

**FUN...FUN...FUN**

## Reaseheath's RAG is a record



### Pedal Power

Natalie Gascoyne, Lionel Smith, Greg Otto, Matt Timms, Mark Hardy and Richard Chadwick celebrate with minibus driver Roly Griffiths at Lands End after their epic 870 mile sponsored cycle ride from John O'Groats.



### Splashing time

Students Jordan Reate, Katie Simmons and Dewi Griffith and friends join in a fun raft race for RAG

## Reaseheath FESTIVAL

See back page for more about this fun filled event.....



## Life changing dairy training for Pakistan

Reaseheath has signed a "memorandum of understanding" with Nestlé

Pakistan which will result in 20 specialist dairy advisors receiving training in practical



### dairy herd management at college this autumn.

The dairy advisors work closely with farmers in Pakistan, some of whom have less than five animals in their herds. Nestlé is committed to using Reaseheath's expertise to upskill their advisors so they can help the farmers to increase milk yields and improve milk quality. The training will be delivered by Head of Agriculture Martyn East and his team.

Margaret Bardsley, Reaseheath's Director of Business Development and Marketing, said: "This new programme will be life changing, literally, for poor farmers and communities in Pakistan. Nestlé see this as a chance to help grow incomes in rural areas, which is key to developing sustainable communities. We are delighted to welcome Bill Stevenson, Head of Milk Collection at Nestlé in Lahore, to college. It is the start of a very exciting and worthwhile partnership."

## MP endorses drive to improve industry productivity

**S**kills Minister John Hayes has endorsed Reaseheath's efforts to improve skills and drive productivity across the global food production and agricultural engineering industries.

The Minister of State for Further Education, Skills and Lifelong Learning toured our Eden International Dairy Academy and cutting edge engineering department before discussing training needs with industry leaders, tutors, apprentices and our students.

The minister used his visit to emphasise the value of colleges and industry working together to provide relevant education and skills training, particularly through management level courses and apprenticeships.

He said: "Our economic future depends on effective partnership between employers, colleges and government to deliver the advanced skills we need to drive growth. This can only succeed if employers are in the driving seat, shaping the training they need to meet the shifting challenges they face.

"Reaseheath is a prime example of that employer-led approach and I congratulate the food production and engineering industries and the college for their vision and commitment in coming together in the pursuit of excellence.

"What I have seen here today is a specialist college which is an exemplar of what we need to support British industry. Reaseheath offers courses which meet business needs and inspires learners. Together these build the skills necessary to make Britain prosper."

The Eden International Dairy Academy, rated as one of the most state-of-the-art dairy training facility in Europe, has been set up to train future world-class production managers. It is a key part of Project Eden - an initiative which has brought together the UK's leading dairy companies, trade organisations and the National Skills Academy for Food and Drink in a combined drive to improve skills and productivity across the dairy industry.

Our engineering department is recognised as one of the UK's leading trainers in agricultural engineering and provides bespoke education and training for local, national and international companies including JCB, 'A' Plant, Case IH, New Holland, CLAAS, Land Rover, Finning Caterpillar and Construction Skills.

Principal Meredydd David, said: "It is very welcome to get the Minister's endorsement for what we are doing. He was evidently impressed with our facilities, staff and students and was particularly enthusiastic how the excellent

skills gained by our students will advance both their future and the success of the UK industry. The Further Education sector

is fortunate to have a minister who recognises the value of specialist vocational training and partnership with industry."



▲ MP John Hayes talks to agricultural engineering apprentices from New Holland and Case International, watched by Head of Engineering Melvin Johnson



▲ MP John Hayes discusses dairy food production with Jens Termanesen, Chairman of Project Eden Steering Group, and Reaseheath Commercial Manager Derek Allen in the Eden International Dairy Academy, watched by Meredydd David and John Platt, Chair of Governors

## Reaseheath goes the extra mile to add value to degrees

Reaseheath is to offer a comprehensive range of free training to Foundation degree and degree level students to ensure we continue to deliver best value, higher education courses.

The specialised technical qualifications are in addition to the existing financial support and bursaries which are available to eligible students. It will become part of the package for degree level courses from September 2012, when higher tuition fees

are to be introduced.

Said Principal Meredydd David: "This is an outstanding offer which we feel will give our graduates the edge when applying for a quality job. Students will be able to gain real, practical qualifications and skills which match the requirements of employers.

"We have pledged to respond to the needs of our higher level students by making them more employable. We recognise that next year's rise in tuition fees

may be challenging and that many students will need support. We feel that, in addition to our bursaries and scholarships, adding valuable qualifications to our degree level courses will ensure our graduates have a competitive advantage in the jobs market.

"This is a challenging time for students but, through this further investment, we intend to equip them with the skills to address global challenges in the future."

Reaseheath's degrees, delivered in partnership with Harper Adams University College and with the University of Chester, have a high academic reputation. Our degree students enjoy dedicated facilities including a Higher Education centre with learning and social facilities and a range of specialised technical and educational resources which are part of a continuing £35 million upgrade across campus.

Other benefits include relevant input from business partners and a high proportion of lecturers with industry experience. Emphasis is given to small group teaching, ensuring independent support, and high contact hours with tutors.

# Reaseheath RAG goes for a record



▲ Reaseheath's swim team Colin and Sarah Young, Carly Gough and Chris Willerton test the water, watched by Jo Fowler, Mark Hardy, Liam Murphy and lifeguards

Sporty students and staff have been going the extra mile to raise an amazing £16,392 for charity.

Swimming, cycling, climbing and walking challenges have brought in thousands of pounds for our RAG (Raising and Giving) fund. This year the money will go to the North West Air Ambulance (NWAA).

An impressive £3,000 was raised through an 870 mile sponsored cycle ride from John O'Groats to Lands End completed as a team by staff members Greg Otto, Mark Hardy, Natalie Gascoyne and Lionel Smith, student Matt Timms and Richard Chadwick, a swimming pool lifeguard. They were supported by minibus driver Roly Griffiths and by RAG committee member Sophie Pegg.

Said Mark: "The team encountered many challenges along the way, from huge hills and blistering heat to awful roads, but these were more than equalled by the fantastic friendships that we maintained and made and by the down hills, the fun times and the laughs."

Another ambitious feat was pulled off by six students from our animal management, adventure sports and sports departments who swam the equivalent of a 22 mile crossing of the English Channel in the swimming pool at Total Fitness in Crewe. Chris Willerton, Carly Gough, brother and sister Colin and Sarah Young, Ceara McDermott

and Katie Simmons completed 1,260 lengths, cheered on by fellow students and staff from Reaseheath and from the leisure club.

Total Fitness donated exclusive use of two lanes of its pool to the RAG effort and put on extra staff during the event. Sponsorship plus a collection from clients raised around £500.

Other fundraising activities included a raft race on the college lake, a sponsored walk up Snowdon and an attempt to climb the 1,344 metre equivalent of Ben Nevis on the campus climbing wall. Fancy dress street collections, an all night 'stay awake' and many events at the student bar added to the fund. The final cheque was handed over at the students' summer graduation ball.

Our students chose to support the NWAA because it carries out rescues in rural areas and in industries in which they may work, for instance in farming, horse riding or outdoor sports accidents.

NWAA Regional Fundraising Officer Jo Fowler said: "The dedication and effort shown by Reaseheath's students and staff and the range of fundraising events they have participated in has been overwhelming. We help over 1000 seriously injured people every year and rely on donations to raise the £4 million a year we need to remain operational. Reaseheath's support is important to us and is very much appreciated."

# Revving up for charity



▲ Revving up: Justin Connor, Rupert Harris, Neil Jewell, Dave Kynaston, Lee Brown, Jon Jones, Mike Cullen and Dave Riley prepare for their scooter ride

A team of modern day mods from our engineering department revved up for a two wheeled challenge to raise funds for a male cancer charity.

Nine engineers took on a sponsored 600 mile trip on vintage scooters to the Isle of Arran and back.

The team of Jon Jones, Neil Jewell, Lee Brown, Rupert Harris, Justin Connor and Dave Riley, all instructors in our engineering and motor vehicle departments, Vice Principal Dave Kynaston and Rupert's son George, also an engineer, were supported by Mike Cullen with a college minibus.

The team completed the trip in five days, using minor roads, and raised £2,872 for the Everyman Male Cancer charity.

Explained Jon Jones: "We wanted to do something different and have some fun while raising money for a good cause."

# Charity auction raises money for RAG



▲ Emily Bennett hands over a cheque to Mark Hardy, watched by fellow students Harriet Hobbs, Jordan Lane, Abigail Wardle, Amy Barrow, Jenny Barrow, Kate Bennett and Nicola Lee

Events management students handed over almost £3,000 to RAG, raised from an ambitious charity dinner dance and auction.

The students organised the successful event, which was attended by 100 guests, in a marquee on the college lawn.

The top prizes in the auction, which encouraged fierce bidding, included VIP tickets for the V Music Festival and signed Manchester United and England Football Club shirts. College Vice Principal Dave Kynaston acted as auctioneer. Guests also enjoyed a hog roast, jazz band and DJ.

Student Services Co-ordinator Mark Hardy, one of the RAG organisers, said: "The students did a fantastic job in organising the event and the money they raised was an excellent result."

Team leader Emily Bennet said: "The dinner dance was very challenging and we were really pleased it was such a success. Most of us want to go into running events for a career so it has been great to get some hands-on experience - and even better because it was for such a good cause."

## Ski trip widens students' horizons

Adventure sports students are gearing up for careers in European outdoor sports hotspots following a trip to a top snow resort.

