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The magazine of Ayrshire College October 2017 - January 2018

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OR CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:



Making Your Business Our Business



Shirley-Anne Somerville MSP, Heather Dunk - Principal, Willie Mackie - Chair of Board of Management, Dr Sarah Peers - Director of STEM Foundation

WE HOSTED OUR ANNUAL BUSINESS DINNER ON TUESDAY 7 NOVEMBER IN OUR SALT & BARREL TRAINING RESTAURANT AT OUR KILMARNOCK CAMPUS.

The event, which had a focus on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), aimed to encourage new employers to work with us and to enthuse those who already engage to do more.

Engineering, production and construction companies heard how we can support their organisations – particularly through the apprenticeship family.

Shirley-Anne Somerville MSP attended in her role as Scotland's Minister for Further Education,

Higher Education and Science, and outlined the Scottish Government's new STEM strategy.

Fraser Wallace, one of our Engineering Foundation Apprentices spoke to guests about his vital hands-on experience with GE Caledonian.

Tracy Govan, a Mechanical Engineering Modern Apprentice with GE Caledonian spoke about her time as an apprentice.



Fraser Wallace



Tracy Govan



Shirley-Anne Somerville MSP meeting Hospitality students



Steven McNab, GE Caledonian with Fraser Wallace and Jackie Galbraith, Vice Principal



Shirley-Anne Somerville MSP with Fraser Wallace and Tracy Govan

ENGAGE DEVELOP GROW

Making Skills Work for Business

AS PART OF AYRSHIRE BUSINESS WEEK, WE ORGANISED AN EMPLOYER CONFERENCE AT OUR KILWINNING CAMPUS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL, SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SCOTLAND AND THE DYW AYRSHIRE GROUP.

Around 100 local businesses attended the Engage|Develop|Grow conference. The aim of the event was to make it easier for employers to engage with education, develop their talent and grow their business.

North Ayrshire Council Leader, Joe Cullinane, opened the event and was followed by speakers from Ashleigh Construction, GE Caledonian, James Frew, Ardrossan Academy, Booth Welsh, Opus Couture, Scottish Enterprise and the College who all received great feedback from the audience.

The highlight of the event was the contribution made by school-college student, Fraser Wallace, who is undertaking work experience for his Engineering Foundation Apprenticeship with GE Caledonian. Fraser enthused about his college and work experience, supported by Stephen McNab, Apprenticeship Manager from GE.





THE WELDING INSTITUTE



WE HAVE BECOME THE FIRST AND ONLY COLLEGE IN SCOTLAND TO BE CERTIFIED BY THE WELDING INSTITUTE.

“WE WILL BE ABLE TO OFFER SPECIALIST CODED WELDER TRAINING TO INDUSTRY AND PROVIDE AN ENHANCED LEARNING AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE FOR OUR STUDENTS.”

To gain this prestigious award, our Engineering team had to complete two audits over five days by TWI Certification Ltd (TWI CL).

John Brampton, the lead auditor from TWI CL, was very complimentary of our staff commenting that we had the best college facility he had seen in the UK. There are 40 welding bays at our Kilmarnock Campus where we will now have access to the TWI's welding procedures.

This means that we will be able to offer specialist coded welder training to industry and provide an enhanced learning and teaching experience for our students.

DIGITAL SKILLS FORUM



We held our first Digital Skills Forum in October.

The forum provides a structured opportunity to engage with employers and other partners on improving digital skills and providing greater opportunities for young people.

Caroline Stuart, Chair of the Tech Partnership Scotland, spoke at the event.

MISSION DISCOVERY

Ayrshire
College

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YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

BENEFITS TO A SPONSOR INCLUDE:



MISSION DISCOVERY AYRSHIRE WILL RETURN IN 2018.

Mission Discovery is a unique programme that enables young people to work in teams with an astronaut, NASA leaders and world famous scientists for a week, to develop an idea for a space experiment. The teams then present their idea to a judging panel. The winning experiment will be built, launched into space and transported to the International Space Station.

We are delighted to announce that the Ayrshire College Foundation has once again agreed to be the main sponsor this year. However, we are seeking interest from other sponsors.

Becoming a sponsor of Mission Discovery Ayrshire offers you a unique opportunity to help us change the lives of hundreds of young people by raising their aspirations for an exciting career in Science and Engineering.

Interested in sponsoring this event? Contact Jackie Galbraith, Vice Principal at jackie.galbraith@ayrshire.ac.uk

-  Increased brand awareness through exposure at the Mission Discovery events
-  Synergies with our brand - with opportunities to generate strong PR coverage to enhance your reputation, improve customer loyalty and engage new customers
-  Working with us to develop the young workforce in Ayrshire to ensure you have the right people available to meet your skills needs
-  Meeting your corporate social responsibilities by supporting young people in Ayrshire.

"If the young people can walk away from this programme with raised aspirations, believing you can become anything you want to be, you can make it happen, you can achieve your dreams, then we have achieved our mission as the main sponsor."

-Tracey Stark, Ayrshire College Foundation

THE HALO



Heather Dunk - Principal, and Marie Macklin C.B.E.

WE HAVE SIGNED A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH OUR SOON-TO-BE NEIGHBOURS, THE HALO KILMARNOCK LTD.

We are partnering with the HALO Kilmarnock to encourage leading-edge, practical learning in enterprise and innovation, cyber resilience and digital security to support the creation of a future workforce of digitally skilled young people from Ayrshire.

We have agreed to combine knowledge, resources, networks and efforts to support the creation of the HALO Enterprise and Innovation Centre and the cyber security/digital hub that are planned as part of the impressive regeneration project.

The partnership also aims to explore and promote new approaches to stimulating self-discovery, self-motivation and self-confidence, particularly among young people.

The HALO Enterprise and Innovation Centre will be part of a national and international network of Government and industry-inspired cyber centres making Scotland a leader in digital knowledge and understanding.

