

# PIONEERING ASTON MARTIN TECHNOLOGY REVEALED FOR STUDENTS



Students at the MIRA Technology Institute (MTI) are getting the chance to explore the origins of Aston Martin's innovation in automotive engineering after a unique 'cutaway' car arrived on loan from the Aston Martin Heritage Trust (AMHT). The Vantage AM6 was one of the first of its kind to be manufactured from bonded aluminium, creating a lighter vehicle, and including an electronic differential to increase control of the power at each wheel. The sporty design, first unveiled five years ago, is being used as the basis for further models as the range evolves. The car is powered by a 4-litre twin-turbo V8 engine and has an 8-speed ZF gearbox.

Taking delivery of the cutaway, Lisa Bingley, Operations Director at the MTI said, "We've had a fantastic reaction to the Vantage from our students and visitors and we're grateful to the AMHT for enabling us to benefit from its loan. Being able to access a cutaway like this enables students to see the design brought to life, examine the construction of the body, explore the interior, and take a detailed look at the engine structure and how it is joined to the chassis."

Students at the MTI are training in automotive manufacturing and engineering including the emerging technology areas of Connected and Autonomous Vehicles (CAV), plug-in and hydrogen cell technology and cybersecurity.

Join us during GCSE results week at [www.nwslc.ac.uk](http://www.nwslc.ac.uk). It's not too late to enrol. We are standing by to help you make a smooth transition to college.



## PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT PUTS ALICE IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Alice joined Unsworth Sugden, a marketing and PR agency located in the heart of Leicester, as a social media assistant to join its growing team and help the business to expand. Joining the business in February 2020, Alice had only one month to get to know new team members before lock down required her to adapt to remote working.

From the start, Alice showed enthusiasm and commitment, taking steps to refresh her written English skills, accessing CPD opportunities online including via LinkedIn Learning and YouTube, while she worked from home.

Hannah Elwell, deputy managing director at Unsworth Sugden, noted that Alice brought a high level of instinctive professionalism to her role. She said, "

**"What has impressed me most about Alice is how she has been fully engaged in the wider success of the business right from the start. She remains alert to the smooth-running of the whole team rather than simply focusing on her own tasks. Alice is thoughtful and responsive, displays high levels of empathy and is a fantastic team player"**

Alice has made significant progress with her apprenticeship standard and is on track to successfully complete her End Point Assessment this summer. It is expected that she will achieve a Level 3 diploma in Business Administration enabling her to move on to the next step in her career. After the completion of her apprenticeship, Unsworth Sugden plans to offer Alice a permanent full-time role, enabling the business to move on and recruit a replacement apprentice.

# NWSLC EXPRESS

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE & SOUTH LEICESTERSHIRE COLLEGE

AUGUST 2021

## COLLEGE BEAUTY THERAPY AND MAKE-UP ARTISTRY TEAM WINS NATIONAL AWARD



The Beauty Therapy and Make-Up Artistry team at our Nuneaton Campus has picked up a prestigious silver trophy as part of the Pearson National Teaching Awards. The team has a long tradition of strong outcomes in competitions and students excel in the national annual Ragdale Hall Student of Excellence competition where the winner secures employment with them.

Eight members of the nine-strong teaching team, who have taught at NWSLC for between 15 and 26 years, themselves qualified in beauty therapy at the college and returned to teach there following successful careers in industry.

The Beauty and Makeup Artistry team has worked tirelessly for charity and operate beauty services in the community including for NHS staff based at George Eliot Hospital and patients receiving end of life care at Mary Evans Hospice in Nuneaton.

Claire Pearl, Learning and Skills Manager for Service Industries at NWSLC said,

**"It was an emotional moment when the news was revealed that the team had won this award. They are so committed to the college and their students, consistently performing well but never seeking recognition or reward"**

## SUPPORTING NEXT STEPS AFTER GCSES

We understand that it has been a difficult 18 months for students, and they may not have had as many opportunities as usual to gain work experience and prepare to move on at the age of 16.