Our students learned about the winter tourism industry and developed their skiing and snowboarding skills during a study tour to the French Alps.

Many of the 19-strong group are now considering working for a winter season in a ski resort after they graduate, followed by a summer job in Europe helping to run watersports and land based activities.

The students visited Montgenevère in the Dauphine Alps. As well as having expert tuition in skiing and snowboarding, the group learned about the skills needed to gain jobs in ski tourism. They were particularly inspired after meeting former Reaseheath adventure sports students who were working in the resort.

The students also took part in a forum, where they asked questions about the industry and found out



▲ Skiing and snowboarding for Adventure Sports students in France

about potential career paths.

Lecturer Richard Hathway, who accompanied the group, said: "This trip really helped the students to understand what they need to achieve to get to the next

stage of their careers. The French skiing and boarding instructors were very complimentary about how able and motivated the students were and how quickly they had progressed."

## Students take a walk on the wild side

Animal management students and staff had close encounters with some of the world's most exciting wildlife during a study trip to South Africa.

Lion, elephant and hippo were regularly spotted by the 16 students, who stayed in a rustic bush camp on the Struwig Eco Reserve in Hoedspruit, on the outskirts of the Greater Kruger National Park.

During their two week African ecosystems course the students learned how to track wild animals and accompanied wildlife guides on bush walks and game drives to gain a deeper understanding of the park's habitat management. They also helped rangers to identify and monitor wildlife.

The students, who are studying for degrees in animal behaviour and welfare or zoo management, enjoyed lectures on local geography, ecology and history and received certificates



▲ Lecturer Alice Gylee meets a rare black rhino calf

on completion of their trip.

Another highlight was a guided tour round the Moholoholo Wildlife Care and Rehabilitation Centre, where the group handled vultures and cheetahs and met a rare black rhino calf.

Student Joanna Page said: "The experiences we had were

awesome, particularly sleeping out under the stars. We learned such a lot in a short time, the rangers were awesome and really inspired us all.

Reaseheath students have enjoyed study tours run by African Conservation Experience in South Africa for the past four years.

## Factories on the menu for food students



▲ Factory tour delivers food for thought

Tours of high tech food and drink manufacturing plants were on the menu for food technology students during a study trip to Tennessee, USA.

The trip, sponsored for the second time by Battersea Pies of Covent Garden, took in the multi-million dollar maturing houses at the historic Jack Daniels whisky factory and a behind-the-scenes tour of Rich Products - a multi line dough factory producing cookies, pizza dough and breads. Rich Products uses a high degree of robotic technology alongside a skilled work force and our students looked at methods of quality testing and factory food safety.

Our group of ten also visited a large dairy producing products including graded milks, cottage cheese, sour cream and orange juice.

Another highlight was a trip to Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU), a large campus with 26,500 students. Here, our students gave a presentation to the agri-food science department about our new Food Centre of Excellence. Excitingly, links with MTSU will be strengthened this summer when we host an exchange visit for staff and students.

Our group explored the famous country music city of Nashville and enjoyed horse riding and quad biking at Clearview Horse Farm, home of our hosts Bernard and Marie Lloyd, the parents of student Ben Lloyd.

Bernard, who operates national contracts for Battersea Pies in the UK, sponsored a similar trip for us last year.

Said lecturer Julie Bent: "Once again, this was a wonderful trip made even more special by the students' exemplary behaviour. They were a credit to Reaseheath."

## Engineers gain experience of European excellence

**Test driving top-of-the-range tractors worth £millions was a highlight for agricultural engineering students during their annual study tour to European manufacturing centres of excellence.**

A group of 35 students visited the CLAAS global headquarters and technoparc in Harsewinkel, Germany, where they saw advanced engineering technology and processes and gained a unique insight into how the machinery is assembled. They were also quick to take up an offer to test drive the new tractors.

Another highlight was a guided tour and demonstration of machinery at the CAT / Mitsubishi forklift truck manufacturing hub in Almere, Holland. This was the fifth consecutive year that the company had hosted a visit

from Reaseheath and, to mark the occasion, we were presented with an award from Hans van Maastricht, Senior Technical Trainer at Mitsubishi.

Hans commented: "All the students that participated were excellent ambassadors for themselves and for the college. Their interest and positive questions were highly appreciated by my colleagues and myself."

New this year was a visit to the Schayik Museum in Langenboom, Netherlands, one of the largest European collections of vintage tractors and engines. The group also visited the Amazone agricultural machinery manufacturers in Hasbergen-Gaste and Koop van der Wal, an agricultural machinery exporter/importer in Emmeloord. They also enjoyed a trip to



▲ Agricultural engineering students enjoy a visit to the CLAAS factory in Germany

Amsterdam and a sightseeing boat trip down the canal.

Said Level 2 Diploma in Land Based Technology student Jessica Brooks: "This was a once in a lifetime experience! It

was amazing going behind the scenes on the production line and watching the final checks on the machines. It was also a great chance to get to know students from other courses."

## Irish horse industry under the spotlight

Equine students took a close look at the thriving Irish horse industry during a study tour in the historic region of Connemara, County Galway.

Our group were particularly impressed with a visit to the Dartfield Horse Museum, which outlines the key role the horse has played in the country's economy and also has an impressive display of anatomical models in its science department.

The twelve students, who are taking their Level 3 Extended Diploma in Equine Studies, also enjoyed a guided walk of the international cross country course attached to the museum with the course designer.

The students stayed at a language and equestrian centre in Donegal for five days and were able to fit in two horse rides on the beach, a surfing lesson and a trip to Sligo races during their stay.

Lecturer Sarah Turner, who accompanied the group, said: "We wanted to give the students



▲ Our equine students experience a beach ride in Ireland

a flavour of the horse industry in Ireland and show them just how important it is to commercial growth."

- Reaseheath's equine team has pulled off a spectacular coup in landing the contract to supply the arena party at the Horse of the Year Show (HOYS) at the International Arena in Birmingham in October. The bid was led by Sarah Turner, who has been involved in managing arena teams at HOYS in a previous job.

## International praise for business student

Business student Sasha Tadman was applauded by delegates after delivering an inspirational presentation at an international business conference.

Sashawas one of 31 business and event management students to attend the Business Live! Conference in Disneyland Paris.

The conference involved team discussion on how best to market cheesecakes and Sasha presented her group's findings to a packed room of over 500 delegates from all over the world. She explained that Reaseheath's business students were ideally placed to carry out marketing on food products, as they could gain actual experience on our commercial farm and in our food production halls.

Sasha also outlined how she and fellow students would use social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter to promote the venture.

The visit was aimed at enabling students to gain a broader understanding of issues that



▲ Business and event management students go behind the scenes at Disneyland Paris

shape the business world.

Sasha said: "Attending the conference gave us a great opportunity to mix with international marketeers. The speakers were very inspirational and we came away with a lot of good ideas."

Said Business and IT lecturer Bill Pearson, who accompanied the group: "We were very proud of Sasha and the confident way she presented our group findings."

The students also toured the Disneyland Paris theme park to learn more about marketing and how monopolies operate.

## Canada trip for agriculture

**A**griculture students visited some of the top dairy herds in eastern Canada during a study tour which compared British systems to those 'across the pond'.

The students were privileged to spend time at the University of Guelph's Ontario Agricultural College, which is world famous for its research farms and facilities.

They were particularly impressed by scientific studies monitoring the pH level of different feeds in the rumen of cattle, and in methods used to gather and measure the methane given off by beef calves.

The 24 Foundation Degree in Agriculture and Level 3 Extended Diploma in Agriculture students also visited the nationally recognised Fradon Holstein herd to view their fantastic show cow families.

Massive equipment was admired at the Elmira John Deere dealership, where the students heard how cropping systems are changing, particularly with increased maize being supplied to ethanol plants. This was in extreme contrast to the methods of local Amish farmers, who continue to follow systems they have used for centuries and rely on horse drawn power.

Lecturer Natalie Gascoyne



▲ Agricultural students celebrate with the Toronto Marlies cheerleaders

said: "The students noticed that, as in the UK, the Canadians are concerned about where their food comes from and are very supportive of local products.

"They were also jealous of the fact that Canada still has the equivalent of the Milk Marketing Board, guaranteeing milk prices at 48p a litre. This makes the dairy industry very stable as it has great support from government on import tariffs. It was nice to see plenty of small, very profitable, family farms, though they do have a strict quota which makes expansion difficult."

The tour was organised

through the international cattle genetics company Semex, which helped us run a similar trip two years ago.

In a whirlwind week our group also visited the Niagara falls, an ice hockey match featuring Toronto's second professional team the 'Toronto Marlies' and the CN Tower.

- Robotic milking, moorland management, vintage tractors and wind energy diversification were among the varied highlights of a week's trip to Lancashire and Yorkshire enjoyed by 46 first year Level 3 Extended Diploma in Agriculture students

## Motor vehicle students race to victory



▲ Motor Vehicle students enjoy a karting trip

Motor Vehicle students revelled in a karting trip - a reward for successful progress on their college courses and also to give them further insight into the motorsport industry.

The students raced against each other and against members of staff, with victory eventually going to James Martin, Callum Melliush and Chris Morris. The event, at The Circuit, Deeside, was rounded off in true motorsport style with a trophy presentation and bottles of (non-alcoholic) bubbly.

Steve Ellis, Course Manager for Level 2 Diploma in Vehicle Service Technology, also organised a further track day at the famous Oulton Park circuit.

