



Thursday, 02 April 2015

National Apprenticeship Week 2015 for The Bournemouth & Poole College was the most successful since the launch of this annual celebration of skills and employability training.

More than 250 students and staff took part in a series of talks, demonstrations and workshops across all key college sites.

For Sunseeker International it was the perfect platform to launch its latest recruitment drive to train a new generation of marine engineers and master boat builders.

Sunseeker's Training Manager Alex Bowman said: "There are huge career development opportunities at Sunseeker for the next generation of marine engineers and boat builders. Our commitment is to enable young people in the local community to kick-start an exciting and rewarding career in the marine sector."

Local construction company Morgan Sindall sponsored a contest to assess the student's plumbing skills and young apprentices Cameron Cobb, Aidan Smith and Louie Gentry each won Jewson vouchers.

An electrical competition to test basic wiring skills was backed by Bournemouth company YESSS Electrical. Three talented students Jamie Cole, Cameron Bailey and Alex Cheng were given useful tools and equipment as a reward for their efforts.

Greendale Construction and Connell and Sons came along to give instructions in vital interview skills. And there was support from Hamworthy Engineering, Ox Tools, Farrance Carpentry, Sydenhams and South Cliff Joinery too.

The week also saw the launch of a new Shared Apprenticeship Scheme backed by construction giants Mouchel and Morgan Sindall. The idea was praised by the leader of the Bournemouth Borough Council, Councillor John Beesley, and has already attracted much local media interest.

At the college's Fulcrum Centre, renowned furniture designer and maker John Makepeace shared some of his lifetime of knowledge and experience with a younger generation.

John Firth, Construction Apprenticeship Manager at the college said: "This was an excellent demonstration of how co-operation between The College and local employers can help boost awareness of Apprenticeships and how they really can offer employability skills and great career options. We will continue to foster that relationship and would like to thank those employers who played such a vital and enthusiastic part in this year's event."