



Oatridge Online

March 2010

Welcome to this, the March 2010 issue of Oatridge Online, your monthly newsletter from our campus in the country.

With no fewer than four of our students through to the finals a lot of people around the College have their fingers crossed as we await the results of Lantra Scotland Landbased Learner of the Year Awards. This edition also has news of personnel changes at Oatridge and, as usual, we'll also bring you up to date with all that has been happening on-campus, plus a round-up of the big stories of interest to everyone involved in the landbased sector.

You can contribute your news, views and items for the "Your Space" feature, by emailing your stories or leads to: cadams@oatridge.ac.uk and you can give us your suggestions for improving and developing the newsletter by emailing me at: akitchen@oatridge.ac.uk

To unsubscribe to our newsletter please reply to this email.

We hope you enjoy receiving and reading Oatridge Online.

Adrian Kitchen, Director of Business and Curriculum Development.

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Oatridge students to the fore in the Lantra Awards

Four Oatridge students are in line for top prizes in the prestigious Lantra Scotland Landbased Learner of the Year Awards. They have made it through to the finals to be held on Thursday, March 4, at a glittering ceremony at the Crieff Hydro Hotel.



We introduced all four in detail in last month's issue of Oatridge Online, when the short list was announced, but the quartet progressing to the final judging are: **Darren Broadley** (pictured) a 17 year old from Avonbridge near Falkirk, who has completed the Modern Apprenticeship in Mixed Farming; **Graeme Brown**, who is a 21 year old agricultural engineer and from Blairgowrie; **Lee Eaglen**, who is also 21 and a greenkeeping apprentice at the Marriot Hotel and Country Club in East Lothian; and **Christopher Adamson**, who joined Oatridge's unique "Preparation for Racing" course, when he was just 15.

Principal David James says: "We are very proud that once again Oatridge is well represented in the finals of this important event. The students involved are from a range of landbased sectors which says a lot about the high quality of both the people we attract and the education and training we provide. Needless to say, we all have our fingers crossed for good news from the Awards ceremony."

Robbie steps aside

Robbie Brechin, the chairman of the Oatridge Board of Management during five momentous years for the College, is to step down at the end of this month, but to the relief of his colleagues has agreed to continue as a member.

The former veterinary surgeon first joined the Board in 2002 and took over the chairmanship three years later, after retiring from practice and just as the College launched a series of major on-campus developments. Principal David James says his contribution during the planning and construction of the Scottish National Equestrian Centre, a new Learning Centre and new engineering and farriery workshops was "simply outstanding" as has been his stewardship during the recent, difficult recession.

"Robbie's experience would have been a huge loss to the Board of Management, had he not agreed to continue as a member," says David James. "His association with Oatridge goes back a very long way, because he lectured part-time here, even before he joined the Board. His vision has been vital to the development of the College and I am certain that he will continue to be an important contributor in the future."



Born locally to a farming family, Robbie was educated at Linlithgow Academy and the Royal (Dick) School in Edinburgh. He was a senior partner in a veterinary practice in Kirkliston for many years and Official Vet to many major agriculture events, including the Royal Highland Show. He has also been active in the Young Farmers' movement, the Rotary Club and his local church. He will be replaced as the Oatridge Board of Management chairman by businessman Wilson Marshall, who will be profiled in our April issue.

A fond farewell to Karen



Oatridge has said a fond farewell to Karen Murray, who has been Assistant Principal for Curriculum and Quality for the last three years. She left recently to take up a post with Skills Development Scotland, the non-departmental public body set up by the Scottish Government in 2007 to drive forward its "Lifelong Skills Strategy".

A trained vet, Karen's first association with the College was in 1995 when she was appointed as temporary lecturer in Animal Science. She joined the full-time staff in 1997, but returned briefly to practice a year later, and then rejoined Oatridge in 2000. Her rise through the ranks was rapid: She became Senior Lecturer in Animal Care in 2003 and Head of the Department the following year. During 2005/06 she was seconded to the Scottish Qualification Authority where she successfully developed the Rural Skills for Work qualification and returning to the College, she took on the temporary role of Quality Manager before, in 2007, joining the Senior Management Team.

During her leaving "do" Principal David James stressed that Karen has practised what she preached about lifelong learning, gaining numerous additional qualifications while working full-time. Here at Oatridge Online we have our own fond memory of Karen: We had gone along to photograph students at an evening class in blacksmithing and found she had joined. She was resplendent in work-boots and overalls and, now that she has moved on, we were tempted to defy her warning never to publish a picture or report her colourful language as she tried to beat a red-hot horseshoe into shape. We warn her that we still have all the evidence...