We are delighted to be working in partnership with the HALO initiative. This will provide opportunities for our students and staff from a range of industry sectors to support economic development in Ayrshire.

CODERDOJO AYRSHIRE IS 3 YEARS OLD!



CODERDOJO
AYRSHIRE

CODERDOJO AYRSHIRE CELEBRATED ITS THIRD BIRTHDAY IN NOVEMBER 2017.

Since November 2014, Ayrshire College has run over 70 CoderDojo coding clubs at which over 1,000 young people have taken up coding.

The hugely successful club has introduced young people in Ayrshire to programming and developing apps, inspiring more to choose courses to develop digital skills.

The club marked the occasion at the end of last year with a superhero theme. Young people attending were given the chance to take part in various coding activities, such as App Inventor and JavaScript.

CoderDojo Ayrshire's final session of 2017 was a special Christmas coding club.

Charlotte Johnson age 13, from Irvine, is a CoderDojo Ayrshire regular. She attended the CoderDojo EU Dojo in the European Parliament in Brussels in October 2017, and was the first young Scottish coder to attend. She showcased the coding and technology skills that she gained at the Ayrshire club.

Charlotte credits CoderDojo Ayrshire as her inspiration and said "The club is always really interesting and up-to-date. The conference was good as I got to meet other young coders from different countries. I even had two MEPs ask me questions about coding!"

In collaboration with external partner, CoderDojo Scotland at the Glasgow Science Centre, our Curriculum Manager Loraine Johnston and other volunteers have done exceptional work to provide young people in Ayrshire with a fun and supportive environment to learn about computer coding.



**“SINCE NOVEMBER 2014,
AYRSHIRE COLLEGE HAS RUN OVER
70 CODERDOJO CODING CLUBS TO
ENCOURAGE OVER 1,000 YOUNG
PEOPLE TO TAKE UP CODING.”**

The Scottish Government reported last year that an additional 12,800 digital skills roles are needed each year in Scotland.

These jobs will only be filled if increasing numbers of people choose to develop the skills required, and we are working hard to inspire more young people at school to choose courses which develop digital skills.

Our CoderDojo sessions are proving to be the perfect introduction to digital skills for young people in Ayrshire.

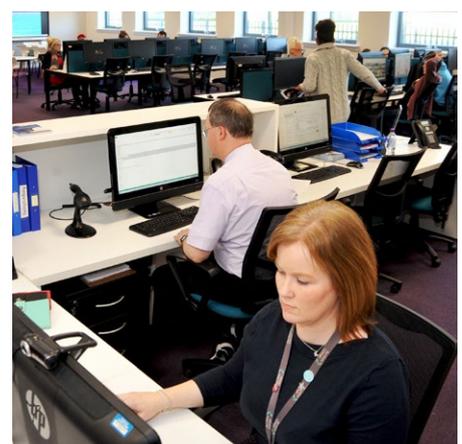
CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS

AT AYR AND KILWINNING

MAJOR RENOVATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE TO OUR AYR AND KILWINNING CAMPUSES.

The Kilwinning Campus has a new Partnership Centre and Student Association office, and the Learning Resource Centre has been transformed into a more welcoming space, expanded to provide greater resources for the students. Improved breakout areas on the first and second floors of the campus provide students with social spaces for learning.

A new Employability Hub has officially opened at the Kilwinning Campus. Working in partnership with the North Ayrshire Council Employability and Skills team, the hub offers a one stop shop for students and people in the local





community, to access help seeking employment, training or volunteering opportunities.

At the Ayr Campus there is a brand new hospitality suite, complete with new training restaurant, Inver.

The restaurant allows our hospitality students to hone their cooking and serving skills on a daily basis in a real-life restaurant environment. Inver is available for public reservations every afternoon from 12pm-1:30pm and on some Tuesday and Thursday evenings for special events.



These major campus improvements were made possible as a result of funding provided by the Ayrshire College Foundation.





THE FLEXIBLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FUND

THE DEADLINE FOR THE FLEXIBLE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FUND (FWDF) HAS BEEN EXTENDED UNTIL 22 JUNE 2018.

The Scottish Government launched the Flexible Workforce Development Fund in September 2017. This fund was open to private, public and third sector organisations in Scotland that currently pay the apprenticeship levy.

Each levy paying employer can access up to a maximum of £10,000 of training from their local further education college. The fund aims to support employers in the up-skilling and re-skilling of their existing workforce.

Our Business Solutions team have been extremely busy over the last few months meeting with employers throughout Ayrshire to discuss their application to the fund and

to establish the current skills gaps which exist within their workforce.

Wendy McFarland, Business Solutions Manager stated "The fund provides an excellent opportunity for the College to engage on a deeper level with local employers to further develop our agile employer centric course provision. The Flexible Workforce Development Fund meetings have highlighted the current and future needs of Ayrshire's largest employers.

“ OVER 40 LARGE SCALE EMPLOYERS HAVE ENGAGED WITH THE INITIATIVE TO DATE, A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF WHICH ARE PRESTIGIOUS MULTI-NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS. ”

“This information will feed into our long-term strategy to ensure that we continue to support the needs of the workforce for years to come.

“It has been very interesting to see the common skills gaps and upskilling trends which exist across all sectors. This insight allows the College to respond quickly and strategically to localised or national skills gaps. Over 40 large scale employers have engaged with the initiative to date, a significant number of which are prestigious multi-national organisations.”

“Our Learning Technology team has supported this initiative by offering free digital innovation demonstrations designed to encourage employers to consider their own digital strategy.

“Many employers found the innovation demonstration to be so inspiring that they immediately added digital training into their flexible workforce training request.

Our early applications to the fund indicate that we will be involved in delivering over 120 digital workshops across Ayrshire through the fund in 2018.”

