

# The Runshaw RUBY

Special Souvenir Edition • September 2014



## An Outstanding Anniversary!

**Runshaw College was established in 1974. We initially began life catering solely for school leavers from Balshaw's High School in Leyland, and Parklands High School in Chorley. Today, according to OFSTED in November 2013, Runshaw has been "outstanding for 20 years"!**

The 1990s saw the college expand rapidly, as it undertook an extensive building programme to

accommodate increasing student numbers. It was during this phase, under the nationally recognised leadership of Principal Bernard O'Connell (who was later knighted for his services to education and to the college) that Runshaw started to recruit in large numbers from surrounding towns of Blackburn, Wigan and Preston.

After the millennium the college achieved: Investors in People Awards, Grade 1 inspections and superb links with the country's top universities.

Today Runshaw is acknowledged as the finest provider of Further Education in the sector, attracting

students from all around the North West. As well as glowing praise from OFSTED, and a record 19 students with offers to study at Oxford and Cambridge in 2014, Runshaw has also recently again topped the Government's league tables, which show that advanced level students at Runshaw now make more progress than at any other college in the country. Undoubtedly the future is exceptionally bright too. Principal Simon Partington commented: "We are incredibly proud of the achievements, history and tradition of this college and we are looking forward to another 40 years of

success. Meeting the needs of our students and providing them with an unrivalled educational experience will always be our primary goal". Simon also described the college's plans for improving its facilities even further: "Last year we completed the refurbishment of our Library and new student study zones, and we are now adding extra classroom and practical space to our Hawkshead sports hall. The idea is quite simple really – we have outstanding students and they deserve to continue to have outstanding facilities for another 40 years!"

Celebrating 40 Years of Educational Excellence at Runshaw College



Image courtesy of Martin Mercer



## Some of our Class of 1974 *share their memories...*



**Ken Addison**

*Best memories:* "Being at a brand new place. Red squirrels in the woodland outside the classroom. I did an extra year so I was actually in the upper 6th at Balshaw's as well."

*Since Runshaw:* "I worked at BNFL in Finance and took early retirement when the option became available."



**Martin Mercer**

*Best memories:* "My form tutor, and Computer Science teacher, was John 'Furry' Furness, the most inspirational teacher I ever had, and instrumental in my choosing the career that I have had ever since. He was also notable for an uncanny resemblance to Bob Harris, who at the time was presenter of the Old Grey Whistle Test."

As this was the coolest show on TV at the time, it added to Furry's 'coolness score' immensely. Sadly, Mr Furness passed away just a few years after this photo was taken."

*Since Runshaw:* "The lack of IT facilities back then clearly didn't do me any harm, as I've spent my entire career in IT. I'm currently head of professional services for the Outsourcing Services division of Hitachi Consulting. I emigrated to Australia in 1983, had two children out there, and returned in 1994. We have been living in Penwortham since then."



**Chris Dickinson**

*Best memories:* "Only working afternoons! In the first term the 'upper sixth' worked mornings and the 'lower sixth' worked afternoons. I also remember breaking the stroboscope in my A level Physics project when it overheated."

*Since Runshaw:* "I am now a Professor of Clinical Optometry at the University of Manchester."



1984: Fun and Frolics at Runshaw. Images courtesy of Elaine Benson (née Ashcroft).



1980: (left to right) Sports Tutor Lorraine Geogh, Ian Barker, Paul Eales (who became a professional golfer and won a European Tour in 1994) and Allan Smith, who has worked at Runshaw for 13 years in Study Support.



# Dusting off the Photo Album

Do you have any great pictures from your days at Runshaw? Please share them with us!

We've loved looking through the archives and finding so many brilliant images of the college and our past students. A picture really does paint a thousand words and can bring back so many memories. So come on, dust off those photo albums and share your pictures, whether they are embarrassing examples of fashion, old college friends or of break times on Worden Park - we promise, we will cherish them all. Please email them to [runshawis40@runshaw.ac.uk](mailto:runshawis40@runshaw.ac.uk)



"Hi - this is the Chemistry class about 1976? From bottom right front row we have David Nifton, Me (Clive Weatherby), Julie Howard, Gordon Anderson-Taylor - then my memory goes so if anyone out there cares to add some names please get in touch. I would love to track down David and Gordon."



