



## WELCOME TO THE SUMMER ISSUE OF THE STUDENT NEWSLETTER

This is the last issue of the student newsletter for this academic year so we'd like to wish you an enjoyable summer break.

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### Thank you and well done!

I'd like to thank all students for your patience and co-operation during the building works this year. I realise that there has been some disruption for many of you – whether it was lack of car parking, drilling noise during classes, having to move to other classrooms or even other premises, or working in areas where new equipment and facilities were not quite ready. You've handled all this in a very mature and responsible way. Your positive approach has helped to keep things running as smoothly as possible for everyone, and I really appreciate it.

I hope that you've enjoyed your year at Cardonald and have achieved what you wanted from it. If you're moving on to other things next year, I wish you the best of luck and hope that you'll keep in touch with the College. If you're planning to come back after the summer, we all look forward to seeing you then.

Good luck, and thank you again.

Ros Micklem

Principal



*Louise Brown (front) with the other category winners at Glasgow City Chambers*

# BREAKING NEWS

## Write Stuff Awards

The annual Write Stuff national student journalism competition recently celebrated its tenth year at the prestigious Glasgow City Chambers Banqueting Hall. The awards are for student journalists from colleges and universities across Scotland, and are organised by Cardonald College's HND Communication with Media students.

The awards are highly respected, and as a result, attract sponsorship from high profile industry professionals, including NUJ, Society of Editors, Daily Record, Scottish Sun, Daily Mail, Real Radio, Eastwood Extra, Scottish Journalism Training Forum and Glasgow Anti-Racist Alliance.

Hosted by the Lord Provost in a Civic Reception at the Glasgow City Chambers, this year's competition was as fierce as ever. Cardonald College students won each of the college categories, and our very own Louise Brown was named Student Journalist of Year 2007.



*Cardonald College's Louise Brown was named Student Journalist of the Year 2007*

# COLLEGE INFORMATION



## **Annual Awards Ceremony - Friday 2 November 2007**

If you're completing an HN, SVQ or equivalent course this year then we hope to see you at the Annual Awards Ceremony at the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall on Friday 2 November. Please ensure that the College has your most recent contact details before you leave, otherwise you may not receive your invitation.



## **Your SRC Needs You**

Nominations are being taken for the next Student Representative Council (SRC) President. If you are interested, or know another student that would make a great President, please collect a nomination form from the Student Support Base (Room 5.22) or from the Information Centre.

# CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

October 2007 sees the completion of the College's Campus Development Project. We know that you have been very understanding regarding the disruption suffered so far and I can assure you that the College's staff are doing everything possible to minimise the impact of the work on your studies.

The College has deliberately programmed the refit of most of the teaching floors into the summer holidays to reduce the impact of the work on students. However, changes have occurred, due to unforeseen circumstances, as we have gone through the programme of works and this has affected some of our planning. The schedule of work for the rest of the year is shown below.

## June

- New Refectory opens
- Existing Refectory closes for conversion to new Entrance Concourse
- Levels 4, 5 and 6 close for refurbishment

## July

- Level 7 reopens
- Gym block reopens

## August

- New Entrance Concourse housing Reception, Information Centre, Leisure Office, Shop and Café opens
- Expansion of FLU begins
- Level 1 South refurbishment begins

## September

- Levels 4, 5 and 6 reopen

## October

- Level 1 South reopens
- FLU completed



## NEW BUILD – SKILLS CENTRE AND CHILDREN'S CENTRE

Although these buildings have been with the College for several months, there are still some outstanding items. Some of the remedial snagging work has still to be completed. The louvres for the Skills Centre should be installed within the next few weeks. You will notice these structures being fitted outside over the south facing windows. They are designed to minimise glare and heat gain, so things should improve in these rooms.

The car park is almost completed and the link road from the west car park to the Skills Centre has been opened. This will allow the drop-off spaces at the Children's Centre to be created along with the new garden between the Children's Centre and the new refectory.

Gordon Shaw

Associate Principal



# STUDENT FUNDING UPDATE

## ADVANCED

Are you a first year HN student moving on to second year? If you are, then you should complete your SAAS/Student Loan Application **NOW** to make sure your fees are paid for next year and ensure you get your loan on time. Applications should be made on-line at [www.saas.gov.uk](http://www.saas.gov.uk), instruction leaflets are available from the Information Centre now.

Please note that anyone who still hasn't completed their SAAS application for fees/student loan for this year must do so by 30 June.

Travel expenses forms for this year must be completed and returned by 31 July.

Are you moving on to HNC/HND/Degree this year? If so, you can apply for funding now. You do not need a letter of an offer for a course place. You should apply for funding online at [www.saas.gov.uk](http://www.saas.gov.uk).

**uk.** Even if you're not expecting or do not want to get a loan or bursary, you **MUST** fill in the form to get your fees paid for your course.

