

# GTA England news

Conference issue

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## The GTA England Annual Conference is once again rapidly approaching.

As each year unfolds, we use the conference as an opportunity to reflect on the changing landscape in which we operate and the opportunities this presents for GTA England members. 2014 saw the introduction of Trailblazer standards and GTA England has played its part in supporting the groups in the advanced manufacturing sector, representing a significant proportion of the SMEs that make up 90% of the 24,000 employers in the network. This next year is likely to see change of an even greater magnitude. The Trailblazer machinery continues to produce more Apprenticeship standards – almost core business now! However who would have predicted the Apprenticeship levy this time last year? The ink is still wet on our submission which members and all of their employers were invited to contribute to.

The conference agenda contains an opportunity for genuine consultation, not only on the broad strategic objectives considered by your Board, but with colleagues at BIS on the implementation of the e-voucher that will constitute the transaction of employer choice in new arrangements. It's no coincidence, therefore, that the theme of this years conference is "Meeting the Challenge of Change Together".

A personal highlight is likely to be the presentation of the GTA England Apprenticeship Awards following its hugely successful introduction last year.



As the GTA network, we need to continue to demonstrate to government, its agencies, and other key stakeholders at local and regional level why GTAs are distinctive and offer a tried and tested employer-led solution to workforce skills development issues that include, but are not exclusive to, Apprenticeships.

I would like to thank colleagues at the IMechE for their hospitality in supporting our conference and look forward to developing a continued partnership.

I remain grateful for the partnerships established with EAL, WNT and XYZ machine tools and welcome a new arrangement with City & Guilds with even more to come! These partnerships continue to be based on mutual benefits for both partners and members.

The GTA England Board looks forward to seeing you there to celebrate this years achievements and to working together towards an even stronger future.

## GTA England Conference **AGENDA**

### Group Training Associations: Meeting the challenge of change together IMechE, Birdcage Walk, Westminster, London **Wednesday 21st October 2015**

From 14:00	<b>Assembly and Registration in the Marble Hall ImechE. Convene to Theatre for:</b>
14.30	<b>Steve Gray, Acting GTA England Chair</b> Introduction and opening address
14.45	<b>Mark Maudsley – CEO GTA England</b> Members consultation on strategic objectives and GTA England update
15.15	<b>Andy Barton, EAL</b> Launch of F1 in Schools qualifications for GTAs
15.30	<b>Paul Joyce – Interim Deputy Director – Ofsted</b> On what do GTAs need to focus in the journey to Outstanding in the changing CIF
16.25	<b>Women in engineering – call to action</b> My story and project outcomes by a female Ambassador from the project group
16.40	<b>Break</b>
16.55	<b>Sarah Hodgetts Head of Employer Routed Apprenticeship Funding BIS</b> E-Voucher consultation with Members
17.40	<b>Christian Warden Programme Director Engineering Skills Service</b> EEF update on national college developments and other opportunities for collaboration
17.50	<b>Niger Atherton MD XYZ Machine Tools and Glenn Stanton WNT (UK)</b> A word from our sponsors
18.00	<b>Break and Networking opportunity to view partners offer. Convene to Dining Room for Informal Dinner during which includes:</b>
19.15	<b>Address by Minister of State for Skills Nick Boles MP</b>
19.30	<b>GTA England Apprentice of the Year Award</b> MC Tom Wilson TUC Union Learn & GTA England Director Presented by Nick Boles MP Minister of State for Skills
19.55	Accepting speeches by Apprentice of the Year: Engineering / Construction; Business Services
	<b>Informal Dinner</b>
Approx 21.00	<b>Closing remarks</b>



## Engineering the future starts here

Our partners at XYZ machine tools and WNT are keen to provide an early announcement of an event available exclusively to GTA England members.

“Engineering the future” is a theme of an event to take place at the HQ of XYZ Machine Tools in Tiverton, near Exeter on 13th and 14th January 2016. Contributions are to be made from leading light companies Siemens and Renishaw from their perspectives, on what the future could look like.

Members will enjoy an all-expenses paid Hotel accommodation and Dinner on 13th January with the workshop, containing exclusive and attractive offers on Machinery and tools, on the 14th January 2016

An invitation will be forthcoming soon to reserve 3 places per GTA England member. Members can express an interest via [Kelly.White@gtaengland.co.uk](mailto:Kelly.White@gtaengland.co.uk)

## and the winner is... Apprentice of the Year Awards 2015

Well, we are fast approaching the annual conference and the national GTA England Apprentice of the Year Awards.

The Judging panel consisting of members of the GTA England Board (excluding GTA Chief Executives of course!) have agonised over the applications; assessed; conferred and moderated.

We are delighted to announce the finalists as follows, in alphabetical order:

### Business Services Award

- Henry Clark employed at Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council and undertaking a Higher Apprenticeship in Business Administration at Training 2000 in Blackburn, Blackburn with Darwen
- Dayna Crabtree employed at Whitefield House Ltd undertaking an Advanced Apprenticeship Business Administration at Alliance Learning Harwich, Bolton
- David Morton employed at DSV Solutions undertaking and Advanced Apprenticeship in Logistics Operations Advanced at NITAL Training and Development in Corby, Northamptonshire
- Ruby Uddin employed at Rochdale Borough Council undertaking an Advanced Apprenticeship in Business Administration at Rochdale Training, Greater Manchester

### Engineering and Construction Award

- Casey Allen is employed at Foxwood Diesels and has recently progressed to Advanced Apprenticeship in Manufacture Engineering at NLT Training Services, Chesterfield, Derbyshire
- Ryan Cox employed at Majorlift Hydraulic Equipment Limited is undertaking an Advanced Apprenticeship in Manufacture and Mechanical Engineering
- Lucinda Jones is employed at MBDA UK Ltd and is undertaking an Advanced Apprenticeship in Engineering at Alliance Learning in Harwich, Bolton
- Liam Woinson is employed at Paradigm Precision and is undertaking an Advanced Apprenticeship in Machining at Training 2000 in Blackburn, Blackburn with Darwen

The winners will have their awards presented by Nick Boles MP, Minister of State for Skills.