We have always offered the very latest in technology for our students to use.



"From the class of 1976. The Maths and Further Maths group." Raymond Clarke



◀ Foxholes in 1998. The popular training restaurant is open to the public during term time.

➤ The old student entrance was remodelled and modernised in 2010.



# Alumni My favourite memory....



1996



2014

"I loved Runshaw! I have lots of good memories from Runshaw days: student theatre, Alan Ayckbourne and Willie Russell in particular. Then there was the dancing with the Scottish Ballet. My love of modern languages, and English Literature. Not to mention all the good work done in the students' union to help with students' needs. Everything set me up nicely to go to Cambridge and then do the work I do now in Switzerland."

*Pav Akhtar studied at Tulketh High School before taking A-levels at Runshaw 1994 - 1996*

*Pav went on to study at Cambridge and was President of the Cambridge Students' Union. He later became a Labour Councillor for the London Borough of Lambeth, and now lives in Geneva, working as Director for Professionals and Managers for UNI Global Union, working to ensure workers' rights are protected.*

"Studying English with our teacher, the late Paul Donnelly. He inspired me to continue my studies onto University which eventually led to my current career as a researcher at the BBC. My time at Runshaw studying both English and Media studies prepared and inspired me for this job."

*Amy Ford studied at All Hallows High School before studying English Language and Literature, Media Studies, Performance Studies, RE, Philosophy and Ethics A-levels at Runshaw 2002 - 2004*

*Amy is currently working on BBC1 programme Coast, previously having worked on the One Show, Crimewatch and Countryfile.*

"I loved Runshaw far more than school, or even uni. We were all great friends, & there was always someone to meet up. Finally being given a bit of freedom & learning something you were actually interested in was brill... I would go back tomorrow!"

*Julia Jacques studied at St. Michael's before taking GNVQ Science at Runshaw 1998 - 2000*



“Mr Banks’ Biology lessons, making the minutest amounts of TNT in Chemistry, an awakening passion for understanding human psychology, club nights at The Park nightclub, end-of-term drinks at The Fox and the brilliant bacon butties in the Refectory.”

*Mukund Lad studied at Penwortham Priory High School before taking Chemistry, Biology and Psychology A-levels at Runshaw 1995 - 1997*



“Runshaw College is where I really began to enjoy education. My fondest memories are of the various Spanish exchange programmes we had with Liceo Villa Fontana School in Mostoles.”

*Luis Canosa came to Runshaw from Leyland St. Mary's and studied A-level Economics, Law and Spanish 1999 - 2001*

*Luis graduated from University College London with LLB Law with Hispanic Law, and is currently a Royal Navy Commando Officer working at Royal Naval Air Station Yeovilton in Somerset.*



**“I had a great time at Runshaw!** I can remember being taught Psychology by a great teacher called Michelle for my two years. And my favourite classes by far were PE with Angela and Sarah. I remember going on the mountaineering expeditions and having the best few days with great friends - I hated the mountain climbing but I guess it prepared me well for a life in the jungle! Oh and those freshly baked cookies - they were the best.”

*Becky Cliffe studied at Priory Sports and Technology College before studying A-level Psychology, Biology, Chemistry and Physical Education at Runshaw 2006 - 2007*

*Becky is now a zoologist working at the Sloth Sanctuary of Costa Rica. Becky has featured in the award winning documentary 'Meet the Sloths' and 'Too cute! Baby Sloths' for Animal Planet, and has filmed an eight episode sloth series for Discovery.*



## Joe Gilgun

### Actor

Even before college Joe had played Jamie Armstrong in Coronation Street. He went on to star in This is England as Woody, and Eli Dingle in Emmerdale. He played the central character, Rudy, in Misfits on Channel 4 and appeared in the BBC's Ripper Street and Lockout.