Instructions for online applications are available from the Information Centre. Staff are available now and throughout the summer to help you complete your application and to answer questions about any aspect of student funding.

Just drop into the Information Centre, phone us on 0141 272 3332 or e-mail [ckelly@cardonald.ac.uk](mailto:ckelly@cardonald.ac.uk).

**NEW** for session 2007/2008 – MONTHLY PAYMENTS for Student Loans and Young Student Bursaries.

A double payment will be made at the start of the course and payment on the 7th of the month thereafter.

## NON ADVANCED

Are you a non-advanced student getting a bursary and/or EMA this year? If yes, please note that because bursaries are paid in advance all final payments were made on 10 May. EMA payments are made in arrears and final payments will be made on 22 June.

If you need information about any aspect of funding including EMA's, bursaries, student loans, housing benefits/funds, childcare funds or help with applying for funding just pop into the Information Centre. We're open throughout the summer 9.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Thursday and 9.00am to 2.30pm on Fridays.



## STUDENTS AND BENEFITS

Students who have completed a full-time course at NQ/HNC or HND level may be eligible for benefits over the Summer. For individual

advice on entitlements talk to a Student Adviser in the Information Centre or contact your local Job Centre.

When your course has finished, if you are unemployed and actively looking for a job you can sign on and apply for ISA. The job centre may ask you for a letter confirming your last date of attendance at college, you can get this from your department or the Information Centre.

Some students completing or continuing on to further studies e.g. Lone parents, disabled, or parents who are both students may be eligible for income support and housing benefits over the summer. Loan income may be taken into account for HN first year students going on to a second year.

# MOVING ON FROM YOUR COURSE

## WHAT'S NEXT

Are you still thinking about what to do next? The end of term is almost with us so you should start making plans now. If you're:

- Hoping to continue on to a higher level course at Cardonald College, then it's important that you complete an application form as soon as possible to ensure you get a place – then you can apply for funding. Application forms and course information are available from the Information Centre;
- Still thinking about moving on to university, you can apply for courses, which still have places through UCAS until 30 June;
- Unsure of which direction to take or how best to achieve your goal, you can arrange a careers guidance interview to discuss your ideas and plans with Marie, Mary or Janey in the Information Centre;
- Looking for work (part-time, summer or full-time) you can get some help and information on useful websites, writing CVs, employers and vacancies from the Information Centre.

Remember, Information Centre staff are available throughout the summer, so if you have questions about your future after the exam results are out, just get in touch by calling in person, phoning us on 0141 272 3332 or e-mailing [enquiries@cardonald.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@cardonald.ac.uk).

## CAREERS SCOTLAND

Careers Scotland can help you with career and job information, training opportunities, CV and interview techniques. If you would like to find out how to register with your local office and how they can help you, call 0845 502 502 or visit [www.careers-scotland.org.uk](http://www.careers-scotland.org.uk).

## A Positive Future for You

Are you 16 to 18? Unemployed? Lacking confidence? Need some help and advice?

If this sounds like you, then Positive Futures could be just what you need! Key workers can provide you with support and advice on a range of issues, including:

- Employment
- Preparation for employment, training and education
- Advice on benefits, housing and childcare support
- Life in general!

Contact your local key workers through Careers Scotland offices or through the Information Centre on **0141 272 3332**.

## UCAS 2007 What Happens Now?

As many of you will be aware the initial closing date for most UCAS applications was 15 January 2007. However you can continue to apply after the closing date where there are still places available on courses. Late applications can be made up until 30 June 2007. Many courses do not accept late applications so it is a good idea to phone and check with the particular university first if you are applying late.

Even if you're not sure you want to continue your studies to degree level you may wish to apply to have this choice as a fall back option to other plans.

## Online Tracking

You can use UCAS Track, the online application tracking system, to:

- Check the progress of your application;
- Ask UCAS to send you e-mails whenever a university or college makes a decision;
- See details of decisions made and offers received;
- Reply to your offers of a place.

Once UCAS have received your completed application, they will send you an applicant number, which you use to access this service.

The Track service is normally available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

## Accepting or Replying to Offers

Many of you will be receiving letters from UCAS about university decisions on your course choices. It is extremely important that you read these letters carefully and keep hold of them until you have received decisions from all courses.

### REMEMBER:

- Think carefully before making your final choice of place. You can only accept ONE Firm Offer and you will probably be spending the next three to four years there;
- You cannot reply to offers if you are still waiting for decisions from other universities;
- You will be notified of the FINAL DATE by which you should have made your decisions regarding your chosen offer(s).
- PLEASE make sure you are aware of this date as failure to respond could mean losing your place.

If you require help in understanding any correspondence you receive from UCAS or in completing reply slips or you're not sure which offer(s) to accept, speak to Marie, Mary or Janey in the Information Centre.

