



THUD Yorkshire

On the 23rd January 2017 the Making Changes for Careers programme and its participants were delighted to host a visit from Selebogo Molefe, CEO of Lifesgud Global Investments (Pty) Ltd and founder of The Hook Up Dinner movement.

Selebogo was visiting Hull to launch THUD Yorkshire which was inspired by a recent visit by some of Hull's young entrepreneurs to South Africa, including our own Youth Enterprise Advisor, Haggai Mwiko.



Several young people on the MC4C programme attended the launch of THUD Yorkshire where they had the opportunity to network and hear from other young entrepreneurs including Selebogo.

Courtney Branagan of Tensionless Massage and participant in the MC4C programme said *"It was great to hear that the issues we face here as young start-up businesses are not unique to us and that they are felt worldwide. I think the idea of creating a network of young entrepreneurs is a great idea as it not only provides networking opportunities but also an opportunity to learn from each other. Hearing other people's stories offers motivation and encouragement to make you want to do more in terms of your own business."*

To find out more about THUD Yorkshire please visit <https://www.facebook.com/THUDYorkshire> or follow them on Twitter @THUDYorkshire.

PROJECT BLYTH

Participants on the MC4C programme have now begun working on Greenpower's Project Blyth where they design, build and eventually race a single seat electric car. This is allowing them to develop their entrepreneurial flair and providing them with the opportunity to demonstrate the practical application of the 'Big 13' Enterprise Skills, as they endeavour to run it as a business. As well as designing and building the car, they are developing their social and personal communication skills as they are challenged to look at potential fundraising and sponsorship opportunities by approaching local businesses.

The team (@Team13PB) whose theme is Heroes v Villains have made significant progress in a short space of time, having now completed the basic build of the framework, complete with wiring. They are currently contacting local businesses to secure equipment and sponsorship.



The team are receiving help and support from mentors from Northern Gas Networks, Sign Services and Sangwin Group, as well as donations of equipment and funding from Budget Tyres, Radphone, Hull Youth Support Trust, Jap Car Services and the John Cracknell Youth Enterprise Bank. If you would like to be involved with sponsoring Team 13 please contact them via Twitter, Facebook or email team13pb@gmail.com



AWARDS CEREMONY

The MC4C project hosted their first Awards Ceremony on 21st February 2017 at the Guildhall to celebrate the achievements of young entrepreneurs engaging in the programme. During the morning participants spent time with our Patron, former BBC Apprentice and Total Wipeout contestant, Adam Corbally, where they were able to share their business stories, ideas and challenges with him and gain advice and guidance.



Young people and guests then gathered at the Guildhall for the Awards Ceremony where three of our participants, Jade Smithson (Seamstress & Bag Maker), Courtney Branagan (Mobile Massage) and Laura Suter (Drama Therapist) shared their stories and answered questions about their involvement in the MC4C project, their future aims and what advice they would give to other young people considering self-employment.

Adam Corbally and the Deputy Lord Mayor, John Hewitt then presented awards to the young people participating in the project for their achievements in enterprise based around their application of the 'Big 13' Enterprise Skills.



Adam Corbally stated: *"It is an honour to be invited to celebrate the great achievements of the young people participating in the Making Changes for Careers programme. Taking the step of turning an idea into a business can be very daunting for young people and I feel the Making Changes for Careers Project gives young people the encouragement and belief that being your own boss is possible. It was great to get to spend time with the young people on programme and I look forward to following their journeys."*

JADE SMITHSON OF JADE SMITHSON DESIGNS

Jade, a seamstress, branched out into bag making two years ago as part of her apprenticeship with Child Dynamix. Jade says "A friend gave me the idea to create a bag from a rugby shirt and it all started from there." Once her apprenticeship finished Jade found herself unemployed and struggling to find work as a seamstress. Jade recognised that she had what was essentially a very unique product idea but lacked the business acumen and 'connections' to launch her business. A chance meeting with the John Cracknell Youth Enterprise Bank pointed Jade in the direction of the Making Changes for Careers programme. After an initial discussion with Jade about what support she required, it was felt that the MC4C programme would not only pave the way to self-employment for her, but would also help develop her personal skills in terms of her confidence.



Jade says *"Since starting on the MC4C programme, I have completed the 'Big 13' Enterprise Skills training which has improved my business skills, as well as giving me the opportunity to gain advice and support from other aspiring young entrepreneurs. I also receive one-to-one support from my Youth Enterprise Advisor who has helped me to develop a solid Business Plan. This enabled me to successfully apply to enter the Badgers Sett Enterprise Challenge in which I won the Post-16 section, securing £800 to purchase an embroidery machine which allows me to personalise my products further, as well as receiving the offer of a mentoring session with Ruth Badger (runner-up on BBC's The Apprentice 2006)."*

It's not just fans who love her unique products but also the City's sports clubs who have donated shirts worn by players to be transformed and upcycled into bags and accessories. *"People can have a bag made from any team shirt they like. I'm also currently making several bridesmaid dresses, as well as doing clothes alterations. As long as it involves a sewing machine, I can make it."* says Jade. Jade is a professional seamstress and offers a dress-making and alteration service alongside her bag and accessories line. Customers can give a beloved sports shirt to Jade who will then turn it into a messenger bag or rucksack.