“ IT HAS BEEN VERY INTERESTING TO SEE THE COMMON SKILLS GAPS AND UPSKILLING TRENDS WHICH EXIST ACROSS ALL SECTORS. THIS INSIGHT ALLOWS THE COLLEGE TO RESPOND QUICKLY AND STRATEGICALLY TO LOCALISED OR NATIONAL SKILLS GAPS.”

INTERESTED?

To find out if you are eligible contact:

Wendy McFarland

wendy.mcfarland@ayrshire.ac.uk

call: 01292 293457



GRADUATION



ALMOST 600 GRADUATES CELEBRATED THEIR COLLEGE SUCCESS AT THREE GRADUATION CEREMONIES IN AYR, KILMARNOCK AND KILWINNING.

The Kilmarnock ceremony was the first at the Grand Hall in the town, on 27 October.

Two weeks later, the graduation for Kilwinning and Irvine based students took place at the Abbey Church, while the Ayr graduation concluded the celebrations on 24 November at Ayr Town Hall.

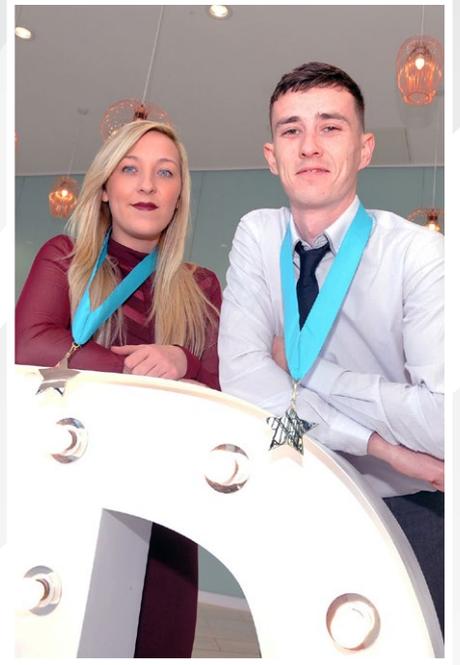
Graduates received a commemorative medal from the College Chair and a certificate from the Principal.

Winners of the Student of the Year, Making a Difference in the Community, Outstanding Achievement, and Overall Student of the Year awards were announced.

Following the ceremonies, the graduates were applauded by their friends and families, as well as members of the public, as they processed back to their campus to enjoy refreshments prepared by our hospitality students.

We would like to thank all our sponsors for their continued support of these memorable events.





PRIZEWINNERS



**KILMARNOCK CAMPUS
GRADUATION**
GRAND HALL, 27 OCTOBER



**KILWINNING CAMPUS
GRADUATION**
ABBAY CHURCH, 10 NOVEMBER



**AYR CAMPUS
GRADUATION**
TOWN HALL, 24 NOVEMBER

Find out what our graduation prizewinners had to say as they collected their awards.

LATEST AWARD NEWS



Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce Business Awards



Scottish Digital Business Awards

WE HAD A SUCCESSFUL END TO 2017 AS WE ACHIEVED A RANGE OF REGIONAL AND NATIONAL AWARDS.

At the Scottish Digital Business Awards, we won the Public Sector Award for our innovative retention tool that is reducing the number of students leaving their course early.

We won the Excellence in People Development Award at the Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce Business Awards for our innovative approach to staff development.

We won a Commended award for our commitment to addressing the gender gap in science, technology, engineering and maths in the Innovating in STEM Education category at the inaugural Global Game Changers Awards.

At the UK Green Gown Awards, we won the Student Engagement award for the Park Life project at Dean Castle Country Park, and were

Highly Commended in the Community category for the Older Adult fitness project in East Ayrshire.

Our Health & Social Care team was presented with the Developing a Regional Curriculum Award at the College Development Network Awards for its 'Prepare for Care - A Career in Care' programme.

We also won Highly Commended awards in the Employer Connections Award and Innovative College Award categories, and Commended award wins for former Sport & Fitness student Kayleigh Haggo in the Student Citizenship Award category, and for Sport & Fitness events organised with Supporters Direct Scotland in the Inclusive College Award category.

At the SQA Star Awards, former Irvine campus-based student, James O'Neill won the College Candidate of the Year Award.

Also at the SQA Star Awards, our Me2u project won the Highly Commended Award in the Innovation category.

Kayleigh Haggo was awarded the Rising Star Diversity Award at the GenAnalytics Diversity Awards 2017.



The Herald Diversity Awards



UK Green Gown Awards



College Development Network Awards



SQA Star Awards

There was success for at the North Ayrshire Community Sports Awards where our Irvine-based Sport & Fitness team was announced as the winner of the Partnership in Sport Award. Lecturer Kirsty Cameron was named Sports Ambassador of the Year, Stuart Drummond, a Sport & Fitness student at the College, picked up the Young Coach of the Year award, and another student, Adrienne Thomson was named the Young Volunteer of the Year.

Read more about our award winning projects on our blog



YOURSELF

ENVIRONMENT

COMMUNITY

OTHERS

#OURAYRSHIRE

Laura-Jane

Laura-Jane volunteered with Someone Else’s Addiction (SEA) and set up a fundraiser that has raised over £750. You may have heard Laura-Jane on WestFM promoting ‘At the SEAside’, an initiative that saw her brave the cold sea at different Ayrshire beaches. Laura-Jane supports their social media pages and has taken part in a number of training opportunities.



Amy

Amy, who wrote a powerful blog post for us during Alcohol Awareness Week 2017, has been busy volunteering with Addaction. She organised a fundraiser for them and is hoping to set up a campus drop-in area for people with addictions.



Denise

Denise also took part in an Alcohol Awareness Week project, making mocktail recipes and costing them for students.

At Ayrshire College, we are proud to have a campus community that is respectful, welcoming and inclusive. We want students and staff to be proud of where they study and work, and a sense of belonging within the College community.

Our Respect campaign highlights the need to ‘Respect Yourself’, ‘Respect the Community’, ‘Respect the Environment’ and ‘Respect People’.