DATE: Activity Tourism

The second meeting of the Grundtvig Lifelong Learning Partnership Project – DATE (Developing Activity Tourism in Europe) was held in the Netherlands in the middle of February. As co-ordinators of this project, Oatridge have been working hard to ensure the progress of the project and help guide our Dutch, Maltese, Romanian and Spanish partners in a series of presentations and meetings where factors which influence Activity Tourism in each of the Partner States were discussed. Factors included environmental impacts; participant groups; enterprises providing AT activities and the range of opportunities that the development of this industry can bring to rural communities. Cow Hugging, as an inspiration for painting classes, was one of the less conventional activities presented by the Dutch.



The meeting was hosted by X-Grant BV in the medieval town of Deventer (pictured above), a bustling historical town lying close to the edge of De Hoe Veluwe, the Netherlands' largest National Park. The cold and snowy weather did not deter Partners from making the most of the time they had and the morning meetings were followed by afternoon visits to investigate Activity Tourism opportunities and enterprises within the National Park and around the Deventer area. Time was also taken to visit a national art collection and museum and land management exhibition which provided an insight into the culture of the Dutch people.

Niall Evans said "Working with European partners is a great experience and gaining an understanding of common challenges and experiences across the partner States broadens horizons for staff and therefore students at Oatridge. Dinner in the evening gives all participants the chance to meet and socialise whilst sampling local foods, and I think that a lot of opportunities also begin here, through this informal networking."

Aren't they doing well?

Current students of Countryside Management have received encouragement, inspiration and advice about their future careers from some of their predecessors at the College's annual "Progression Day" event. Three former students, who have gone on to a range of exciting jobs, were among the guest speakers and were backed up by industry representatives who were on hand for one-to-one discussions about potential career paths, following graduation.

Elephant Man

Richard Duncan wasn't sure what he wanted to do with his life until he arrived at Oatridge and got the chance to develop his love of the environment, especially animals. He is now a keeper with the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland, which owns Edinburgh Zoo and the Highland Wildlife Park. He specialises in "mega fauna", or big animals to the rest of us, and tops his list of favourites with the elephants he now takes care of. He was also able to explain the work the Society does to protect endangered species.



Going all the way



Linsey Mclean is a recent graduate of the Oatridge course, has topped her year in both 2008 and 2009, and she is far from finished with her studies. She is now at the Scottish Agricultural College in Edinburgh, where she is working towards a degree. She told the students who have followed her how the Oatridge experience has helped her towards reaching her long term ambitions.

Away with the birds

Chris Laurie is a one-time psychiatric nurse who came to Oatridge to prepare for a career change. The former Oatridge Student Association President is now a self-employed consultant who spends part of each year on Rum, where he helps to monitor Manx Shearwaters. About a quarter of the World's population of these small seabirds breed on the Scottish island.



New Prospectus

If you are coming along to any of our Open Days, it's a great opportunity to pick up a copy of our new Prospectus. Alternatively to get your copy, you can pop in to the College any time, give us a call on 01506 864800 or email to info@oatridge.ac.uk. The path to a meaningful, rewarding career could be laid out in the pages of course information. The prospectus is also available to download from our website www.oatridge.ac.uk/





Open days draw the crowds



The first Oatridge Open Day of the year saw hundreds of potential students and their families and friends turning up to learn more about the College, its courses and the prospects for finding a job through education and training.

Demand for places has rocketed since the recession began to bite and Colleges everywhere are facing the prospect of turning away applicants because there may be a shortfall in funding for additional students. Principal David James says, though there is a shortage of labour in most of the landbased industries, it would be advisable that anyone seeking to train for a career applies as soon as possible.

The next Open Day at Oatridge will be held on Friday, March 12 between 1.30 and 4.00pm.

College to help grow businesses



As befits Scotland's premier provider of education, training and expertise for the landbased sector, Oatridge is to stage a major event during this month's Scotland's Colleges Mean Business Week (March 22 to 26). During the Week, 43 colleges around the country will be reaching out to employers and business people to showcase the

range of services available to boost skill levels and improve productivity and profitability. It is estimated that the institutions already work with more than 10,000 businesses.

