Groucho Marx

Simple actions such as putting a seat in a shop so the elderly can sit down can make an area age-friendly, says College expert Marny Thompson.

Norton Radstock College has won European funding to examine the issue across Bath and North East Somerset on the back of an initiative, known as Tafcity (tafcity.eu) and developed by the World Health Organisation (WHO), designed to promote the creation of age-friendly environments.

Marny, Norton Radstock College's project manager, held a two day workshop exploring the concept of the Age Friendly City in Bath and North East Somerset.

A network of Age Friendly Cities was created including San Sebastian in Spain and Maribor in Slovenia, both of which are partners with Norton Radstock College.

Marny said: "We are all living longer than our ancestors but are we ready for an ageing population? In just 28 years, 22 per cent of the global population will be aged 60 or over.



"The workshops helped people become more aware of some of the things they can do to make an area age-friendly.

"It may be simple things to make a neighbourhood age friendly, for example, a group of shops could take action by putting a seat in their stores. Simple things which don't cost a lot can make a difference."

Keynote speaker on the first workshop on May 15 was chief executive of Age UK B&NES Janet Dabbs.

Marny said: "We want young and old to come together to discuss and discover solutions and new relationships. It will give young people the chance to see that older people do have



something to offer. Change will not happen overnight and it needs people to be involved to make it work.

"This workshop investigated the development of the concept.

It provoked debate and people understood the meaning of active ageing, the needs of elderly people and the services available to them.

Staff of charities and volunteer organisations also found it useful, together with council and care staff."

The workshops covered what has been done in other towns, cities and neighbourhoods and gave participants the chance to carry out a self-assessment and action plan or plan an intergenerational event.

Helping students cope in education - and in life

BOUNCING back from challenges in life is part of human nature – or is it?

Experiences such as losing a job, family break up or exam stress have an impact on our lives and the way we deal with everyday issues.

Now Norton Radstock College is working on a European-funded project to examine how to help individuals develop their resilience in adult education (from age 16).

Rosaleen Courtney, who is leading the project in the UK, said: "Research shows that



through resilience training, people can develop important skills like stress management, resource-seeking, flexibility and the ability to face the future in a positive way.

"Interviews with staff at the College, universities, charities and community organisations confirmed that parents and families can also play a crucial role in helping young people to form realistic and ambitious aspirations for their future and

overcome barriers such as low self-esteem.

"However, it's not just in education where resilience training can help as 131 million days were lost due to sickness absence in the UK in 2011 and there is scope to improve staff wellbeing through the encouragement of resilience training and positive health promotion in the workplace."

The College is working with partners in Austria, Iceland, Italy, Finland, Greece and Switzerland on this innovative project.

... Stop Press ...

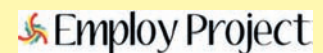


● Best practice in higher education is being interpreted for use in centres such as Norton Radstock College.

Called EXPANDVET, it addresses the problem of improving quality assurance systems in vocational colleges.

● The College is also working with 13 partners from eight EU countries to provide a more focused, hands-on training model which contributes to supporting and improving entrepreneurial teaching practice.

Called ADEPTT, the pilot courses are due to end this summer – for more information visit www.adeptt.eu



● What employers want is key for another European project being tackled by the College.

Employ is looking at the competences required from jobseekers with a survey finding the most wanted is a positive attitude followed by problem solving, communication skills, ability to work under pressure and to learn effectively, flexibility, discipline, time management and teamwork.

● In the BESTVET project, knowledge of best



practice systems in mentoring, learning contracts and online learning management will be shared. Engineers Ireland are leading the project. A recent meeting was hosted by Norton Radstock College with partner organisations from Ireland, Portugal, Spain and Italy also taking part.

projects aimed at improving the quality of life for everyone



College Lecturers: Gill Burton, Rosemarie D’Ambrosio-Winter, Julie Bowler and Michelle Robinson

Focus on those vital ‘soft’ skills

A pioneering project at Norton Radstock College has won international commendations.

The initiative was aimed at including life and work skills in education after research with employers across Europe revealed that young people sometimes don’t have the skills needed in the workplace and it is taking employers too much time to teach them.

The project, called LIFE 2, has now been commended as an example of innovation and best practice three times.

It was chosen as an example of good practice by a European Commission funded initiative called Enabling teachers for entrepreneurship education: examples of best practice across Europe.