We are delighted that so many of our students have embraced our Respect campaign with open arms.

Here are just some of the examples of students showing their Respect!

Ayr Social Sciences Students

A group of Ayr Social Sciences students volunteered with the Five Ways Well Green Gym at Ailsa Hospital. This new innovative project aims to help improve mental health through conversation. The students attend alongside patients and community members in recovery.

Social Sciences students also cleaned up areas of the Ayr Campus as part of a litter-picking project.



Liz, Lynn and Jennifer

...got involved in the In Your Shoes project, organising a catwalk for men (in high heels) to raise awareness of violence against women.

RESPECT COMMUNITY

#OURAYRSHIRE

George Lee

...has been volunteering at the Open Ayrshire LGBT Group and delivered a workshop in bullying and hate crime.

.....

Georgia Loughran

...has also been campaigning against bullying, making a leaflet that was included in the Student Association newsletter as part of Safety Week.

.....

Rebecca and Dominic

...organised a meditation session to promote positive wellbeing and also raised awareness about local projects in the area.





MEET SCOTLAND'S BOCCIA STARS

WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT TWO OF SCOTLAND'S STAR BOCCIA PLAYERS ARE STUDYING AT AYRSHIRE COLLEGE THIS YEAR.

Boccia is a precision ball sport for disabled athletes, and NC Sport and Fitness students Ross Munro and Reegan Stevenson are among the best in Britain. They also compete in powerchair football.

Ross and Reegan have already achieved great success, winning medals at the inaugural Scottish Boccia International Open.

They were instrumental in teaching hundreds of children how to play boccia at Ayrshire Sportsability's Festival of Sport.

Ross and Reegan travel from Glasgow to Ayrshire for their studies.

Ross said "I was attracted to Ayrshire College because the facilities were the best. It's been really enjoyable and was great to teach boccia styles to different kids at the Festival of Sport.

"I first tried out boccia at a disability sport open day with the Scottish Disability Sport team. I've represented my country at the European Championships in Liverpool and it's a great experience playing for Scotland."

Reegan said "When I heard that Ross was going to go to Ayrshire College, I looked into applying too. We're on the same course - NC Sport & Fitness - and it's been great. It's great that the College is so inclusive, especially with the work they do with Ayrshire Sportsability.

.....
"I WAS ATTRACTED TO AYRSHIRE COLLEGE BECAUSE THE FACILITIES WERE THE BEST."
.....

"I played boccia at school. Our school got funding to take us to a competition in Stirling to see if we could play. Playing for your country is great because you can test yourself against other countries and see how good you can get."

INSPIRATIONAL MARTIAL ARTIST AT IRVINE

#THISAYRSHIREGIRLCAN

NC ADVANCED SPORT AND FITNESS STUDENT AMY MITCHELL STUDIES AT OUR SKILLS CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN IRVINE.

Outside of college Amy has achieved remarkable success in karate.

Amy originally took up karate to stand up to school bullies. She has advanced so much that she became Student of the Year for the entire UK martial arts community in 2016.

When Amy was just 16 years old she won a European Championships competition for the 18-35 age group, and was also placed in a World Championships competition held in Poland.

Now 18, Amy has plans to open her own karate club in her home town.

Amy said "I think it's a good idea to get children off the streets and teach them what I've learned. People might think a girl doing martial arts is strange, but in the last year it's actually been the fastest growing sport for girls to take part in."



“PEOPLE MIGHT THINK A GIRL DOING MARTIAL ARTS IS STRANGE, BUT IN THE LAST YEAR IT’S ACTUALLY BEEN THE FASTEST GROWING SPORT FOR GIRLS TO TAKE PART IN.”





EAST AYRSHIRE SCHOOLS COMPETITIVE SPORTS CALENDAR

EAST AYRSHIRE PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS TOOK PART IN A COMPETITIVE SCHOOL SPORTS CALENDAR, ORGANISED BY ACTIVE SCHOOLS AND FACILITATED BY SPORTS STUDENTS AT OUR KILMARNOCK CAMPUS.

Students were previously involved in the Competitive School Sport Calendar, which took place in different venues across East Ayrshire. This year, every event took place in the Kilmarnock Campus Games Hall and outside pitch.

The calendar enables school pupils the opportunity to hone their skills and talents, and

compete against others at their level.

Our students get involved in the many tasks that come with a competitive sports event, such as refereeing matches, keeping scores and ensuring matches are played on schedule.

Cherryl Fulton, Active Schools Co-ordinator said "Within Vibrant Communities, the ethos has always been to get more people more active more often. This is echoed in the Competitive School Sport Calendar - to get as many of our children and young people more active, more often, providing them with more and

higher quality opportunities to participate in competitive school sport.

"This calendar will be used as a catalyst to inspire the next generation of sporting talent in East Ayrshire by providing them with the opportunity to take part in sport in a positive competitive environment, with support from key influencers such as PE teachers, national governing bodies and volunteers."

WORLD SKILLS

ONCE AGAIN, OUR STUDENTS WERE REPRESENTED AT WORLDSKILLS, THE UK'S LARGEST SKILLS, APPRENTICESHIPS AND CAREERS EVENT.

Three Ayrshire College students competed across Bench Joinery, and Fashion and Photographic Make-up categories at the National Finals of WorldSkills UK in Birmingham in November.

Calum Mitchell and David Hamilton were two of just eight competitors in the UK who reached the final of the Bench Joinery competition.

