



MERLIN NEWS

The Merlin Venture Ltd. Newsletter



The Merlin Venture Ltd hope you enjoy our newsletter; bringing you all of the latest news and information on Merlin Venture and our businesses.

Merlin Recruitment's new jobs bus

Merlin Recruitment and Enterprise now have a fabulous new way of bringing job opportunities to you with the brand new jobs bus!



The Tyburn Jet will be at outreach venues around the Tyburn area including Erdington, Eachelhurst and Birches Green enabling people who are in full time employment or can't get onto Castle Vale to the main offices to gain support in looking for employment.

You can hop on the bus and our qualified Employment and Training Advisors will be able to sign you up and start assisting you with local job search, assist you with CV's and much more.

For more information on the Tyburn Jet or for a list of outreach venues please call Vicky on 0121 747 2200.

Taking job opportunities out into the community

With the recent success of Merlin Recruitment and Enterprise within Castle Vale and the rest of the Erdington district, assisting over 100 people back to work in the last six months, they have been awarded additional funding by the City Council and its partners to provide a greater array of services to help Tyburn residents access employment and training opportunities.

"It is essential for people to be given all the opportunities available when going back to work after any break in employment. We do our best to help our clients land the jobs that they really want, instead of just any job." Jackie Minnis – Senior Employment and Training Assistant

As well as offering you a fantastic recruitment service, Merlin is now able to offer your future employer a range of additional options, including subsidising your first three months' salary, providing funding for training and making no charge for the recruitment service.

If you are looking for work and do not feel you have had the opportunities you deserve come and see one of our advisors at the Castle Vale Community Campus.

Merlin Recruitment can also assist you if you are in work and are seeking a change, and of course our Enterprise Service is able to provide support and funding for potential start up businesses, so whatever you want to do – start work, change jobs, access training, or become self employed, give Merlin Recruitment and Enterprise a call on 0121 747 2200.



Red Nose Day 2007!

A big thank you is in order for The Merlin

Venture staff for their excellent efforts in raising money for Red Nose Day.

With contributions from Merlin staff and Nursery Nurse's from Tiggy Winkles a massive £124.92 was collected for Comic Relief!



Merlin Stars



As mentioned in January's edition of Merlin News, The Merlin Venture Ltd are this month introducing yet another new scheme to recognise hard work and achievement in our staff. As well as a Star Employee, Merlin Venture will be nominating a Star Team of the month for the team of staff who stand out from the rest.



Robin Jones

This months star employee is Robin Jones from Merlin Maintenance. "I have first hand experience of the excellent work that Robin does. He dealt

with unexpected problems with minimum fuss and maximum efficiency. We have always received excellent feedback from his many satisfied customers proving I am not alone!" Jennie Giryng—Business Development Manager.

Congratulations to the Senior Employment and Training Advisers of Merlin Recruitment and Enterprise for being the first winners of the team award. The team were awarded for their Stirling efforts in delivering Merlin's recruitment services. They have worked well alongside the Recruitment Consultants along with the support from Vicky who deals with the administration.



Members of the Senior ETA team

"The team work tirelessly to provide their clients with the support they need to maximise their chances of finding employment. They are a shining example of pulling

together, helping one another and truly working as a team." Robert Brown—Chief Executive.

Well done everyone!



Buster Werkenbak are spreading their wings (and wheels!)

Buster Werkenbak, the innovative answer to accessing hard to reach employment is travelling into even more locations.

Now operating into Stockingford and Galley Common as well as already covering the majority of North Warwickshire.



With public transport being a major issue in rural living and with many areas having limited services, accessing employment without your own transport can be nearly impossible, limiting opportunities to employment.

Buster Werkenbak is run with funding provided by Warwickshire County Council to address just that problem. Operating Monday to Friday between 5.30am until 10.30pm they are able to take you to work as far as Tamworth and Birmingham International Airport, as well as regularly taking many local residents to Hams Hall and Birch Coppice Business Parks.

Buster Werkenbak has enabled residents to enjoy the reassurance of regular and reliable transport to work and back home again. The service must be booked at least 24 hrs in advance with all pick ups being made close to home.

"It's a fantastic service and I couldn't wish for anything better. Without this service I would have to rely on Taxis and at only £1.00 a journey it is excellent value."

Jean Hitchman – Works at Planters Garden Centre and lives in Dordon.

For more information or to request an information pack call **0845 234 1234**.



Merlin sources vacancies for HP

With the recent redundancies from the HP Sauce factory in Aston, staff were given the chance to get a head start on finding their next jobs.

With many Tyburn residents affected by the closure it is essential that local support

is available to minimise the period of unemployment.

Merlin Recruitment went into the Factory grounds on Monday 5th March to provide support and guidance to all 112 staff who are facing redundancy.

By the end of the week there had already been a high level of interest in HP staff by local businesses and a number of potential interviews are currently in the pipeline.

With skilled and experienced staff still very much in demand in the region, it is hoped to have many more positions lined up to ensure a smooth transition from HP sauce to the beginning of their future careers.

The day was an overwhelming success with over a third of the workforce registering for recruitment support.

For more information on Merlin Recruitment and the services offered to please call 0121 776 8880.

Tiggy Winkles staff scaling great heights

On Sunday the 25th of March Maddison James from Tiggy Winkles Nursery risked life and limb raising money for the Stroke Association, by participating in a hair raising abseil from the top of Good Hope Hospital.

It took less than thirty seconds to complete the 150ft abseil during which she raised over £300.00 with over £30,000 being collected in total over the weekend.



Maddison James preparing for her abseil (left) and in action above!

"It was an experience of a life time and I would thoroughly enjoy doing another one". Maddison James.

Maddison has recently become a full time member of the team at Chivenor Tiggy Winkles Nursery having recently passed her NVQ level 2 in Childcare and is currently working towards her level 3.

Merlin Venture were proud that Maddison wore the Tiggy Winkles uniform but we can re-assure all budding nursery nurses that this will not become an essential part of their training!

Merlin Venture are expanding

The Merlin Venture Limited would like to welcome new starters Kash Munroe, Albert Kelly, Jean Gardner, Joanna Swinton, Albert Kelly and John Lewis to the team.

Kash, Joanna and Jean will be joining the Employment and Training Advisors at Castle Vale College with years of previous experience within finding people alternative work.



Left to right: Joanna Swinton, Kashima Munroe, Jean Gardner and Albert Kelly.

Albert Kelly will be joining the team as an Employment and Training Advisor and the driver of our new jobs bus; the Tyburn JET.

John Lewis has joined the Merlin team as the new Business Engagement Manager who will eventually take over from John Stanley when he leaves us for the life of luxury abroad! John will be helping people in the Tyburn area set up their own business and will facilitate the Castle Vale Business Group.



John Lewis, the new Business Engagement Officer.

We would like to welcome them all to Merlin Venture and wish them good luck with their new roles!

Contact Information

If you would like any more information about Merlin Venture and any of the services we have to offer please contact us via:

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