It won further commendation at the Annual Conference of the European Forum of Technical

and Vocational Education and Training in Majorca attended by more than 200 delegates from colleges across the continent.

And two activities from its Train the Trainer Pack were selected for the ‘Sharing Innovation in Teacher Education’ (SITE) project run by the South West Centre for Excellence in Teacher Training.

The cultural awareness and employer links activities can be used by teachers to help prepare young people for the workplace.

Jim Crawley, from Bath Spa University who coordinated the SITE project, said: “The LIFE 2 activities were tested by teachers and found to be very useful.”

Rosaleen Courtney, Norton Radstock College’s project manager, said: “We developed the pack as part of a European project working with partners from Spain, Denmark, Portugal

and Romania. Following discussions with employers, we included ‘soft’ skills such as problem solving, creativity, teamwork, presentation and also job seeking.”

Lecturers at Norton Radstock College have been trying out different activities from the pack to help young people to develop the skills and confidence needed in the workplace.

ICT and Business Coordinator Terrie Norris used the ‘Communication in different languages’ activity as part of a session on customer service which helped learners to practise communicating with customers from different cultures.

She said: “Students enjoyed learning about different languages and facts about the country they chose.

“I will definitely use this

activity again to help with communication and presentation techniques.”

A free download of the LIFE 2 Train the Trainer Pack is available to teachers and trainers on www.life-2.eu

● Norton Radstock College was invited to present its award-winning work on the Life2 Project to the European Parliament in June. Peter Hodgson, vice-principal corporate, welcomed the invitation. He has been president of EfVET – European Forum of Technical and Vocational Training for nearly eight years and has led the College’s work in Europe for 25 years.

Mr Hodgson said: “At a time when there’s high levels of youth unemployment throughout Europe, many of the concerns revolve around how we provide creative solutions.”

His mum still has to fill in the paperwork, but young shepherd Sam has ambitions - and talent - to run major farming venture

Mary may have had a little lamb but teenage shepherd Sam Harvey spent Mother's Day caring for six newborn lambs and their mums.

While many teenagers love to spend their free time in bed and listening to music, Sam is building a small flock and has big ambitions to grow it.

The 16-year-old is thought to be one of the youngest shepherds in the county and his age means his mum Sally still has to fill in the official paperwork.

Sam funds the care for his three ewes himself after successfully raising two pigs last year when he was 15 and orders for the meat from the pigs could have been fulfilled five times over. He also supplements his income with a part-time job.

All the Texel Cross Mule ewes have now lambed with one having triplets - which is nearly as unusual as having a teenage owner.

The Norton Radstock College



student has a dream of running his own farm shop stocking meat and vegetables all reared and grown himself.

The Timsbury teenager, who is on the College's school links programme studying Environment and Land-based Studies Level 2 Diploma, said

it all started when he visited a commercial pig farm and was fascinated by the animals.

He applied for a Millennium Grant from Timsbury Parish Council where he won £300 on the basis that he would match it and he saved his pocket money, birthday and Christmas gifts for a year before buying two pigs when he was 15.

A local landowner seeing his enthusiasm gave him use of a field rent-free and Kevin Connell, head of Landbased Studies at Norton Radstock College has been on hand with advice and support as have other shepherds in the Timsbury area.

Sam said: "I bought the ewes pregnant as it's a cheaper way of starting your own flock. It is good at the moment as the sheep market is low. I'd like to increase to 10 breeding ewes this year.

"I'm selling the boys for meat and keeping the girls - we've got three of each. At the moment I'm with them two to four times a day

and bottle feeding to top up the supply from the ewes particularly the triplets.

"They have all got their own personalities. It's been brilliant having them."

Sam, who is also doing GCSEs at Writhlington School in Radstock, is a member of Farrington Gurney's Young Farmers Club and has also spent time doing his own research as well as studying at College.

His proud mum Sally said: "People are really shocked when they find out what he's doing and he's doing it all himself.

"His enthusiasm is 110 per cent and I'm involved because the paperwork understandably needs to be signed by someone over 18. He has had fantastic support from Kevin and the College."

Kevin said: "I have every confidence that he will have a good career in agriculture."

Kevin and Sam are pictured with a lamb

The real message for 16-year-olds

Education is constantly in the headlines whether it's regarding student loans or the English Baccalaureate being scrapped.

But one of the biggest changes due to come into force this year is the legal age a child can leave full-time education ... and it has moved a long way since the leaving age was raised to 12 in 1899.