Oatridge will concentrate on the horticulture and landscaping sectors with an Industry Liaison Day on Friday, March 26, which will offer delegates an overview of the current conditions they are facing, discuss new initiatives and detail the support which is available.

Among the expert staff on hand will be Russell Parker, the College's Business Development Executive, who is in charge of the landbased sector's part of the 2KT project, which aims to offer small and medium-sized enterprises access to support from Oatridge and partners in two universities and a number of other colleges.

Learn more about the Business Week at: www.scotlandscollegesmeanbusiness.com and for more information on the Oatridge event, email: ebarrero@oatridge.ac.uk or rparker@oatridge.ac.uk

Rich pickings on family fun day



The camera does not lie, so here's proof positive that picking through the regurgitated remains of an owl's meal **is** attractive to many children! We were more than a little doubtful when the Higher National Certificate in Countryside Management students announced that this was to be one of the "highlights" of their annual Fun Day, but it seems that families from all over the Lothians turned out in spite of that and the bitter cold and enjoyed a whole range of activities.

The event pictured here shows one young visitor examining pellets of fur and bones which an owl has ejected, to find out what it has been eating. And that, we think, is probably enough detail!

Archery hits the bull with students

The Oatridge campus is simply bristling with budding Robin and Robina Hoods following the launch of a new archery club. It runs three nights a week with Tuesday turned over to novices and "more competent" students and staff (that is, those less likely to shoot one another) taking over the sports hall on Mondays and Wednesdays for practice. If the weather ever improves, the plan is to move outdoors to learn the skills needed for field archery. After that, it is hoped some if not all will progress to tournaments and exhibitions at local events in the community. The shooting of Sheriffs, from Nottingham or elsewhere, is strictly forbidden.



Are the greens greener across the pond?



Students with a hankering to get a taste of life and work in the United States have welcomed Michael O'Keeffe on his annual visit to the College to tell them about the Internship Programme at Ohio State University.

Mike has been responsible for arranging for dozens of young Scots to join the programme and get the opportunity to gain work experience. Most have been greenkeeping students and many have gone on to get temporary work on some of the best golf courses in the world, sometimes during major tournaments. Some have ended up working abroad permanently, but most have returned to the UK to take up positions here. On this occasion he offered similar opportunities for landscaping and horticulture students.

Details of the Internships can be found at: <http://ohioprogram.org/video/>

George's reputation just champion



The reputation of George Blackie, the events manager at the on-campus Scottish National Equestrian Centre, as a course designer, continues to grow internationally. He has just been picked as one of two Scots who are to prepare the challenges to face competitors in the Pony European Showjumping Championships 2010. The event is being held at Bishop Burton, Humberside, in July and August. George has worked on a number of prestigious shows in Europe in recent years, including the Junior and Young Rider Championships in Prague in 2008. As on these previous occasions, he will be working on the Yorkshire event with Mark McGowan.

Sea the Stars...see our Equine students?

It's not often that ordinary mortals get within a mile of €150 million worth of horse flesh but 27 Oatridge equine students have just been up close and gob-smacked about meeting Sea the Stars, the winner of six Grade 1 races and arguably the most valuable stallion on the planet. The lucky 27, who are on the Higher National Certificate course in Equine Studies, were on a study tour to Ireland when they met the goldmine on four legs. The five-day visit took in the Irish Army Equitation School, Tattersall's Bloodstock Sales, Kildangan Stud, Wicklow Polo Club and Gilltown Stud. It was a study tour, but as student Sam Beck observed of their base city: "Night time always felt like Saturday night in Dublin and we all had a great time with the Irish."

Oatridge RDA up and cantering

The new Oatridge branch of the Riding for the Disabled Association is, after several years of planning and preparation, operational. Meetings, on Thursdays between 4 and 5pm, began last month with three students and a waiting list of hopefuls. It was decided to start with small numbers and gradually grow the club over the coming months. The current group of members are being taught to ride by lecturer Elspeth MacDonald, assisted by student volunteers, but it is planned to introduce equestrian vaulting, which has been shown to help young people gain physical strength, self esteem and confidence. Funds are being gathered to buy a specially trained horse for the branch.

A case of hands-on learning



A core element of the success of Oatridge is its close relationships with the industries it services, and here is a case in point. Case IH chose the College as the venue for an event to update their dealers on their latest tractor, but went further by giving a talk to National Certificate students in Agricultural Engineering and – the best bit – letting them drive the Puma CVX and Powershift range. Lecturer Alan Mowitt says: "The students found it a really interesting and informative session and of course, they loved the chance to drive the tractors. We're very grateful to Paul Freeman and his team from Case IH."

