

# PRESS RELEASE



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## YEOVIL COLLEGE CELEBRATES STUDENTS AT 25<sup>TH</sup> FURTHER EDUCATION AWARDS CEREMONY...

Nearly 400 students, staff and special guests attended the Westlands Leisure Complex on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2008 for Yeovil College's 25<sup>th</sup> Further Education Awards ceremony.

The event recognised the success, talent and achievement of students from all disciplines across the College's Further Education courses, including A Levels and Apprenticeships. During the evening, more than 100 awards were presented to students who had attained particular success in 2008.

Special awards presented included the **Lawrence Cove Shield for Engineering Excellence**, which went to Peter O'Shea for his attentive and hard-working attitude, which has led to him achieving straight distinctions during the second year of his BTEC National Certificate course. The **Jan Howell Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Community of Yeovil College** was presented to Naomi Southern, a committed and enthusiastic Humanities student who has also invested considerable time and energy in College life through her involvement with the Student Union and charity fundraising activities. Tamsin Grainger received the **Fred Janes Award for Outstanding Achievement in Humanities** having shown zest, determination and a positive attitude in class and gaining excellent academic results. The **Nicola Locke Award for the Most Outstanding Personal Achievement** was presented to Aynour and Revaydin Youmer, who left their family in Bulgaria and have achieved well in Reading, Writing and Speaking modules.

The **Stephanie Pirongs Award** was given to Tracy Chorley of Yeovil, described as a diligent student who has grown in confidence and completed her NVQ Health and Social Care with enthusiasm and passion. She said *"I was really nervous about the ceremony, but it actually went really quickly and I enjoyed it!"*

Georgie Williams of Lyme Regis received the **Nicola Baker Award** for her great determination and achievement. She said *"I'm really proud of what has happened here tonight. It was such a surprise to find out I'd won an award, I wasn't expecting it at all. I was really nervous before tonight, but I feel really good now."*



Georgie Williams with friends and family.

The **Roger Elvin Award for Modern Languages** was awarded to Leanne Wickens of Yeovil, who is described as a first-rate student, committed and punctual despite prolonged illness. Leanne said on the night *"It's weird but exciting. It's great to get to see so many people I've not seen since I left College. It's really nice to be here."*



Jay Stone receives his award from Tony Allum

The **Tony Allum award for Essay Writing** was awarded for the first time this year by Mr Allum himself, one of the College Governors. The winner was Jay Stone, who showed a high level of maturity in his interpretation of the topic 'freedom'. Jay said *"I am really pleased to win this award and feel encouraged to carry on writing in the future."*

The awards also receive the continued support of local business sponsors. These prizes included **Battens Charitable Trust Award for Achievement**, which went to Laura Cook for working consistently well during her two years with Yeovil College and her continued efforts to improve her performance, the

**Mulberrys Award**, which went to Ben McKenzie, who not only achieved good grades and played Badminton in the successful Academy team, but also raised money to coach in Africa and the **Numatic International Award**, received by Jade Merchant, who developed both skills and confidence while a Business Apprentice and recently accepted a place at Bath University. **Aerospace International** sponsored an **Award for Apprentice Achievement**, which went to Tom Frecknall for his great commitment, effort and quality in his placement and at College, as well as reaching the finals for the Employers Engineering Federation awards, and an **Award for Personal Achievement**, which was received by Antoinette Grimes, who has been determined and successful throughout her studies despite disabilities caused by a stroke. The **Hays Business Accountancy Award** was given to Helena Hazell, a very good student who has achieved excellent grades and the **Hays Business Administration Award** went to Joshua Lloyd-Jones, who has developed into a confident and articulate student who is always ready to help others. Chris Sandhurst and Charles Taylor, who both achieved distinctions across all the modules in their BTEC courses, received **Agusta Westland Awards**. Joanne O'Donovan, who achieved 3 A grade A Levels this year, and Ralph Rutter, who has been described as "outstanding" in aspects of Mathematics which even able A Level students find daunting, both received awards sponsored by the **Western Gazette**.

Guest Speaker Russell Slade, Manager of Yeovil Town Football club, said *"I feel that it's very important to be involved as part of the community, especially with students who have achieved so much. I've really enjoyed the awards ceremony and meeting all the people who are involved."* Mr Slade gave a very entertaining speech to the students, friends and family present on the subject of 'personal achievement', concluding *"It takes years and a lot of hard work to achieve very modest things, so when things get difficult and doubt sets in, it's important to remember the good things you've done and not lose self-belief. Just think of evenings like this and your achievements, however small, and carry on."*



Guest Speaker Russell Slade, Manager of Yeovil Town Football Club

Attendees were also entertained by the College Choir, led by Mandy Boniface. Performing Arts students Will Poulton and Katrina Wake, who recently played the lead roles in a College production of 'Ubu Rex', read out winners' best memories as they received their prizes. Media students were also on hand, dealing with the technical aspects of the show, which was projected live onto large screens at the back of the stage.

Master of Ceremonies and Head of Sixth Form Andy Perlejewski said *"Yeovil College students have reached new heights this year and tonight is all about celebrating those achievements. 2008 has been a fantastic year with highlights including a superb 100% pass rate for full-time A Level students, Sports students playing for England, sell out Performing Arts shows and students raising record amounts for good causes. I have no doubt that these students will continue to fulfil their potential at university and in employment and continue to make excellent contributions to society."*



Special Guests attended the ceremony including Cllr. Wes Read, Mayor of Yeovil, members of the College Corporation, College Principal James Hampton, Russell Slade and UCY Fellow Prof. Bryan Brown.