The new law affects every child who is in Year 11 and below - so that's all young people including every child taking their GCSEs this summer.

It means you have to stay in education or training for the academic year in which you turn 17 from September 2013 and until your 18th birthday from 2015.

The 1944 Education Act raised the school leaving age to 15 and then 16 in 1972.

So generations of us are used

Is your child or grandchild in year 11 or below at school? Did you know that the legal age for staying in full-time education is changing from this year but that doesn't mean he or she has to stay at school? HENRY LOGAN, vice-principal curriculum and quality at Norton Radstock College explores what the change really means as colleges in the West join forces to encourage young people to Think Further.



to making decisions about our future or helping our offspring to do so at 16 - and that won't alter.

The government is clear that raising the participation age (RPA) does not mean young people must stay in school. They will be able to choose one of the following options post-16:

- Full-time education, such as school, college or home education;
- An apprenticeship;

- Part-time education or training if they are employed, self-employed or volunteering full-time (which is defined as 20 hours or more a week).

But the common misconception when chatting to other parents is that your children have to stay at school until they are 17, when actually they can still choose to go to college or into an apprenticeship. Apprenticeships are not just

in the traditional industries of construction and hairdressing - you can train for practically any job, from an IT technician to a forester and from a receptionist to a veterinary nurse.

Sadly some school teachers only tell their less academic pupils about College provision, whereas in reality College is a great option for all learners.

Colleges across the South West have joined together to take action and correct the misinformation with a campaign called Think Further.

It aims to raise awareness of post 16 education options across the region, in light of September's changes.

So next time you are having a conversation with a fellow parent - ask them what they know about the legal leaving age changing - maybe you can help spread the word; the correct one that is!

Imaginations run wild at beauty competition



From a tropical paradise to Crowning Glory Rule Britannia style, there was a feast of imaginative hair styles created by Norton Radstock College students at their annual competition.

The standard was 'exceptionally high' said chairman of the judges Scott Green, who owns the ACU Salon in Devises.

Throughout the day and early evening, the students concentrated on showcasing their work in front of friends and family with themes for the creative Avante Garde/Fantasy section ranging from My Pink Tuesday to Vintage Burlesque to Sugar Rush to the winning Tropical Paradise and Masquerade.

Scott was joined by Mark Hanock, of Gilmore Hair Supplies, James Axeford, former College student who runs his own salon in Midsomer Norton; Caroline Ross, senior therapist at Babington House and Rosie Paradise, also an ex-student, who runs her own salon in Bath.

Shirley Arayan, College Principal, told students: "Everybody looks so beautiful

and has done so much hard work to achieve this. The thing about hair and beauty therapists is that you feel good and make other people feel good which is really important."

Scott said: "It is a real honour to address you and to judge the competition. It has been very challenging for us as the standard has been exceptionally high."

New for this year was a prize for media make-up with students given the theme of Fantasy, Fairy Tales, Fables and Folklore to inspire them.

Jayne Withers, senior curriculum leader for hair, beauty and photography, said: "I was impressed by the quality of what has been created."

The judges were unanimous in their choice of Outstanding Student for 2013 – Siobhan Hillman, who scooped the cup for Total Look Colour Enhancement and was runner-up in the Avante Garde/Fantasy section with her Masquerade look for model, Sarah Moon.

Siobhan, 23, of Midsomer Norton, said her Masquerade look was inspired by her Giant African Snails and the Total Look by her love of dipped dyed hair.



Winners and Runners Up:

Level 3 Total Look Colour Enhancement: Winner Siobhan Hillman, of Midsomer Norton. Runner-up Katie Watts, Midsomer Norton.
 Level 2/3 Ladies Evening Style (long hair up): Winner Catherine Tamblin, Radstock. Runner-up Lauren Bridges, Radstock.
 Level 3 Avante Garde/Fantasy: Winner Corie Mustow with Tropical Paradise. Runner-up Siobhan Hillman with Masquerade.
 Level 2 Media Make-up: Winner with the Mad Hatter Francesca Vince Greenwell, Keynsham; Runner-up Kelsey Dredge, Radstock, with Mermaid.
 Moodboards
 Level 3 Total Look: Winner Katie Watts
 Avante Garde: The Crowning Glory, Samantha Riddle, Farnborough.
 Media Make-up: Queen of Hearts Sadie Stephens, Midsomer Norton.
 Outstanding Student: Siobhan Hillman



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College's new teaching block nearing competition

Work is nearing completion on the new £2 million teaching block at Norton Radstock College which is due to open in September 2013.