The Week of the Hogs

Officially it's now the Year of the Tiger, but according to reports reaching Oatridge Online it was more like the Week of the Hogs, when our catering partners Sodexo decided to mark the Chinese New Year with five days of special menus. "Popular" hardly describes the appetite for dishes like Lemon Chicken with Fried Rice and Cantonese Beef with Oriental Vegetables, so mums and dads can stop worrying about their offspring surviving on a diet of crisps and baked beans. Provided of course, that they got in before certain members of staff!



Construction Challenge



Devious minds at Oatridge College were fully engaged to come up with two of the tasks to face the finalists in this year's Schools Construction Challenge, which is organised by Careers Scotland to encourage pupils to think about working in engineering or construction. Some of the teams were close to being driven round the twist by "Doing the twist" a kind of 3D jigsaw puzzle with bricks, to build a twisting pillar. Others almost sprung a leak when they found they had to construct a central heating system from a range of modern and traditional materials for the "Shaky Joints" challenge. Eleven teams took part in the finals at the Edinburgh Corn Exchange with Merchiston Castle School from Edinburgh emerging as winners, followed by Queensferry High and George Heriot's School, Edinburgh, in third place, after a series of test which also included tiling a

roof, building a shed and making garden furniture. Oatridge has supported the competition for a number of years by hosting qualifying heats.

Meet the Agriculture team

Oatridge was founded in the early 70s specifically to offer education and training to the farming industry. Over the years the College has expanded and diversified to become Scotland's premier provider for a range of landbased sectors, but agriculture remains as its backbone.

The Agriculture team have between them decades of experience in the industry and in teaching, so let's meet them now:

Left to right in the picture we come first of all to **Martin Neal**.

He has been at Oatridge for more than 31 years and divides his time between lecturing on farm mechanisation and looking after Health and Safety matters for the entire College. Martin has a degree in Agriculture and before moving to West Lothian, worked on three farms in the Borders.



Next is **Colin Hume** who joined the staff 17 years ago and is currently tutor for the Certificate in Agriculture and an assessor for Vocational Qualifications in Mixed Farming. Previously he managed an arable/stock farm and worked as a management consultant before joining the College.

The smiling figure in the centre is "the boss", **Peter Scott**, who first arrived at the College in 1972 as Assistant Farm Manager and left six years later, having been promoted to Farm Manager. For the next 20 years Peter managed a 4,500-acre estate in Perthshire where he was responsible for livestock, cereal, sporting and forestry operations. He returned to Oatridge in 1997 and is now Director of the Oatridge 283 hectare mixed farm, and in charge of teaching and learning in agriculture and agricultural engineering.

Kim Gilbert is on Peter's immediate left and is the newest member of the team. She is tutor to students on the Higher National Certificate course in Agriculture but is involved in delivering teaching units across all other levels. Kim worked in the sheep industry before spending eight years at a sector-leading college in Gloucestershire.

Joy Miller, on the extreme right of the picture, has been at Oatridge for 20 years. She taught in the Management section before transferring to the Agriculture team six years ago. Joy is from a farming family and has taught at 3 other Colleges in England. She has an Honours degree in Agriculture and has gained management and accountancy qualifications whilst at Oatridge. Currently she is a tutor for the HND Agriculture Course.



Your space – Where you can promote your company, products or events*

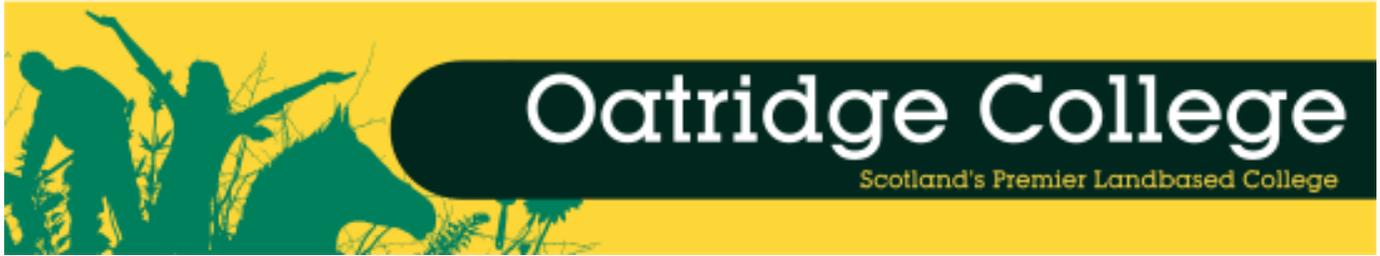


The 4th annual conference of Trellis, which promotes the use of horticulture to improve health, well-being and life opportunities, is to be held on Wednesday, March 17 at the Perth Concert Hall.