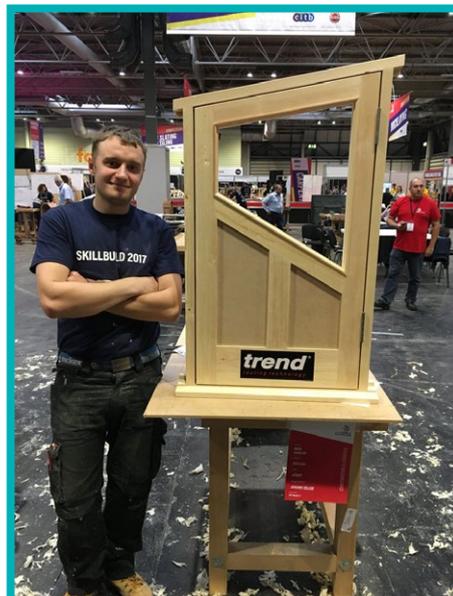
They were selected after finishing first and second in the Scottish heat.

The competition lasted two and a half days, with judges commenting that this year was the toughest to pick a winner. Although Calum and David did not win they both agreed that it was an experience of a lifetime.

David said "The thrill of competition at this high level is what drives you to achieve your best and raises aspirations of success. I am grateful for getting the opportunity to compete in the Bench Joinery showcase."

Calum said "Competing gives me inspiration as I test myself at this level. It allows me to benchmark my skills against my fellow apprentices. What a great experience this journey has been from start to finish."

Danielle Robertson, HND Make-up Artistry student, competed in the Fashion and Photographic Make-up category. Her competition score sheet reflected full marks for personal presentation and health and safety.



We had a stand at the SkillsScotland event in Glasgow on 29/30 November, where hundreds of pupils, parents and careers staff heard about our STEM and construction courses and took part in our hand-eye coordination challenge.

Cheese.
Wine.
Chatter.



CONNECTING WOMEN IN STEM

MICHELLE LENNON, GLOBAL STRATEGY EXECUTION MANAGER FOR MERCK, WAS THE GUEST SPEAKER AT OUR LATEST AYRSHIRE CONNECTS EVENT.

Ayrshire Connects is a mentoring network for female STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) and construction students across the college.

The 'Cheese. Wine. Chatter' event at the new Inver training restaurant in our Ayr Campus brought together female students, staff, teachers and representatives from external organisations to hear Michelle talk about her career.

Michelle was an Ayrshire College student in the 1990s.



Lisa Little

Also speaking was Lisa Little, Health, Safety and Wellbeing Officer at the College who shared her career journey from chemist to her current role.

The night was the latest in a series of events to provide women studying towards a STEM career the opportunity to network with their peers and women in the industry sectors they aspire to work in.



If you know anyone who would like to sign up for the Ayrshire Connects mentoring group please contact: ayrshireconnects@ayrshire.ac.uk



Robert Bryden, Head of Integrated Health Records Services, NHS Ayrshire and Arran (centre) with HND Care and Administrative Practice students (left to right) Hayley Williamson, Gemma Sloan, Debbie Beveridge and Anne Morrison

SUCCESSFUL PLACEMENTS LEAD TO JOBS



WE WORK IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NHS Ayrshire & Arran TO PROVIDE OUR STUDENTS WITH EXPERIENCE OF HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATIVE ROLES.

HNC Care and Administrative Practice students from the Ayr and Kilwinning campuses recently took part in a work placement programme at University Hospital Crosshouse.

The placement involved shadowing existing NHS staff members and carrying out real tasks involving medical records for two days a week over an eight-week period.

The partnership has been a huge success, with four students progressing onto full-

time employment with NHS Ayrshire & Arran following their placements.

One of those students, Gemma Sloan said

“I really enjoyed my time on placement and was grateful for the help and support I received. It was good to get an insight into the role of a clerical officer within NHS Scotland and I am happy to say that I achieved my goal of becoming a member of the Medical Records team.”



STUDENTS COLLABORATE WITH CHERRY SODA JEWELLERY

OUR FASHION STUDENTS TEAMED UP WITH CHERRY SODA JEWELLERY AGAIN THIS YEAR FOR AN UPCYCLING DESIGN CHALLENGE.

Shoes and handbags were transformed by the students using broken jewellery. The winners were decided by Cherry Soda's Facebook followers.

HND Fashion Design and Production with Retail student Graeme Bone won the

competition and the prize of a £50 voucher, Sam McRoberts Level 6 was the runner up with £25, and Georgia Haygreen another HND Fashion student was awarded £15.

Our Fashion department also supported an upcycling demonstration and styling event to entice and educate the general public of the benefits in purchasing second-hand items.



SCHOOL-COLLEGE COURSES

School-college information evenings were held at our Ayr, Kilmarnock and Kilwinning campuses in January 2018.

Pupils, parents, teaching staff and career advisors were invited to find out more information about the courses available.

School-college courses are open to senior phase pupils, enabling them to study at college while still at school.

Pupils will be able to gain additional skills and experience to prepare them for future studies and career.

The following courses will be running in 2018-19:



COURSE TITLE	CAMPUS LOCATION	WHO CAN APPLY
Skills for Work: Automotive Skills	Kilmarnock and Kilwinning	North Ayrshire Council and East Ayrshire Council schools
NPA Bakery	Ayr and Skills Centre of Excellence	North Ayrshire Council and South Ayrshire Council schools
NPA Beauty Skills with Hairdressing	Ayr, Kilmarnock and Kilwinning	All Ayrshire Schools
Introduction to Construction Industry	Ayr, Kilmarnock and Kilwinning	All Ayrshire schools
Construction Operative	School (to be confirmed)	East Ayrshire Council schools
SVQ Performing Engineering Operations	Kilmarnock	East Ayrshire Council schools
NPA Software Development	Kilmarnock	East Ayrshire Council schools
SFW Early Education & Childcare	Ayr and Kilmarnock	East Ayrshire Council and South Ayrshire Council schools
SFW Uniformed and Emergency Services	Kilmarnock	East Ayrshire Council schools
ESOL	Ayr and Kilwinning	North Ayrshire Council and South Ayrshire Council schools
Skills for Work: Construction Crafts	Ayr	South Ayrshire Council schools
NC Professional Cookery	Kilmarnock	East Ayrshire Council schools
SFW Early Education & Childcare	Ayr, Kilmarnock and Kilwinning	All Ayrshire schools
Skills for Work: Engineering Skills	Ayr and Nethermains, Kilwinning	North Ayrshire Council and South Ayrshire Council schools
Film-Making (including NPA Digital Media Editing)	Ayr	South Ayrshire Council schools