## John Thomson

### Actor and Comedian

While at university, John met Steve Coogan, working with him on Spitting Image. They would continue to collaborate on Coogan's Run, the Paul and Pauline Calf video diaries (where he played 'Fat Bob') and Knowing Me, Knowing You... with Alan Partridge, which he also contributed to writing. The two won the Perrier Comedy Award in 1992 for their act at the Edinburgh Fringe.

John has also appeared in the BBC sketch series The Fast Show, Ted & Ralph, Soldier Soldier, Men Behaving Badly, Cold Feet, The Perfect Match, New Street Law, Coronation Street and Waterloo Road.

# Notable Alumni



## Tom Bidwell

### BAFTA and Oscar-nominated Writer

Tom's first play, Risky & Fluke, won the Sunday Times NSDF Award and recently finished a tour of Europe. His radio play Things To Do Before You Die was aired on BBC Radio 4 to great acclaim. Tom was nominated for an Oscar in the short film category for Wish 143, the story of a 15-year-old cancer patient who is granted one wish before he dies. Tom was also nominated for a BAFTA for E4 comedy drama 'My Mad Fat Diary'. He has also written for Doctors, EastEnders, Casualty and Holby City.



## Amanda Roocroft

### International Opera Singer

Amanda Roocroft has secured an international reputation as one of Britain's most exciting singers. In concert she has appeared with leading orchestras throughout Europe and North America. Amanda also won the 2007 Laurence Olivier Award for Outstanding Achievement.



## David Unsworth

### Professional Footballer

David was a professional footballer from 1991-2009, earning an England cap in 1995. He now coaches Everton u21s.



## Hywel & Jamie

### Radio DJs

Ex-Parklands students Hywel Evans and Jamie Atherton have hosted the breakfast slot on Rock FM since 2011, having previously hosted on BBC6 Music. They also have weekend slots on Key 103 and Kerrang! Radio.



## Steve Pemberton

### Actor and Comedian

Steve is an actor, comedian, writer and performer, and is a member of The League of Gentlemen, which has seen Pemberton awarded a British Academy Television Award, a Royal Television Society Award and the prestigious Golden Rose of Montreux. Steve's other TV credits include Whitechapel, Doctor Who, Benidorm, Under the Greenwood Tree, Hotel Babylon, The Last Detective, Randall & Hopkirk (Deceased), Shameless and Poirot.



## Holly Bleasdale

### Track & Field athlete

Holly specialises in the pole vault. She holds the British Record for the event and is also the current (2013) European Indoor Champion.



## Lloyd Cole

### Musician

Lloyd is a singer and songwriter, known for his solo work as lead singer of Lloyd Cole and the Commotions, and for his subsequent solo work.





## Samantha Robinson Actor

After Runshaw Samantha gained a place at Rose Bruford College and has appeared in *Casualty*, *Doctors*, *Five Days*, *Holby City*, *The Girls Who Came to Stay*, *Shameless*, *Jamaica Me Crazy* and *Island at War* amongst many others. Samantha was a Laurence Olivier Bursary award winner 2001. Most recently, Samantha was seen at the Lantern Theatre in *Order by Martin Derbyshire*, and a revival of *Can't Stand Up For Falling Down* by Richard Cameron, both directed by Ruth Carney. She is currently on tour with the Northern BroadSides theatre company with their show, *The Grand Gesture*.



## Sean Rigby Actor

Sean graduated from LAMDA in 2012. He plays Police Constable Strange in the Inspector Morse prequel *Endeavour*, now in its second series on ITV1. When asked in an interview when he decided to become a professional actor, Sean replied: *"It was when I was about 17 or 18 while I was studying performing arts [at Runshaw]. I applied and was fortunate enough to be accepted into LAMDA."*



## Tim Farron MP MP for Westmorland and Lonsdale

Before winning the Westmorland and Lonsdale seat in May 2005, Tim worked as a senior manager at St Martin's College at Ambleside, Lancaster and Carlisle. In 2006 Tim became Parliamentary Private Secretary to Party leader Ming Campbell. Following the election of Nick Clegg as Party Leader, Tim was promoted to the Lib Dem Shadow Cabinet. Tim was then elected the national President of the Liberal Democrats in November 2010 winning 53% of the vote. He was re-elected unopposed in autumn 2012 and will continue for the full term until handing over the role at the beginning of January 2015.



