

**SPECIAL  
POINTS OF IN-  
TEREST:**

**TAFF ELY LEARNING  
CAMPUS**

**BASIC SKILLS  
QUALITY STANDARD**

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## AMBITIOUS PLANS FOR NEW £40 MILLION CAMPUS AT COLEG MORGANNWG

These are exciting times for the college as it embarks on its ambitious plans to create a learning facility that will be an iconic beacon for learning and education in Rhondda Cynon Taff; bringing high quality training and education to the area for generations to come. The new £40m development, the Taff Ely Learning Campus, is part of the college's Estates Strategy and will be developed on the 7.74 acre site opposite its existing facility at Heol Yr Odyn, Nantgarw. The new building has been designed to meet the needs of the college's changing and diverse curriculum and to provide staff



and over 3,000 students with up-to-date, modern facilities. Designed over four floors the campus will incorporate facilities for Computing, Information Technology, Science, Care & Childhood Studies, Business & Professional Studies, Sport, Catering, Hair & Beauty, Music and Performing Arts along with a purpose built state of the art Learning Centre.

The new campus will enable the College to expand the model developed at the Rhondda campus, where facilities are available and used by the community, other public sector and private sector organisations seven days a week throughout the year.

The building is due to be completed and occupied by September 2012 when staff and students will move from their current site at Rhydyfelin, which dates back to 1960 when it opened as a technical college.

To follow the progress of this new development ...visit the website [www.morgannwg.ac.uk](http://www.morgannwg.ac.uk)

**WWW.MORGANNWG.AC.UK**

## Out and About in the Community

College staff have attended various events throughout the month:

- Careers Advice Day at Aberdare Girls Comprehensive School
- Careers Wales Advice Evening hosted at Mountain Ash Comprehensive School
- Rhondda Cynon Taf's It's All About Youth Event held at the University of Glamorgan



*Photo: Cllr. Eudine Hanagan, RCT Cabinet Member for Education pictured with RCT Chef, Tracey Gibby*

## Coleg Morgannwg Hosts School Chef of the Year Competition



The college recently hosted the Welsh Final of the School Chef of the Year competition. Sponsors of the event LACA—Local Authority Caterers Association and Nestle Professional approached the college to host the event which included use of the kitchens and Milfords Restaurant at the Pontypridd campus. The organisers thanked Sue Pugh for the help and support she had given them during the day and commented on the first class facilities provided at the college.

Cllr. Eudine Hanagan attended the event and congratulated the four contestants on their menus. The winner was Glenys Rees from West Wales

## Students invited to participate in the Creative Writing competition at the Learning Centre, Rhondda campus

The college has been successful in its bid to CyMAL for funding to run a 'reading activity' group within the college. A Creative Writing competition is planned at the Rhondda campus. Two digital cameras and a Nintendo DS game will be awarded to the winning entries. Closing date— 17<sup>th</sup> March 2010. Further details are available from the Learning Centre.

## Coleg Morgannwg Painting and Decorating student brushes the competition aside



*Chris McHugh receives his award from Mr Dave Richards, Johnson Leyland*

A young Coleg Morgannwg student studying to become a professional painter and decorator, has been awarded the title Johnson Leyland Painting and Decorating Student of the Year. Chris McHugh (21) is currently studying on the Foundation Construction Award Decorative Occupations course – Painting & Decorating Route at the Rhondda Campus of Coleg Morgannwg.

Chris works four days a week at Classic Decorators and attends college one day a week.

Chris was awarded the impressive title 'Johnson Leyland Painting and Decorating Student of the Year' by Mr. Dave Richards Territory Manager of Johnson Leyland, at the presentation ceremony held at the College last week. Mr Richards congratulated Chris on his achievement on winning this award out of a possible twenty five talented candidates stating "Chris has set the highest standards in his practical and theory work for the first year of the Foundation Construction Award".

Course tutors Lee Morgans and Kevin Bufton said "Chris is a willing and able student who produces excellent work in college and has also received good reports from his current employers 'Classic Decorators'. He is currently undertaking his 2<sup>nd</sup> year at the Rhondda Campus and with the same determination and commitment will progress on to the third year. He has a successful career ahead of him in the painting and decorating industry".

Chris said "Since starting my course I have gained more confidence and I'm really pleased to have won this award. I would like to say a big thank you to my employers 'Classic Decorators' and also my tutors at Coleg Morgannwg"

## COLEG MORGANNWG ACHIEVE BASIC SKILLS QUALITY STANDARD



*Left to Right: Deborah Goffen – Project Development Manager (RCT), Mr Lindsay Harris, Curriculum Area Manager for Skills for Lifelong Learning, Sian Smith, Senior Curriculum Leader, Skills for Lifelong Learning*

Coleg Morgannwg is one of the first FE College's in Wales to gain the Welsh Assembly Government Basic Skills Quality Standard.

Judith Evans, Principal/Chief Executive at Coleg Morgannwg said, "We are committed to providing a stimulating and exciting curriculum that fully engages our learners and motivates them to continue to learn. We recognise that a high number of learners require additional support in Literacy and Numeracy. The college is delighted to receive this Award, which recognises the excellent support framework in place for these learners. The college would like to thank Deborah Goffen, Project Development Manager-Adult Education & Lifelong Learning Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council, and the Rhondda Cynon Taf Team for working in partnership with the college to achieve the Basic Skills Quality Standard".