COURSE TITLE	CAMPUS LOCATION	WHO CAN APPLY
NPA Computer Games Development	Ayr	South Ayrshire Council schools
SVQ Performing Engineering Operations	Kilmarnock, Loudoun Academy	Loudoun Academy
NPA Sport and Fitness (Team Sports - Football)	Ayr, Kilmarnock, Skills Centre of Excellence at Irvine Royal Campus	All Ayrshire schools
Advanced Woodwork	Kilmarnock	East Ayrshire Council schools
Foundation Apprenticeship: Social Services, Children and Young People	Ayr and Kilmarnock	All Ayrshire schools
Foundation Apprenticeship: Civil Engineering	Ayr	All Ayrshire schools
Foundation Apprenticeship: Engineering	Ayr and Skills Centre of Excellence at Irvine Royal Campus	All Ayrshire schools
NPA Computer Games Development	Kilwinning	North Ayrshire Council schools
Foundation Apprenticeship: Hardware and System Support	Kilwinning	All Ayrshire schools
Portfolio Work (Including Life Drawing and Printmaking)	Ayr	All Ayrshire schools
Higher Psychology	Ayr, Kilmarnock and Kilwinning	All Ayrshire schools
Foundation Apprenticeship: Software Development	Ayr	All Ayrshire schools
NPA Sound Production	Ayr and Kilwinning	North Ayrshire Council and South Ayrshire Council schools
NPA Technical Theatre	Ayr campus, Largs Academy, Garnock Academy	All Ayrshire schools
Advanced Higher Biology	Kilmarnock	All Ayrshire schools
Advanced Higher Chemistry	Kilmarnock	All Ayrshire schools



Innovating for learning

The Ayrshire College Foundation has provided £250,000 over three years for an Innovating for Learning Fund to encourage creativity and improvement in the delivery of learning and services to support learning.

Grants up to £25,000 are available to staff.

The first round of the 'Innovating for Learning Fund' is now complete and the projects that have been approved for funding are detailed below



Area	Project Name	Award
Hospitality and Tourism	Delivery of work experience in college training restaurant over summer period	£8,640.00
Health and Social Care	Enhanced CPR and First Aid training equipment	£5,641.80
Creative	AC Productions	£11,705.50
Creative	Sun Turtle Records	£12,575.00
Marketing	Digital Upskilling	£6,000.00
Inclusive Learning	Promoting access and inclusion through technology	£7,969.00
Student Services	Installation of MDM server in order to better improve the usage and maintenance of iPads	£3,600.00



Interested?

If you have a project that you would like considered in the next round, you can submit a bid by 2 March. The panel will meet to review proposals later that month.

Funding open to Ayrshire College staff only.

funded by:



**AYRSHIRE COLLEGE
FOUNDATION**

PROMOTING WELLBEING

ACTION PLAN 2018-2021

Our Promoting Wellbeing Action Plan 2017-20 is now available to view online.

The plan presents a whole-college approach to supporting the positive wellbeing of all students and staff.

In recent years the number of students who have declared having a mental health condition has increased.

The Promoting Wellbeing Action Plan 2017-20 was produced by the Promoting Wellbeing Group, which includes a cross-section of staff, the Student Association, our Mental Health Liaison Officer, our Alcohol and Drugs Liaison Officer, and an NHS Ayrshire and Arran Health Improvement Officer.

There are three outcomes to the plan:



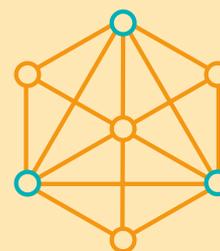
OUTCOME 1:

Promoting mental wellbeing within the College and in the community



OUTCOME 2:

Developing and sustaining resources within the College



OUTCOME 3:

Increasing social connectedness, relationships and partnerships within the College and in the community

Our college values are to be respectful, supportive and open and honest. The promotion of positive mental wellbeing and the tackling of stigmas around mental health is the responsibility of us all.

If you would like to know more information about the Promoting Wellbeing Group please contact Sara Turkington, Equality and Inclusion Advisor, at:

**sara.turkington@ayrshire.ac.uk
01292 265184 ext. 7655**

NATIONAL CARE LEAVERS' WEEK



WE CELEBRATED NATIONAL CARE LEAVERS' WEEK IN OCTOBER WITH SPECIAL CELEBRATION EVENTS AT OUR CAMPUSES IN AYR, KILMARNOCK AND KILWINNING.

Sixty care experienced young people attended the events to celebrate their participation in a range of education, employment and training opportunities.

Representatives from external agencies, including Who Cares? Scotland, Skills Development Scotland, Police Scotland, NHS and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, provided support and information at the events alongside the Student Association.

It was great to see how effective partnership working with other corporate parents can provide opportunities for engagement and celebration for young people across Ayrshire.

The CoderDojo Ayrshire team, our Learning Technologists, and Sports and Care students were on hand to give demonstrations, while Beauty students provided treatments. The Hospitality department provided healthy fruit kebabs.

FOCUS ON:

We have started to produce guides for prospective students, employers and others to help them better understand different curriculum areas.

The first of these 'Focus On:' publications looked at what we offer in STEM and construction and was distributed at our Making Your Business Our Business dinner in November.

The booklet, available online, includes details of events, college facilities, key facts and case studies.

Other booklets will be produced, for example our award-winning This Ayrshire Girl Can campaign.

Further publications are in the pipeline, but if you feel a similar 'Focus On:' booklet would help your area, please email martin.currie@ayrshire.ac.uk to discuss possible content.