Yeovil College Principal James Hampton said *"Events like this are the highlight of the year for me and, I am sure, for all my colleagues at the College. Our students' success and achievements are what it's all about and without them there would be little point to what we do. Learning can at times be frustrating, time-consuming and arduous, but more often than not it is also fun, stimulating and highly rewarding. I am delighted to be here tonight to celebrate the success of Yeovil College students who have achieved so much in so many different arenas this year and look forward to seeing what the new intake will achieve in 2009."*

... ENDS

## Notes to Editors

All press enquiries to Eileen Furze, Marketing Officer t: (01935) 845428 e: [eileen.furze@yeovil.ac.uk](mailto:eileen.furze@yeovil.ac.uk)  
[www.yeovil.ac.uk](http://www.yeovil.ac.uk)

## Complete List of Awards and Winners

Thomas Allen	Media Student of the Year
Helen Bleazard	Excellence in Sport
Rose Boyce	Outstanding Achievement in Humanities
Ben Cairns	Media Student of the Year
Tracey Chorley	Stephanie Pirongs Award
Robyn Clifton	Community Award

Scott Clifton	Best Director
Eleanor Constable	Commitment to Study
Laura Cook	Battens Charitable Trust - Award for Achievement
Hannah Cox	Volunteering and Community Award.
Zoe Davis	Outstanding Achievement
Beth Dean	Outstanding Achievement
Alex Dickinson	Performing Arts Award
Holly Edmonds	Excellence in Sport
James Flynn	Excellence in Sport
Robert Fowler	Outstanding Achievement in Work Based Learning
Tom Frecknell	Aerosystems International Award - Apprentice Achievement
Martin Gaston	Outstanding Achievement in Maths and Science
Daniel Gill	Outstanding Personal Achievement
Elaine Gillingham-Smithers	Outstanding Achievement in Care
Adrian Goldring	Outstanding Achievement in Horticulture
Tamsin Grainger	Fred Janes Award
Wendy Greenwood	Outstanding Achievement in Professional Diploma in Law
Pauline Griffiths	Outstanding Achievement in Horticulture
Antoinette Grimes	Aerosystems International Award – Personal Achievement
Luke Harris	Outstanding Achievement in English Literature
Abigail Harrison	Outstanding Achievement in Sport
Kirsty Haskins	Outstanding Achievement
Helena Hazell	Hays Business Accountancy Award
Bridie-Jayne Heffernan	Outstanding Achievement in Science & Maths
Tanya Hopkins	Outstanding Achievement in Professional Diploma in Law
James Hunns	Supporting Fellow students
Charlotte Illingworth	Dance Award
Carl Lazenby	Excellence in Sport
Joshua Lloyd-Jones	Hays Business Administration Award
Jade MacDonald	Outstanding Achievement
Charlotte Male	Excellence in Sport
Lewis Manuel	Outstanding Achievement in Physics
Robert Matthews	Mulberrys Work Based Learner Award
Callum McKenzie	Excellence in Sport
Ben McKenzie	Mulberrys Award
Jade Merchant	Numatic International Award
Nicola Morgan	Outstanding Achievement in Sport
Dan Newbould	Contribution to the College
Robert Norris	Outstanding Personal Achievement
Peter O'Shea	Lawrence Cove Award
Joanne O'Donovan	Western Gazette Award
Marlie Packer	Excellence in sport
Daniel Pearce	Apprentice Achievement
Emma Pearce	Outstanding Achievement in Performing Arts
Melissa Pickup	Outstanding Achievement in Childcare
Jemma Pike	Outstanding Work Based Learner
Ralph Rutter	Western Gazette Award
Rebecca Sainsbury	Outstanding Achievement in Work Based Learning
Chris Sandhurst	Agusta Westland Award
Nadine Sheehan	Excellence in Sport
Naomi Southern	Jan Howell Award
Amy Stoodley	Outstanding Personal Achievement
Lynda Swankie	Endeavour in Health & Social Care
Miranda Tarr	Outstanding Achievement in Maths

Charles Taylor	Agusta Westland Award
India Thomason	Stage Design
Ima Umoren	Outstanding Achievement in History
Leanne Wickens	Roger Elvin Award for Modern Languages
Georgie Williams	Nicola Baker Award
Leah Wynes	Apprentice of the Year
Aynour & Revaydin Youmer	Nicola Locke Award
Tom Frecknell	Golden Spanner
Jason Pike	Golden Spanner
Benjamin Cleal	Golden Spanner
Jack Bartlett	Young Apprentice of the Year Sponsored by Fanic Ltd
Colette Martin	Young Apprentice of the Year Sponsored by Fanic Ltd
Jay Stone	Tony Allum Award for Essay Writing

### **Team Awards**

Claire Pearce	Hockey Award
Sam Read	Hockey Award
Kirstie Allen	Badminton Team Award
Amy Coombs	Badminton Team Award
Nadine Sheehan	South West Rugby Team Award
Charlotte Male	South West Rugby Team Award
Marlie Packer	South West Rugby Team Award
Abigail Harrison	South West Rugby Team Award
Holly Edmonds	South West Rugby Team Award
Krissie Harpur	South West Rugby Team Award
Jess Haddon	South West Rugby Team Award
Sarah Robins	South West Rugby Team Award
Emma Findell	South West Volleyball Team Award
Tania Tailby	South West Volleyball Team Award
Beth Bromfield	South West Volleyball Team Award
Natalie Burton	South West Volleyball Team Award
Kathryn Holmes	South West Volleyball Team Award
Sam Read	South West Volleyball Team Award
Stacey Howe	South West Volleyball Team Award
Kate Hawkins	South West Volleyball Team Award
Vicky Sharpe	South West Volleyball Team Award
Stephanie Duff	South West Volleyball Team Award