

DEVELOPING SURREY'S NEW CAPTAINS OF INDUSTRY

A pioneering degree aimed at shaping the business leaders of the future and boosting the economy has been launched by Guildford College in collaboration with Surrey Chambers of Commerce.

THE TWO-YEAR, part-time Leadership, Innovation and Management Foundation Degree was designed with input from the businesses in the Surrey Chambers of Commerce network and is validated by the University of Surrey. According to Hazel Brown, Director of Higher Education at Guildford College, the degree will provide real-world insight into the skills and knowledge needed for success in the current market, helping managers in Surrey businesses to improve their performance and that of their teams. It would also appeal to employees seeking a formal qualification to boost their personal and career development.

The course is aimed at those with no formal academic qualifications beyond school. Applicants will normally have had a minimum of two

years experience as a project manager or team leader.

Louise Punter, Chief Executive of Surrey Chambers of Commerce, said: "The key to this degree is that it is totally connected to the everyday work of the student. The employer can get involved at various stages and make sure that the learning is relevant and it will not only upskill the individual but also have a real impact on the productivity of the business."

Course Modules include Personal Development, Organisational Leadership, the International Business Environment, Business Law and Quality Management and topics such as finance and marketing will also be covered. Delivery of the course is flexible and includes on-line learning but students will attend lectures at the College on Fridays.

The Foundation Degree gives access to the Business Studies BA (Hons) 'top up' degree or other professional qualifications.

For more information, email info@guildford.ac.uk or tel. 01483 44 85 85

TECHNOLOGY AND MATHS ADD UP TO FUN

A Technology and Maths Conference organised by Fullbrook Young Chamber showed students how the subjects are used in fun and interesting ways across a broad spectrum of careers.

With support from Surrey Chambers, Fullbrook assembled a panel of experts from industries such as computer gaming, forensics and accountancy to whom students fired questions.

Surrounding schools were also invited and it was a great opportunity for students to get a clearer picture of whether the industry would have a career of interest for them in the future.

Workshops have been organised with many local businesses, providing a fun way of learning about what the company does and how technology and maths are involved in often rather unusual ways. The companies involved in the workshops along with Surrey Chambers include 96.4 Eagle Radio, David Burton Sellek, Oak Capital Group, Right Angle Events, Something Big and the Surrey Advertiser.

Fullbrook Young Chamber has been working hard to make a difference locally and invited surrounding schools to come and get involved in finding out all about possible careers which use technology and maths.



Students fire the questions.

Partner Dawn O'Leary of Davis Burton Sellek Chartered Accountants said: "Being on the Business panel gave me the opportunity to show students that university is just one route into Accountancy and that the vocational route is suited to those looking for a qualification without the student debt."

Director Susan Drake of Encompass Financial Management said: "It was heartening to see the students get so involved in the Business & Finance workshops. It helped them realise what they need to be earning in order to achieve their ultimate lifestyle goals."

Are you shaping your future workforce?

Supporting Surrey's employer engagement strategy.

IT IS OFTEN FORGOTTEN which things are critical to a prosperous enterprise in the fast-changing, risky world of business. One of the most important factors is the security of knowing that your future workforce will not only carry on your business' good work



and practices but also build on it.

The best way of facilitating this is to make sure that young people are aware of business practices and inspired to work within the world of commerce from an early age. The Employer Engagement project aims to make Surrey businesses fully aware of the benefits of working with young people and to aid the process for both businesses and the schools. The project particularly targets SMEs who may not be aware of the benefits and how they can get involved.

Getting businesses to engage with young people benefits everyone. Volunteers develop and refine their own management skills and gain self-confidence. Employers have the chance to shape their own future workforce whilst young people are inspired, develop personal skills and learn all about the world of business.

For more information please contact Carol Jury on 01483 735540 or carol.jury@surrey-chambers.co.uk

EPSOM COMPANY RACES AHEAD AS DERBY SPONSORS



Ladies' Derby competitors at Epsom Downs.

EPSOM DOWNS RACECOURSE has announced that the Tompkins & May Partnership are official sponsors of a new Derby Series. The series of four races run over the famous Derby course includes the Ladies' Derby and the Amateur, Jump Jockeys and Apprentices' Derby.

Epsom-based Tompkins & May Partnership is a specialist repairs and maintenance provider for local authorities and registered social landlords, and has been established for over 25 years. Chief Executive Darren May is no stranger to the racing world as an owner with a number of horses in training.

COLIN'S STROLL DOWN MEMORY LANE

Celebrating his 30th anniversary of starting work at Davis Burton Sellek Chartered Accountants in Ascot prompted a trip down memory lane for Associate Colin Willett (pictured).



"I can recall my very first day as though it was yesterday," he said. "I turned up to work in a brown suit and in an equally hideous bright yellow (or was

it just rusty) Ford Escort. My desk for the day consisted of a corner of Donald Thow's. He was one of the partners at the time and I was told that it was only a short-term arrangement until they found me another one. That was just as well, as Donald Thow smoked like a chimney and all I can say is that it was a good job that I was wearing a brown suit! Health & Safety would have had a field day."

Colin's memories of getting out and about visiting clients include a close encounter with two Doberman dogs at a factory but he says he has enjoyed every minute at the firm which continues to provide local and international clients with a highly personalised service.

www.davisburtonsellek.com

RAINBOW TRUST APPOINTS NEW HR MANAGER

RAINBOW TRUST Children's Charity has announced that Anna Powis (pictured) has joined the charity as its new HR Manager. The national charity provides emotional and practical support to families who have a child with a life threatening or terminal illness. Anna previously worked as the HR and Operations Director for a software and IT company. Her areas of responsibility at the charity include providing an HR perspective on current and future plans as well as supporting the charity's management team with innovative and people focussed HR advice.



Numbers add up to national accolade

A SURREY accountant proved her own books are perfectly balanced after scooping a national accountancy award.

Joan Swain of JM Solutions in Guildford won the Sage New Practice of the Year Award after impressing industry judges with her focus on women in business and strong community links. She received her award from Nick Hewer of BBC TV's The Apprentice at Sage's annual Connect conference at the British Museum. This was the first time business software and services company Sage has held the scheme.

Joan, who started JM Solutions last year and has over 30 years accountancy experience, said: "I have thrown myself into the business wholeheartedly and am really looking forward to growing my firm while keeping to my mission statement as a truly proactive practice."



From left, Nick Hewer from 'The Apprentice', Dan Slosberg from Blackberry, Joan Swain of JMSolutions and Jayne Archbold of Sage Accountants Division.

BUSINESS RECRUITING TO MEET DEMAND

Graphic design, marketing and website development agency Mzuri is growing fast and has been recruiting to keep up with demand.



With business thriving, the team at Liphook based Mzuri has expanded to include new Account Manager Zoë Dunn (pictured). Zoë has 11 years of experience in marketing and has worked on a huge range of projects that include strategy and planning, copywriting, design, web development, proofreading, print buying and project management.

Zoë's key responsibilities are new business development, existing client management and the expansion of Mzuri's own marketing strategies.

www.mzuridesign.co.uk