



## Transport Fit for Heroes

Finchale has a brand new LDV Maxus vehicle designated for use by our Veterans students, with thanks to The Durham City and Framwellgate Moor Branch of The Royal British Legion.

On a visit to Finchale early last year, Branch Chair, Don Rutherford, Branch Secretary Mike Donne and Branch Treasurer Cynthia Lodge were delighted to learn more about the work the College does to help Veterans, particularly those from the surrounding local communities.

Not only were the Branch impressed with the range of facilities and courses offered at Finchale for ex-service personnel in need, but they were especially pleased to hear about the Progression Pathways Programme and Finchale's specialist rehabilitation facilities available for those living with complex issues such as, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

However, after speaking with course tutor, Andrew Wildish, and hearing about the demand for the Progression Pathways course and some of the barriers that some of Finchale's Veterans students encounter, such as attending medical or social welfare appointments and caring for children, the Branch members were keen to help.

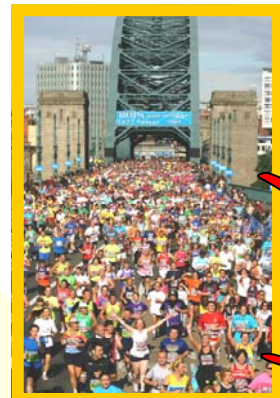
Consequently, Finchale was thrilled to be presented with a very generous donation from the Durham City and Framwellgate Moor Branch to purchase a new vehicle. On December 9th 2011 the new vehicle was presented to Finchale during a very fitting ceremony to mark the significant achievements of L/Cpl Andrew Wardle MC. L/Cpl Andrew Wardle was delighted to be presented with a replica of his Military Cross and to receive a note of thanks from the Branch members of The Durham City and Framwellgate Moor Royal British Legion for his help and support during the Poppy Appeal. Whilst receiving his award, he was also thrilled to see Finchale's new vehicle get out on to the road, complete with the Royal British Legion's official Poppy logo on, to provide further help and support for other local Veterans like him. In an interview with the BBC, L/Cpl Andrew Wardle described the significance of providing transport for other Veterans in need living in the North East region to be able to access life-changing training and rehabilitation opportunities at places like Finchale Training College. Finchale's new Veterans vehicle has so far provided transport for over forty Veterans who have undertaken the Progression Pathways Programme at the College.



(from left) Cpt Ruth Wright from the Personnel Recovery and Assessment Centre at Catterick, L/Cpl Andrew Wardle MC, Mike Donne RBL Branch Secretary and Tony Ford Head of Admin and Finance at Finchale Training College.

## Great North Run Places Available

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[finchalecollege.co.uk](http://finchalecollege.co.uk)

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## Are You An Employer?

Finchale enrolls over 200 students every year from across the UK, with many from the North East region. Our students train in a range of vocations and bring certified qualifications and valuable work experience as well as other skills and personality to their occupation. There are also lots of incentives and support available for every business that can provide work placements or employment opportunities for a student from Finchale.



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[EmployerEngagement@finchalecollege.co.uk](mailto:EmployerEngagement@finchalecollege.co.uk) /  
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Accountants



## Festive Fundraising is a Great Success



Finchale's fundraising forum was very busy over the festive season organising and hosting its annual Christmas Fayre. The fair was a brilliant success with staff, students and the local community, raising over £1500 for Finchale. With lots of festive treats, music, arts and crafts and even a visit from Santa everyone enjoyed the day. Fundraising



Officer Emma Simpson said, "The fair was a fantastic event with lots of children's activities and festive stalls. However, it would not be possible without the support of so many coming along to support Finchale and in particular, those who have volunteered to give up their time and effort to help organise and run the event".



Even after the fair, Finchale was able to continue raising much needed funds by selling poinsettia plants at Northumbrian Water. After being very kindly invited to sell festive plants and baskets, Finchale raised over £1000 in just two days. Finchale are thrilled to have the support of Northumbrian Water and very much look forward to going back again soon.

## Students Build Their Future

Finchale is always pleased to hear from previous students and their achievements since leaving the College but it has recently heard from a couple of students who have achieved success by taking some inspirational steps to ,quite literally, build their own future after Finchale.

Mr Steven Todd, trained in Chartered Surveying at Finchale in 1985, recently wrote to Finchale's Principal, Dr David Etheridge, to very kindly offer his services in chartered surveying. Unfortunately, as Finchale no longer provides training in quantity surveying it was unable to accept his offer. However, the College was overwhelmed to hear that since leaving Finchale, Steve went on to a achieve great success in the Chartered Surveying industry. After leaving Finchale having gained a City & Guilds Quantity Surveying qualification with Silver Medal, Steve enrolled at Leeds polytechnic where he achieved a first class BSc (Hons) in Quantity Surveying and a Tarmac Construction Prize. Steve then went on to develop two successful businesses and then in 2004 he embarked on a career as a Lecturer. Since 2010 Steve has worked as a Senior Lecturer in Property and Construction at The University of Westminster, in London, where he continues to teach today. This is a fantastic achievement and Finchale is particularly proud to have contributed (albeit in a small way!) to Steve's academic and professional success.

A little closer to home, Finchale is very proud to hear that since leaving the College, previous joinery student Paul Herbert has gained successful employment as a Joiner for Lydia's House in Sunderland. Paul enjoyed the practical aspects of joinery when training at Finchale and even combined this with his love of music, even making his own cello whilst at the College. Finchale wishes Paul lots of success in his new role and we hope he continues to enjoy his love of joinery and music to *carve* himself a great future in the joinery industry.

## Stepping Forward in Spring



With the light nights setting in, the clock about to jump forward and the sun slowly making an appearance, Finchale is very much looking forward to the Spring and Summer months.

**Tea with the Queen-** Finchale's Fundraising Forum are currently organising this year's Clarty Party event, but with an added royal twist. To mark the Queen's Jubilee in June, the forum will host the event as usual in the plant centre, selling delicious cream teas and cakes, but it will also mark this very special occasion by planning some extra activities and typically British treats for visitors to toast Her Majesty.

**Fundraising Forum Funds Help Students to Tune in and Relax** -After much effort to fundraise every year to improve student facilities and welfare at the College, the forum have raised enough funds to provide television in all student bedrooms. Currently students either loan or bring their own TV when residing at Finchale but this will enable each student to better enjoy their stay at the College and live comfortably in their own bedrooms.

**Volunteers Needed-** The Fundraising Forum group meets once a month and is open to all students and staff. Finchale is also looking for volunteers to undertake sponsored activities and other fundraising events to raise awareness and funds for the College.

**Email: [fundraising@finchalecollege.co.uk](mailto:fundraising@finchalecollege.co.uk)**

## Support Finchale

### Donate to Finchale Training College:

Log on to and click "Donate Now" to pay by credit/debit card:

<http://www.finchalecollege.co.uk/inbrief.asp>

Alternatively you can complete this form and enclose a cheque made payable to 'Finchale Training College'.

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**Thank You!**

**Finchale Training College  
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0191 386 2634**