Here at NWSLC we have developed a special Skills for Next Steps programme which helps them to get ready for entry into employment while they continue their studies in further and higher education.

NWSLC has a strong track record of helping students to prepare for the workplace, by involving them in skills competitions, linking them with local employers as part of work placements and traineeships, and helping them to secure positions as apprentices with some of the region's most dynamic and successful businesses.

Join us during GCSE results week on our website at [www.nwslc.ac.uk](http://www.nwslc.ac.uk) and chat to our team or drop in at any of our campuses for advice in person.

## VIRTUAL REALITY BRINGS COLLEGE EXPERIENCE TO LIFE IN SCHOOLS

Pupils in Warwickshire and Leicestershire are benefiting from innovative virtual reality technology that enables them to step inside two college campuses without leaving their schools. We worked with Tamworth-based digital innovation business Dev Clever to create 360° virtual video tours of our Hinckley and Wigston Campuses. The technology enables pupils in local schools to enjoy a rich and immersive experience of campus life, explore college facilities and engage with current students at several touchpoints throughout their tour. NWSLC has been taking two hi-tech VR headsets into schools and has given away 500 cardboard viewers for young people to try at home.

Schools can book virtual tours by contacting our Schools Officer via [marketing@nwslc.ac.uk](mailto:marketing@nwslc.ac.uk).





# SKY IS THE LIMIT FOR STUDENT ROCKET DESIGNERS

July saw the launch of a spectacular event based in Leicester which showcases the superb designs of our creative arts students. The Rocket Round Leicester art trail will be live until 26 September. NWSLC has sponsored a giant rocket designed on the theme of 'Sent with Love' theme based at The Rally off Tudor Road in Leicester.

Students from NWSLC and pupils from Midland Academies Trust (MAT) schools competed to win the chance to have their creative designs chosen for eight mini rockets known as Junior Jets which also feature on the trail. Download the special Wild in Art rocket app and visit them all and you could win some fantastic prizes. NWSLC and the MAT have pledged to raise at least £8,000 for the LOROS Hospice as part its involvement in the trail.

Visit the NWSLC Rocket Round Leicester for LOROS GoFundMe at [gofund.me/9b307cab](https://gofund.me/9b307cab) to donate or scan the QR code



## OFFICIAL UEFA PHOTOGRAPHER DELIVERS **MASTERCLASS** LIVE FROM PORTO

Students benefited from an online spotlight talk by an official UEFA photographer as he prepared to cover the Champions League final in Porto in May. Jez Sutton, one of just six official UEFA photographers with permission to cover the match, spoke to students about his career, demonstrated the technology and equipment he uses to capture panoramic stadium shots, and provided some pointers and inspiration to encourage students as they prepare to take their next steps.

With just hours to go before the high-profile tie between Manchester City F.C. and Chelsea F.C., Jez hosted a live session for students on Zoom outlining his plans to secure a panoramic photo of the Estadio Do Dragao in Portugal. He explained how the camera captures a series of 190-degree images with 15 individual shots stitched together using a special software programme.

Jez, who works for One Vision Imaging in Coventry is a specialist in stadium photography. He was introduced to the students by Gemma Aucott, an industry placement co-ordinator for NWSLC who got to know him on the touchline at Nuneaton Borough F.C Under 16s while they were both supporting their sons. During the spotlight talk, students asked Jez questions about his career, his choice of equipment and how the panoramic kit works as part of a Q&A session led by journalism student Georgia King.

automotive, digital skills, computing, and business as well as health and social care. Advanced level courses available to study remotely online on a part-time basis include accounting (AAT), management (ILM), autism, dementia, and mental health.

Sally Denning, Director for Adult Education at NWSLC said, "We know that many individuals are facing challenging circumstances including redundancy because of the corona virus pandemic and hope that we will be able to offer them a lifeline with a route into a new career. Colleges are leading the way to help re energise the UK economy and NWSLC is in a great position to make links between organisations that need skills and individuals looking for work, whether they are starting out for the first time, retraining to follow a new direction, or seeking support following redundancy. It is our mission to introduce skilled and work-ready individuals to employers across the region."

