

# NewTalk

news . achievements . information . You! . news . achievements . information . You! . news . achievements

February 09



28 years after I last braved formal education, I have accepted an invitation to become Presiding Fellow of Suffolk New College. This is my story.....

I am the Managing Director of Anchor Storage which is based in Kenton and established by myself and my father Eric in 1987. I am the third generation warehouseman, carrying on a family tradition which was started before the last war by my grandfather in the City of London. Previously the family business had been a nationwide company attached to all of the UK's main ports, but when Anchor Storage was established my father and I decided that we wanted a specialised warehousing operation on one site which we could control more closely and therefore offer the highest possible levels of customer service.

Over the past twenty years we have steadily grown to treble in size. We now employ 19 local people and cater for a wide selection of businesses from multi-national retailers to individual traders. The organisation not only has standard, flexible storage warehouses, we also specialise in chilled, frozen and organic storage.

I believe in never standing still - both in business and at home! With my professional background in and business, I have already been in demand to lecture to students at the College and I have presented the College's first year Business Studies NVQ students with a lecture on Distribution. This was new territory for me. I never thought I'd find myself giving lectures in college as opposed to receiving them! However I've got plenty to say on the subject of business and it's great that the students are so willing to learn.

## CONTENTS

Starters and Leavers/Events	2
Events	3
Staff Christmas Party	4
Diversity Centre Launch	5
Sponsors Dinner	6
Princes Trust	7
Campus Update	8

It is a great honour and privilege to have been invited to be the Presiding Fellow of Suffolk New College and I am thoroughly looking forward to getting stuck in to my new role.

**Stephen Britt**  
**Presiding Fellow**



## Starters and Leavers

### Starters

**Timothy McCormick**

Lecturer, Construction

**Jack Neathey**

Trainee Office Assistant, Finance

**Joanne West**

Lecturer BLIT

### Leavers

**Lynn Cross Lecturer**

Skills for Life, CILL

**Geoff Poole Lecturer**

CEPS

**Keith Thompson**

Senior Technician, Construction

## Events

### Suffolk New College are entering a team into this years Midnight Walk (Ladies only!).

This fund raising event on behalf of St Elizabeth Hospice is taking place on

**Saturday 23 May 2009**

Women of all ages and fitness levels are invited to join together to help raise funds for their local hospice.

The eight mile circular route leaves Copleston Centre on Foxhall Road in Ipswich at midnight, walking around Ipswich Town Centre, returning approximately two - three hours later depending on how quickly you walk!

There will be attractions along the route to keep you smiling and entertained.

This is open to employees, friends and family members, but remember its ladies only! Men don't feel left out, you can help out too! Either come along and cheer on your counterparts or help with marshalling the walk, serving refreshments, car parking or generally help wherever needed! To find out more about this fundraising event pick up a leaflet posted around the college or speak to Tracey Bailey on extension 6520 or e-mail [traceybailey@suffolk.ac.uk](mailto:traceybailey@suffolk.ac.uk).

\* \* \* \* \*

### Staff Summer Party

Due to the success of last year's Staff Summer party we are planning another event for this year.

This year the party will take place on

**Friday 12 June 2009 at Trinity Park**

Please keep this date free in your diaries and look out for further information in future issues of New Talk.

# Daredevils Required

**Bored of only doing the shopping on a Saturday?  
Do you fancy being a daredevil instead?  
Do you want to do something exhilarating?**

**If the answer to the above questions is *yes*,  
you may be interested in a fund raising event the college is taking part in.**

On Saturday 25 April 2009, the College will have a zip slide coming off of the tower block (yes that is 8 stories high!) into the car park at the back of the college.

If you are unsure on what a zip slide is, in simple terms it is a diagonally rigged rope that a person slides down at speed.

If we haven't scared you yet, please read on....

***... This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to 'zip off' the tower block before it is due to be knocked down later this year. The zip slide is being provided by Adventure Challenge Events and they specialise in the efficient and safe operation of charity zip slides.***

To take part in the zip slide you must:

- \* Be aged 14 or over and must be able to follow instructions
- \* Be fit and healthy and not of a nervous disposition
- \* Participants aged 14-17 years old must have the signature of a parent or guardian
- \* Be over 6 stone or 38kg and under 16 stone or 102kg in weight
- \* Be prepared to raise sponsorship

If you would like further information on this event please contact Tracey Bailey on ext. 6520 or e-mail [traceybailey@suffolk.ac.uk](mailto:traceybailey@suffolk.ac.uk) alternatively pick up a information leaflet which are posted around the college and can be found in reception.

St Elizabeth Hospice is celebrating its 20th anniversary. Since 1989 they have been providing specialist care to the people of East Suffolk who have a life-limiting illness whilst at the same time supporting their family, friends and carers.

St Elizabeth Hospice is an independent local charity and all of their services are provided free of charge. In total it costs £5.2 million each year to run the Hospice, of which 77% is raised by supporters. It is the support of the local community that enables St Elizabeth Hospice to continue providing the highest standard of care to their patients and their families, friends and carers.

So if you want to help this worthwhile cause why not take part in the zip slide or sponsor a colleague, have fun and help celebrate 20 years of support.



## Christmas Party at The Dove

It seems a long time ago now since Christmas but staff ended the winter term with a festive party at The Dove Public House. It was a chance for staff to get in the festive spirit and catch up with colleagues before a well deserved Christmas break.

The party was well attended by staff and friends of the college, including the Mayor. Our thanks go out to all those who bought raffle tickets, monies raised from this went to the Mayor's chosen charities. This year the theme was 'courage' with the charities The Fire Fighter's Charity, East Anglian Air Ambulance, East Anglia Children's Hospice being supported.