The new 26,167 sq ft two-storey building, being constructed by Poole-based construction and infrastructure company Morgan Sindall, replaces the original Northside Building on the Radstock campus which dated back to the 1950s.

Established in the 1940s to serve the Somerset coalfields, the College now has approximately 1,000 full-time students and 5,000 part-time students, studying a wide range of courses over 13 curriculum areas.

The new building will house the engineering and motor vehicle courses, general teaching spaces, student social space and a café. It will also include dedicated space for the Green Skills Academy – a series of courses providing training in renewable technologies and energy efficiency in buildings.

Peter Hodgson, vice principal corporate for Norton Radstock College, said: "We are seeing a growing number of young people in the area interested in taking courses at the College, so we want to ensure we are able to provide current and future



Henry Logan, vice principal curriculum and quality and Peter Hodgson, vice principal corporate with Stuart Knibbs, site manager for Morgan Sindall.

students with the best facilities possible. The previous building was in need of a revamp and we are all excited about seeing the new building taking shape over the coming months."

Paul Gale, area director for Morgan Sindall, said: "It's great to be involved in a project of this significance which will help Norton Radstock College continue to provide superb

learning opportunities to the communities around Bath and Bristol and in Wiltshire and Somerset.

The Morgan Sindall team has a wealth of experience in delivering successful schemes in the education sector and operating in existing educational environments, so we're delighted to be able to put that experience to good use on this project."



Apprentice James shows his metal!

Engineering Apprentice, James Cuthbertson has been nominated as a finalist in the Bath Apprenticeship Awards 2013.

Working for Ironart, an architectural metalworking business in Bath, James said: "An apprenticeship is a great way to learn this trade. There's a duality as you get the skills and knowledge, but also the invaluable hands-on work experience. I go into Norton Radstock College one day a week to do my apprenticeship qualifications and then I go on a block placement at Hereford School of Blacksmithing to learn specialist design and forgework skills."

His employer and business owner Andy Thearle says: "Having a young person on the team helps us look to the future as a business.

"It is an invaluable long-term investment."

Local employers can benefit from a £1500 Government grant to take on an apprentice.

For details, contact Faye George, Business Link Advisor on 01761 420786 or email faye.george@nortcoll.ac.uk



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Your Scene is available in alternative formats on request.

Norton Radstock College actively promotes equality and diversity. Further details can be found on www.nortcoll.ac.uk.

Joe Wooltorton



Alice Dyer



Shannon Eeles



Keeley Hooper



Izzy Scane

Jasmine Stowford



Ruth Andrews



Beckie Hancock



James Etchells



These stunning photographs taken by Norton Radstock College students were displayed at the annual summer exhibition.

The students, who are all completing their Level 3 Diploma in Photography, showcased a range of work and tutor Jo Hounsome said: "This year's summer exhibition has provided the students with the opportunity to display a range of imaginative and exciting work."

The student photographers are:

Alice Dyer, 19, from Stockwood; Beckie Hancock, 18, from East Harptree; Keeley Hooper, 17, from Shepton Mallet; Izzy Scane, 17, from Frome; James Etchells, 28, from Frome; Jasmine Stowford, 19, from Frome; Joe Wooltorton, 19, from Radstock; Matt Kibby, 28, from Timsbury; Ruth Andrews, 27, from Keynsham; and Shannon Eeles, 17, from Temple Cloud

The display took place from June 25-28 at the College's Centurion Vocational Centre, Charlton Lane, Midsomer Norton.

Leisure learning

Computers

IT Taster

Get to know the mouse and keyboard. These essential skills will enable you to begin to use a computer in a relaxed environment with the support of friendly staff.

Main Site

3 hours, weekly start dates, £FREE

Get Connected Computer Club

Discover how to use the Internet, email, shop online, view photographs and much more in this relaxed class. Ideal for beginners as you will also learn to use a mouse, keyboard and Windows.

Main Site and Keynsham Centre

2 hours a week for 10 weeks, various start dates, £45

Find out about Facebook

Keep in touch with family/friends and follow news from your favourite organisations, celebrities, community groups and much more. Learn to set up and manage your page safely.

Main Site

3 hours, 9.30am-12.30pm contact us for dates, £20

Internet Shopping for Gifts

It's a digital world where shopping can be completed and money can be saved without even leaving your living room. Solve all of your gift problems on this short course.

