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Press Release

MEDIA STUDENT MIXES WITH THE STARS AT TV PRODUCTION COMPANY

A media student at Cambridge Regional College is rubbing shoulders with the stars in a high-profile work placement at television company Talkback Thames.

Tom Norris, 21, from Melbourn, works on top shows such as *Never Mind the Buzzcocks*, *Celebrity Juice* and *PhoneBook*, gaining valuable work experience as part of his film and television course.



Tom Norris with actor Noel Fielding, one of the stars of *The IT Crowd*

The National Diploma Film and Television student works closely with the production teams, collects props and tapes and makes up question cards. He even looks after the celebrity guests –one of his weekly tasks is to make sure that comedian Phill Jupitus is kept happy with ‘one whole chicken, medium spiced’ from his favourite restaurant.

Tom, a second year student at CRC, said the work placement was giving him plenty of opportunities to work closely with TV professionals.

“Some of the jobs I am expected to undertake include making trips to dispatch where I collect props and tapes for the day’s show, looking after the celebrity guests and keeping their dressing rooms to a high standard, working closely with the production team in the office, making up the question cards and fetching refreshments for the production team,” he said.

“My course at CRC has provided a good grounding in the practices, procedures and the skills required within the TV industry, and it is great to have the opportunity to put these skills into practice and push myself forward into the media industry.”

Tom’s lecturer Drew Tremlett, from CRC’s Music, Media and Performing Arts department, said the work placement was a very exciting opportunity for students.

“We’re very grateful to Talkback Thames for providing such valuable work experience and giving Tom the opportunity to put into practice many of the things he is learning at College.

“He has developed good working relationships with members of the production crew and is finding out just what it’s like to work in the industry.”

CRC’s Film and Television programme is the most popular of its media courses, with many talented learners going on to university or to work in the industry.

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MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

For more information, please contact Lynn O'Shea, PR & Events Co-ordinator, on 01223 418773 or email loshea@camre.ac.uk

NOTES TO EDITORS

Cambridge Regional College is the second largest provider of full-time education for 16 to 19 year-olds in the eastern region. The College has more than 4,000 full-time and 6,000 part-time students. Students come in from a 40-mile radius, covering Cambridge and its surrounding villages, eastern Bedfordshire, northern Essex and western Suffolk.

Over 80 per cent of full-time students are aged 16 to 18 years old and come to the College after secondary school; the rest are mature students, studying on a range of Access to Higher Education and vocational programmes. The College offers the largest and most comprehensive range of vocational courses in Cambridgeshire, and has one of the largest work-based learning contracts in the Eastern Region.