



Aston Newsletter March 2007



Welcome New Salons

We would like to welcome the following new salons that have recently joined us:

Wright Image
Ramona's
Miracles
Headquarters
Mask
AirCut
Octavia.

NVQ Level 2 Hairdressing Completions

Keeleigh Wilson, Zoe Pugh, Simone Brown, Christy Adetola and Sophie Davies.

NVQ Level 3 Hairdressing Completions

Shelley Gayton, Elizabeth Webster, Laura Pettit and Claire Roberts.

Key Skills Completions

Laura-Anne Hopkins, Victoria Mitchell, Katie Harvey, Sophie Wilson, Rebecca Donohoe and Sarah Boreham. Hannah Reed and Aimee Lewis.

Smoking Ban



Smoking will be banned in the workplace in England on July 1st 2007. This will make the workplace much healthier for staff and clients.

Idolz Grand Re-opening

Aston was invited to attend the official reopening of Idolz in Rothwell, Kettering. Idolz closed for a couple of weeks to allow for this impressive makeover to happen.



Debbie and Dave Downer were also celebrating the results of the Connect FM "Best Hairdresser of the year" competition, because their salon in Wellingborough came third.

Trainee of the year awards



Well done to Stacey Park from Hair Affair in Rushden who was awarded the Trainee of the Year title.

Stacey is now working towards her level 3 qualification with us, and in the words of her assessor Gerry Baker, pictured here with Stacey, "Watch this space. This isn't the last we have seen of Stacey, she is talent on legs".

The evening which was held on Monday 29th January 2007, was a huge success. It was a pleasure to see all our nominees looking so proud, and quite rightly so as it was a huge achievement to be in the final 12 out of nearly 200 trainees.



Pictured above are our nominees. Back row left to right: Paris Windmill (Austins Hair), Keshia Samuel (Impressions), Matthew Young (Impressions), Beverley Whatmore (Managing Director of Aston), Georgina Sparks (Roots), Kimberley Marriott (Heavenly Hair). Front row: Stacey Park (Hair Affair), Charlene Tate (Masterclass), Kylie Broderick (Avant Garde), Lindsey Johnson (Zest) and Samijo Hewlett (Kinglsey Hair).

Best Newcomer

Samijo Hewlett from Kinglsey Hair pictured with her employer Jenny Ward and Samijo's Mother.



Most Dedicated

Charlene Tate from Masterclass, pictured with her employer Roy Sparks and her Salon Manager.



Artistic Development

Matthew Young from Impressions pictured with Salon Owner Gerry Mayhew, Erica Liburd (Aston Assessor), and fellow nominee, Keshia Samuel.



Best Self improver

Kylie Broderick from Avant Garde pictured receiving her award from Anita Wright, Aston's Operations Director.



Skills Challenge 2007

The closing date for registration is soon approaching. This competition is really worth looking at and will give trainees their first experience of participating in a live competition.

For more information visit www.skillschallengecompetitions.org.uk



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Student Kit

Trainees have been coming in better equipped; however we still need to stress the importance of coming into training prepared.

Uniform for Students – REMINDER

Aston's dress code for all students is a black or white top and black trousers/skirt along with their name badge and closed toe shoes.



Models

Models are a vital part of our training. Whilst Aston endeavours to provide models for the candidates, the trainees who source models for themselves both here at Aston and in the salon generally tend to progress quicker.



Demonstrations

Matrix is delivering a training session for us on Monday 5th March. Even if your salon does not use Matrix products it will broaden the trainee's knowledge of the technical side of hairdressing.

Because of this training session, there will be no training at Aston on Tuesday 6th and Wednesday 7th March 2007.



Jocelyn Bain, owner of Amani, kindly invited a group of our trainees into her salon to take part in a one day workshop delivered by Avlon International. The trainees got some hands on experience

of working with a new relaxer called Fiberguard. It was very beneficial to our trainees who have no experience of Afro Caribbean Hair.

We also held a barbering demonstration on Monday 13th February. This gave trainees an opportunity to explore their creative side using clippers and showed them how to enhance gentlemen's cut with colour. Feedback was excellent and we are holding this demonstration for Tuesday and Wednesday trainees later in the year.



Calling all male salon owners

We are actively trying to recruit male hairdressers and would welcome success stories from any males in the hairdressing industry, so we can promote this as a positive career path for both men and women.

Open Day

We are having an open day on Wednesday 11th April. This will give employers a chance to come in and have a look at our academy, talk to assessors and staff and view the trainee's portfolios. It is also an ideal opportunity for school leavers to come in and discuss hairdressing as a career. The open day is also open to the general public to come and take a look at the courses we offer.

Statutory sick pay and maternity pay

From April 2007, there will be an increase in statutory maternity, paternity and adoption pay as well as statutory sick pay.

The new rates are: maternity, paternity and adoption pay will rise from £108.85 per week to £112.75 per week and sick pay will rise from £70.05 per week to £72.25 per week.

For babies due on or after 1 April 2007, the entitlement to SMP is extended from 26 weeks to 39 weeks.

Equal Ops Statement



Everyone should be treated fairly and not discriminated against, regardless of colour, nationality, sex, age, race, religion, creed, disabilities, sexual orientation, domestic situation or gender reassignment.

Learnxtra website

This website has videos of the latest techniques, interactive information and unique animations with voiceovers to help students visually understand NVQ theory.



This is a very useful website and costs £14.50 per membership, per year. Full details are on the website.

www.learnxtra-hairdressing.com

Any Vacancies?

Looking for a new trainee? We can refer trainees to you free of charge and advertise your vacancy on our notice board.

Please contact Sandra Cox.

We would welcome any success stories from other salons, so that we could include them in the next newsletter.

Please contact Aston with details on 01604 230371 or email us on information@aston-training.co.uk