

Jobs

rop@reporterandchronicle.co.uk

CLEANER REQUIRED
Ashton-under-Lyne, Family
Monday to Friday
please phone 01457

This week we
speak to...

ALEX ILLINGWORTH,
Trainee Accountant
with the Diet Plate.

Taking time to decide on your career can pay off

Briefly describe your job and main responsibilities.

I left Glossopdale Community College after finishing my A' Levels, not knowing which career direction to take.

Although University appealed, I had no idea what to study or what I wanted to do.

Like most I was worried about the student debt too.

Having been unemployed for four weeks after leaving college I was lucky enough to gain employment in the family company to get work experience.

The job offered consisted of packing diet plates and bowls to fulfill customer orders from the website. www.thedietplate.com and dealing with telephone orders and trade clients such as Simmondley Pharmacy, Cohen's and other independent retail chemists.

There was also an element of producing sales invoices using the accounting software.

How did you get to your present position?

I was trained as a customer service executive too, though the main part of this job was managing the warehouse and controlling the stock.

I worked for more than a year on this side of the business and continued to be the warehouse manager.

However, having a natural flair for figures and mathematics I found the work easy and not really very challenging.

Diet Plate had taken on an apprentice from Connexions in Glossop, and the DNCC was coming in to the company periodically to go through the NVQ with her.

It was one of these days that I expressed an interest in further training to get into a profession rather than just an ordinary job.

I expressed interest in becoming an accountant. My natural affinity with maths and my competence

with the accounting software and computer skills all seemed a bit wasted on packing plates.

The advisor from Connexions suggested that funding could be found for me because of my age and qualifications, and that I could study for one day a week for my AAT, which eventually leads on to an ACA qualification in accounting.

I was flabbergasted that there was hope for me and though it had taken a year out of full time education to decide on a career path, there was help for me other than University and the dreaded student debt.

What progression prospects are there?

I have now completed my first year exams of a three year course and passed with flying colours.

I intend to go onto the ACA course and become a fully qualified accountant.

Though it might have taken me a little longer than doing a similar degree course, the benefit is that I will have three years' work experience in a real time situation with a real company.

The experience is not only building my confidence as a young man but giving me a real feel for business, the importance of sales and expenditure in a company, their staffing needs and the importance of staff training.

It has opened up a lifetime of opportunity.

What advice would you give people wishing to go into your profession?

If you are disappointed with your GCE/GCSE results – can't get onto the course you want, then don't despair – look into an apprenticeship programme.

That's what I have done, with Derbyshire & Notts Chamber of Commerce (training).

Apprenticeships give you the whole package – work experience



ALEX ILLINGWORTH: 'Don't despair if your GCSE results don't add up - you can earn while you learn.'

F10-1138

together with a nationally recognised qualification, which in some cases carries UCAS points to enable progress onto FE & HE courses.

Contact your local Connexions office, ourselves, or go to the National Apprenticeship Service online, where you will find vacancies in numerous occupational areas. Employers want the whole package – qualifications and relevant work experience. Earn while you learn.

www.chambertraining.org

Consider all of your options

SCHOOL and university leavers could make the grade with employers after passing their summer exams.

Commenting on Tuesday's GCSE results, Dr Brian Sloan, Head of Business and Economic Policy, said: "Most of those receiving their GCSE results will be planning to do A-Levels and then go on to university.

"However, we would urge these young people to look at all the options available to them including apprenticeships and other vocational quali-

cations.

Schools must show pupils that the academic route is not the only path to a career.

"We're not saying that young people shouldn't do A-Levels and degrees, but that they should consider all their options.

"We need people with vocational and academic qualifications if we are to have the full range of skills our economy needs.

"Employers are always on the look

out for high flying talent and school leavers who may be looking to go down the vocational training route could look to secure one of our guaranteed apprenticeship places with assured employment and a wage from day one.

"Most businesses are fed up with the old debate about whether exams are getting easier.

"What they want is a young person equipped with the right skills for the world of work."

It's easy to
Advertise
Visit us at...

Park House,
Acres Lane,
Stalybridge,
Cheshire,
SK15 2JR

Give us a
call...

0161
303
0005

9am till 5pm
Mon to Fri

Fax us your
advert...

0161 304
8484

24 hours
7 days a week

E-mail...

jobs@
reporterand
chronicle.co.uk

Deadline

Wednesday
10.00am

Cancellations

Monday
5.00pm

Reporter
Chronicle

FULL-TIME VACANCIES

SERVICE DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATOR

An enthusiastic, experienced and flexible person required, able to work on own initiative as part of a small team. Must be computer literate for our bespoke program. Knowledge of Word and Excel is essential. Have the ability to communicate/liaise with our Customers and Suppliers. Some duties would include dealing with Customers, Suppliers and our Service Engineers, costing, typing and preparing invoices. Scheduling reactive and service visits. Compiling monthly Management reports. 36.25 hrs per week. Salary dependant on applicant.

Send CV to 86-88 Edward Street,
Glossop, SK13 7AE

CARING CAREERS

MMCG
**Bowerfield
Court, Disley,
Cheshire**
Require
RGN days
Rate of pay
£13.77per hr
Tel.
01663 761430
for application
form

PART TIME

CB Office Supplies Ltd
Tele-Marketing Executive
£6,600 pa, OTE £12,000
Hours: 10am-3pm

Outgoing and enthusiastic
telesales person required to be
part of an expanding team based
in Ashton. Experience in telesales
beneficial but not essential.

Please call : **0161 339 7417**

To Advertise
in the

Jobs

Fax:
**0161
304 8484**

Reporter
Chronicle