## Lorraine Norris Chief Executive, Preston Council

Lorraine attended Balshaw's before coming to Runshaw to study. She now oversees 1600 staff in her role. She has direct responsibility for Regeneration, which comprises of Economic Regeneration, and Policy and Communications.



## Damian Brown Chef

Damian is Head Chef and co-owner of the 2AA Rosettes Chesil Rectory, Winchester and Executive Chef at The Three Tuns Pub in Romsey. His culinary skills have secured a string of accolades and awards. Having trained at Runshaw College and Northcote Manor, Damian spent time under the wing of Michelin-starred chef Billy Reid, then went on to work in some of Britain's best kitchens including Marco Pierre White's L'Escargot and the Michelin-starred Vineyard at Stockcross. Damian says, *"Without Neil [Cruickshanks] and the catering team at Runshaw I wouldn't have the career I have today"*.



## Mark Birchall Chef

Mark Birchall went on from his training at Foxholes to become the Head Chef at restaurant L'Enclume in Cumbria and win the Roux Scholarship 2011. L'Enclume has been named the best in the UK. The restaurant in Cartmel took the top spot in the Good Food Guide for the first time, beating Heston Blumenthal's The Fat Duck in Berkshire into second place.



## Jessica Taylor and Kevin Simm Members of Liberty X

Liberty X achieved ten consecutive UK Top 20 singles, and various charting singles worldwide, meaning that these runners-up of Popstars were commercially more successful than the winners, Hear'Say. They disbanded in early 2007 but reformed in 2013 for the ITV2 documentary series *The Big Reunion*. During the group's hiatus Jessica Taylor took part in the BBC's *Strictly Come Dancing* and *Dancing on Ice* and was signed in 2009 as the face and body of company Ultimo. She is married to England cricketer, Kevin Pietersen.



## Graeme Ballard Athlete

Graeme is an English Paralympian athlete. He is the British world record holder for the T36 100m, and has won bronze and silver Olympic medals.



# From the Archives



**Pav Akhtar**

Pav is studying for A-levels in English Language and Literature, History, French, Performing Arts and General Studies. He previously attended Tulse Hill School. Pav has been involved in the College productions and also held the post of Student Union President. Pav hopes to work in education and he said in achieving his ambition he has organised a trip to New York, USA to work in a Primary School.



**James Brookes**

James, a former pupil of Tulse Hill School, is studying for A-levels in Physics, Maths and IT. James hopes to work in the automotive industry, possibly in our design. James said, "I'm glad to choose this combination. The modular structure means my workload is evenly spread".



**Natalie Houghton**

Natalie came to Runshaw from Marston High School. She is studying A-levels in English Language and Literature, Performing Arts, Design and General Studies. Natalie said, "Runshaw is a great place with keen and enthusiastic tutors." Natalie is involved in the College drama company, the dance company, the band and choir. Her next step is to Higher Education.



**Dan Eaves**

Dan is studying for A-levels in Geography, Design Technology and Physical Education. He previously attended Hutton Grammar School. The highlight of Dan's course have been learning about the Psychology of Sport. He plays on the Rugby and Volleyball teams. His next step will be a year out, hopefully working in Australia, before he goes to University.

## CURTAIN UP ON COLLEGE SUCCESSES



Actors at Runshaw College have been accepted for places at a prestigious Youth Theatre. Manchester Youth Theatre is the North West's equivalent of the National Youth Theatre and drama students from all over the region compete for a few places offered in the holidays. Four Runshaw students demonstrated their talents at auditions and have been accepted. They are: Tony Weston, Debbie Clegg, Jennifer Portt and Katie Goodall. Head of Performing Arts, Kathryn May-Davies said "The Theatre group will give them the opportunity to perform with professional groups and they will be working with the best in the business".