## CLEARING

**Didn't get the exam results you needed? Hold no offers from your UCAS application? Didn't make a UCAS application before 30 June?** You might be able to find a course to start at university in 2007 through CLEARING.

Lists of courses with spaces in Clearing (including their entry requirements where possible) will be published from the middle of August until late September at [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com) and in some national newspapers.

If you would like to find out more about Clearing now or during July/August please speak to Marie, Mary or Janey in the Information Centre.

## RECRUITMENT

### Debenhams

Debenhams are now recruiting for the following positions within their new SILVERBURN store:

- Sales Advisor,
- Food Service Advisor,
- Stock Movement Assistant,
- Selling Supervisor,
- Technical Services Assistant (maintenance) - one position,
- Store Administrator – one position only,
- Clerical Assistant.

The current recruitment process for Debenhams will be done in the following way:

- Candidate attends Open Day at JCP in Argyle Street – 23/23 June (can also apply online at [www.debenhams.com](http://www.debenhams.com),
- Candidate completes an application form,
- Debenhams staff will **screen** candidates there and then,
- If you are successful at screening you will be offered a place at an Assessment Centre.

There are also opportunities for people eligible for Training for Work who live in Greater Govan or Greater Pollok to complete a two week training course through Glasgow South West Regeneration Agency - contact 0141 876 9216.

### Vital Resources

#### ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR WORK DURING YOUR TERM BREAKS OR THIS SUMMER!

VITAL RESOURCES REQUIRE BUILDING SITE  
LABOURERS  
(Experience not essential)

GOOD RATES OF PAY (TAX FREE)

Phone Vivienne on 0141 556 1300

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.

Careers Scotland are looking for a volunteers to talk to a group of school leavers who will be coming to college in September about what it's like to start college.

### You'll need to be:

- A young (under 21) student who started college last year;
- Available for the afternoon of Wednesday 1st August;
- Happy to talk to a small group of school leavers about the student experience.

### You'll get:

- Expenses for attending the event;
- Valuable experience which will be useful to put on your CV;
- An HMV voucher.

If you'd like to find out more, call into the Information Centre and speak to Mary or leave your contact details.

# STUDENT NEWS

## Student scoops prize at Adult Learners' Week Awards



(L to R), Yvonne McGill presenting Elena Piraz her Adult Learner Awards

Cardonald College student Elena Piraz, who is studying an ESF Office Skills course that includes Financial Accounts and Information Technology, has received an Adult Learners Award. Section Leader Yvonne McGill nominated Elena for the awards that are dedicated to the learning achievements of adults in education.

Talking about her award Elena, who is visually impaired, said: "Yvonne told me she was going to enter me for the award, but I never thought I would win. I'm delighted and very proud."

"I came to Cardonald to learn accounting and finance because I felt it was important to have these skills on my CV as I often work as an administrator and secretary. Also, as a disabled person these skills are important for your independence because if you employ a support worker you need to process their pay which can be difficult with no knowledge of accounting."

Commenting on Elena, Yvonne McGill said: "Elena is extremely hard working and enthusiastic about all of her subjects; she is a very talented individual who has brought a different perspective to all her classes and all the staff have found her a joy to teach."

Elena is a talented Jazz, Opera and Folk singer and hopes to process onto a music course at North Glasgow College – we wish her the best of luck.

## Top Award for the Cardonald Courier

The HND Practical Journalism course's Cardonald Courier was named the 'Best College Publication' title for the third successive year at the recent Herald Student Press Awards at the Mitchell Library.

Herald chief sports writer Daryl Broadfoot, presenting the award, said: "The judges were once again most impressed with the Cardonald Courier, and were particularly impressed

with the continual signs of improvement over the last few years.

“They noted that there was a major improvement again this year, both in the quality of design and the writing.”

Janette Harkess, deputy editor of The Herald and chair of the judging panel, congratulated this year’s winners and paid tribute to the high quality of all entries.

“These awards are a vital showcase for the best in student journalism, and we are extremely grateful to the SQA for sharing our belief in the importance of nurturing future talent and in recognising good writing,” she said.

Janet Brown, SQA chief executive, said: “We congratulate the winners and wish them the all the very best in the future. We are delighted to play our part in ensuring Scotland’s student press scene is vibrant and growing, and we enjoy seeing our qualifications being put to good use.”

## Cardonald Student has the Stars in his Eyes

HND Communication and Media student Tom Boal set his sights on the celebrities when he decided to mastermind a celebrity memorabilia auction in aid of St Dunstan’s.

