

newyddion ColegauCymru #199 CollegesWales Enews 12 Hydref / October 2015

**Croeso / Welcome to edition#199 of the ColegauCymru / CollegesWales e-news:
the weekly roundup of news from across education colleges in Wales.**

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Strategic Developments

Colleges' expectations for new independent regulator

In welcoming Qualifications Wales, the nation's new independent regulator of qualifications at its launch last week, ColegauCymru said it had high expectations for the regulator, and in particular looked forward to seeing the regulator raise the status of vocational qualifications.

[More>>>](#)

Strategic collaboration on vocational education needs to be bilingual: the message from the Basque Country

Sgiliaith and ColegauCymru are calling for strategic cooperation on bilingual vocational education, to include post-16 education providers, employers, and the government.

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First Minister officially opens Cardiff and Vale College City Centre Campus

First Minister of Wales Carwyn Jones and Minister for Education and Skills Huw Lewis have officially opened Cardiff and Vale College's £45m new City Centre Campus in the heart of the capital.

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Launch of HE+ programme 2015/16 with Seren Network support

Gower College Swansea, which is the "hub" institution in the Swansea HE+ Consortium working with the seven state sixth-form schools in the area - in collaboration with the University of Cambridge - has launched the HE+ programme for 2015/16 in the company of local school pupils.

For this academic year, the Swansea HE+ consortium is being supported by investment from the Welsh Government's Seren Network Programme.

[More>>>](#)

Royal seal of approval for NPTC Group of Colleges' Work Based Learning

NPTC Group of Colleges has recently been appointed as the learning provider to deliver recognised qualifications and on-the-job work experience as part of the Welsh Rugby Union's (WRU) sports coaching apprenticeship programme 'Core Coach' created by The Royal Foundation of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry.

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Safeguarding the vulnerable: multi-agency conference

National Safeguarding experts were among those speaking at a Safeguarding conference held at Pembrokeshire College for a range of agencies including social care, education, police, health, probation and the voluntary sector. The conference was jointly organised by Pembrokeshire County Council, Pembrokeshire College and the Martin Roberts Foundation.

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College awarded 'Associate' status by Royal Society

Gower College Swansea has been awarded 'Associate' status by the Royal Society, the UK's national science academy as part of the Royal Society's Associate Schools and Colleges scheme. Its purpose is to promote excellence in science and mathematics teaching.

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Learner Progression

Learner Nets Job and Scholarship in New York to Study HIV

19-year-old Samantha Williams, who recently completed a Level 3 Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care at Grŵp Llandrillo Menai, has secured a job as a researcher within the Biodiversity Group (BDG) as well as being awarded a scholarship to study at the University of Rochester in New York.

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New York exhibition for art school alumni

A former student of Coleg Sir Gâr's art school is exhibiting his work overseas in an exhibition at New York's Agora Gallery.

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A-level Student's Illustration Business

A-level student at Grŵp Llandrillo Menai, 17-year-old India Hackett, has just started her own illustration business and has already received five commissions after having her work exhibited at a local gallery. She's now discussing how to get an entrepreneurial grant with Coleg Llandrillo's Enterprise Champion.

[More>>>](#)

Fully funded Chartered Accountancy course for vocational learner

An ambitious learner who completed a series of vocational accounting courses at Coleg y Cymoedd has won a fully funded three year ACCA course to become a chartered accountant.

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Staff and Learner Success

Entrepreneur Award

NPTC Group of Colleges' former A level student and current Centerprise member Caryl Thomas has won her second award at the South Wales Business Awards - this time being named Female Entrepreneur of the Year 2015.

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Fashion and Textiles Apprentice Wins Business Award

Coleg Sir Gâr apprentice who works as a design studio assistant for Anderson Apparel Ltd, won an outstanding apprentice award at the Powys Business Awards.

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Students to be presented with royal awards

Two 16 year-old students at Coleg Sir Gâr are preparing to receive Young Achievers awards at Buckingham Palace in recognition of their outstanding achievements with St Johns Ambulance and for their recent life-saving actions.