The keynote speakers at "Tending Body and Soul: Gardening and Health" will be Dr Richard Simpson MSP, the Shadow Public Health Minister in the Scottish Parliament, and Andrew Anderson of Maggie's Centre in Edinburgh.

www.trelliscotland.org.uk

*Contact ebarrero@oatridge.ac.uk to discuss your inclusion in this section.



Landbased Round-up

£3 million for farmers hit by severe weather

The Scottish Government has allocated £3 million to help farmers hit by additional costs because of the recent severe weather. Rural Affairs Secretary Richard Lochhead told the Annual General Meeting of the National Farmers Union of Scotland that it will be used to off-set the costs of moving livestock, following the collapse of buildings during heavy snowfalls.

It is part of a package worth £5 million designed to help agriculture, which the Minister said has "a valuable role to play in Scottish society". More than £1.4 million is to go to developing skills and training for the landbased sector; £250,000 is to be spent on educating children across Scotland on the link between farming and food on the table; and £400,000 is to be used over five years to boost the raspberry industry.

www.scotland.gov.uk

Warning on rural planning

A new report from the Scottish Agricultural College has warned that policy planning for rural Scotland must take account of changes which are happening now, rather than giving priority to issues facing communities decades from now.

Author Dr Sarah Skerratt of SAC's Rural Policy Centre says: "We have become so used to issues like climate change being linked to action targets 10, 20 or 30 years ahead, we sometimes feel we have plenty of time, but examining the evidence about rural Scotland more deeply we have shown that with many rural issues, things are happening now. We cannot put things off."

www.sac.ac.uk

"New era" for Scotland's seas

The Marine Bill has been backed by the Scottish Parliament heralding, according to Ministers, "a new era for Scotland's seas. The Bill contains five main measures, including a National Marine Plan to encourage greater clarity in decision making in the marine environment, and to encourage investment.

www.scotland.gov.uk

The way to a healthier "butty"

Quality Meat Scotland, the red meat industry body, has just launched a new, healthier bacon, which is claimed to contain 25 percent less salt and 20 percent less fat than we have until now, put in our favourite "butty".

QMS worked with seven different meat producers and the Food Innovation team at Abertay University on a £40,000 project. It follows the recent unveiling of healthier burgers, sausages and Scotch pies in response to growing demands from the public.

www.qmscotland.co.uk



Lambing advice to pregnant women

Scotland's Chief Medical Officer, Harry Burns, has issued his annual advice to pregnant women to avoid contact with sheep during the up-coming lambing season. He says although infections are rare, they are possible and can pose a risk to the health of mothers and their babies.

www.scotland.gov.uk

Bee disease found in Stranraer

An outbreak of American Foulbrood disease has been confirmed in a honeybee hive in the Stranraer area. A 5km Infected Area has been declared around the apiary, which prevents the movement of bees and related equipment. There is no cure for the disease and infected hives have to be destroyed, but there is no risk to public health.

www.scotland.gov.uk

Salmon leap

Sales of premier Scottish salmon to Europe leapt by 19 percent last year to reach a new record level of 7,251 tonnes. Scottish Quality Salmon has announced the launch of a new campaign to further boost exports of Label Rouge Scottish Salmon, targeting "discerning European consumers". The campaign is supported by a grant from the European Fisheries Fund.

www.scottishsalmon.co.uk

New role for HIE chief

Sandy Cunning, the chief executive of Highlands and Island Enterprise for almost 10 years is quitting the post to take up a Scottish Government post, spearheading the development of renewable offshore energy across the public sector in Scotland.

www.hie.co.uk

Charlie backs purge of foreigner "invaders"

TV gardener Charlie Dimmock is backing a campaign led by the Scottish Government and Defra to hold the spread of invasive aquatic plants. She has produced a video telling gardeners what to look out for a how to prevent varieties like the New Zealand pigmyweed getting out of their ponds and into the wild. You can access the video through www.scotland.gov.uk or on YouTube.

