

## The back-to-school blues buster

## Have you heard?

At 92 years old, Derek Skipper has become the oldest person in Britain to pass a GCSE exam after receiving a grade five in Maths this summer.

Nearly 180,000 18-year-old students were accepted into their first-choice university this year – the largest number ever on record.

The Repair Shop host, Jay Blades, has received an honorary doctorate from Buckinghamshire New University and been appointed the institution's first chancellor.

## New term, new challenge

Bag packed? Check. Uniform ironed? Check. Alarm set? Check... This all-too-familiar ritual means summer is over and, whether you spent the time off globetrotting or binge-watching Netflix, we hope you enjoyed some much-needed respite.

Summer is, after all, a chance to forget about homework and exams, so you could be forgiven for feeling a bit deflated about its end. But a new term also brings new opportunities and since there's no greater motivator than having a goal to work towards, this month's newsletter is dedicated to helping you find one. Shall we?



## How to stand out from the crowd

Alert, alert – the UCAS undergraduate application deadline is in just under four months (Wednesday 25th January 2023, to be precise). So, if you have dreams of walking across a stage in a strange cap and gown to collect your diploma, now's the time to think about how you can elevate your personal statement. A vital part of the application process, don't you know...

[Find out more >](#)



## And... action!

Submissions for the inaugural Emerging Filmmaker Awards open this November. Brought to you by the clever people behind Raindance, the awards offer the next Cameron or Coppola a chance to have their work recognised at the largest independent film festival in the UK.

[Register now >](#)

*"It's worth remembering that it is often the small steps, not the giant leaps, that bring about the most lasting change."*

– Queen Elizabeth II

## Get your diaries out

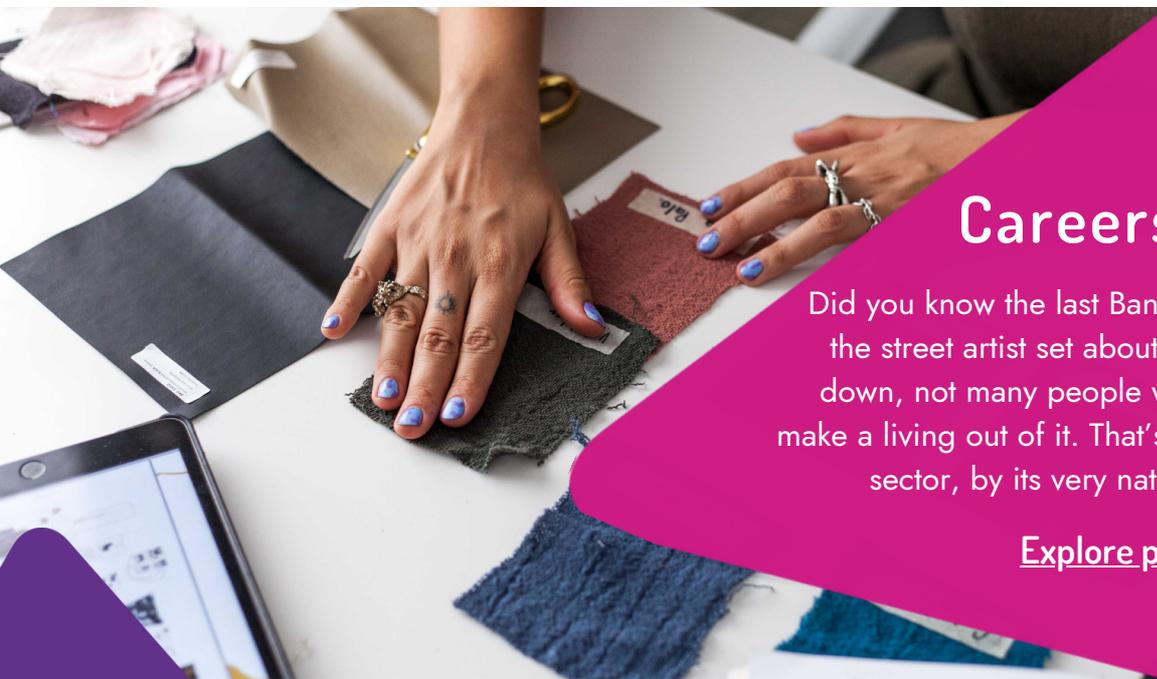
Behold, your cheat-sheet to 2022/23's careers events. There's loads of exciting stuff going on in Buckinghamshire over the next year, which we've painstakingly pared down to five key shows, festivals and campaigns to help you discover your dream role.

[Let's get planning >](#)

## Rethinking university?

If you feel like the only one struggling to imagine life after school, don't panic. Higher education might seem like the obvious next step, but with the average student now graduating a whopping £50k in debt, many young people are weighing up whether university is for them. The good news is there's a whole world of practical and vocational options for you to discover.

[Here's a starter for ten >](#)



## Careers for creatives

Did you know the last Banksy sold for £18.5m? When the street artist set about turning the art world upside down, not many people would have thought he could make a living out of it. That's the thing about the creative sector, by its very nature, it's constantly changing.

[Explore paths off the beaten track >](#)

## That's not all, folks

Still looking for a project to get stuck into? Whether you're just starting your secondary school career or getting ready to sit A level exams, the Buckinghamshire Skills Hub is here to help you develop the skills and qualifications you need to be successful in the workplace.

[Discover more opportunities and resources >](#)