## ADVENTURE ON THE HIGH SEAS

Twenty five adventure sports students learned seamanship skills and gained additional awards by sailing two ocean going yachts from the south coast to northern France and back via the Channel Islands.

Our students found their sea legs during an exciting week which tested teamwork and physical stamina as they learned the skills required to handle a 75 foot boat on a voyage of over 400 miles. Overseen by four staff members and a crew from the sail training charity Rona Trust, the students took part in activities from helming and putting up the sails to night watch duties and cooking in the galley.

All gained their competent crew qualification, which could help them to find jobs in the marine industry. Many were so inspired that they plan to progress to their day skipper award.

The experience built upon the practical sailing skills which our students gain while sailing Reaseheath's fleet of dinghies.

Explained Head of Adventure Sports Tim Reeves, a Royal Yachting Association Senior Instructor: "This was the first time we had offered the



◀ A happy crew aboard Rona II

students the opportunity to sail an ocean going yacht and it was very successful. Handling a big yacht is a completely different experience to dinghy sailing but the students took to it very well. You don't just need sailing skills, you must be able to work as a team when you're living in such close proximity to each other."

Student Eleanor Crompton said: "Reaseheath has been a great experience for me but this was the highlight. I now feel confident that I can work as a team member and tackle new challenges. I'm going to university in September and I feel much more independent."

# Reaseheath offers way forward for smaller scale energy production

**Biogas industry leaders have praised Reaseheath's efforts to independently demonstrate the viability of smaller scale, renewable energy production on farms.**

Speaking at the commissioning of our demonstration anaerobic digestion plant, Charlotte Morton, Chief Executive of The Anaerobic Digestion and Biogas Association, said that results from the plant would make a significant contribution to the understanding of farmers and technologists.

Said Ms Morton: "This is a fantastic demonstration plant. The fact that it is based at an agricultural college which can offer hands-on training means that it is capable of making a big impact on the industry.

"On-farm AD plants can make an important contribution by generating renewable energy from farm wastes and mitigating methane emissions from slurries. Reaseheath's model is particularly good because it demonstrates the use of all feed stocks via systems

which fit into all environments."

Our bespoke plant is based on two low capital systems which can be replicated commercially on farms or in horticultural businesses. The systems are a Continuous Stirred Tank Reactor (CSTR) digester taking slurry from the Reaseheath dairy herd plus straw based manure from our pig unit, and a smaller plug and play digester taking slurry only.

The electricity produced will go to an on-site sub station and could supply up to 15% of campus needs.

By allowing all data to be freely available and by offering relevant training and independent research and advice, we intend to help farmers and students to fully understand the process and how best they can produce biogas.

The £900,000 demonstration plant was part financed by The Rural Development Programme for England and supported by Defra, the North West Regional Development Agency and the



▲ Charlotte Morton at the commissioning of Reaseheath's demonstration anaerobic digestion plant with Sam Grundy (Farm Demonstration Officer), Annette McDonald (Head of Skills, Enterprise and Innovation Solutions), Russell Mulliner (Managing Director of design and build company Marches Biogas) and Dr George Fisher (Reaseheath consultant)

European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas.

**For information on training and open days, contact Reaseheath's Enterprise Delivery Hub on 01270 613195; email [hub@reaseheath.ac.uk](mailto:hub@reaseheath.ac.uk)**

## TV fame for Welsh students

Reaseheath will show off its strong Welsh connections when it stars in S4C's popular weekly series 'Ffermio'.

A film crew from Swansea based production company Telesgop spent a day on campus to make a programme for the series, which attracts a large audience of viewers interested in agricultural, wildlife and environmental issues.

Reaseheath has over 300 Welsh students and was able to provide students for interview who speak Welsh as their first language. Principal Meredydd David, a fluent Welsh speaker, described the growth which has led to a £35 million investment into specialist resources and facilities across campus. Our national reputation had led to an increasing number of students from Wales enrolling on courses.

He also emphasised how important the agricultural industry is to the economy and how every effort must be made to encourage enthusiastic and talented young people into the industry.

Ffermio presenter Alun Elidyr also interviewed agricultural engineering students Daniel Whittall and Dewi Griffith before watching trainer Merfyn Lewis preparing dairy products in the college's Eden International Dairy Academy.

The film crew moved on to the campus farm, where they interviewed students Cemlyn Roberts inspecting a soil profile, Rhian Davies and Alun Jones working with pigs and sheep and Ffleur Davies as she prepared a calf for showing. Tomos Evans was filmed as he milked the Reaseheath dairy herd.

Director Meinir Jones said:



▲ Meredydd David talks to Ffermio presenter Alun Elidyr

"We were very impressed with the standard of facilities and with the enthusiasm of students at Reaseheath. We thoroughly enjoyed our day at the college and filmed a lot of material which will be of great interest to our viewers."

'Ffermio' is broadcast on S4C every Monday night at 8.25pm. The programme is likely to be shown in late July.

## Muck Northwest spreads the word on nutrient management

Soil and nutrient management was top of the agenda alongside manure handling at Muck Northwest, an annual event for farmers and contractors which is hosted by Reaseheath.

The programme offered a wealth of information about crops and livestock as well as machinery demonstrations and presentations from experts.

A large range of muck and slurry handling machinery and soil conditioning equipment were in action, accompanied by live commentary to help visitors select the most effective kit.

Trade stands, demonstrations, workshops and discussion forums including anaerobic digestion provided the latest data to help farmers improve their slurry and muck utilisation.

Howard Hughes of event organiser HarveyHughes Limited said: "Manure management is not just about coping with Nitrate Vulnerable Zones. It's about managing soils and utilising resources while evaluating expenditure on fertilisers and expensive storage facilities."

## Masterclasses pull in the crowds

**P**acked audiences gained top tips from three international trainers during a series of masterclasses at Reaseheath's Equestrian Centre.

Dressage enthusiasts had the chance to learn from **Emile Faurie** when he demonstrated the progressive training techniques required to develop the young horse to Grand Prix level.

Emile has represented Great Britain at two Olympic Games, three World Equestrian Games and four European championships. A List 2 British Dressage judge and World Class coach, he teaches a wide range of pupils from Young Rider to International Grand Prix level.

The masterclass was held in partnership with Martin Collins Enterprises, the UK's top equestrian surface manufacturer and installer, who supplied the Ecotrack competition surface in Reaseheath's indoor arena.

Said Emile: 'It's always great for me to be able to share my training techniques with other dressage enthusiasts and to meet students who are hoping to pursue an equine career. I was delighted to be invited to Reaseheath because it is such a reputable college and has such excellent facilities.'

Internationally renowned horse

riding coach and author **Mary Wanless** unveiled some of the secrets of talented riders when she presented one of her popular 'Ride with your Mind' demonstrations. Working with mounted staff and students, she showed how subtle but significant changes in body alignment and tone could improve their horse's way of going.

The author of a series of books which have been translated into many languages, Mary coaches riders at all levels up to leading US dressage riders and members of the Canadian eventing squad.

**Kelly Marks**, one of the country's most popular and effective specialists in horse psychology and behaviour, proved that her techniques worked with both horses and humans during an Intelligent Horsemanship demonstration. Kelly used volunteers from the audience to prove the effectiveness of positive and negative reinforcement. She gave tips on understanding the equine language and on controlling horses with subtle body movements, and demonstrated the success of her techniques by working with horses which are difficult to load.

**For further details of Reaseheath's equine events contact Lettie Bardsley on 01270 616474 Email [lettieb@reaseheath.ac.uk](mailto:lettieb@reaseheath.ac.uk)**



▲ Emile Faurie and Elmegaardens Marquis demonstrate an advanced dressage move



▲ Kelly Marks and associate Paddy Gracey with students Becky Hampton, Rachael Churton, Holly Davies, Amy Ellis and Jess Clayton and horses Paris and Bart

## Show jumper Joe helps GB stay on the podium

Equine student Joe Davison played a key role in securing Great Britain's victory at the Nations Cup showjumping competition at the Bonheiden CSIO YR, Belgium.

Joe and his three Young Rider team mates jumped excellent rounds to give the British contingent a convincing lead. The team was so far ahead of the other competing nations that they were sure of victory before the last British rider had jumped.

Ten teams contested the competition and included an especially strong presence from USA, Germany and Holland. The USA team included the in-form and highly publicised Jessica Springsteen, daughter of rock legend Bruce Springsteen.

Joe, who was riding his father Richard Davison's 13 year old grey Hanoverian gelding Egano



▲ Joe Davison and Egano Star on their way to victory in the Nation Cup, Belgium

Star, was commended for his strong performance by British Chef d'equipe Corrine Bracken. Successful Joe then went on to represent Great Britain at the Nations Cup event at Hagen in Germany, where the team took silver.

Joe is a member of the lottery funded World Class Development Programme, supported by UK Sport. He is studying with us for a degree focussing on equine science and behavioural therapy. His father is British dressage team captain.

## Students saddled with success



▲ Celebrating team success

Our equine students were riding high after shining at a competition involving specialist colleges from across the country.

The students travelled to Warwickshire College to test their skills in dressage, showjumping and general knowledge against teams from 10 other colleges with equestrian departments.

Polished performances by Grace Howell and Emily Worthington in the dressage section put Reaseheath in first place and winning rounds by showjumpers Tammy Garbutt and Lucy Emery extended the lead. The team was eventually pipped at the post in the quiz section and had to be content with second place overall.

The students had trained hard under the guidance of staff members Sam Brentnall and Oliver Haydon.

Sam said: "We were really pleased with the results. Our team did extremely well and represented Reaseheath superbly. This was a great experience for the students."

