

BUSINESS

# Young entrepreneurs have what it takes



AWARD winners: Oasis Academy Oldham



DECISION time: Judges Dave Meredith and Andrew Sutherland

School teams get the chance to showcase their talents

By Gillian Potts  
gillian.potts@theoldhamtimes.co.uk

THE cream of the crop of Oldham's budding young entrepreneurs showcased their business skills and acumen.

Students from schools across the borough converged on the Oldham College's Grange Theatre to compete for the chance to represent their home town at the Greater Manchester Young Enterprise Company Programme finals.

Supported by Oldham Enterprise Trust and the Careers and Enterprise Company, teams from North Chadderton, Oldham Hulme Grammar School, Oldham College, Oldham Sixth Form College, New Bridge, Saddleworth School, The Radcliffe School, The Hathershaw College and Oasis Academy Oldham attended the Young Enterprise Oldham Area Showcase event.

They pitched the journey



HAZZLED: The Hathershaw College pitch

and success of the businesses they launched throughout the academic year - with the help of local business volunteers - through a trade stand, report, presentation and team interview.

Judging the event, which was hosted by Danny Simpson from MID communications, was Dawn Torrington from Doing Biz For Yourself, Dave Meredith from Pearson Solicitors and Financial Advisers LLP and Andrew Sutherland, direc-

tor of Oldham Council's Education and Early Years.

Award winners of the Oldham final were Phoenix from Oasis Academy Oldham for the best company report, Heavenly Homes from Saddleworth School for the best trade stand and ReRefresh from North Chadderton for the best presentation.

The two teams through to the regional final on April 18, at Manchester Metropolitan University, were Heavenly Homes from Saddleworth School and UniTe from New Bridge.

Kashif Ashraf, from Oldham Enterprise Trust said: "This is the fourth year that Oldham Enterprise Trust has supported Young Enterprise in Oldham and we're so pleased that this year we have had the largest number of young people taking part."

"I feel that the future for Oldham is so positive with the talent and enterprise culture among young people in town. This truly was reflected at the Oldham final."



CELEBRATION The UniTe team from New Bridge School

## Car fire threat to mosque

A CAR on fire in Werneth put a nearby mosque "in jeopardy", according to fire crews.

The vehicle, understood to be a BMW, had been stripped of everything of value and set on fire in Cambridge Street, at land next to Jamia Ghausia Mosque.

Fire crews from Hollins were called to the scene at 9.30pm on Thursday last week.

Crew manager John Stanley said: "The car had been stripped of everything of value and the remains had been set alight on wasteland."

"The carcass of the vehicle was well alight when we got there, and situated close to a mosque, it was putting the building in jeopardy. There were also many people around at the time as well."

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Chris Wibberley BA RDT (Dip CDT)  
Managing Director, CW Dentures

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