## MITCH MATCHES UP FOR A LEADING ROLE



Mitch, a five-year-old Weimarer, is making his debut in a College performance of 'Annie' playing the Wistful canine who steals the youngster's heart. Mitch has been joining the cast of the Leyland College's musical production for rehearsals and is expected to give a star performance when the show opens at Langside Road Arts Centre. The production is the College's second major show this year and stars Katie Goodall as Annie (joined by Mitch) and Christopher Higgins as Pa.

## PAUL BOWLS THEM OVER



Sporting all-rounder Paul O'Sullivan is starting to be a big hit after winning a trial with Lancashire Cricket Club. The Runshaw student has had his sights fixed on winning a full-time contract with the Red Rose County side following his selection for Lancashire Schools under-19 team. Paul, who is studying for A-levels, is renowned as a dangerous bowler who can swing the ball with a bat as well. However, his talents are not just confined to the cricket field. Paul, 18, said "I played football for Manchester City and Derby County Junior and had trials with Wigan and Chelsea but now I'm concentrating on one sport - cricket".

## DESTINATION CAMBRIDGE



This group of students has plenty of reasons to celebrate after helping to set an unusual record for Runshaw College. All eight have been offered places at Cambridge University. Helping to take up places are Catherine Watson, (not pictured) Oriental Studies at King's College; Christine Worth, Geography at St. John's College; Katie Horne, Social & Political Science at Downing College; Paul Atkins, English & Drama at Haverstock College; Vika Roshni, Law at Emmanuel College; Marley Robinson, Architecture at Robinson College; Edward Barnes, Mathematics at Christ's College; Srinivasa Ravuri, Natural Science at St. John's College.



**Richard Kershaw**

Richard, a former pupil of Leachford Hall High School, came to Runshaw to study A-levels in Computing, Geography and Mathematics. Richard has previously enjoyed his computing and says the highlight of his course has been creating his own programs. Richard hopes to progress to a computer-related degree to eventually become a computer programmer.



**Nicola Jones**

Nicola, a previous student of Alnham High School, is studying for A-levels in Chemistry, Maths, Biology and PE. Nicola is a keen cross-country runner and competed in the BBC event finishing 10th in the country. She also qualified for and ran in the English Schools Competition. Her ambition is to become a Doctor or Physiotherapist.



**Chris Higgins**

Chris, a former pupil of Widdowale High School, has always loved performing and his choice of A-levels has given him the opportunity to concentrate on an area that he loves. He is studying for A-levels in Performing Arts, Music and General Studies and his ambition is to work in Musical Theatre. The highlights of his course are the performances in the College shows.



**Rebecca Postlethwaite**

Rebecca came to Runshaw from Pocklington Priory High School. She is studying for A-levels in Physics, Chemistry, Human Biology and Mathematics. She enjoys her subjects as "They all complement each other and some topics are covered in more than one subject. There are lots of great ideas in all of the areas". Rebecca hopes to progress to University to read Physics.



## Royal Welcome

The Princess Royal made an official visit to Runshaw College when she opened the new £3.85 million Eskdale Building. LEP 15/5/98

## Fit for a Princess

Runshaw College student Donna Steele is pictured with the brooch she made to be presented to HRH The Princess Royal at the official opening of the Eskdale Building. LEP 15/5/98



## Big Hit

Runshaw student Elizabeth Shaw spent the day behind the scenes at 'Top of the Pops' chatting to Producer/Director Chris. LEP 22/4/98

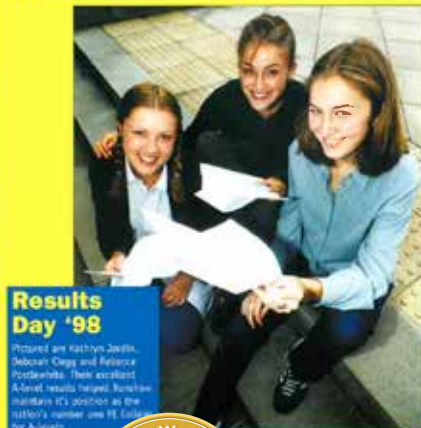
## French Exclusive

Runshaw played host to a party of exchange students from Rouen, in Northern France and treated them to a slap-up English meal at the award-winning Foxholes Brasserie. LEP 29/10/98