The team members compete regularly in their chosen disciplines. Grace, who was placed second individually in the dressage, trains young horses while Emily, who was third individually, competes at side-saddle. Tammy is a competitive showjumper while Lucy regularly represents her pony club. Travelling reserve Vicky Sale also showjumps.

## Food students become part of Reaseheath's history



▲ Charlotte Reed, Miriam Bateman, Roger McCleery, Jack Hunt and Roger Gardiner select items for the time capsule

Food technology students became part of college history when they filled a time capsule reflecting the year 2011.

Signed portraits of the students and photos of campus were among articles selected to portray daily life at our specialist college.

The items contrasted with memorabilia in a capsule from 1980 which was discovered during construction work at our food department. All articles have been put into the updated capsule and buried in a wall of our new Food Centre of Excellence.

Retired senior food lecturer Roger Gardiner, who appeared on a 1980s photo, said: "This is a fantastic record of Reaseheath's history and highlights just how far the college has progressed. These

are very exciting times and it is fitting that we reflect this."

Student Charlotte Reed said: "It's amazing how much things have changed over the past 30 years. This has been a great opportunity to become a part of history."

Our Food Centre of Excellence will offer factory-standard facilities for the manufacture of all foods including dairy products, bakery and butchery. It will contain specialist equipment, equalling the best in Europe.

It is the second phase of a £7.2 million investment into Reaseheath's food department.

The capital investment has been supported by the NWDA, the Skills Funding Agency and through industry investment.

## Healthy eating is on the menu



▲ Food students Chris Watters, Imogen Johnson, Harriet Salt and Ethan Barker go for the healthy option at Reaseheath's salad bar

Food technologists took on a 'five a day' challenge by promoting healthy options at our campus food outlets.

The students, who are hoping to progress into careers such as new product development, dietetics and lecturing, researched and analysed the food choice of fellow students and, where appropriate, suggested healthier options. The project is in line with college policy to promote healthy eating throughout its five dining areas.

The students had a stand illustrating dishes containing fruit, vegetables and grilled meats and fish compared with less healthy snacks containing high levels of fat, sugar and salt. They also canvassed hundreds of fellow learners.

Said Chris Watters: "I was shocked that so many students didn't eat breakfast, and lots of people didn't realise how much sugar and salt there is in ready made foods."

"But I do think young people have started to take notice of what goes into their meals and have become interested in cooking. I think it'll be a gradual change, but most students were certainly interested in trying different dishes."

Facilities Manager Sue Mercer said: "We realise the value of nutritious food and do our best to promote healthy eating at all our food outlets. We try to use locally sourced ingredients wherever possible and offer a range of well balanced dishes to cater for all tastes."

# Students receive dairy bible

**D**airy students on our groundbreaking Project Eden degree course were presented with special handbooks by Tetra Pak Processing.

The coveted Tetra Pak Dairy Handbook, known as the 'dairy bible', is the ultimate reference source and covers the science and technology of the entire dairy production and manufacturing sector.

The first 25 Project Eden students to join the course were presented with inscribed copies. The students work as dairy technologists for industry leaders including Robert Wiseman Dairies, Dairy Crest, Arla Foods, Muller Dairies, First Milk and Milk Link. They attend college for block release training and will graduate with a globally recognised foundation degree in dairy

processing and manufacturing.

The education initiative is supported by the entire dairy industry and is aimed at producing world-class staff.

While at college, the students gain hands-on practical experience in our newly refurbished, industry-standard, food and dairy processing plant. Equipment includes the latest milk, cream, cheese and ice cream processing systems, supplied by Tetra Pak. The facilities enable the students to see food production from start to finish and also to carry out new product development.

Student Simon Grills said: "I already have experience working for Milk Link but the Reaseheath facility opens new horizons. Working alongside students from other backgrounds is invaluable. I keep having to pinch myself to make sure it's real."



▲ The Project Eden students receive their handbooks

Keith Goodby, Tetra Pak Category Manager, Dairy, who presented the handbooks, said: "We are delighted to be able to support both the students and Reaseheath in this valuable

project. There is great demand in our industry for highly qualified personnel with a wide range of skills. Students like these will be essential to the long term success of the dairy sector."

## Fiona is a cut above the rest



▲ Fiona at work in Reaseheath's glasshouses

Talented trainee gardener Fiona Braithwaite scooped a rare City & Guilds Medal for Excellence in recognition of her exceptional work.

Fiona, a mature student who studied with us on the National Trust's Careership training programme, was put forward for the award by lecturers.

She achieved her NVQ Level 3 in Amenity Horticulture, among other qualifications, and her outstanding portfolio impressed her trainers. Another reason for her selection was her key role in restoring the Poem Garden at Bodnant Garden in North Wales, where she is now employed as a permanent gardener.

Fiona said: "I was thrilled to hear that I had been awarded a City & Guilds medal, not just for the recognition that I have received for my work, but as a means of acknowledging the skill and

dedication of the people who have helped and supported me."

Fiona decided to follow her passion for horticulture after originally studying for a degree in textile design and following a career in administration. She became the first National Trust Careership trainee at Bodnant Garden and has combined studying at Reaseheath with gaining practical skills at Bodnant for three years.

Reaseheath tutor Ken Higginbotham said: "This is well deserved recognition for all the hard work Fiona has put in to her qualification. We selected her to represent us in these awards firstly because her portfolio was of a very high standard and secondly because she had shown such dedication to her studies while continuing to carry out her responsibilities for the National Trust."

## Horticulturist is cream of the crop



▲ David Buckley and Chris Lockwood celebrate with tutor Anne Harrison, Head of Horticulture Iain Clarke and Principal Meredydd David

Horticulture student Chris Lockwood proved he was among the nation's best by qualifying for the finals of the Institute of Horticulture's 'Young Horticulturalist of the Year'.

Chris, 28, scored highly but was pipped at the post at the prestigious competition, held at RHS Garden Harlow Carr, Yorkshire. Finalists had to be first on the buzzer in a ten round contest covering subjects from plant identification and pests and diseases to tools and equipment. Chris came a commendable sixth.

A Level 2 Diploma in Horticulture student, former banker Chris decided to retrain when faced with redundancy. He hopes to gain further qualifications and launch his own landscaping and garden maintenance business.

He was supported throughout the competition, which is limited to gardeners aged under 30, by course

manager Anne Harrison, who said: "The competition was tough but very exciting and had the audience on the edge of their seats. Chris especially deserves our praise because he began his career in horticulture a relatively short time ago!"

Chris said: "Coming to Reaseheath has been a fantastic change for me. I am doing something I have always wanted to do. I was thrilled to get through to the final and I learned a lot from the experience. My thanks go to all my tutors for their support."

Chris qualified by winning the North West and North Wales regional heat in a tie break against fellow Reaseheath student, David Buckley.

Reaseheath Principal Meredydd David said: "I am very proud of the achievements of both these students, particularly as they were competing against strong competition from students from other colleges and from industry."

# RHS exam success

**Members of 'Harry's Evening Stars', a team of part-time students who designed and built a gold medal winning garden at the RHS Show Tatton Park last year, were among students to successfully gain all or part of their RHS Advanced Certificate in Horticulture.**

Colin Greenwood, Margaret Kewley, Maile Belanger and Bill Ockwell achieved their full RHS Advanced Certificate while Marc Brimble, Richard Bowser, Pauline Clarke and Peter Armstrong-Child achieved modules and are continuing to work towards the full certificate.

Other students to gain the full RHS Advanced Certificate this year were Frances Paul, David Court,

Shirley Campbell, Carol Brammer, Marjorie Anderson, Maria Dixon, Louise Latham and Caroline Drouet. All successfully passed three theory modules and one practical module.

Eight students have climbed a step higher to achieve their RHS Diploma in Horticulture, a highly regarded Level 3 qualification taken by both professional and keen amateur horticulturists. To achieve their Diploma, students must hold the RHS Advanced Certificate and pass a further three theory modules and one practical module.

Members of this year's elite group were: David Gibson, Ralph Millward, Mary Moxon, Vanessa Nuttall, Chrissie Penn, Janet McKeating, Janine Griffin and



▲ Some of our successful RHS students and staff

Rosemary Priaux.

Certificates, including those for students who had achieved

their RHS Level 2 Certificate in Horticulture, were handed out at two presentations.

# Gardens go on show

**T**wo show gardens built by our landscape design and horticulture students are being enjoyed by thousands of visitors to Trentham Gardens, Stoke on Trent.

The gardens were sponsored by Trentham, who are keen to provide their 250,000 visitors per year with examples of innovative, good quality, show gardens.

The exhibits will be on show for at least the next three years and are providing us with a base for practical demonstrations and activities to encourage the public to learn more about horticulture, floristry and garden design.

The 'Sunset Garden' uses plants and materials in shades of copper, burnt sienna and terracotta and features a curved path leading to a bench. We secured additional industry sponsorship for materials for this garden - from Sureset for resin bound surfacing and from The Stone Warehouse for cobbles and aggregate mulches.

The second garden is an easily replicated, 'new build' courtyard garden with contemporary



▲ Level 3 Horticulture student Calum Yusuf works on a show garden

geometric patterned paving and metal mesh obelisks.

Degree level garden and landscape design students designed the planting using a range of readily available shrubs and herbaceous plants. The majority of the build was done by further education horticulture students.

Said lecturer Anne Harrison: "Building both gardens has

offered a great opportunity for our students to practice landscaping in a 'real life' situation.

