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CONTACT THE T&A BUSINESS REPORTER CHRIS HOLLAND ON (01274) 705355

'Checks system saves both time and money'



Yorkshire wins two top awards



Savers have given the thumbs up to Bradford-based Yorkshire Building Society, which has clinched a national prize on the back of their votes.

University links up with company to check contractors via smartphones

by Chris Holland Business Reporter

A pioneering system for verifying and logging the skills and qualifications of contract workers has been adopted by Bradford University.



SCHEME: From left, Roger Thrush, Bradford University deputy director of facilities, David Urquhart and Ian Townsend of Reset Training. Top, the university

"With RCS it was different, when we saw the service offering, time savings and the reassurances that RCS provide we immediately knew that we had found a real and efficient solution to our problem."

"The university's decision to make our service mandatory for all its contractors and maintenance providers is a tremendous endorsement."

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Fiyaz works on a plan to save stores

A Pakistani billionaire textile magnate is reportedly working on a surprise bid to rescue fashion chain Peacocks from administration.



FUTURE: Peacock, in Forster Square, Bradford, which Alshair Hiyaz wants to save

Mr Fayaz has dabbled in retail property investment in Denmark but his main interests are in shipping and financial services.

Export tips will feature during talk

Firms looking to boost exports will be given tips by an expert at an event staged by a Bradford-based trade body.



IN BRIEF

Cutting back People in Yorkshire have slashed the amount they spend on partners by an average of 10 per cent, according to findings by Santander Credit Cards.

Record trading

A business that buys and sells used CDs, DVDs and video games online enjoyed its busiest ever day, Entertainment Magpie buys items through its website and they are sold through its That's Entertainment brand.

Australia appeal

A skills SOS has been issued by a migration agency to fill a skills shortage in Australia. According to statistics by migration agent VisaFirst.com, there is a need for workers from bakers to engineers and physiotherapists.

T&A ACTIVE SHARELINE

The FTSE 100

Table listing FTSE 100 components and their percentage changes, including Admiral, Aggreko, AMEC, Anglo American, Antofagasta, ARM Hldgs, Astmore Group, BAE Systems, Barclays, BHP Billiton, BT Group, Bunzl, Burberry, Cairn Energy, Capita, Capital Shopping, Carnival, Centrica, and Compass.

The T&A's interactive shareline service gives you up-to-the-minute prices. Simply dial 0906 003 0060 and enter the four-digit stock code (printed to the left of each share) once prompted. We cover every company listed on the London Stock Exchange.

Today's opening: 5892.2

Table listing various stock indices and their opening values, including CRH, Diageo, Essar Energy, Eurasian Nat Res, Evraz, Experian, Fresnillo, G4S, GKN, GlaxoSmithKline, Glencore, Hammerson, Hargreave Lans, IMI, ICAAP, Imperial Tobacco, InterCont Htls, Intl Cons Airlines, Intl Power, Intertek, ITV, Johnson Matthey, Kazakhmys, Kingfisher, Land Securities, Legal & General, Lloyds Banking, M & S, Man Group, Meggitt, Morrison (Wm), Natl Grid, Next, Old Mutual Ins, Pearson, Petrofac, Polymetal Intl, Prudential, Randgold Res, Reckitt Benck, Reed Elsevier, Resolution, REXAM, Rio Tinto, Rolls-Royce Hldgs, Royal B of Scot, Ryf Dutch Sh A, Ryf Dutch Sh B, RSA Insurance, SABMiller, Sage Group, Sainsbury, Schroders, Serco, Severn Trent, Shire, Smith & Nephew, and Smiths Group.

EXCHANGE RATES

Table showing exchange rates for various currencies including Australia, Barbados, Canada, Cash Republic, Denmark, Eurozone, Hong Kong, India, Israel, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Singapore, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, and United States.

Source: Interactive Data (Europe) Ltd

Bradford and Yorkshire prices

Table listing local business prices and their percentage changes, including Aira, AstraZeneca, BBA Aviation, Dawson Intl, Filtronic, Findel, Leeds Group, Marshalls, Persimmon, Pace, Porsimmon, Provident, Renold, Rolls-Royce Hldgs, Singsby, Standard Life, Tate & Lyle, Tullow Oil, United Utilities, Vodafone Group, Weir Group, Whitbread, Wolsley, WPP, and Xstrata.

'Recession is failing to stop success of fresh start-ups'

Starting up during a recession has not prevented many small Bradford firms from succeeding, according to findings by Barclays Bank.

The survey has revealed that around one in 15 Bradford businesses that were launched in the tough markets over the last three years has achieved £100,000 turnover.

Amanda Shepherd, of Barclays, said: "Many of us secretly hope to run our own business and escape from nine to five employment."



IEWS: Amanda Shepherd

Essensys delighted to win deal to work with Inspire business park

An IT and communications specialist has been appointed to provide services at the Inspire Bradford business park, which is due to open at Eccleshill, Bradford.

Essensys is the UK's leading provider of managed IT and communications to offices and flexible workspace sites.

Essensys chief executive Mark Furness said: "Essensys is thrilled to have been chosen to provide ICT services at Inspire and is highly committed to providing IT and telecommunications services that will meet the needs of all tenants."



PLANS: Tony Hilditch

IN BRIEF

Recruiting plans

BAE Systems is to recruit 265 engineering and business apprentices across its UK business this year, including 136 at its submarine building business in Barrow-in-Furness where the company is building seven nuclear-powered submarines.

READERS' CURRY RESTAURANT OF THE YEAR



Vote for your favourite Curry Restaurant in Bradford and help us celebrate Bradford's recent award as Curry Capital of the UK

Fill in and send this form to us at the T&A and you could also be in with a chance of winning a feast for you and your friends worth £200 at the winning restaurant (details at www.telegraphandargus.co.uk)

Form for voting for the Curry Restaurant of the Year, including fields for Name, Address, Telephone Number, Email, Restaurant Name, and Reason for nomination.