## COLLEGE SUPPORTS LIFETIME SKILLS **GUARANTEE**

Adults can retrain at advanced levels in subjects vital to help the UK's post-pandemic recovery for free as part of the government's Lifetime Skills Guarantee. Any adult aged 24 and over who wants to achieve their first full Level 3 qualification, equivalent to an advanced technical certificate or diploma or two A levels, can now access dozens of fully funded courses via NWSLC.

The college's offer includes full-time courses in the priority sectors of construction, engineering,

## COLLEGE REVEALS PLANS TO BOOST SKILLS AND ENTERPRISE IN NUNEATON

Earlier this year we revealed our plans to launch a Digital Skills and Innovation Centre in the heart of Nuneaton that will help to regenerate skills and careers opportunities in the town. The plans were developed after Nuneaton was named as one of 45 UK towns to benefit from £23M from the government's Towns Fund.

NWSLC plans to deliver a new state of the art centre in the heart of the town centre that will enable access to digital skills training, provide an incubation space for business start-ups, and deliver a lifeline to the hospitality sector with the addition of a training restaurant that will be open to the public. The facility is expected to serve over 2,600 students over the next ten years, supporting 290 business start-ups and delivering value to the economy worth £13.4M.

Marion Plant, OBE FCGI, Principal and Chief Executive of NWSLC said, "We're delighted to be working with My Town Nuneaton to contribute to the regeneration of the town and boost opportunities for people to gain new skills that pave the way for exciting careers.

"We know that the UK is facing digital skills shortages and that careers in big data, AI, and super fast computing are set to grow on the back of swift developments in 5G connectivity. The Digital Skills and Innovation Centre is being designed specifically to address skills development in this area, as well providing space for entrepreneurs to thrive and grow.

**" In addition, we have seen the devastating impact of the corona virus pandemic on the hospitality sector. By re-locating our training restaurant to the town centre, we will provide a boost for vocational skills that will help the sector's recovery in Nuneaton "**

NWSLC has already set up a Digital Skills Academy in Coventry following a successful bid to secure funding from the West Midlands Combined Authority. The Academy was launched in response to growing momentum for the fast-paced digitisation of the UK and an acknowledgement that digital skills sit at the heart of all careers.

## GUY MARTIN PROVIDES INSPIRATION ON SPEED RECORD VISIT TO MTI

Former motorcycle racer, TV presenter and author Guy Martin, has visited the MIRA Technology Institute (MTI) as part of his preparations to attempt the world land speed record as part of the 52 Express project. A veteran of the Isle of Man TT, Guy has presented popular TV shows including 'Speed with Guy Martin' on Channel 4, and 'Guy Martin's Battle of Britain' during which he trained as a Second World War fighter pilot.

Led by team principal and project founder Alex Macfadzean, the 52 Express project aims to set the FIA Motorcycle World Land Speed Record in Bolivia in 2022 with Guy Martin at the helm and a target to beat 376.363 mph. The 52 Express motorcycle is currently in the MTI workshop as engineers from HORIBA MIRA assess options for its new streamlined body to enable optimum air intake into its 1200shp Rolls Royce Gem engine that previously powered a Lynx helicopter.

Guy Martin, a former apprentice mechanic who started out working for Volvo, was impressed with the facilities at the MTI which is equipped with state-of-the-art kit to help deliver the skills currently in demand in the dynamic and fast-moving automotive sector.

Guy said, "It's great to be here at the MTI taking the next step towards the land speed record attempt for a two-wheeled vehicle. The 52 Express is shaping up well and I am looking forward to starting practice sessions. Coming to this campus reminds me that an apprenticeship route is such a great way to start in this industry and is perfect for people like me who are not particularly academic. The university route wasn't right for me, and I have always preferred learning on the job. With all this amazing kit,

**" I think the MTI would be a fantastic place to spend day release workshop sessions "**