"On-site problems need to be resolved and the quality of work must meet professional standards and comply with safety requirements. And then there's the logistics of getting there on time, with all the correct tools and equipment, plus clothing, food and drink to last for the day!"

## The Secret Garden

The children's classic novel *The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett has provided the inspiration for our show garden at this year's RHS Show Tatton Park (July 20 - 24).

The show garden, which is designed and built by horticulture and garden design students, is to commemorate the centenary of the publication of the book.

Additionally we are running an activity marquee at the show called 'Discover Horticulture with Reaseheath', which will offer a range of practical workshops for visitors including plant propagation, hydroponics, commercial food production, and pests and diseases. We will also have a storyteller reading excerpts from the book.

Our floristry tutors will be equally busy giving demonstrations in the Floral Design Studio.

# Young gardeners grow for the top

Reaseheath's Master of Horticulture Harry Delaney helped the next generation of gardeners win a top award for their school.

Pupils from Winnington Park Community Primary School in Northwich achieved a Level 5 award in the Royal Horticultural Society's Campaign for School Gardening – the highest award possible. The school is one of only two in Cheshire and one of 31 nationally to gain the distinction.

Project leader Babirye Gregory, who is studying horticulture with us, invited Harry to give his

professional opinion on the kitchen garden and to mentor the pupils.

Thanks to his involvement, Harry joined special guests including MP for Weaver Vale Graham Evans to watch RHS Regional Campaign for School Gardening Advisor Andy Cannell present the award to the school.

The pupils have grown a wide range of fruit and vegetables, which have been served in the school canteen, and flowers to encourage wildlife.

Said Harry: "It was lovely to be involved with the pupils.

It reminded me of how I was stimulated by gardening at school and how that brought me into gardening as a career - a decision I have never regretted.

"The school richly deserves its award. I was very impressed to see how involved the pupils are with 'hands-on' growing and with how enthusiastic they all are."

## Students bash the balsam

Countryside Management students have been engaged in a battle against an invasive weed which is threatening Nantwich's scenic river.

The students have been 'Balsam Bashing', which involves identifying, pulling up and crushing Himalayan Balsam. The plant, an exotic garden escapee, is causing a national problem by invading our streams and waterways. A single plant can produce thousands

of seeds and its rapid spread is choking out native plants and reducing biodiversity.

Thirty students assisted local community group Riverside Concern under the direction of Greenspaces South Cheshire CIC, a not for profit, community interest company which cares for public green spaces.

Reaseheath is a main partner with Greenspaces and provided the company with essential start up funding in return for future training and activity days for students and college clients.

Riverside Concern Chairman Tony Tengwall said: "Himalayan Balsam is a real problem. We were very pleased with Reaseheath's support for our continued efforts to improve the Nantwich Riverside area for people and for wildlife."



▲ Harry Delaney, Babirye Gregory, MP Graham Evans and Andy Cannell watch some of the enthusiastic young gardeners plant a tree

## Mountaineer gets a warm reception

**O**ne of the world's greatest mountaineers and extreme skiers, Kenton Cool, received a warm reception when he gave a personal account about his experiences as a high altitude climber.

Kenton outlined his adventures to students, staff and the public at an evening presentation.

One of his most famous achievements has been to lead polar explorer Sir Ranulph Fiennes on a successful climb up the north face of the Eiger in 2007. He has ascended a total of eight Everest summits - a

British record - and made the first British ski descent of an 8,000 metre peak, this time on Cho Oyu in Nepal. He has also been nominated alongside climbing partners for the international Piolet d'Or award for a route on Annapurna 111.

Head of Adventure Sports Tim Reeves said: "We were delighted to welcome such a world class expedition leader here for what proved to be a very inspiring evening. Kenton is renowned throughout the globe for his exploits and it was a great privilege to hear his life story."



▲ Kenton Cool (centre, back row) joins our adventure sports staff

## Sports students are on top of their game



▲ Warrant Officer Trev Barrow presents the award to winning sports studies students Jack Preston, Matthew Head, Max Gay, Martin Szklarski, Nathan Francis, Stephen Teale, Glen Beaumont and Karl Rhodes

Sports Studies students proved they were on top of their game by winning a speed competition over an army assault course.

Our team smashed the opposition by completing a 17 obstacle course two and a half minutes faster than their nearest rival. The obstacles included a climbing wall, scramble net and rope bridge.

Over 30 teams from colleges and schools took part in the contest, which was held during an Army Careers Exhibition near Southport. A coachload of students attended the event to learn about the career opportunities offered by the army.

Warrant Officer Trev Barrow, Army Careers Advisor of 42 (NW) Brigade, visited Reaseheath to present our team with an embroidered army shoulder badge.

He said: "The obstacles were very demanding but this was a very competitive team and the quickest of the day by far. The idea of the event is to give young people an idea of what life is like in the army and have fun at the same time."

Level 2 Diploma Sport Course Manager Lauren Ashford, who teaches the winning team, said: "The students enjoyed the experience and learned a lot about army life. It's also important that lecturers attend events like this so we can fully appreciate what army careers have to offer and can advise our students."

Reaseheath works closely with the army careers office and some students spend a week sampling life at an army base at Swinerton near Stone as part of their course.

## Pub aims to be hub of rural community



▲ David Tanswell, Surveyor for Bolesworth Estates, Ian Bowyer and Susanne Price join construction students Phil Langley, Josh Williams, Liam Challenor, Lewis Clarke, Tim Hilditch and Adam Pearson

Construction students are assisting a rural pub to become the hub of its community by helping to build a village shop in its car park.

The new store at The Sandstone, Brown Knowl, near Broxton will stock quality local produce and essential groceries and replace lost services following the closure of the village's post office and shop.

The shop, which is being converted from an existing garage, is being designed and built on traditional lines by a team of our trainee bricklayers and joiners.

The scheme has also received business support from experts at our Enterprise Delivery Hub and is being supported by pub owner Bolesworth Estates.

Licensee Ian Bowyer intends to use the shop as an outlet for the locally sourced food available in the pub's restaurant. He also expects to stock groceries and other day to day items ordered by local residents.

He explained: "The Sandstone pub has a loyal following and customers often ask us where they can buy our ingredients. We see the shop as very much answering a community need and also a way of supporting the growing interest in local foods. We see it as an excellent way of diversifying our business."

Susanne Price, Reaseheath Hub Customer Relationship Manager said: "This exciting project very much fits into our agenda of helping to promote the prosperity of local businesses."

Reaseheath construction tutor Lee Steele and colleague Jim Spooner have been overseeing the Level 2 Construction Diploma students as they draw up plans, measure up the site and liaise with their client. Said Lee: "This has been a fantastic opportunity for the students to work on a real life project. The experience will stand them in good stead for their future careers."

# Badger cubs put wildlife rescue under spotlight

**Three rescued badger cubs provided animal management students with a rare wildlife encounter.**

The six week old cubs, named Nutmeg, Saffron and Lavender, were taken in by animal charity Secret World Wildlife Rescue after they had been abandoned at three days old during severe flooding.

Pauline Kidner, founder of the Somerset charity, brought the cubs to college and spoke to students about the trials and successes involved in the rescue and care of native wildlife such as badgers, foxes, deer and seals.

She emphasised how human ignorance can often cause harm to animals and raised awareness on how we can reduce the risk of injury to our native wildlife.

Secret World Wildlife Rescue rescues around 4,000 sick, injured or orphaned animals annually and, where possible, rehabilitates and returns them to their natural habitat. After hearing that the charity must meet £1,000 a day costs, which include the running of a



▲ Lecturer Emma Caskie gets up close and personal with a badger cub

wildlife hospital and purpose built ambulances, the students organised a fund raising collection. They also raised money by dressing up in wildlife costumes at Reaseheath's Festival.

Said Pauline: "The students were very interested in wildlife rehabilitation and asked a lot

of relevant questions, including about career prospects. We were delighted with the financial contribution that they made.

"The badger cubs were the smallest we have ever cared for and we are delighted they are doing so well. It's success stories like this that makes our work so worthwhile."

Animal Management Curriculum Manager Emily Jewell said: "Visits from members of the industry are always welcome. We are extremely privileged that Pauline found time to talk to our students. It allowed them to see how their learning is applied in real life situations. They were also given an insight into the costs associated with wildlife rescue and rehabilitation.

"We were lucky to meet the cubs, as had they been a few weeks older they would have started their rehabilitation programme, with reduced contact."

- Our students enjoyed a behind-the-scenes tour of Secret World Wildlife Rescue during a study

tour. Their four day trip also included a visit to Bristol Zoo, an adder survey and a study of coastal ecology.

**For further information about Secret World Wildlife Rescue see: [www.secretworld.org](http://www.secretworld.org)**

## Police dogs give an arresting display



Officers from Cheshire Police dog section gave animal management students an exciting insight into the specialised training of police dogs during a college visit.

PC Bob Beckett, an instructor in the police dog training school, talked to 120 students about the choice, management and training of police dogs and demonstrated drugs and weapons detection with his Labrador, Bailey. PC Beckett specialises in VIP visits and was on duty when Her Majesty the Queen visited Reaseheath last year.

Charlie, a Springer Spaniel, and his handler PC Greg Cross also demonstrated drugs and weapons detection while Cocker Spaniel Ollie, an explosives search dog, showed off his special skills with PC Keeley Weaver.

Animal training is a new module in several courses and many students go on to careers in the industry.

Explained lecturer Alice Gylee: "This was a good opportunity for students to see in context what they have been learning in the classroom. We appreciate that the police gave their time to visit us."