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Trainer's commitment to learners recognised

Engineering Assessor at Coleg y Cymoedd, Steve Manning, is in contention for an award at the Apprenticeship Awards Cymru 2015, which will be held on October 29.

Among his achievements has been the introduction of a "buddy" system, where final year apprentices mentor first years.

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Learners lead way on disability rail access to net award for rail partnership

At the Association for Community Rail Partnerships (ACoRP) annual award ceremony, the Cambrian Railways Partnership (CRP) won the 'Passengers Matter' award for a groundbreaking film on individuals with learning disabilities using railway services, which features and includes Vocational Access students from Coleg Ceredigion and Derwen College, Oswestry.

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Islwyn MP helps celebrate student art festival success in Poland

A celebration with special guest Islwyn MP Chris Evans was held last week for Independent Living Skills (ILS) students from Coleg Gwent's Crosskeys Campus to mark their achievements in a two-year cultural exchange project which ended with the International Festival of Art in Poland.

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Focus on Sport

Coleg y Cymoedd awarded rugby academy status

Coleg y Cymoedd has been awarded the status of an Accredited Rugby Football League Category 3 Academy by Wales Rugby League. Would-be Rugby League stars of the future are being given a chance to stake their claim to a place on the programme that combines training with a full time education.

[More>>>](#)

Elite female football academy launched

Swansea City has teamed up with NPTC Group of Colleges to launch an elite female football academy based between Landore Training Ground and the College's Llandarcy Academy of Sport.

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New opportunities in sport for Welsh-speaking students

Members of the invited audience at the post-Wales v Fiji "Jonathan" programme on S4C included students from Coleg Ceredigion, in a Welsh-speaking opportunity outside of the classroom walls.

The TV show's host, former Welsh international rugby player, Jonathan Davies, is also a former Coleg Ceredigion student. [More>>>](#)

Coleg Ceredigion also hosted a sports festival in Welsh at its Cardigan campus, with organisational support of Gweithgor Ieuencid Bro Teifi. [More>>>](#)

Industry-savvy students prove importance of volunteer work

Developing skills for the workplace are vital to enable learners to compete with thousands of other college and university leavers.

The sports science team at Coleg Sir Gâr provides opportunities for students to gain experience at organisations which include Swansea City AFC. And last week, its Sports Science degree students were presented with their Millennium Volunteer certificates for completing placements and volunteer work under a Sports Wales accredited programme.

[More>>>](#)

International rugby at Llandarcy Academy of Sport

NPTC Group of Colleges recently hosted a touring rugby squad from Wairoa College, New Zealand.

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Politically Engaged Learners

Students 'get devolved' in a debate with Gerald Jones MP

Over 75 students had the opportunity to get involved in a debate with Gerald Jones, Member of Parliament for Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney, as part of a Question Time event held at The College Merthyr Tydfil, focusing on the 2017 EU referendum.

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European identity drama workshops for A level students

An artistic co-operation project involving six European countries and Wales-based theatre company Volcano UK have run a number of workshops on European identity with A level drama students at NPTC Group of Colleges.

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Learning Opportunities

UK's largest computer games fair: IT students' destination

Coleg Ceredigion's IT students have visited a key video gaming industry event, the annual EGX exhibition at the NEC in Birmingham - the UK's largest video games event.

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University's calling

A group of 12 aspiring students from NPTC Group of Colleges received a taste of university life this summer as part of the South West Wales Reaching Wider Programme.

The scheme helped to introduce students from a range of areas and backgrounds to Higher Education and also worked with other under-represented groups in HE.

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Entrepreneurs talk business

Local entrepreneurs have been speaking to Cardiff and Vale College business students on setting up in business.

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Learner hosts awards ceremony

Coleg y Cymoedd's annual learner awards held at the Showcase Cinema was this year hosted by a Performing Arts learner, James Owen, in both Welsh and English.

He ably compered the ceremony, which saw 50 former learners awarded in the company of guest speaker Michaela Breeze MBE.

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