Customers can view the range of products Jade creates via her Facebook and Twitter accounts. To place an order search @jadesmithson on Twitter or Jade Smithson Designs on Facebook.



CHARLENE REVELL OF CHARLENE'S CRAFTY CREATIONS

Charlene is a 28 year old young entrepreneur who has been engaging in the Making Changes for Careers programme since August 2016.

Charlene's business is craft-orientated with a personal touch. Her early inspiration for arts and crafts stems back to school, where she took an intermediate art class after being encouraged by her high school art teacher to pursue her talents further.

Charlene has been dabbling in arts and crafts based hobbying for over 10 years and it has been an interest which has grown year upon year. Initially she made products/cards for family and friends, testing the market to see if there was a demand for her products and services. Word of mouth has pushed her business forward and she now gets enquiries and custom from a much wider base, advertising and social media has also helped with this. She has always been interested in setting up her own business but says that she had no idea about how to do a Business Plan or where to start.

Charlene had previously sought business advice and support and has a result had been to see various business support organisations. None of them were particularly helpful and as a result it started to affect her self-esteem.

Charlene was about to give up on her business idea until the Making Changes for Careers team approached her at the Job Centre and told her about the training and support we provide.

Charlene signed up for the MC4C programme and has completed both the 'Big 13' Enterprise Skills and Finer Business training. Since engaging in the programme her business idea has developed further which she says is because the team were able to train and support her, helping her with Market Research, Financial Literacy and Business Planning. Charlene has now received a grant to help with buying essential equipment to improve the quality of her products, as well as the opportunity to complete her Level 1 in Computerised Accounts. As well as applying all of the skills she has learnt and channelling them into her own business idea, she is also taking an active lead role in our Project Blyth Team, applying many of the 'Big 13' Enterprise Skills in a new and innovative way.

You can find out more about Charlene's business by visiting her Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/charlenesc> or follow her on Twitter @CraftyCharlene.



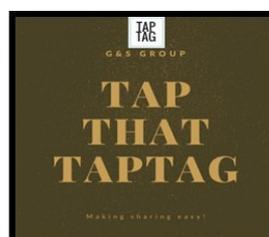
RYAN GODFREY OF TAPTAG

Ryan was referred to the MC4C programme as he was looking for help and support for his business idea. He knew he wanted to go into self-employment so that one day he could sit on a beach and run his business from a laptop, after catching the travelling bug following a trip to Thailand.

Ryan says "I initially approached the MC4C team for support with my idea for a card which could be used in shops, restaurants etc as a marketing tool for businesses to promote their business on Facebook." Ryan had an idea that he was very passionate about and was keen to seek advice about how he could develop his business and 'do things properly'.

Ryan has spent much time developing his product idea and is at point where he is approaching businesses to sell his idea and it can now be found in several local establishments. As part of his 'Big 13' Enterprise Skills sessions Ryan had the opportunity to pitch his business idea to Karl Turner MP and was awarded £100 towards his business by the John Cracknell Youth Enterprise Bank and received the offer of ongoing support from Karl who was keen to hear more about Ryan's idea.

Ryan has now secured full-time employment to help support his business financially but will continue to run his business in his spare time



To find out more about Taptag you can visit www.gandsgroup.co.uk, find them on Facebook at Taptag or follow them on Twitter @thetaptag.

GOOD NEW STORIES

- 6 participants have received grants to test market their business idea.
- 4 participants have completed both the 'Big 13' Enterprise Skills and Finer Business training.
- A further 2 participants have completed the 'Big 13' Enterprise Skills training and have moved on to the Finer Business Training.
- 3 participants have registered for the Level 1 in Computerised Accounts course.

COMING UP

Our new Youth Enterprise Advisor, Gemma Lacey, will be starting on 6 March 2017 and we look forward to welcoming her to the team.

3 participants on the MC4C programme will be attending an Open Event at Lemon Tree Nursery on Wednesday 15th February 2017 to promote their business ideas.

Team 13 will be attending the Greenpower/Project Blyth Car Jam on Monday 3rd April 2017 at Hull University.

Supported by Hull City Council, Hull BID and the John Cracknell Youth Enterprise Bank a Young Entrepreneurs Market will be held on Saturday 16th July 2017 at The Rose Bowl, Queens Gardens, in conjunction with the Project Blyth Street Race.



If you would like to know more about the Making Changes for Careers Project please contact us on 01482 616218 / 616219 or 616221

You can follow us on Twitter : @MCFCinHull

Find us on Facebook : Making Changes for Careers

Website : www.mc4c.co.uk



HLC is the lead partner for the Springboard Hull and Humber partnership project. This activity is part financed by the European Union through the European Social Fund (ESF) and is supported by the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) to extend employment opportunities and develop a skilled workforce.