



EDITOR'S NOTE

Hello and welcome to the 15th edition of Word on the Street, Gateway's magazine created by the students and staff.

In this issue, we will delve into the first term for a brand new batch of students, all striving - we hope - for excellence. It has been quite the rollercoaster so far, settling in to new classes, having our first exams, and experiencing once again the laughter and tears of parents' evening.

Within these pages we will explore everything from army taster events to a success story from Gateway alumnus Imogen Sharpe.

We hope you enjoy reading this edition of Word on the Street as much as we enjoyed putting it all together.





'To boldly go, where Gateway has not been before'.

Those of you who are Star Trek fans will know that the main mission of the USS Enterprise was to explore new planets and areas of space which were yet undiscovered (apparently). Now, I'm not personally a Star Trek fan (no really I'm not), but I do recognise the strong link between the mission of the Enterprise and the meaning that it has for group of seven students who have just begun their journey as Gateway Colleges first Young Enterprise company. Just to confirm they aren't training to be astronauts – well not yet anyway!



As you may already be aware, the Young Enterprise programme is a nationwide scheme, run with the core aim of giving business minded young people, practical exposure to the enterprise process through working with others, and starting a business or social enterprise from scratch. This is a new and exciting extra-curricular activity for Gateway, as the business department continues to provide additional opportunities to develop young people who have a passion and interest in business. These opportunities extend across the college and are not exclusively just for business students.

The group's journey started on 11th September with a presentation from Annabelle Ames who coordinates Young Enterprise across the Leicestershire region. Following on from this insightful and motivating presentation, seven pupils from across both the vocational and A Level schools signed up for the programme.

On 25th September the group attended the Young Enterprise Launch Event at DE Montfort University (DMU) in Leicester, where those in attendance were wowed by the inspirational and very impressive presentation not only from one of DMUs lecturers about the entrepreneurial process, but also by a year eleven pupil whose group had won the countywide finals the year previous. Truly inspiring.

With significant motivation and some fresh entrepreneurial vision, the Young Enterprise group (soon to become a company), had their initial meeting in early October, with their mentor David Hawksworth. David is a seasoned pro at mentoring Young Enterprise companies, having supported the programme for many years and using his considerable private sector experience from his senior position within Saint Gobain to guide and support fledgling enterprise groups.

So far this academic year, the company have met three times and have voted in a Managing Director who is a Level 3, second year Business student on the BTEC Extended Diploma programme. Already the company have agreed on a strategic direction in terms of the products and services which they wish to offer, focusing on mental health and wellbeing. Over the coming weeks, the company, (as yet not named), will be honing the fine details of their plans, as well as working together to focus on financial viability, marketing and advertising, as well as doing some market research so that they can begin to launch their products and services. Exciting times ahead then, and I look forward to reporting back with an update, in the coming months, as the company heads towards anticipated success.

Gateway College has been awarded for 'Outstanding Level 3 Vocational Performance in BTEC National Foundation Diploma in Business Studies and placed as the 'highest student progression in England for Level 3 Business' by the Department for Education, 2019.

By Simon Brown – Teacher of Business & Young Enterprise Centre Lead.

LEBC SPEED NETWORKING EVENT



On Thursday 31st October, students took part in a Speed Networking event run by LEBC, the Leicestershire Education Business Company. LEBC helps students organise work placements as well as careers-related activities such as this event.

The aim of the event was to introduce students to the world of professional networking. It would allow us to learn about all the opportunities available to us after college and help us develop vital communication skills.

First, we were given a booklet outlining the aims of the event and some guidance on how to communicate with the professionals we were about to meet. We then entered the theatre and sat at a table with a volunteer speaker, who talked to us about their job. It was then up to the students to ask them questions about their work. This would continue for just a few minutes, when the volunteer would move on to the next table as we remained comfortably in our seats.

Over the course of the event, it became easier to talk and ask relevant questions to the professionals as our communication skills improved and confidence built. During these conversations, we learnt about many new career paths, from Chemical Engineering at a major food retailer to Medical Writers who created presentations for new medicines.