These publications are useful to share with anyone who wants to know more about the College.





Scott Thomson

#ThisManCares

We hosted a #ThisManCares event in December at our Kilwinning Campus.

The well-attended event promoted Care as a career choice, and attendees found out how to build a career in health, social care and early years.

In the lead-up to the event, we profiled some of our current students, asking them what encouraged their career choice.

Alistair said "I think men are really employable in the care sector. I think it's a different day and age now, even from 10 years ago. Back when I was 18 I wouldn't have thought about working in care."

Calum said "The nursery made sure that my children's wellbeing was a priority, and so I started to become more involved with the nursery and got to see

how important it was for our family. I really enjoyed being involved, which helped me make the decision to look into early education as a career."

Scott said "I felt a little bit daunted when I was in secondary school. I thought to myself, I'm going to be the only guy wanting to do this. Even starting the college course, I was worried because I thought I'd be the only guy.

"But, I needn't have. Everyone in the course is great, we are all treated the same."

Read Calum, Scott and Alistair's stories on our blog.



Calum Black



Alistair Weir

"I THINK MEN ARE REALLY EMPLOYABLE IN THE CARE SECTOR."

BUILD A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Start your
Early Years
career here...

Head of Early Years, Dorothy Bell, and Early Years Curriculum Manager, Margaret MacDonald, give their perspective on the expansion of provision in the early learning and childcare sector. They demonstrate the ways that Ayrshire College's Early Years courses are responding to expectations, with student-focused, high quality qualifications.

VISIT OUR BLOG TO READ
OUR INSPIRING
EARLY YEARS
CASE STUDIES

Click here
to read our
blog...



START HERE

GO

ANYWHERE



Ayrshire College's ongoing Early Years campaign, 'Build a brighter future – Start your Early Years career here', supports the Scottish Government 2020 campaign, promoting a substantial increase in job opportunities within the sector.

Building a brighter future for Scotland's children is exactly the reason most people go to work in the Early Years sector.

Colleges have a fantastic opportunity to prepare a professionally developed, flexible workforce that will build resilience and creativity into the lives of young children.

The campaign aims to inspire potential students, empowering them to make a difference in children's lives and, in turn, make a difference to their own. To ensure that we recruit the right students, the interview process for Early Learning and Childcare courses seeks a balance of skills and qualities.

Across Scotland there are predicted to be 11,000 practitioner job roles directly created by 2020 in early learning and childcare. Many local authorities have already started a phased recruitment programme to attract new people into the workforce.

Qualified and experienced staff also have access to promoted positions within the expansion. The new services will require greater numbers of managers along with a number of graduate positions.



External partnerships that are formed with employers, providing valuable information on workforce planning and training requirements, is vital. This will help to ensure high quality provision.

Fundamental to the success of the expansion, is tailoring training and qualifications to meet the needs of employers. We consult local employers about how the work placement experience can be improved and recently we developed a standardised induction process in partnership with local providers in the sector. College staff gain their CPD through placement visits and events, and investing in these relationships improves the overall student experience.

This is an energising time for the sector. High quality

provision is at the heart of the training at the College, providing flexibility and accessibility for students. The Early Years team pride ourselves on responding to the needs of our students and stakeholders."

“ WE HAVE A FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY TO PREPARE A PROFESSIONALLY DEVELOPED, FLEXIBLE WORKFORCE THAT WILL BUILD RESILIENCE AND CREATIVITY INTO THE LIVES OF YOUNG CHILDREN. ”

SPONSORSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Barry Devlin Services is one of the College's platinum sponsors, donating the cars for our motor vehicle workshop which ensure that our students to have the best learning experience.

Barry Devlin Services is celebrating a special anniversary – 45 years since it was first established. With depots in Knockintiber and Ayr, it is one of Ayrshire's most successful family-run businesses specialising in a 24/7 recovery service.

Customers include Stagecoach, Arnold Clark roadside recovery, Scottish Ambulance Service, Volvo and DAF. With a fleet of 15 liveried trucks, many people will recognise this vital service provided 365 days a year.

The other side of the business is perhaps less well known, and involves disposing of vehicles that have reached the end of their life. 85% of a vehicle has to be recycled and this involves buying cars that have been written off by insurance companies because they would cost too much to repair. They are depolluted (draining them of any fluids and disposing this waste), the engine is stripped



Paul Devlin

out, along with any parts that have a value and can be recycled, and finally crushed and baled.

It is through this recycling process that Paul Devlin, managing director, identifies cars that could be used by Ayrshire College students for training purposes in their motor vehicle workshop. Barry Devlin Services supplies all the cars – currently there are 14 at our Kilmarnock campus. This means our students are learning to work on a variety of cars - hybrid, electric, petrol and diesel - helping them to learn the skills they will need when they get a job.

“ WE WANTED TO GIVE SOMETHING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY AND SPONSORING ALL THE CARS IN THE COLLEGE MOTOR VEHICLE WORKSHOP, SEEMED THE BEST WAY FOR US TO GET INVOLVED. WE ALSO SPONSOR THE EXCELLENCE AWARDS WHICH RECOGNISES ACHIEVEMENT OF STUDENTS WHO HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL WITH THEIR COURSE. ”

Paul Devlin, Managing Director, Barry Devlin Services

Paul Devlin said, "We wanted to give something back to the community. Sponsoring all the cars in the College motor vehicle workshop seemed the best way for us to get involved. We also sponsor the Excellence Awards which recognise the achievement of students who have been successful on their courses."

David Lancaster, curriculum manager for motor vehicle, said "Barry Devlin Services live up to their motto of *Actions Speak Louder Than Words* as they offer tremendous support by providing resources for students. This contributes to their motivation, knowledge and skills as they work towards a career in the motor industry. One of our biggest challenges is to keep up with technology. Whatever we need, Paul sources this for us, enabling students to have hands-on experience. This really makes

a difference to the students' learning experience." During a recent tour of our workshop, Paul agreed to take some students to their depot for work experience to see another side of the motor vehicle industry.