Sex, but not as we know it!

Scientists at the Scottish Crop Research Institute at Dundee have been studying aphids – greenfly to most of us – to try to understand their "bewildering sex life". The marauding little menaces can, it seems, breed as a normal male/female pair...or on their own! The Dundee researchers are part of a world-wide project attempting to find ways of controlling the destructive pest. Together they have recently successfully identified the complete genome of the pea aphid. They have identified genes which enable asexual reproduction. www.scri.ac.uk



New Courses Provision

STARTING IN MARCH: Introductory Certificate in Rural Skills (Skills for Work)

A new course to help people into rewarding careers gets underway this month at Oatridge. The **Introductory Certificate in Rural Skills** programme will lead to a qualification covering an introduction to estate management, crop production, soft landscaping and the landbased industries generally. The course will refresh your employability skills. It can lead on to work experience within the industry and/or the more advanced **Certificate in Landbased Studies**.

No formal qualifications are necessary for entrants, though each individual will be invited for a short interview. The course lasts 10 weeks, with students committing to two days a week at College.

Spaces are limited but a few remain. Anyone interested should contact immediately Carl Gilbert on 01506 864800.

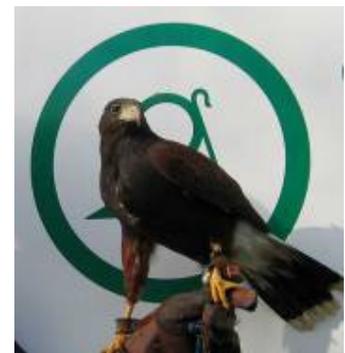
Sharpen up your skills for the cutting season

Oatridge College can offer you Operator and Technical training for lawnmowers, tractors, ATV's, brushcutters / trimmers and hedge trimmers. Right now is a good time to dig out and dust down your mowers, check them over before the cutting season begins and be ready for the summer cutting season!

Oatridge College offers a whole range of courses – from basic lawnmower maintenance/use to Lantra and NPTC proficiency awards. Check out what we can offer you and book yourself on to Leisure / Industry recognised course

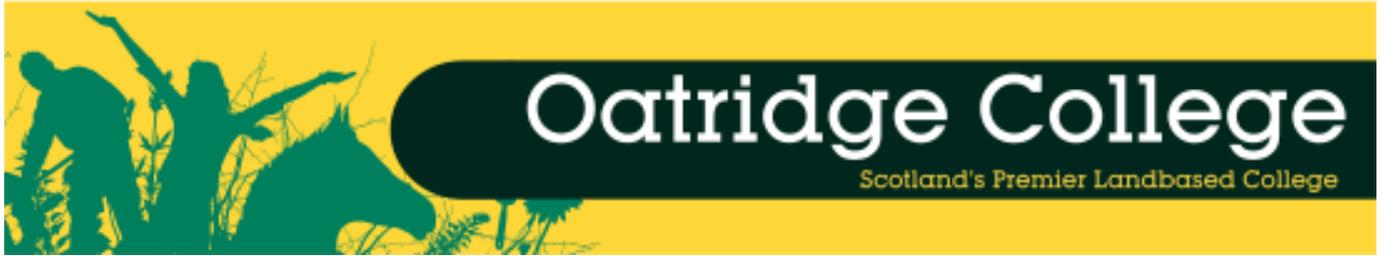
Strictly for the bird lovers

She's becoming known as "the bird woman of Ecclesmachan" but Oatridge learning support tutor Janet Lingard is keeping her feet firmly on the ground as she pilots a series of evening sessions at the College to gauge interest locally in birds of prey. Janet's owl Eubee is becoming a firm favourite at College events (You may have seen his picture in last month's issue of Oatridge Online) and she wants to find out if enough people are enthusiastic enough to sustain a course on keeping and caring for these magnificent creatures.



"We've been running sessions on Monday evenings when I cover different topics to do with the basics of keeping a bird of prey. These sessions have never been advertised so it's mainly students who come along, plus a couple of members of the public. I'm trying it out to discover what people want to know and how much interest there is. I'm not charging anything, but if it takes off, so to speak, I will look at approaching the College with a view to running a proper course."

Register your interest by e-mailing info@oatridge.ac.uk or alternatively phoning 01506 864807.



Short and Tailored Courses

At Oatridge College and SNEC we organise a wide range of short specialist courses. The courses we offer either meet current industrial standards or we can devise bespoke courses tailored to meet the precise needs of individuals and businesses.