## Great Britain Call

Runshaw students Beth Lucas and Helen Morgan joined up with the Great Britain Hockey Squad to play in an International Tournament in Holland. LEP 24/11/98



## Results Day '98

Pictured are Kathryn Jacobs, Deborah Clegg and Rebecca Goodwin. Their excellent A-level results helped Runshaw maintain its position as the nation's number one FE College for A-levels. LEP 26/6/98



## Downhill Racers

Runshaw Stephen and David Sloane, Lawrie Hutton and Andrew Little took part in the English and British finals of the Schools Ski Association Championships and won both. Stephen also won the individual title. LEP 18/11/98



## A Family Atmosphere

In September 1998 a recent number of daughters of College staff started their studies at Runshaw. Pictured above are some of them. LEP 30/9/98



# The Ellison Family: Runshaw Legends

Runshaw Study Zone Advisor Martin Ellison is not only one of our class of '74 but he and his family also have incredibly close ties to the college.

Starting as one of Runshaw's first ever cohort in September 1974, Martin studied English Literature, History & Economics and remembers how different the college was back then: *"We used to have a computer department that was about the size of a broom cupboard and I always used to wear the standard 1970's outfit of Penny-collared shirts, tank-tops, high-waist pants and platform shoes!"*

After studying an introductory year of his degree at Runshaw Business Centre on Wigan Road, Martin worked part time in an enrolment office and undertook exam invigilation to supplement his student grant as he moved on to study American Studies and English at UCLAN. It was shortly after graduating that Martin started working part time in the Runshaw Library which gradually led to a full time post and a recent progression on to a Study Zone Advisor post, and the rest, as they say, is Runshaw history!

Remarkably Martin's link to Runshaw does not end there, as the following members of his family have either worked at Runshaw, or passed through our doors:



**Mandy Ellison** (Martin's wife), is an Educational Support Worker (of over 20 years service).



Both Martin's children, **Kitty & Joe**, studied A levels at Runshaw with Kitty working at Runshaw as an ESW for 18 months.



**Katie Ellison** (now Holliday) (niece) is currently an English teacher at Runshaw.



**Jan Ellison** (Martin's sister-in-law), worked as a library assistant and is now retired.



**Robert Ellison** (Martin's brother), worked with the Schools Liaison team until retirement earlier this year.

Martin and the rest of the Ellisons are true Runshaw legends, and we salute them!

# Runshaw Students return to help the next generation *and beyond*



**Tim Cahill**

*High School:* Leyland St. Mary's

*Studied at Runshaw:*  
A-levels in English, Law and European History  
*Between:* 1998 - 2000

*Your fondest memory of Runshaw:* My teachers David Jakubovic and the late great Paul Donnelly.  
*What you are doing now?* I look after Schools' Liaison and 16-19 Marketing at Runshaw, and work with NQTs in our partner high schools.

**Joanne Crawford**

*High School:* Penwortham Girls' High School

*Studied at Runshaw:* A-levels in Psychology, Business Studies and English Language  
*Between:* 1994 - 1996

*Your fondest memory of Runshaw:* Really fun lessons with fantastic, personable teachers. I loved the trips and enrichment activities too.  
*What you are doing now?* I have been a Psychology Lecturer at Runshaw for 12 years.

**Lee McFarlane**

*High School:* Balshaw's C of E

*Studied at Runshaw:*  
A-level Religious Studies, English Language and Literature, General Studies  
*Between:* 1996 - 1998  
*Your fondest memory of Runshaw:* It being an environment committed to learning and achievement.  
*What you are doing now?* Educational Support Worker.