He has also arranged for one of his trucks to come to the College so the students can find out more about heavy good vehicles.

Paul said "I am really impressed with the standard of resources and equipment in the College. I've seen equipment for laser tracking, break testing, diagnostics, gear box systems, tyre machines and presses. It is really impressive and is typical of what you will find in a high quality garage. The students are receiving a great learning experience here. It's great to see how our contribution is enhancing this."

As well as working in partnership with Ayrshire College, Paul supplies the Fire Service and Police with vehicles for accident recovery training and firearms training.

GET INVOLVED

If you would like to get involved with Ayrshire College by providing sponsorship please contact:

Jackie Galbraith,
Vice Principal
Telephone: 01563 495 061
email: jackie.galbraith@ayrshire.ac.uk

If you are an employer looking for training for your team please contact:

Stuart Millar,
Director of Industry Programmes
email: stuart.millar@ayrshire.ac.uk



Paul Devlin meets students Sharaine Crombie and Jason MacFarlane with Curriculum Manager, David Lancaster

DAILY MILE

WE ARE ENCOURAGING OUR STAFF, STUDENTS AND THE WIDER COMMUNITY TO KEEP ACTIVE EVERY DAY.

Scotland is bidding to become the first Daily Mile nation and we have signed up to support this aspiration. The Daily Mile is a Scottish Government initiative that encourages people to walk, jog or run one mile every day.

Walking a mile is a target which can easily be achieved, taking on average around 15 minutes to complete. We've tried to

make this as easy as possible for people by mapping out a mile-long route.

There are also organised walking groups every Wednesday for participants to meet new people on their walks.

These 'Daily Mile' routes have been mapped for all main campuses, leaving from the front entrance and taking in a number of landmarks in Ayr, Kilmarnock and Kilwinning.



THE NEW TRAINING RESTAURANT AT AYR CAMPUS

I N V E R

OPEN FOR LUNCH
12:00 - 14:00
TUE - FRI

OPEN FOR DINNER
Tue and Thurs subject
to availability or
special request

OPEN FOR LUNCH
for arrival between:
12:15 - 13:00
MON - FRI

OPEN FOR DINNER
Tuesday
(for various theme evenings)
and Thursday
for arrival between:
17.00 - 18.00

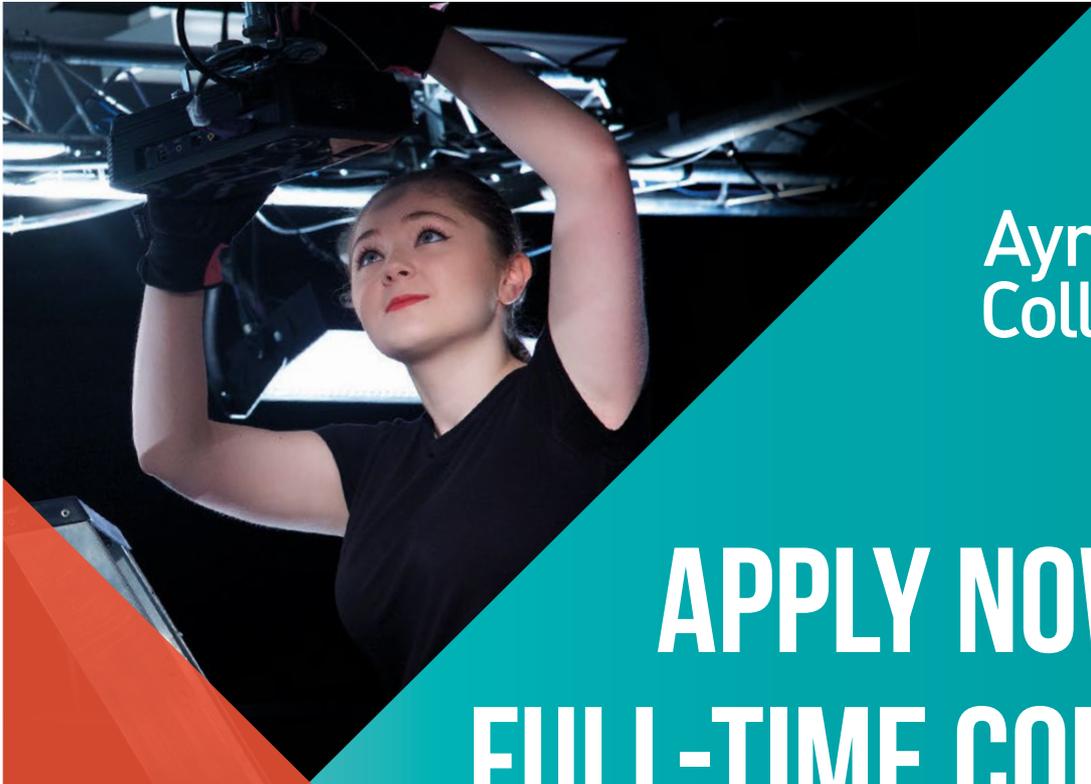
Ayrshire College
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Kilmarnock
KA1 3HY

✉ saltandbarrel@ayrshire.ac.uk
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📱 @saltandbarrelAC

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KA8 0EU

✉ inver@ayrshire.ac.uk
☎ 01292 293010
🌐 www.inverrestaurant.com
📱 @inverayrshire

THE TRAINING RESTAURANT AT KILMARNOCK CAMPUS



Ayrshire
College 

APPLY NOW FOR FULL-TIME COURSES STARTING IN AUGUST 2018

**Courses
available in:**

Early Years

Health and Social Care

Sports and Social Science

Creative

Hospitality and Tourism

Business and Computing

Engineering

Construction and Trades

**APPLY
ONLINE:** www.ayrshire.ac.uk
Tel. 0300 303 0303





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