Oatridge College has developed a reputation for delivering specialist tailored courses and we continue to offer this service to businesses and Local Authorities.

Recent programmes have included courses such as:

- ✚ "Turf Week" - a specialist turf management course for North Lanarkshire Council
- ✚ 10 week preparatory courses for young people to engage them in the Landbased industries
- ✚ Introductory courses for participants in "Get Ready for Work" Schemes
- ✚ Specialist Dog Handling courses
- ✚ Training of Trainers
- ✚ School Non-Attendee Programmes for Local Authorities

The courses included on these pages have been planned to run on the dates given.

Oatridge College reserves the right to change the dates of courses and to cancel provision if the number of bookings for any course does not meet the minimum number of participants required to run the course. We will always strive to ensure that courses run whenever possible.

Please contact Adrian Kitchen for more information or to discuss your requirements.

akitchen@oatridge.ac.uk

ILA funding for Courses

In the following pages, all courses marked * are ILA Approved. ILA Scotland is a Scottish Government scheme that helps you pay for learning that you can do at a time, place, pace and in a way to suit you.

You could get help towards the cost of learning with a learner account from **ILA Scotland**.

See <http://www.ilascotland.org.uk/ILA+Homepage.htm>

To apply for an Individual Learning Account Tel: 0808 100 10 90



Please find in the next pages a list of our short courses...



Oatridge College

Scotland's Premier Landbased College

Chainsaw Operations

***Maintenance, Crosscutting and Felling Small Trees up to 200 mm** (Lantra Awards Accredited) 4 day course. Dates: 8-11 Mar, 12-15 Apr, 10-13 May, 7-10 Jun £450

***Maintenance, Crosscutting and Felling Small Trees up to 380 mm** (NPTC Accredited) 5-day course (+ 1 day test to be arranged)

Dates: 22-26 March, 19-23 April, 24-28 May £780

*Forklift Operation

(Lantra Awards Accredited) 3 day course

Dates: 29-31 March £450

***Brushcutters Course** (Lantra Awards Accredited) £225
Dates: TBA 2 day course

***All Terrain Vehicle Operation** (Lantra Awards Accredited) 2 day course. Dates TBA £250

Transporting Livestock

Transportation of Livestock by Road Short Journeys over 65km and under 8 hours

Online testing arranged as required £60

Transportation of Livestock by Road Long Distance

Dates to be arranged as required £120

*** Vehicle & Trailer Training: Preparation for the DVLA test** 1 day course: Dates TBA (Max of 2 trainees) £150

* Blacksmithing – An Introduction (Basic)

A 10 week programme introducing the skills of Blacksmithing (Evening Course - 6.30-9pm)

Course start dates: 2 Mar £200

* Blacksmithing – An Introduction (Basic)

A 4 day intensive course. Dates TBA £200

* Welding – An Introduction (Basic)

A 10 week programme an introduction to welding skills (Evening Course - 6.30-9pm)

Course start dates: 3 Mar £200

Vermin Control

* Vermin Control - Rabbits, rats, mice & moles

Lantra Awards Accredited 2 day course: Dates: TBA £210

* Vermin Control – Rabbits and moles

Lantra Awards Accredited 1 day course: Date TBA £165

Using Sprayers

*** Safe Use of Pesticides – Training for PA1 Foundation** (NPTC Accredited) 1 day course:

3 Mar, 6 April, 10 May £100

PA1 Foundation Test Dates arranged following training (above) £60

*** Safe Use of Pesticides - Training for PA6A Hand Held Applicator** (NPTC Accredited)

1 day course : 5 Mar, 7 Apr, 11 May £130

PA6A Test

Dates arranged following training (above) £80

*** Safe Use of Pesticides - Training for PA2A Tractor Mounted Certificate** (NPTC Accredited)

1 day course 8 Apr £150

PA2A Tractor Mounted Applicator test

Dates arranged following training (above) £220

Health and Safety

*** First Aid at Work HSE Accredited** 3 day course: 30 Mar – 1 Apr, 1-3 Jun £120

*** First Aid at Work Refresher** - HSE Accredited 2 days: 24-25 Jun , 26-27 Aug £90

*** Emergency First Aid** 1-day Oatridge Attendance Certificate

29 Mar £60

*Manual Handling 1 day. Dates TBA £60

*Risk Assessment/ COSSH – an introduction 1 day introductory course. Dates TBA £60