The Speed Networking event was useful because it allowed us to find out about many different career paths, some of which I had not even heard of, and the various ways in which we could get there. It also improved our communication skills, which will be useful in the future during job interviews and other professional environments.



The Level 1 Creative Art and Media team have been busy! They worked hard to create some beautiful poppies out of tissue paper for Remembrance Day.

In November 2019 the Level 1 Creative Art and Media team visited 2 different places as part of their courses – we went to the art gallery at the New Walk museum for a presentation about how to think about the narrative behind the painting. Really interesting!



We also participated in a Level 1 PSD trip to City Hall where we all listened to an insightful presentation on how equality and diversity is supported in Leicester City!

LLW NEWS

Gateway Students and Staff Remember Those Lost In Battle



On Monday 11th November at 11am staff and students at Gateway College gathered together to commemorate all of those who have lost their lives across the world in conflict. The Act of Remembrance event was organised and led by the students.

In a sea of red poppies, worn on lapels, displays and petals gently scattered from balconies, students opened proceedings by announcing,

“We meet here to acknowledge the reality of conflict. To remember lives lost or changed because of war. We do not come to celebrate, but to mourn the loss of life and the loss of peace. Let us remember the men and women of all nations who have died as a result of war - those who we have known and whose memory we treasure; those we never knew, and those who died unknown. We will remember all who have lived in hope, but died in vain - the tortured, the innocent, the starving and the exiled, the imprisoned, the oppressed and the disappeared....”.

This was followed by readings of ‘In Flanders Fields’ by John McCrae and “The Exhortation” by Robert Laurence Binyon and two minutes of silent reflection.

The hushed crowd were stirred from their thoughts with a haunting rendition of ‘The Last Post’ played on the bugle, and as the final chords echoed through the College corridors the students reminded us,

“When you go home, tell them of us and say, for your tomorrow, we gave our today.”

IMOGEN SHARPE

Gateway Student Wins Dream Job at Liberty London

Congratulations to Imogen Sharpe who began to realise her career ambitions here at Gateway College on the BTEC Extended Diploma in Art and Design Foundation course back in 2014. Her creative flair in drawing and illustration has led her to graduate this summer from Loughborough University School of Arts and to find her dream job at Liberty London.

She says, “I felt insecure about my design abilities before coming to Gateway...but gained confidence on the Foundation Art course and even sold some of my work at the End of Year Show.”

Life after Gateway...

Imogen gained a place on the prestigious Textiles Innovation and Design at Loughborough University School of Arts, (Top 4th ranking in the U.K for Art and Design) and worked on a range of projects covering animal print, nature, architecture and history.

Her love for drawing is something that Imogen describes as the foundation for all of her designs, then combining screen and digital printing methods for her design outcomes.

During her placement year at university, Imogen undertook placements with renowned designers and companies from high-end interiors to spending three months at a Copenhagen-based design studio, for whom she has continued to work as a freelance designer. As well as gaining design experience through tasks such as glazing and artwork preparation, Imogen got an insight into the commercial side of the textiles



industry when she attended sales meetings and networking during her internships at Kit Miles and Dunelm.

She advises students to “Choose a university with an industrial placement option. That is why I chose Loughborough and I think it is the most important thing you can do to help your career and prospects afterwards. Go to the universities’ Open Days and make sure you like the course and are not just picking it because you like the place. By visiting, you will get a feel for the work, the people, the staff and be able to decide if you will be comfortable there and fit in.”

Her final year project at university focused on Wollaton Hall in Nottinghamshire, narrowing in on the estate's architecture and its surrounding links with animals and nature. Her tutors handpicked her to display her work at New Designers, an esteemed annual exhibition showcasing fresh design talent. Little did Imogen know that it was at this event that a representative from a London-based luxury department store would come across her textile designs...

What happened next?

About seven weeks after the big buzz of the exhibition, Imogen was contacted by Liberty London offering her a job at their studio on Carnaby Street in London. Imogen was star-struck, but there was no time to waste – she right away prepared a mini project for which she created original designs partnered with the exclusivity of the Liberty brand. During her interview Imogen recalls that she explained about the Liberty fabrics she has used previously in her work, which emphasised her loyalty and admiration of the brand.