Main Site

3 hours, 9.30am-12.30pm contact us for dates, £20

Getting the Most from Ebay

Whether you're selling unwanted second hand items or buying used or new goods, we will show you how to set up your Ebay and Paypal account and get started. You may even decide to set up your own Ebay shop!

Main Site

3 hours, 9.30am-12.30pm contact us for dates, £20

Buy on Ebay

Buy competitively! Learn how to find the best deal, look for top sellers, place your bids and 'watch' items to get what you're looking for at the right price and safely delivered.

Main Site

2 hours, 10.30am-12.30pm contact us for dates, £20

Sell on Ebay

Bring in something you want to sell. We'll start with taking photos, writing the sales descriptions, look at pricing and Ebay seller fees. At the end of the session you will have something for sale on Ebay.

Main Site

2 hours, 10.30am-12.30pm contact us for dates, £20

Skype Introduction

Talk to family and friends anywhere in the world through Skype and the Internet. Save money on expensive phone calls and see the people you are talking to. This short course will show you how to set it up and get started.

Main Site

3 hours, 9.30am-12.30pm contact us for dates, £20

IT Bytes

Have you always wanted to know how to do something on your home computer? Is there an annoying task you can't get to grips with? Update and improve your existing IT skills to suit your needs. Buy as you learn in £20 blocks @ £5 per hour.

Main Site

4 hours, weekly start dates, £20

Files and Folder Management

Learn to organise your files into folders and sub-folders. Move, rename and delete files and photos. You will also learn to search for missing files and use a memory stick.

Main Site

2 hours a week for 2 weeks, 10.30am-12.30pm.

Contact us for dates, £25

Basic Web Design

Using Expression Web, which can be downloaded free to your home computer. Learn the basic skills and knowledge to produce straightforward single web pages from pre-set templates.

Main Site

2.5 hours a week for 8 weeks, Tue 10.00am-12.30pm or 6.30pm-8.30pm. Starts Oct 13 and Feb 14, £70

Laying the foundations



A young bricklaying student is already laying the foundations for success, winning a prize for his skills at a regional competition.

Chai Francis, 15, was awarded the Construction Industry Training Board Inter Schools Competition (Year 11) Shield at the 2013 Regional Bricklaying Competition run by the Western Section of Guild of Bricklayers held earlier this month at Exeter College.

Chai, from Radstock, is taking the Construction Awards Alliance Level 1 Diploma in Bricklaying course at Norton Radstock College, through the College's Schools Link Programme, while also studying GCSEs at Writhlington School in Radstock.

Following his success at the competition, which attracts entrants from colleges across the region, Chai said: "I enjoy bricklaying at college and I am proud that I won."

Mark Hopkinson, who heads up the course at Norton Radstock College, said: "Chai's talent for bricklaying has been apparent from the outset of the course."

Mark Everett, Headteacher at Writhlington School, said: "This is an amazing achievement and we are all very proud of Chai. Chai's success is due to his hard work and talent and the support he has had from his college tutors."

Excel Intermediate/Advanced

The course is for anyone wishing to learn more advanced tools and techniques for calculating and manipulating data in a spreadsheet. The course includes: entering and editing data/formulae and functions, working with multiple page spreadsheets, analysing and manipulating data, formatting rows and columns, creating and formatting charts/graphs, setting the page layout of a spreadsheet.

Main Site

3 hours a week for 5 weeks, various start dates, £25

Graphic Design

Use graphic design software such as Gimp, Inkscape, Globus or similar to design your own stationery, leaflets and other materials.

Main Site

2.5 hours a week for 6 weeks, Tue 10.00am-12.30pm or 6.30pm-8.30pm, starts Oct 13 and Feb 14, £70

Build a Computer System

Learn to set up the components of a personal IT system, removable storage media and communication service to Internet and associated software and check they are working properly. We will cover default set up routines and run simple tests to check it is working successfully.

Main Site

1 day a week for 3 weeks.

Starts Oct 2013 and Nov 2013 dates, £60

General Maintenance/Troubleshooting for your Home Computer

You may be able to use application software such as word processing, but can you fix your computer if it develops a fault? Learn about computer performance, replacing common parts, installing Windows and other software, setting up Internet security and much more.

Main Site,

1 day a week for 4 weeks.