*Safe Use of Veterinary Medicines

1 day course : dates TBA £200

*Safe Use of Sheep Dips

1 day course : dates TBA £TBA

Construction Skills - for DIY or Trade Skills Updating

* Drystone Dyking A 5 day training course: 8-12 Mar £350

*Introduction to basic brickwork & trowel skills

An Oatridge 3 day course: 10-12 Mar £300

* Brickwork & Trowel skills update

An Oatridge 3 day course: 28-30 Apr £300

* Timber Decking

An Oatridge 3 day course 17-19 Mar £300

* Introduction to Garden Paving

An Oatridge 3 day course, 21-23 Apr £300

* Paving Skills Update 3 days, 3-5 Mar, 12-14 May £300

For further information and to make bookings contact, please contact Moira Montgomery at Oatridge College mmontgomery@oatridge.ac.uk Latest information can be found at: www.oatridge.ac.uk/short_courses

Ecclesmachan, Broxburn, West Lothian EH52 6NH, Scotland

Tel: 01506 864800 www.oatridge.ac.uk Email: info@oatridge.ac.uk

Oatridge College is a charity registered in Scotland. Scottish Charity No. SC021208



Oatridge College

Scotland's Premier Landbased College



Scottish National Equestrian Centre Courses

***Training for BHS Stage 1: Horse Knowledge, Care and Riding**

Course 1: 8 x 3hour sessions. Dates 30Mar – 2 Apr; 5 Apr- 8 Apr, 29 Jul-3 Aug

All sessions 9am – 12pm & 1pm – 4pm £180

***Training for BHS Stage 1 Horse Knowledge & Care Only**

Course 1: 4 x 3hour sessions. Dates 30Mar – 2 Apr; 5 Apr- 8 Apr, 29 Jul-3 Aug

All sessions 9am – 12pm or 1pm – 4pm £100

***Training for BHS Stage 1 Riding Only**

Course 1: 4 x 3hour sessions. Dates 30Mar – 2 Apr; 5 Apr- 8 Apr, 29 Jul-3 Aug

All sessions 9am – 12pm or 1pm – 4pm £100

***Training for BHS Stage 2: Horse Knowledge, Care and Riding**

Course 1: 12 x 3hour sessions. Dates 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25 Aug All sessions 9am – 12pm & 1pm – 4pm £225

***Training for BHS Stage 2 Horse Knowledge & Care Only**

Course 1: 6 x 3hour sessions. Dates 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25 Aug All sessions 9am – 12pm or 1pm – 4pm £150

***Training for BHS Stage 2 Riding Only**

Course 1: 6 x 3hour sessions. Dates 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25 Aug All sessions 9am – 12pm & 1pm – 4pm £150

Clipping for Beginners (Part 1)

Dates TBA .Course 1: 9am – 12pm or Course 2: 1pm – 4pm £25

Clipping for Beginners Part 2

Dates TBA. Course 1: 9am – 12pm or Course 2: 1pm – 4pm £25

For further course information contact Scottish National Equestrian Centre (SNEC), Oatridge College, Ecclesmachan, West Lothian EH52 6NH
Telephone 01506 865714 Fax 01506 865716
E-mail gblackie@oatridge.ac.uk



Oatridge Courses

Leisure – Pet Care

Dog Agility – Advanced - 10 weeks: 30 Mar -1 Jun (Evening Course 7.00-8.00 or 8.00 – 9.00pm) £ 50

For further information and to make bookings please contact Moira Montgomery at Oatridge College
mmontgomery@oatridge.ac.uk



Suntrap Garden

*** Introduction to gardening** - 10 weeks

Thursdays: 15 Apr – 17 Jun (7 – 9pm) £ 80

***Design your own garden** - 11 weeks

Wednesdays: 14 Apr-23 Jun (7 – 9pm) £105

***Flower arranging for all occasions** - 10 weeks £105

Mondays: 12 Apr – 23 Jun (7 – 9pm)

Saturday Workshops at Suntrap

All £10.00 + cost of materials (10-12noon)

Better Herbaceous Borders -Sat 13 March

Vegetable growing -getting started - Sat 17 April

Hanging gardens of Babylon- Sat 8 May

For further information or to book any of the Suntrap classes contact John Smith on 0131 339 7283 (answer machine). All courses are held at Suntrap Centre, 43 Gogarbank, Edinburgh EH12 9BY
email: suntrap@btopenworld.com