# Hearing Dogs for Deaf People

The contribution that highly trained dogs can make to the lives of those with impaired hearing was brought home to animal management students thanks to a visit from a very special cross-breed called Paddy.

Ten year-old Paddy is the constant companion of June Hartstone, who is deaf.

Proud owner June described how much she relies on her dog when she spoke to 100 students who are studying animal training as part of their course.

Paddy, who was rescued from a drain when he was one year old, has been trained by charity Hearing Dogs for Deaf People to alert his owner to sounds such as fire alarms, door bells and the telephone ringing.

The charity was invited to give a presentation at college because the students had raised £336 for its funds through activities including



▲ Paddy, June Hartstone and Jackie Snelson meet students Jess Beecham, Katie Sutton, Hannah Stein, Tasha Barnes, Becky Hall and Daniel Burkitt

a 'pyjama' day and home made cake sales.

Volunteer speaker Jackie Snelson described the charity's work, which has resulted in the training of well over 1,000 working dogs at an average cost of £7,500 per dog.

Said Jackie: "We are delighted with the financial contribution from Reaseheath's students. It has

been fantastic to be among so many students who wanted to ask relevant questions."

Said student Tasha Barnes: "I felt very touched by June's story and how isolated she felt before she got Paddy. He has made such a great difference to her life. It was also very interesting learning how the dogs and their handlers are trained."

## Comparative trial will make golf course greener

**Horticulture students joined experts in a research trial which uses science to overcome modern turf problems.**

The students have been recording the playing quality and soil makeup of the greens on our commercial golf course. The results are compared against differing levels of maintenance, feeding and ground conditions.

It is hoped that the research will enable our greens staff to draw up an effective, more sustainable management plan which will reduce chemical use, improve the soil and encourage the growth of disease and drought resistant grasses.

The data is being collaborated by the Sports Turf Research Institute (STRI) as a useful example of independent research. Two leading technical companies which specialise in sports turf plant health, Symbio and Amenity Land Solutions (ALS), are partnering Reaseheath in the greens trial programme.

Level 3 Diploma in Horticulture students spend time with ecological advisors from each company learning about golf course management techniques and the importance of careful identification and selection of grasses.

Said Head Greenkeeper James Grundy: "This comparative trial has given our students a great opportunity to become involved in the top end of research.

"Sustainability is at the core of our greens management programme. We are aiming to encourage more desirable grass species which have a naturally higher tolerance to low nutrition and water shortage and a greater immunity to fungal disease."

- Sports turf students ran the 18th Reaseheath Open - Vintage Day 2011, an annual tournament for players aged 70-plus held on our golf course.

Sam Jones led 15 student volunteers, many of whom



▲ Ecological advisor John Handley from Amenity Land Solutions takes a close look at turf roots with some of Reaseheath's horticulture students

worked 12 hour days to ensure that the course was in first class condition. The team was helped by Head Greenkeeper James Grundy and Deputy Head Greenkeeper Simon Hewitt

Proceeds went to Crossroads Care Cheshire East, Manchester

and Tameside, which supports carers in the community. **Reaseheath Golf Club memberships are available from £180. Details: [www.reaseheathgolfclub.org](http://www.reaseheathgolfclub.org) or contact Club Co-ordinator Chris Bishop on 07773 472386**

## Crewe Alexandra apprentices score highly at college

Crewe Alexandra Football Club apprentices have been recording top scores in the classroom as well as on the pitch.

This year's crop of graduating apprentices have gained excellent grades in their BTEC qualifications, which they take at Reaseheath alongside their football training. This achievement puts the young athletes in a strong position to study for a sports related degree if they are released at the end of their football apprenticeships.

The apprentices spend most of their time focussing on football but attend college for one and a half days a week to study for a Level 2 or Level 3 qualification in Sport (Performance and Excellence).

The programme is managed and funded by the League Football Education and currently supports 18 apprentices. Nine apprentices completed the two year course this year, with five gaining a BTEC Level 3 Diploma



▲ High scoring Crewe Alex apprentices with their Reaseheath Course Managers Dave Whiteside and Nina Elliott and Joint Academy Managers Neil Critchley and James Collins

with distinction – the equivalent to three 'A' levels. The remaining four achieved a BTEC Certificate (equivalent to two 'A' Levels).

Explained Course Manager Dave Whiteside: "Although the apprentices are very talented, a future as a professional footballer is far from being guaranteed. It is important that these young players continue with their education so they can

keep their options open.

"Six of the graduating students have performed exceptionally and have been offered places at the very best sports universities."

Crewe Alex Academy Manager Neil Critchley said: "The club is delighted with the achievements of our apprentices and I would like to thank the course managers for all the hard work they have put in on behalf of the boys."

## Football squad reigns in Spain

Our first men's football team scored a hat-trick by winning a tournament in Salou, Spain for the third year running.

The team played three games, drawing the first 2-2 against Salou FC and winning the second and third 1-1 and 6-1 respectively against Cambrils FC and Reus FC. The tournament involved Under 19 teams from football academies in Spain.

Earlier in the year, a mixed squad from our second and third men's teams went to the Algarve in Portugal in the hopes of repeating last year's success when they came home with the trophy. However, their hopes faded after losing 4-2 to a very strong team from Quartaria FC Academy, drawing 3-3 against Ferreiras FC and eventually conceding to Guia Football Club 7-6 following a last kick of the game goal.

Team Leader for Sports Studies Kevin Cunningham, said: "Both tours were a huge success. The teams played extremely well and gained a lot of valuable experience.

# Reaseheath College welcomes new farm manager

**R**easeheath has a new farm manager. Pedigree dairy specialist Mark Yearsley has taken over from Sam Grundy, who is semi retiring after working for our college for 38 years.

Mark has particular strengths in cow genetics and dairy production and has managed large and very successful dairy herds. His appointment coincides with our purchase of the world class Genus MOET dairy herd, now renamed Reaseheath Holsteins.

One of Mark's first aims is to streamline the management system and to increase milk yield by building up the herd from 250 to 300 using home bred replacements.

He said: "I am thrilled to have become part of one of the premier

land based colleges in the country and having the chance to progress a top quality herd.

"I came into education because I want to be part of the next farming generation. It is important that Reaseheath's farm is run as a successful commercial business as it shows students the possibilities which the industry offers."

Helped by a 10 strong team, Mark also heads up the college's award winning sheep flock and state of the art, welfare friendly, pig unit.

He added: "I am very impressed with the dedication and enthusiasm of Reaseheath's agricultural staff. The college facilities are unique in the region, which is why we attract students nationally."

Sam Grundy is continuing



▲ Sam Grundy and Mark Yearsley discuss the Reaseheath Holstein herd

to monitor new agricultural projects, in particular our demonstration anaerobic digestion plant.

A former student himself, Sam returned to Reaseheath to manage the dairy herd in 1972. He became assistant farm

manager in 1977 and took over the farm manager's role in 1996.

Sam said: "Reaseheath's farm has developed tremendously, particularly over the last five years when there has been considerable investment into the facilities."

## Tailored training for The Co-operative Farms

Reaseheath is partnering The Co-operative Farms by tailoring training for its agricultural apprenticeship scheme.

The national scheme is aimed at 17-19 year olds, and has been designed to help The Co-operative Farms find and train the farming talent of the future.

The first intake of apprentices, who include former Reaseheath agricultural engineering student Luke Watson, have completed their initial block release college course and are continuing their training on their allocated farms nationwide.

Each apprentice receives a bespoke teaching package to cover the crops and specific business needs of their farm. Key areas are the growing of cereals, root crops, vegetables and fruit. Training is delivered by experts in our agricultural, horticultural and engineering departments.

On completion students will receive a nationally recognised NVQ Level 3 in Agriculture. We have also trained managers and supervisors to act as mentors in the workplace.

Course Manager Natalie Gascoyne said: "We are very excited about this bespoke apprenticeship scheme and hope it marks the beginning of a long partnership between Reaseheath and The Co-operative Farms."

The agricultural apprenticeship is the first programme in The Co-operative Group's ambitious £9 million Apprenticeship Academy, which aims to provide 2,000 jobs for young people over the next three years. Apprenticeships are being offered in group businesses ranging from food, farming and pharmacy to motors, legal and financial services and the funeral industry.

Christine Tacon, Managing Director, The Co-operative Farms, said: "We are delighted that Farms is pioneering the Group's apprenticeship scheme and to be working with Reaseheath College towards the successful delivery of our agricultural apprenticeship scheme."

**For further information visit**  
<http://www.co-operative.coop/farms/careers>

## Agricultural engineers graduate



▲ Engineering apprentices celebrate their graduation

A total of 56 agricultural engineering technician apprentices have graduated from a Reaseheath programme which is the leader in its field.

The apprentices are employed by the UK's leading agricultural machinery brands - New Holland, CLAAS, Case IH and JCB Agriculture - and are employed at dealerships throughout UK and Ireland. They study at Reaseheath on block release and graduate with a National Diploma in Landbased Technology.

With a total of 148 apprentices enrolled on the three year course, this is the most heavily subscribed programme of its type in the UK. Employers from all four brands were present at an awards ceremony.

Course Manager Tim Ball said: "This was an excellent celebration of all the hard work and dedication the apprentices have shown by studying at the same time as carrying out a responsible job. We look forward to seeing some of them return on our degree level Dealership Management Programme".

## Mike's winning ideas for future cattle breeding

**A**gricultural student Mike Kay has been rewarded for an essay suggesting how to breed cattle for a more sustainable future.