Lynette El Khatib, Head of Adult Education - Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council added "We value our close working relationship with the college and will be working closer together to support people who would like to improve their reading and number skills".

### Working in partnership with the Cardiff Blues

The Sports department are involved in an exciting new Level 3 Diploma in Sport (Performance and Excellence) in conjunction with Cardiff Blues Rugby Youth Academy. During the two year course, time will be spent between developing as an athlete/performer and as a coach. The course is aimed at those who are performing to a high standard in their chosen sport. Areas covered will include: Fitness Training and Programming, The Physiology of Fitness, Sports Nutrition etc



*Concert held in aid of Haiti Appeal*

*Sports Relief activities planned at the college March 19 -21 2010*

## Students hold concert in aid of the Haiti Appeal

The music students organised a free lunchtime benefit concert in the Auditorium at the Rhondda campus on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February. Staff and students dropped in to show their support as the bands, The Magpies, Citizen Jester, Insight and Liam Richards took to the stage to entertain their friends and raise an impressive £96 for the appeal.

COLLEGE MORGANNWG MUSIC STUDENTS PRESENTS

# HAITI BENEFIT



LIAM RICHARDS

citizen jester

THE MAGPIES

MONDAY 1ST FEBRUARY  
FREE ENTRY!!

COLLEGE MORGANNWG, AUDITORIUM  
BRING DONATION MONEY! IT'S FOR A GOOD CAUSE!

## GCSE Students walk for Haiti Appeal

Lecturer Henry Yeomans will be walking through Pontypridd on February 25<sup>th</sup> with his GCSE students raising funds for the Haiti Appeal.

## Children in Need

Student representatives from the four campuses will be attending the BBC Studios in Cardiff in March to deliver a cheque for £3,500 which was raised at the college through various activities across all campuses. The students will also be given a guided tour of the BBC studios.

## Public Services Students walk for Cancer Research Wales

Also on February 23<sup>rd</sup> students from the Public Services department will be presenting a cheque for £1800 to Cancer Research Wales, the money was collected during their annual sponsored walk to Cardiff. Dale McIntosh will also be present at the presentation and the students will have the opportunity to visit the laboratories.

## Care Students support Haiti Appeal

Students from the Care department at the Aberdare campus are also fundraising for the Haiti appeal; they are organising a raffle for a luxury hamper and will also be selling flower arrangements.

## Sports Relief March 19-21 2010

The college is preparing for the annual Five a side football tournament. Students on Aberdare, Rhondda and Nantgarw campuses will be looking to take the cup from last year's winners, Pontypridd campus. The college will be selling Sports Relief socks and also highlighting the importance of health and fitness at the campus.

## niace INSPIRE Nominations Deadline

You may have already heard adverts on the radio etc regarding this year's niace Inspire Awards; this is just a quick reminder that the closing date for nominations for these awards is: FRIDAY 26<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2010. Further information can be found on [www.learnersweek.org.uk](http://www.learnersweek.org.uk) or please contact me if you would like a hard copy of the Nomination Form. It is quite a short form to complete and the college has received excellent press coverage etc in past years, when two students won awards.

## Millfords restaurant

Please note that Millfords training restaurant on the Pontypridd campus is delivering its new winter menu. The opening times of the restaurant have changed and it is now open: Monday 11:00 -7:00 p.m., Tuesday 9.30-2:00 p.m., Wednesday 9.30-8:00 p.m. and Thursday 9.30-2:00 p.m. For further information or to book a table contact Millfords on 01443 663050.

## Themed Lunches at Llewellyns

Llewellyns Restaurant on the Aberdare campus are offering a variety of themed lunches from Chinese to Welsh and American. An Italian themed lunch will be served on February 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, to receive further details or to make a booking contact 01685 887500 and ask for Sian Servini

## Rhondda Cynon Taf Mayor speaks to Hair & Beauty Students



*Cllr Robert Smith, Mayor of Rhondda Cynon Taf with Hair and Beauty students at the Rhondda campus*

Mayor of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council, Cllr. Robert Smith visited the Rhondda Campus on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2010 to address the NVQ Level 2 Beauty Therapy and NVQ Level 1 & 2 Hairdressing students. The visit was arranged as part of the students Welsh Baccalaureate programme; Cllr. Smith discussed the Mayor's role and local politics within Rhondda Cynon Taf.

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**OPEN DAY** — THURSDAY MAY 20 2010

### **Events @ the Community Centre, Rhondda campus**

#### **Forthcoming events include:**

March 27th 2010— An Adaption of 'To Kill a Mockingbird' (Performing Arts Students)

April 6th—8th 2010 'Art' (Theatre Mask Productions)

April 29th 2010 An Evening with Peter Karrie & Friends

June 15th -17th 2010 'Hair' The Musical (Performing Arts Students)

September 6th 2010 Bad Girls (Mid Rhondda Amateur Operatic Company)

September 15th 2010 Dame Shirley Bassey (performed by Carolyn Rowe)

#### **Request for articles**

If you have any news, events or articles you would like included in future newsletters, please contact either:

**Ann Crimmings**                      **01443 663239**

**Andrew Keeping**                    **01443 663249**



Together we can provide a high quality and vibrant learning environment to meet the needs and ambitions of learners, employers and the wider community.