Success was celebrated, when Imogen received the good news - She starts her new role at Liberty of London, as the Assistant Print Designer for the Bespoke Team. Her new adventure begins later next month.

We wish our Gateway Alumni all the best at her dream job!

For more information about the Creative Arts at Gateway Sixth Form College, [click here](#)





LGBT

What is LGBT?

LGBT is an acronym for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender, however it is an umbrella term that is used to identify and label ones sexual orientation and/or gender identity. Sexual orientation refers to people who are, or perceived to be, lesbian, gay or bisexual. Transgender refers to people

What is the group?

It is a welcoming supportive group open to all students, with the aim of increasing awareness of LGBT and acceptance within the college.

What do we do?

We have a social meeting group, where you can come and talk to us.

What have we done?

The main emphasis of the group is the weekly meetings, however we have taken part in a citywide event (Freedom March at De Montfort University held by Kaine) that required the members to use their creative side and create plaques and work with the BME group within the college. We also conducted a survey amongst students, to find a starting point and what needs to be focused on to move forward.

Meetings are held;

Mondays at 12.15 in F206.

As a group, we are trying to do the following;

- Get rainbow lanyards
- Get more people involved
- To increase our presence within the college
- To not hide, and let people know we are here
- Host an event within the college



My Experience of a Cambridge Masterclass

On Saturday 23rd November, Cambridge University held a series of Subject Masterclasses. I attended the one for English to get a feel of both the university atmosphere and the course offered at Cambridge.

After a *long* drive very early in the morning and some slight confusion as to where I was headed, I managed to make my way in on time and join the first lecture of the day. It was entitled, 'Why is Poetry so Weird?' and was given by Steven Connor, Professor of the Faculty of English at Cambridge. We learnt about the various definitions of poetry and how it has changed over time, as well as what poetry can do and how it does it.

After lunch, we attended another lecture entitled, 'Places of Medieval Literature: Border Country' and was given by Dr. P. Knox. It was a good introduction to medieval literature, which is not generally studied in school or college. Using incredibly old texts from the 15th century and even earlier, we learnt how places can shape literature as well as how literature can shape the places they are set in. The lecture was part of a series; this one in particular was about literature set on borders between countries, especially between England and Wales.

The final talk was given by Steve Watts, English lecturer and retired Arts Admissions Tutor. He gave us important information about the application process of Cambridge, their selection criteria and plenty of information about the university itself. This was incredibly helpful as we were given many tips on how best to prepare for an interview, what is important to the university and much more.

After the Masterclass was over, I spent a few hours wandering around Cambridge's beautiful streets. Although it was getting dark and I could feel the first warning drops of rain beginning to fall, I had the chance to see some of the city's most beautiful buildings, such as St Mary's Church and a few of the university's colleges.

Overall, the experience was very useful and confirmed that Cambridge University is incredible. The facilities available to a student are some of the best in the country. The environment is one of extremely high academic expectations and this can be quite daunting; however, I feel much better prepared for the choices ahead having visited. I will visit Oxford University in the spring and have a handful of other universities I would also like to see before making my final decisions. The Careers and Schools staff at Gateway have been very supportive in advising and guiding me through the maze of Higher Education options and I am using this time to research carefully. I wish everyone the best of luck with their applications!

By **Maryam Hamid**

While the title of this book may be slightly strange, *The Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Pie Society* is a charming little book about friendship that grows in the most unlikely places. It is written as a collection of letters between Juliet Ashton, a successful writer in London, and her friends, both in England and the Channel Islands. It is set just after the Second World War, when the world is just beginning to recover.

While stuck for an idea for an essay for *The Times*, Juliet receives a letter from a man named Dawsey living in Guernsey, who finds her name and address in a book of essays by Charles Lamb. From this interaction, she gains a network of correspondents who draw her into the world of Guernsey and its unusual Literary Society. The Society, founded by the brilliant Elizabeth and full of eclectic characters, charm Juliet into visiting Guernsey, where she falls in love with the peace of the island and the happy chaos of its residents.