Mike, 20, researched how methane emissions from cattle could affect climate change and suggested how genetic breeding could alleviate some of the problem.

His essay earned him second place in a national competition run by the British Cattle Breeders Club and he received a certificate and cash prize in front of 150 delegates at the club's annual conference.

Mike, who has just completed his Foundation Degree in Agriculture, combines his studies with helping to manage his family's beef and sheep enterprise.

He was supported in writing his essay by Livestock Production Systems lecturer



▲ Mike Kay is congratulated by Graham Ashford and Jane Richardson

Graham Ashford and Course Manager Jane Richardson.

Mike said: "I set out to show how to breed the ultimate beef suckler cow, which would have a lower impact on the environment. I suggested breeding cattle with hybrid vigour that finished faster and responded well to concentrate feeding.

"I came to the conclusion that in the future there is likely to be a shift to more intensive farming of cattle and that they will spend more time indoors. But one of my key findings was that, although emissions from cattle do add to global warming, it is nowhere near as much as that from industrial processes."

## Families flock to lambing weekends



▲ BBC Radio Stoke Presenter Becky Wood chats to Aston Edwards during our own 'Lambing Live'

Hundreds of families flocked to our lambing sheds to greet the first arrivals of the year.

Visitors over the two weekends were encouraged to watch lambs being born and cared for, and some lucky children were able to cuddle some of the new borns. Our experts were on hand to demonstrate the special care required for a few of the lambs, such as bottle feeding and fostering, while a video screen showed clips of earlier action.

Other stars of our popular event, which has been running for over 20 years, included companion animals and reptiles from our animal centre. A display of tractors, a children's quiz, face painting and a garden plant sale were other attractions.

Our students work around the clock to make sure the lambs and ewes get the best care. This year, former agricultural students Toby Lawton and Simon Baskerville returned to college to act as assistant shepherds to the 500 ewes in our commercial sheep flock.

Said Steve Roach, Section Manager for Agriculture: "These lambing events give us a fantastic opportunity to show off the type of work we do here at college and the outstanding calibre of our students. The lambing events are very successful and we have lots of positive comments from the public. Everyone learns something new and has a really good day out, which is what Reaseheath is all about."

## Andy's the best baa none!

Student Andy Wilson proved he had the all round skills to make a successful commercial shepherd when he carried off the Young Shepherd of the Year title at the National Sheep Association (NSA) Central Region's Winter Fair at Bakewell, Derbyshire.

The event was organised by the NSA Central region and run by Reaseheath's sheep unit manager Matt Bagley and lecturers Phil Gibbon and Dave Bramhall, with agriculture students acting as stewards. It was sponsored by CWG (Central Wool Growers) Country Stores.

The competition covered five elements which included the selection of live lambs to meet market demand. The contestants, who came from several counties, also demonstrated practical skills in ATV handling and in stock duties. They also had a written paper with 20 questions on flock management and health issues.

Top placings were tight, but eventually 19 year-old Andy took

the £275 first prize plus £50 for the best entrant aged 21 or under. He also qualified for the NSA Young Shepherd of the Year national finals in 2012.

Fellow student Tom Allen came equal third with former student John Battye.

A Level 3 Extended Diploma in Agriculture student, Andy has gained experience working with our commercial sheep flock and hopes eventually to farm beef cattle and sheep.

Bob Payne, Chairman of NSA Central Region commented: "We have a responsibility to encourage the next generation and to ensure that they have the range of skills the modern shepherd needs. This means a combination of manual skills and technical knowledge.

"These were really tested in this competition and we were delighted with the entries, which attracted bright young people from a wide geographical area. We were also tremendously impressed with how well the event



▲ Young Shepherd of the Year Andy Wilson

was organised by Reaseheath."

- The formula of the competition proved so popular that we were asked to repeat it at Welsh Sheep, the NSA regional event for Wales. Highlights appeared on the Welsh tv programme 'Ffermio'.

# Florists have the X Factor

**F**loristry students proved they have the X Factor after sweeping the board in a regional heat of the WorldSkills UK competition.

The first three places in the intermediate section went to students who are studying for their Level 3 Diploma in Floristry with us.

The competition, which we hosted, attracted competitors from other colleges and from within the industry. It was part of a regional series organised by the British Floristry Association (BFA) to find the UK's best young florists.

The students had to create a dinner table design for a stylish, after-show party.

First placed Victoria Tempest

and Vicky Carr, second have now been invited to the UK final at the RHS Flower Show Tatton Park.

The highest placed there will be considered for the GB squad at the WorldSkills competition in Leipzig in 2013.

WorldSkills is the largest vocational skills competition in the world and has 50 member nations.

BFA moderator Deborah Richardson said: "This event is designed to identify talented and eligible florists who have the potential to be trained to join the WorldSkills UK squad and represent their country. This event has set a very high standard and has introduced us to some very exciting young talent."



▲ Victoria Tempest (right) works on the first stage of her winning design watched by fellow competitors Vicky Carr, Phil Stanworth and Hollie Thompson

# World class qualification for florist

Floral design lecturer Sue Poole is blooming after achieving one of the world's most demanding floristry qualifications.

Sue is one of only 18 florists in the country to hold the Wally Klett Wedding Diploma, a Level 5-plus qualification recognised as one of the highest level qualifications possible.

Wally Klett is a German Master florist who is internationally renowned for her meticulous styled designs and high standards. To achieve her qualification, Sue had to complete a nine month course and study the theory of design before sitting a demanding two day exam. Reaseheath funded her training as part of staff development.

Sue already holds the Society of Floristry Diploma - the highest level of qualification awarded in the UK.

A former Reaseheath floristry student 23 years ago, Sue is course manager for the C&G Level 2 and Level 3 Diplomas in Floristry and lectures in the art of floral design to professional florists. She has also helped us to win several top medals at the RHS Flower Show Tatton Park and at other premier competitions.



▲ Sue Poole with one of her world class designs

Sue said: "It was a very tough exam which required in depth theoretical knowledge, followed by the creation of designs with a lot of intricate wire and bead work.

"I was absolutely thrilled to achieve the qualification, particularly as the exam was so pressurised. It's a fantastic accolade for Reaseheath and I'm very grateful to the college for supporting me through the training."

# Students dig in for Climate Week

Adventure sports and horticulture students and staff joined forces to plant over 300 young trees as part of Climate Week.

The trees, all native species, will grow into a wildlife friendly hedgerow in an eco garden on campus.

The adventure sports students, who study sustainability, used Climate Week as an opportunity to take on a practical project and also as part of the John Muir Award, an extra award based on lessening impact on the environment.

The young trees of alder, cherry, plum and blackthorn were donated by the Woodland Trust, the UK's leading woodland conservation charity. They were specially selected for their blossom and fruits, which particularly appeal to birds and insects.

As well as providing food and shelter for wildlife, it is hoped that the carbon dioxide taken up by the hedgerow plants will help to offset the carbon emissions from college minibuses used on residential trips by our adventure sport students. This year the students have enjoyed expeditions to outdoor sports hotspots in Scotland, North Wales, Yorkshire, the Lake District and the Peak District.



▲ Adventure sports students Eleanor Crompton, Sam Ormrod, Sam Gibson and Paul Heighton plant the wildlife friendly hedgerow

Explained Course Manager Richard Hathway: "Climate Week is a national event that helps us to renew our ambitions and confidence to combat climate change. We are using the event to judge how our activities impact on the environment and to consider sustainable alternatives."

# Workshop stimulates business growth

**T**hirty specialist rural food and drink businesses were inspired to improve their productivity and profits following a successful business workshop organised by Reaseheath's Enterprise Delivery Hub.

The workshop, for small and medium food and drink businesses in Cheshire and Greater Manchester, attracted businesses including butchers, bakers, brewers and ice cream manufacturers, all keen to receive expert help on how to develop new products, improve processes and become more efficient.

The event was funded through the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE).

Most delegates signed up to use the world class, industry scale production facilities in our Food Centre of Excellence. Many also applied for an RDPE subsidised mentoring programme from an industry expert. This tailored package will enable business owners to develop new opportunities and learn different approaches.



▲ Susanne Price and Jane Casson from Made in Cheshire join Rob Ward at the specialist food workshop

International business consultant Rob Ward of The Food Marketing Network shared proven business growth techniques, such as giving customers added value, and urged local businesses to concentrate on making their product unique.

David Hunter, Head of Rural Development at the North West Regional Development Agency said: "The region has a fantastic food and drink industry with much growth potential. These workshops are successful because they give producers access to specialists who understand their sector. They

inspire them to try new ways of working which will increase profits, encourage diversification and help business growth."

Susanne Price, Hub Customer Relationship Manager, said: "We want to help these specialist producers because their success is key to the growth of our local economy.

"The food and drink sector is unique because it has an appeal across the whole market. We believe the technical support offered through our Food Centre of Excellence can help rural businesses to make top quality products and put the best processes in place."

## Helping Cheshire to a greener future



▲ Event Organiser Daniel Galloway

A free event demonstrating how Cheshire businesses, community groups and householders can save energy and reduce pressure on the planet attracted county-wide interest.

Cheshire Greener Futures Festival, organised by Reaseheath's Enterprise Delivery Hub, attracted over 30 exhibitors supported by specialist workshops. Business representatives were able to find out about support and financial incentives for renewable energy projects and energy saving systems for commercial buildings.

Community representatives learned how to become part of a low carbon society and save money through renewable energy projects and local food initiatives. Householders focused on energy saving methods such as solar power, heat pumps, LED lighting and improved insulation.

