

No 'sheepish' Business at Launceston College

A2 Year 13 Business students of Launceston College took a unique opportunity to see two Cornish businesses that are thriving from innovation in Wool! Students visited Sue Blacker of the Natural Fibre Company in Launceston, where they were given a guided tour of the production facilities including a question time with the Managing Director. The Natural Fibre Company produces wool for local and national farms around the UK.

Students then went on to see Cornish Organic Wool at their shop Knitwits in Penzance, one of the retailers of the produce from the Natural Fibre Company. After some brief introductions the students were given a lowdown on the business proposition of this innovative business. Cornish Organic Wool owned by Julia and Matt Hopson, are one of the only a few organic wool retailers in the UK and thrive on being a green retailer, as every ball of wool in the shop can be traced back to its origin (usually in Cornwall). The students were given some expert advice on how to start up their own business as these young entrepreneurs prepare to write their own business plans for their coursework.

One student commented "the whole day has been really useful to see how actual businesses start up and operate. The two businesses are really quite interesting and have clear unique selling points, which has shaped their successful businesses". Mr Brittain, Subject Leader for Business at Launceston commented "it has been a wonderful experience for the students to see two thriving, successful and innovative businesses in the local area. The two businesses are stereo typical of Cornwall's increasingly dynamic and pioneering enterprise culture, which has been passed on to the next generation of budding entrepreneurs."