Starts Nov 2013 and Apr 2014 dates, £75

Using Mobile IT Devices

Learn how to set up and use a mobile or handheld device such as a smartphone, PDA, portable media player, electronic organiser or data logger securely, to input and store data and to transfer data to and from another device. The course includes sending SMS messages to colleagues, maintaining a calendar of events and downloading apps.

Main Site

3 hours a week for 5 weeks, various start dates, £25

Hair & Beauty Services

Making the Most of Yourself with Hair & Make-up

Arrive with freshly washed hair and we'll give you tips and advice to achieve your desired look. We'll cover condition, texture and density, sectioning and drying your hair, brushes and products. You will then move on to make-up to create your desired look.

Centurion Vocational Centre,

Sat 10.30am-12.30pm.

Starts 21/09/13 and 17/05/14, £25

Leisure learning

Introduction to Basic Body Massage

Ever thought of a career change? This hands on taster in body massage may lead to you wanting to study for a professional qualification. You will observe, through demonstration, the classical Swedish Massage movements and then put them into practice in a salon environment. Model required from 1pm-3pm. Wear comfortable closed shoes and loose clothing.

Centurion Vocational Centre

Sat 10.30am-12.30pm.

Starts 21/09/13 and 17/05/14, £25

Beginners' Running Club for Women

Start the New Year by getting fit; burn calories, meet people and feel safe running in a group with a qualified instructor. By the end we will aim for you to run 3 miles.

Main Site

Thu 6.30pm-7.30pm for 10 weeks, starts Jan 2014, £tbc

Photography

Creative Digital Photography

An introduction to some of the photographic techniques that can be used to improve picture taking skills. Includes looking at composition, viewpoint, framing and lighting. There will also be an introduction to editing photographs.

Centurion Vocational Centre

Thu 6.30pm-8.30pm for 5 weeks, starts 24/10/13, 27/02/14, £78

Photoshop Basics Using Elements 10

An introduction to the popular Photoshop Elements 10. Learn how to manipulate your photos to look their best and discover some creative effects.

Keynsham Centre

Wed 2.00pm-4.00pm, 10 weeks, starts 29/01/14 £90

Introduction to Digital Editing

Learn how to start editing your photographs on Photoshop using the adjustment tools before moving on to explore creative effects of filters and layers.

Centurion Vocational Centre

Wed 6.30pm-8.30pm for 5 weeks. Starts 04/09/13, 08/01/14, £78

Digital Editing

This comprehensive course will build upon your knowledge learnt in the introductory Photoshop course and enable you to develop a range of creative effects, cut out, add lettering and use layers.

Centurion Vocational Centre

Wed 6.30pm-8.30pm for 8 weeks.

Starts 23/10/13, 26/02/14, £120

Digital Photography with an SLR Camera

Bring your own digital SLR camera and learn how to use it on a manual setting. You will be introduced to the light meter, shutter speed and aperture, to manage exposure and depth of field. Explore how these can be controlled to achieve creative effects.

Centurion Vocational Centre

Thu 6.30pm-8.30pm for 5 weeks.

Starts 05/09/12, 09/01/14, £78

Creative Crafts

Blacksmithing

Learn skills to design, plan and make a range of items to take home with you. Level 1 concentrates on the basic skills and understanding of blacksmithing.

Main Site

Mon 6.30pm-9.00pm for 24 weeks starts 14/10/13, £tbc

Carpentry

This beginners' course will enable you to develop a range of wood craft skills and produce a selection of items of your choice. Learn how to use all of the materials, tools and equipment correctly.

Wellsway Works

Tue 6.30pm-8.30pm for 24 weeks, starts 08/10/13, £tbc

Furniture Restoration

A fantastic opportunity to learn a range of skills and renovate your old furniture at the same time. Course includes chair webbing, reupholstery and timber restoration.

Thu 6.30pm-9.00pm for 24 weeks, starts 10/10/13, £tbc

Farewell to Marilyn



College library assistant Marilyn Seddon is setting off on a new chapter after retiring from the job she has enjoyed for 20 years.

Marilyn, of Radstock, has raised thousands of pounds for Cancer Research over 15 years after galvanising a team of staff and students annually for Race for Life.

Now Marilyn, 64, a grandmother of two, is looking forward to travelling the world with three holidays booked already.

Penny Routledge, senior manager student support services, said: "On behalf of all your colleagues and the senior management team, I would like to thank you for all your hard work over the years – you will be missed."

Marilyn who was swamped with gifts, cards and flowers said over the years she had seen many students go on to become members of staff.