Also at the party it was time to say goodbye to Margaret Royle from Finance. Margaret took the opportunity to take a well deserved rest and to retire from her position in Finance having been with the college for over 20 years. We all wish Margaret well for her retirement.



## Diversity Centre Launch

On Thursday 29 January 2009 we launched the Regional Centre for Diversity at the Sir Bobby Robson Suite, Ipswich Town Football Club as part of our commitment to Investors in Diversity (IiD), replicating the high standards, set by the National Centre for Diversity for the delivery of IiD through the Eastern Region. This is the first Regional Centre to open in the UK and we aim to be at the forefront of the development of the diversity agenda and embrace community cohesion.

As part of the Centre the College is promoting the Investors and Diversity Standard and already a number of major organisations have signed up including the Ipswich Council for Voluntary Services and Ipswich Borough Council along with Anglia TV.

There were two informative speakers on the evening, Mike Talbot Community Relations Manager for ITV Anglia, and Liz Louch from Ipswich Council for Voluntary Service.

The 'Investors in Diversity' standard helps organisations adopt and develop a set of characteristics and behaviours, which if embraced, can lead to real and sustainable gains through culture movement. It also enables organisations to measure their progress as well and be recognised for achievements.

The Investors in Diversity aim is to support and enable organisations to adopt, develop and benchmark behaviours and practices, which promote inclusion, equality, diversity and achievement.



## Sponsors Dinner

The 2008/09 Sponsors Dinner was another popular event held in the Gippeswyk and Sprintsail Training Restaurants on Thursday 5 February 2009.

People who attended were sponsors of our FE Awards back in December. Each year the sponsors contribute to the student FE Awards and the evening reception is a chance to thank them for their support throughout the year.

Academic members of staff were also present at the evening and guests enjoyed a lovely three course meal served by our students. A good time was had by all.

Many thanks to all the students and members of staff associated with producing another excellent and successful event.

Marilyn Watsham  
Deputy Principal

Despite the economic downturn students and staff at Suffolk New College have bucked the trend by raising over £13000 for the Prince's Trust as part of the national Million Makers Enterprise Challenge.

To give a flavour of what has been happening below are the various fundraising events that students and staff have been taking part in. For the last six months the College has been a hive of activity, linking with local businesses to raise this magnificent sum which represents the largest donation to a single charity the College has ever made.

Starting with a stall at a car boot sale last August and ending with a 6-a-side football tournament being held in March, there have been a wide range events taking place.

The Catering and Hospitality team led by Greg Cheeseman, raised the single largest sum by organising a Soup Trolley and selling Christmas Hampers and chutneys, amongst other tasty goodies. They also enlisted the support of local restaurateur and Fellow of the College, Manik Miah, who raised over £600 through staff and customers at The Maharani.

Students in the CILL set up enterprise companies, making and selling a wide range of products for Christmas. They also sold produce from the garden they have set up.

A horse racing evening which raised over £370 was organised by Caroline Francis and Brian Whiteman, two of the College's LSAs.



14-16 Programme Liaison Officer and Joint Million Makers Team Leader, Gemma Miah, organised a 'Eat for Charity' meal in association with 'A Passage to India', who generously donated 40% of their night's takings on food and drink. The event was attended by the Mayor of Ipswich, Cllr David Hale.

Tutors Kirsty Pryke and Odette Allen organised a school disco with the University of Essex, whilst the BTEC National Diploma in Sport students from BLIT bravely endured a waxing session organised with the help of the HBHT students. Never has so much noise been heard from the salon! Other activities within BLIT included an X Box game competition, raffles and sports tournaments.

The students and staff in HBHT led by Pearl Macfarlane and Sylvia Nicholls organised a wide range of activities including face-painting, a fancy dress collection, various raffles and a pamper day with hairstyling and manicure sessions.

With support from Alan Swan, Managing Director of Neptune Marina, the College organised a balloon race and much to everyone's surprise, on a favourable wind, one of the balloons crossed the North Sea and landed in Belgium.

Back on firm ground, students and staff in Art and Design, led by Music tutor Jo King, organised a concert at St Peter's by the Waterfront in Ipswich where music students performed and sold the Christmas CD that they had written and produced themselves. Elsewhere the business support staff, led by Vikki Curtis and Hannah Barton, organised a College 'dress down' day.



One of the more unusual fundraising ideas was for nine members of the construction staff, led by Danny Thorrington, to auction a day of their holiday time to carry out a DIY SOS.

This 'Gift With a Difference' was eagerly snapped up and the work carried out much to the appreciation of the winning homeowner.

For mass participation it was hard to beat the 'Oops Upside Your Head' event organised by Jayne Double, with students and staff in the Centre for Childcare, Education and Public Services. The College has not seen anything quite like this before!



Perhaps the most original way of raising funds was to write the history of a street in Ipswich. Joint Million Makers Team Leader Andy Gooding said "Cowper Street has a fascinating history which was simply waiting to be told. I think this is the first time such a history has been written for a street in Ipswich." Initially linking up with the Ipswich Microwave Centre in Spring Road, Andy gave an illustrated talk at St John's United Reformed Church about the history of the street and then privately published and marketed the information as a limited edition.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff, students and friends of the college who have contributed in so many ways to this worthwhile initiative. It was a brave decision to take part and I am happy to say that we rose to the challenge and almost made the national finals.

The creativity displayed with the various fundraising ideas was outstanding and although it was hard work, it was a lot of fun and brought the college together.

Dave Muller  
**Principal**