The event was funded through the Climate Change Local Area Support Programme (CLASP) and supported by other key public and private sector organisations.

Explained organiser Daniel Galloway: "This was a really exciting event focusing on new and innovative solutions in the area of renewable energy. Hopefully it has encouraged users to consider ways of reducing energy consumption and cutting carbon emissions while saving or even making money."

## Butchery classes raise the steaks



▲ Marshall Barnett and Nick Pendleton-McGrath size up some lamb chops with butcher Daniel Crick at a butchery appreciation workshop

Our Enterprise Delivery Hub has launched a series of short training programmes to help local farmers and smallholders make maximum profit from the animals they rear.

The meat appreciation workshops have been designed by Master butcher Steve Brooks and senior butcher Marc Brewer and are held at Brooks Butchers in Sandbach.

Those attending gain a basic knowledge of how beef, pork and lamb are butchered into individual cuts. They also learn how to gain maximum profit from each carcass

through products such as specialist sausages and burgers. The workshops are limited to groups of six and take place between 4pm and 8pm over two days.

The training programme is funded through the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) Skills and those qualifying, who must live in Cheshire, pay £64 - just 30% of the full cost.

Steve Brooks, who with his staff runs popular meat appreciation classes for interested public at

his shop, said: "Butchery is a craft requiring a high level of understanding of what the customer wants and how to meet these requirements. By passing on some of these skills, we hope to encourage producers to make the most from each cut of meat, both in quality and profit."

The RDPE skills programme is part financed by the European Agricultural fund for European Development 2007-2013; 'Europe investing in rural areas.'

# Pre-entry impress with high standard turn-out

**P**re-entry horse care students were complemented on their high standards when they prepared horses for a competition.

The students were asked to show off their grooming skills by preparing two horses as if they were competing in a best turned out competition. They thoroughly brushed the horses' coats, washed and plaited manes and tails, oiled hooves and cleaned tack. The students also had to handle the horses and present them for judging at our Equestrian Centre.

Lecturer Dawn Joyce, who presented the students with rosettes, said: "I was very impressed with the high standard. It was certainly as good as many people with much more experience could achieve, and certainly some aspects were up to true competition standard."

As well as gaining top turn-out tips, the students, who are studying for a City and Guilds qualification in stable management, have been learning about horse first aid and how to tack up with instructor Sam Brentnall and Pre-Entry tutor Lisa Brewitt. They have also grown a herb garden filled with plants known to be beneficial to horses.

Said Lisa: "The students really enjoyed getting



▲ Darren Clare, Chris Abbott, Sarah Longworth and Micheal Burrows with Minnow and Jazz

ready for the competition and, in particular, being responsible for the horse for the day".

Pre-entry students are mostly aged over 19 and attend college one day a week. They can choose from subjects such as horse care, animal management, sport or woodwork. The courses are very practical and are supported by experts from within the Pre Entry team and the specific departments.

## REASEHEATH AT A GLANCE

- Beacon College (LSIS)
- Dairy Champion National Skills Academy for Food and Drink Manufacture
- Engineering Academy
- 14 years - 19 years
- Training Quality Standard

### Subject areas:

#### Further and Higher Education

- Adventure Sports
- Agriculture
- Animal Management
- Business and IT
- Construction
- Countryside and Conservation
- Engineering
- Entry and Foundation Programme
- Equine
- Floristry
- Horticulture
- Food Technology
- Greenkeeping and Sports Turf
- Motor Vehicle
- Sports Performance and Excellence
- Leisure and Community Studies

### Associate College of:



# Tony celebrates success

Successful adult learner Tony Atherton so impressed tutors of our workforce development team that they nominated him for a national award.

In recognition of his enthusiasm and dedication, Tony, a production supervisor with Aimia Foods, Haydock, was put forward for the prestigious Adult Learner of the Year Award with NIACE (National Institute of Adult Continuing Education).

He was also invited to Reaseheath for a special presentation from our own Director of Business and Marketing, Margaret Bardsley, in front of his employers. The presentation was made during the 20th Anniversary of Adult Learners' Week

Thanks to one-to-one support from our Basic Skills team, Tony, 37, has overcome difficulties with written work and has achieved an NVQ Level 2 in Team Leading, an NVQ Level 2 in Business Improvement Techniques and Skills for Life in Adult Numeracy and Literacy.

He now hopes to improve his understanding of maths. All his



▲ Tony Atherton receives his award from Margaret Bardsley watched by Aimia Foods Operations Director Patrick Mroczak, Aimia Foods HR Manager Adele Morris and Reaseheath Workforce Development Team Kate Williams, Alison Gradin, Jackie Keir and Gill Miller

tutoring has been done at his workplace, minimising disruption to his employers, a major supplier of top brand hot and cold drinks to the retail industry.

Explained Reaseheath Work Based Assessor Jackie Keir: "Tony has been a model student. Once I recognised that he had difficulties with his written work we put a tailor-made programme in place to help him. His progress has been remarkable and he has been truly inspirational to his work colleagues."

Said Tony: "I left school 20 years ago with very few qualifications and really thought my learning days were over. I started work on the production line at Aimia..... and here I am now with far greater achievements than I could ever have imagined!

" Thanks to my tutors my confidence has grown enormously and I have been promoted to team leader. I could not have come this far without my tutors and I can't thank them enough for their support and encouragement."

### Total students:

Full time Further Education: 1,800  
Higher Education: 600  
Part-time inc. adult leisure: 4,500  
Schools partnerships, work based learning and Train to Gain 1,400

### Estate

College grounds: 21 hectares  
Owned and rented farm land: 330 hectares  
Land leased to Crewe Alexandra Football Club: 6 hectares

### Turnover

Academic year 2010/11:  
£24 million

### Facilities

On-site accommodation for 500; five catering outlets; student lounge/bar; learning resource centre; HE study area; sports hall; climbing wall; multi gym; sports pitches (rugby, football, crown green bowling, cricket); commercial nine-hole golf course; indoor riding arena

### Staff

500 (including part-time)

Further details - please ask for a prospectus

Reaseheath College, Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 6DF

# Old meets new at Reaseheath **FESTIVAL**

**D**elighted crowds gasped at a giant robot and cheered on jousting knights at a day of family fun offered by our annual festival, this year named 'Medieval meets the Modern Day'.

The action packed programme included hundreds of activities put on by all departments of our college topped by headline acts Titan the Robot and international stunt riders 'The Knights of Middle England', who fought jousting matches at our Equestrian Centre.

A musical medley kept the audience entertained in a marquee on the main lawn.

In the farmyard, agriculture students prepared and showed calves from the Reaseheath herd while Key Stage 4 pupils from local schools who attend Reaseheath on our Vocational Opportunities Programme or Land Based Diplomas took part in a sheep show.

Horticulture students created a garden against the clock using recycled and reclaimed materials from campus.

Other student challenges included tractor driving and quad biking, and visitors 'had a go' at bricklaying and joinery and at remotely controlling a tractor. Those with a head for heights enjoyed panoramic views of the college grounds from a boom lift while others tried out our indoor climbing wall and outdoor high ropes course.

Families sampled local ice cream, toured our collection of exotic animals, birds and reptiles and watched a falconry display by Peckforton Castle's specialist handlers. Other demonstrations included sheep shearing, traditional weaving, side saddle, show jumping, dog agility, archery and a display of larger than life carving by environmental sculptor Andy Hancock.

Principal Meredydd David said: "Reaseheath's festival was a great success once again and drew huge crowds. The range of activities organised and delivered by



▲ Winner of the dog fancy dress Doug Thompson, aged 7, with Boo the Rottweiler dressed as knights



▲ 'The Earl of Reaseheath', Karl Ude Martinez, performs in the jousting

colleagues and students was tremendous and the headline acts were wonderful. The whole programme kept our visitors fully entertained until early evening. There was a tremendous atmosphere and everyone seemed to be having a good time. I was immensely proud at the way the whole college pulled together. There is no doubt that Reaseheath's Family Festival has developed into one of the premier events in Cheshire."



▲ Champion calf handler Charlie Edgley and reserve Andy Adams



▲ 'Build a garden' winners Louise Jeans, Paula Butters-Peers, Steve Defferd and Chris Lockwood are congratulated by tutors Louise Moss and Jason Hinks, Head of Horticulture Iain Clarke and department head Steve Roach



▲ Sheep show champion Martin Beeston, reserve champion Kirsty Pickles, third placed Ben Brothwell and Jessica Dawson, fourth.

## Diary Dates... COME AND SEE US!

### July 2011

- 9 Newport Show
- Nantwich Fun Day
- 15 - 17 Cholmondeley Pageant of Power
- 16 Reaseheath Mazes and Zoo open
- 18 - 21 Royal Welsh Show
- 20 - 24 RHS Show Tatton Park
- 27 Nantwich Show

### August 2011

- 3 - 4 Bakewell Show
- 7 Cheshire Game and Angling Fair
- 18 - 21 Southport Flower Show
- 25 Drop-in Day for everyone receiving GCSE results
- 26 Horticulture Taster Event (see website for details)

### September 2011

- 6 Courses Information Event (drop-in 6pm - 8pm)
- 6 Floristry Open Event 10am - 8pm
- 6 - 7 Dairy Event and Livestock Show NEC Birmingham
- 8 Westmorland County Show
- 24 Reaseheath Golf Open Day
- 28 Cheshire Ploughing Match Barthomley

### October 2011

- 4 - 9 Horse of the Year Show Birmingham
- 8 Courses Information Event 10am start
- 15 - 16 Reaseheath Apple Festival