"I am going to travel and I'm looking forward to being able to just pack up and go off somewhere when the weather is good," she laughed.

Watercolour Painting

Use a range of source materials to develop your watercolour painting skills and techniques. Suitable for all levels from beginners to those with more experience.

7.00pm-9.00pm for 10 weeks, £90

Thu, starts 03/10/13

Mon, starts 31/09/13

Develop your career

We have a wide range of other part-time courses for adults which include trade, professional and career qualifications as well as work-based learning.

Many of these courses are free to jobseekers.

Check out www.nortcoll.ac.uk for more details

Horticulture

Introduction to Organic Gardening, Level 2 Certificate

This hands-on, practical course will introduce you to a range of organic and sustainable gardening techniques. The course includes sources of advice, support and certification, sustainable practices, pest control, beneficial plants, composting, peat substitutes and peat-free gardening.

Length 5 days a week for 2 weeks, various start dates
£495

Basic Horticultural Machinery Maintenance, Level 2 Certificate

Suitable for landscapers, green-keepers, contractors and keen DIY enthusiasts! Learn the basic skills needed to maintain a wide range of horticultural machinery.

There are four short courses available in this area; Ride-on Powered Equipment, Hand-held Powered Equipment, Pedestrian Controlled Powered Equipment and Chippers and Shredders. Please note, this is not a professional mechanic course, but designed to minimise accidents and extend machinery life and performance.

Level 2, Length 2 days, various start dates
£125

Propagation Skills for Horticulturalists, Level 2 Certificate

This course has been designed to help you develop your propagation skills, understand the technical aspects of advanced propagation and help to prevent the loss of specialist techniques rarely seen today. You will be shown how to prepare seed, successfully break dormancy and understand the secrets of seed storage. You will be propagating from leaf, stem, and root cuttings, layering, grafting and budding. We will show you how to make a range of composts and growing media.

Level 2, 1 day a week for 8 weeks, various start dates
£205

Creating and Maintaining Amenity Lawns, Level 2 Certificate

Horticulturalists, landscapers and keen DIY enthusiasts will learn to design, create and maintain amenity or utility lawns. Topics covered include site preparation, soil cultivation, base dressing, seedbed preparation, sowing, turfing and maintaining.

Level 2, 1 day a week for 8 weeks, various start dates
£205

Leisure learning

Pruning Skills for Horticulturalists, Level 2 Certificate

This course will introduce you to tree, shrub and climber pruning techniques. You will be shown how to manage spring and summer flowering shrubs, to prune fruit trees and vines and to maintain roses. Specialist techniques such as rejuvenation pruning, coppicing and pollarding are covered and those notoriously difficult subjects such as wisteria, eucalyptus, fig, etc. taught.

Level 2, 1 day a week for 8 weeks, various start dates
£205

Introduction to Hedge Laying, Level 2 Award
Develop the basic skills needed to lay hedges to create a stock-proof, wildlife friendly boundary. This course will teach the North Somerset style of hedge laying suitable for dairy and beef stock proofing. Learn how to prepare the site, survey, record species, date the hedge, repair gaps and operate a chipper. The course also includes history, boundary laws and risk assessments. This is a physically demanding course where you need steel toe capped boots and a packed lunch!

5 days, starts 21 Oct, 25 Nov, 16 Dec
and various start dates in 2014
£265

Environment & Conservation

Introduction to Dry Stone Walling, Level 2 Award

This course is designed to introduce you to the basic skills needed to re-build dry-stone walls. Courses can be run to introduce Cotswold, Mendip or Sandstone style walling techniques. We look at terminology, tools, surveys, taking down areas of wall, laying out, preparing foundations, building and topping off to build a section of wall that will last for generations to come. Steel toe-capped boots and packed lunch required!

5 days, various start dates
£265

Animal Care

Dog Grooming, Level 2 Certificate

Learn how to prepare animals for grooming, discuss the health and welfare benefits of grooming and the techniques used. Practical exercises are on dogs but can be used on any animal which requires grooming. Topics covered include preparation of animals prior to bathing, bathing and cleaning animals, drying and preparing coats for styling. These skills could lead you to potential new business opportunities.

5 days a week for 2 weeks (various start dates) or
2 hours a week over 25 weeks (eves starts 25 Sept)
£245

ALSO.... Maths & English

GCSE Retakes

Did you miss out on the magic C grade at school? Our evening classes, starting in September, will provide you with the tuition and skills to retake these important Maths and English GCSEs.