We wish all our finalists the best of luck and trust they will all enjoy their day in the prestigious buildings of the IMechE in Westminster, London

There may well be a special announcement for all the finalists on the day...





## Proud partners

For the fourth year, EAL (Excellence, Achievement & Learning) are delighted to be supporting the GTA England Conference. As the specialist, employer-recognised awarding organisation for industry qualifications, we value working in partnership with GTAs as key delivery partners and GTA England as our strategic partner. Our collaborations enable us to continually develop our understanding of industry needs, ensuring our qualifications, services and support fulfil your needs, bridge the skills gaps and provide opportunities for your learners to reach their highest potential.

EAL are proud to announce the signing of a three-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with GTA England. This agreement marks the beginning of a new and strengthened era to our partnership, ensuring we continue to deliver benefits for GTA members.

The first project EAL is working on to extend its benefits to GTA members is F1 in Schools. This adrenalin-fuelled activity will allow thousands of UK school and college pupils to gain a qualification – and embark on a race to a rewarding career. Participating learners design and race model F1 cars, whilst securing an EAL Level 1 Foundation Certificate in Engineering, or EAL Certificate of Achievement. They then have the opportunity to compete against other teams both nationally and internationally.

The second project will see GTA members directly influencing the future of EAL's digital learning materials. From considering new resources to inspiring future planning, the invaluable input from GTA members will ensure the EAL tool kits are precisely built for the needs of our customers.

In addition, EAL is pleased to continue offering all GTA members a 10% discount on EAL Products (excluding framework certification and VAT).



## A new partnership

City and Guilds has a long tradition of working with many of GTA England members but is pleased to be working towards a more formal relationship.

With the changing educational landscape in both Apprenticeships and within the 14-19 market City and Guilds felt it was the right time to support GTA England and its members help maximise the market opportunities. City and Guilds is keen to explore opportunities to jointly develop curriculum and maximise efficiencies in delivery through technology.

As part of the developing partnership we are also excited to offer all GTA members an exclusive 10% discount on a wide range of City & Guilds digital learning resources.

City & Guilds are committed to supporting providers with their Digital strategy and we see the integration of on-line resources into curriculum delivery as vital. The many benefits include:

- Providing efficiency of delivery – saving time and money
- Engaging learners
- Enabling flexible and 'flipped' learning – access curriculum from anywhere
- Meeting Ofsted and FELTAG targets

The evolving City & Guilds Digital offer includes resources that support:

- Employability Skills
- Maths & English
- Functional Skills
- TAQA (Assessment & QA)
- Smartscreen for 80% of vocational qualifications

**For more information on what is available please visit the members area of the GTA England website**

# Network Movers and Shakers



## Terry Weston

A founding GTA England member, Maritime and Engineering College North West (MECNW) is pleased to confirm the appointment of Terry Weston as Chief Executive of the college with effect from 1 September 2015. Terry, a deep advocate of GTA England and participates as a Lead Peer Reviewer, has worked at

MECNW as Skills Director since 2007. Terry takes over from Jim Teasdale, who will retire from the college on 30th September 2015, ensuring smooth handover and no interruption to the services the college provides.

In addition to warmly welcoming Terry to his new role, GTA England also wishes Jim Teasdale a healthy, happy and prosperous retirement.

## Quality vacancy at Training 2000

Training 2000 has a full-time, permanent position available for a Head of Teaching & Learning. This position is dedicated to developing the Company's outstanding teaching and learning provision.

Reporting into the Director of Business and Educational Standards, this position is responsible for the overall teaching and learning strategy and policy. It is a cross organisation role working with each department supporting the development of the learner facing staff, developing the professional practitioners.

The role requires an experienced manager of teachers and their development using latest pedagogical research, the ability to provide specialist advice and guidance to Leaders in the organisation and to be experienced in internal reviews of provision.

This position offers a salary of £45,000 per annum and attractive benefits.

**Please contact Michelle Smalley on 01254 54659 or [recruitment@t2000.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@t2000.co.uk) for an application pack inclusive of a role profile and person specification.**

Training 2000 is committed to equality of opportunity.



# Engineering Training Officer

Rochdale Training is a leading work based learning training provider and provides outstanding Apprenticeship opportunities for young people and quality training to companies across the North West. We also deliver employability training.

We wish to complement our existing team and recruit an Engineering Training Officer.

You will be involved in:

- Liaising with workshop instructors regarding the Apprentices' off-the-job training needs
- Assessing practical skills and knowledge in the workplace
- Liaising with employers regarding the progress of the Apprentices and their training needs and carrying out progress reviews
- Monitoring progress of all components of the framework, NVQ Level 2, 3, & 4 Technical Certificate and Functional Skills
- To assist & support BTEC technical qualifications
- Must be willing to travel in the UK

Circa £28,000 per annum with benefits (25 days holiday plus 8 bank holidays, Pension Scheme)

**For a Job Specification and Application Form please email [reception@rochdaletraining.co.uk](mailto:reception@rochdaletraining.co.uk)**



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**For latest news and information visit: [www.gta-england.co.uk](http://www.gta-england.co.uk)**