**Rosie Hiles**

*High School:* All Hallows Catholic High School  
*Studied at Runshaw:* BTEC National Diploma in Sports and Exercise Science and Diploma in Personal Training NVQ Level 3.  
*Between:* 2009 - 2012  
*Your fondest memory of Runshaw:* The group of friends I met on the Personal Training course.  
*What you are doing now?* Working at Runshaw College, Adult Admissions.



**Natalie Holme**

*High School:* Balshaw's C of E  
*Studied at Runshaw:* A-levels in Biology, Psychology and Textiles  
*Between:* 2005 – 2007  
*Your fondest memory of Runshaw:* I really enjoyed being a student here and loved the subjects I chose to study. It's changed a little since I was a student but when I walk around campus I feel very nostalgic, particularly in the Dalehead canteen.  
*What you are doing now?* I work as an A-level Pastoral Mentor.



**Sharon Alder**

*High School:* Parklands, Chorley  
*Studied at Runshaw:* Law, English, Economics, Psychology A-level  
*Between:* 1990 - 1992  
*Your fondest memory of Runshaw:* Really interesting law lessons! Inspiring teachers, they were a large part of the reason I now am one!  
*What you are doing now?* Head of School of Law.



**Will Sutton**

*High School:* Hutton Grammar School  
*Studied at Runshaw:* Hospitality and Professional Cookery  
*Between:* 2002 - 2005  
*Your fondest memory of Runshaw:* Training in Foxholes and working at the Themed events  
*What you are doing now?* Trained and worked as a teacher in Hospitality and Catering from 2009-2011 before transferring to the A-level Programme as a Pastoral Mentor.



**Andrew Gibbins**

*High School:* Worden High School  
*Studied at Runshaw:* A-levels in Law, Sociology and Accountancy  
*Between:* 1993 - 1994  
*Your fondest memory of Runshaw:* The residential to Butlins!  
*What you are doing now?* Teaching Media Production.



**Christine Caunce**

*High School:* Balshaw's C of E  
*Studied at Runshaw:* A-level English Literature, Economics, shorthand and typing (and A-level Law at XLC as an adult student)  
*Your fondest memory of Runshaw:* The relaxed atmosphere and hanging out in the social area with my friends (only in free periods of course!)  
*What you are doing now?* A-level Programme Administrator.



**Clare McLeod**

*High School:* Leyland St. Mary's  
*Studied at Runshaw:* A-levels in Business, Law and Spanish  
*Between:* 1998 - 2000  
*Your fondest memory of Runshaw:* Studying A-level Business with Pete Sidebottom along with lectures from Steve Wastel - legends!  
*What you are doing now?* CIT leader for A-level Business.

# Building for the future

## Not expansion, but improvement for our students



### Employability Skills Centre to teach essential skills to gain employment

This building is the replacement for the Borrowdale building. The new building will be the first on the site being constructed to the latest BREEAM Excellent sustainability standard.

The aim of the project is to bring in some large open space areas that have great flexibility. This will aid

ensuring that vital employability skills can be gained via access to presentations, one to one and group sessions, IT facilities, specialist external presenters etc. The outcome is to ensure students are aware of what employers want and need from their employees and how

they can gain these skills for their future employment. All access to the building will be via double doors to the rear of the building, to help reduce any potential noise levels and movement of students during the day further into the college's central

areas. Additional specimen trees have already been planned in all potential gaps on the Langdale Road boundary to enhance and screen the area.



### The North West's Best Sporting College gains state-of-the-art £1.2million Sports Annex

During June 2014, the new Hawkshead Sports Annex will have been completed.

This state of the art facility will allow the relocation of the vast majority of the School of Sport into one central location. This building is designed to suit current and future needs of students with:

- Extensive environmentally friendly facilities to reduce our carbon footprint
- Latest information technology, with built in flexibility
- Specialist anti-glare windows and blinds
- Latest security, fire and CCTV systems for 24/7 monitoring
- Fire lifts, accessible toilets and good contrasting colours to aid all potential users who may have special needs
- Separate staff facilities.

This facility will assist with maintaining the college at the cutting edge of educational practices that ensures we continue to be an outstanding college, with a fully comprehensive programme for all.