Length 1 evening a week for 1 year

Everyday Maths and English

These free classes provide you with a chance to improve your everyday English and Maths skills. With small groups and friendly tutors we will help you to build your confidence whilst you learn with other likeminded people. You can work at your own pace and gain qualifications at a level to suit you, up to Level 2 GCSE equivalent.

Weekly start dates, mornings, afternoons or evenings,
interview required

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

These flexible classes will help speakers of other languages learn everyday written and verbal English skills. All levels, costs vary.

Weekly start dates, mornings, afternoons or evenings,
interview required

First Aid for Animals, Level 2 Award

These evening classes will introduce you to animal centred first aid. Suitable for pet owners, breeders, pet-shop staff and anyone working with dogs. We will show how you can identify a range of life-threatening and minor emergencies, help you respond appropriately and how to take responsibility for the situation. Topics covered will include resuscitation, bandaging, choking, eye injuries, insect stings, ticks, fleas and other parasites, suspected poisoning, injury aftercare and heat exhaustion.

1 evening a week for 5 weeks, various start dates
£125

Safe Transportation of Large Animals, Level 2 Certificate

Learn the skills and knowledge necessary to load, transport and unload large animals. The course is ideally suited for anyone who moves horses or ponies, takes livestock to market or delivers large animals to new owners. Topics covered will include signs of stress, safe containment, environmental factors, movement documentation and maintaining records required by law, responding to emergencies and injuries and legislation covering journey length.

4 days over 1 week, various start dates
£205

Floristry

Introduction to Floristry, Level 2 Award

This short course will introduce you to the creative world of floristry; you will have the opportunity to explore sources of inspiration and to develop your use of textures, colours and techniques. You will be shown how to craft simple and elegant designs from buttonholes to bouquets and table settings to posies.

2 ½ hours a week for 12 weeks, afternoons/eves, starts
16 Sept 2013, 6 Jan and 21 April 2014
£195

Intermediate Floristry Skills, Level 2 Certificate

This course is designed to develop your basic floristry skills and introduce you to entrepreneurial and enterprise skills that may lead to a career in floristry. You will develop and broaden your use of materials and living elements, exploring the styles, techniques and crafts used in contemporary floristry. Learn to create floral arrangements with flair and style.

3 hours a week for 18 weeks, afternoons/eves.
Starts 12 Sept 2013 and 9 Jan 2014
£790

Languages

French for Beginners

Bonjour! This short French course will provide you with a real introduction to the French language and enable you to speak and understand some of the basic phrases you might need on holiday.

7.00pm-9.00pm for 10 weeks, £80
Main Site: Thu, starts 03/10/13
Keynsham Centre: Mon, starts 30/09/13

German for Beginners

Learn some of the basics of the German language to help you get by on holiday. Classes are held in an informal, relaxed environment.

7.00pm-9.00pm for 10 weeks, £80
Main Site: Thu, starts 03/10/13
Keynsham Centre: Mon, starts 30/09/13

Italian for Beginners

This spoken beginners' course will teach you the basics to get by on holiday...or you could just impress all of your friends at the local pizzeria!

7.00pm-9.00pm for 10 weeks, £80
Main Site: Thu, starts 03/10/13
Keynsham Centre: Mon, starts 30/09/13

Spanish for Beginners

Hola! This short Spanish course will provide you with a real introduction to the Spanish language and enable you to speak and understand some of the basic phrases you might need on holiday.

7.00pm-9.00pm for 10 weeks, £80
Main Site: Thu, starts 03/10/13
Keynsham Centre: Mon, starts 30/09/13

More exciting courses starting this autumn

- Thai for Beginners
- Mandarin Chinese for Beginners
- Plastering
- Plumbing
- Sewing
- Dressmaking
- Soft Furnishing
- Sugarcraft
- Pottery
- Ceramics
- Stained Glass
- Farrier Skills
- How to Blog

To register your interest, please contact Anne Southwell on 01761 433161

Is there such thing as a
FREE COURSE?

YES... ...until you earn £21k, and then you only pay back 9% of what you earn above that!

You need to be aged 24+ and on a Level 3 or 4 qualification. For more details contact the College's Finance Office on:

T: 01761 433161

E: enquiries@nortcoll.ac.uk

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Are you under 25?

**Do you need Contraceptive or
Sexual Health Advice?**

There's a new confidential service **just for you.**

Every Tuesday, 4pm-6pm.

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