St Dunstan’s is a charity which supports blind and visually impaired ex-Servicemen and women, and Tom is a St Dunstaner with severe visual impairment. Through their help and rehabilitation after major sight loss, Tom was able to come and study at the College. In his second year he is working on a major project which involves staging an actual event on behalf of a client. Having adopted the title BLINDING EVENTS for his event management company, he set out to get celebrity support to promote St Dunstan’s.

250 letters later Tom received some astonishing phone calls from the likes of Dame Judi Dench, and a mystery package, containing a pair of used shoes. The 5-inch stiletto high heels, in leopard print came from Monaco and belonged to the one and only Dame Shirley Bassey.

Tom said: ‘This event organisation has been a rollercoaster, but the donations I have received have made it totally worthwhile, so roll on the auction night’.

The auction evening is taking place at the Abbotsford Hotel, Dumbarton, on the 15 June 2007. Other celebrity memorabilia includes a signed Dame Helen Mirren press brochure for her

film ‘The Queen’, and a signed picture and sonic screwdriver from David Tennant (Dr Who). Other auction items include a golf day for two with lunch at Cameron House and lots, lots more.

Tickets cost £5 which includes a buffet and entertainment from singer ‘Mhairi’. There will also be a raffle with lots of prizes to be won.



*Tom with a selection of the items that will be auction on 15 June.*

## Former Student is set for TV Stardom

Doctors said she would spend her life in a wheelchair, but Julie McElroy, who suffers from cerebral palsy, has just completed the challenge of her life and is set for her TV debut.

The former Cardonald College student has completed a gruelling 250-mile walk through the South American Andes for BBC’s third ‘Beyond Boundaries’ series.

But the inspirational 21-year-old from Jordanhill in Glasgow, who is deaf and has difficulty with walking and balance, insists that it was her three years at Cardonald College that gave her the confidence to overcome her physical barriers.

She said: “All the staff believed in me. They treated me like an able-bodied person and helped me to be as independent and active as possible. Despite my disability, I have a mind and voice. The College has shown me how to use them to get the best out of life.

“Without their support I would never have even dreamed about applying for the Beyond Boundaries expedition, never mind completing it. I’ve developed the confidence to lead a normal life and wasn’t afraid to approach people for help.”

The only Scot on a 10-strong team of young people, Julie was selected for the third series of the programme, to be aired this autumn.

## NEWS ROUND-UP

- As part of the HNC/D Administration subject ‘Developing the Individual within a Team’ the students are required to organise and carry out a group exercise. The intrepid crew decided to do this in style and get sponsored for an energetic session at Xscape in Braehead.

So, not only did they have a rare old time, swinging precariously 15 metres above the ground at the Skypark, and then risking life and limb at the Fan Drop, but they raised over £500 for the Cardonald Cat and Dog Home.



*HND2 Administration and Information Technology Students at Xscape.*

- Three of the college’s HND Television students were involved in filming the counts and declarations for the Scottish Parliament elections on 1 May. Kayleigh Little, Alasdair Macrae and Calum Weir were working for the BBC on election night, and their footage has been broadcast on TV and the internet.

BBC producer Nick Webster contacted Television lecturer Dario Sinforiani seeking students who might be able to record the declarations, and was delighted with the results.

“Kayleigh, Alasdair and Calum all worked extremely hard on what was a long and difficult night, and delivered work of very high standards. We’d be delighted to have students involved in future projects,” he commented.

The students’ work will help to strengthen our links with the broadcast industry, and will hopefully lead to further opportunities in the near future.

- The Junior Write Stuff, a writing competition for 1st and 2nd year pupils across Glasgow, East Renfrewshire and East Kilbride, has been run this year by two incredibly creative HND Communication with Media students, Siobhan Cowan and Gillian Rossi. The girls recently had the pleasure of visiting the winning schools and handing out trophies and sponsored prizes.

“The look on the faces of the winners was the best reward for months of hard work. We really felt we’d done something to encourage school children to think of a career in writing. Managing an event is hard work, but when it’s a success, it gives you a huge buzz. We’ve learned a huge amount from doing something real where we could use our initiative and all we’ve learned a college in a practical context”, said Siobhan Cowan.

# WHAT'S ON!

## Gigs

### Xzibit

15 June

The Barrowlands

### The Crimea

19 June

King Tuts

For tickets and information on more gigs in Glasgow, visit [www.tickets-scotland.com](http://www.tickets-scotland.com)

## Sport

### World Team Badminton Championships

10 to 17 June

Scotstoun International Sports Arena

[www.badmintonscotland.org.uk](http://www.badmintonscotland.org.uk)

## Clubs

### Various Club Nights

Tuesday to Sunday

Karbon

### Return to Mono

### Radio Slave and Slam

3 July

The Sub Club



### Death Disco

### Tiefschwarz and South Central DJs

16 June

The Arches

## Theatre



### The Rocky Horror Picture Show

25 to 30 June

The King's Theatre

# Pics of the Year