There is a unique range of characters living in Guernsey when Juliet visits, including Isola Pribby, a quirky young woman who brews potions with her parrot, Zenobia, and John Booker, a servant who pretended to be his master, Lord Tobias Penn Piers, when the Germans arrived, so he would not be arrested for being born Jewish. Mary Ann Shaffer mimics the speech and mannerisms of real people at the time so effectively that the characters seem to leap out of the page as living, breathing people.

Even in the dark times the Channel Islands faced in the war, its residents looked forward with hope and good humour. The Channel Islands were occupied by Nazi forces during the war. They suffered through years of poverty and hunger, but the book describes the good times they managed to have despite Nazi rule. The narrative is by turns bright and dark, describing secretly kept pigs to avoid German bookkeepers and hushed dinner parties after curfew.

Mary Ann Shaffer was the original author of this book, but became too unwell to finish it. Her niece, Annie Barrows, prepared the book for publication on her behalf. Shaffer was an enigmatic storyteller with a unique ability to make stories come alive. She died knowing her book would be published in many languages all over the world. The book was made into a movie starring Lily James in 2018.

This book is well worth a read for its humour and historical value. I had no idea the Channel Islands were occupied by Germany before I read this book. There is much to learn about the state of Britain after the war, and how positive the outlook of some lucky survivors was. Aside from the educational aspect, it is a witty, warm collection of letters written so vividly and realistically that they will make you want to be a part of this very special Literary Society.

Interested in joining a book club? Ask in J109 for more information!

BOOK REVIEW: THE GUERNSEY LITERARY & POTATO PEEL PIE SOCIETY





The Killer Hoover

You know how hoovers are supposed to suck everything, but they don't suck when you want them to but they do suck when you don't want them too? It's like they've got a mind of their own, almost as if they're trying to take over the world. Maybe we as humans have it all wrong; it is not robots that are trying to take over the world, it is hoovers!

I am going to tell you a short story as to why I have come up with this sensitive, fearful theory. One day I was hoovering my room with my hoover called 'Hoover'. I took Hoover's head off because, you know, I wanted to hoover smaller and specific areas. This made Hoover look like a stubborn hose. I then thought it would be a smart idea to see what would be inside Hoover through the hole whilst it was still turned on. Okay, what I am about to tell you next can be a little bit graphic, so be warned. Hoover the hoover somehow found its way inside my mouth! Hoover sucked the air out of my air bag and my saliva and some food out of my stomach! I felt as if I was being pulled into some sort of time-travel / teleportation warp because, as seen on TV, your body is broken apart and pixelated; and so my insides were becoming outsides! It was the most traumatising thing ever! I mean yes it would have been more awesome if it was time-travel or teleportation, and I suppose less traumatic, but it was a hoover for goodness sake! This was the scariest thing in my life! It is clear to say that I nearly died and that I can add this to my near-death experience list!

SHUDDERS

And that is my story of why I do not own hoovers and will beat them up whenever I see them. I hope you enjoyed my pain! You are very welcome for this intriguing story and possible fear you may now have.

Story by Zaynab (NOT based on a true story).

FREEDOM

CELEBRATING MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

Friday 31st January 2020, DMU campus and The Venue



WHAT DOES
FREEDOM MEAN
TO YOU?

BRING YOUR
IDEAS AND YOUR
VOICE

JOIN US TO
CELEBRATE THE
LEGACY OF MLK

TAKE PART IN
WORKSHOPS LED
BY DMU STUDENT
SOCIETIES

If you are interested, register your name with Chantal in
A005



Event organised by Kainé
in partnership with DMU



Embrace the difference

We are setting up a new group to look into
social inclusion.

What's in it for you?

- Expand your knowledge
- Meet new people
- Enhance your CV/ UCAS
- Trips

For more information or to register your
interest go to see Chantal in A005



Who has the best assembled football team?

Where – Astro Turf Pitch

WEAR THE CORRECT FOOTBALL GEAR

Every
Wednesday
At
Lunch
12:15-
13:00

FOOTBALL ENRICHMENT

All Students Are Welcome!

With Uzair Khonat

