

EVENT Level 3 Diploma in body massage techniques

Graduates' glee at getting certificates

■ LAURA WEBB

THE SUN was shining down for Castleknock Beauty Academy's first graduates when they were awarded their industry recognised certificate of completion.

Sarah McDonald and Christina Martin, are celebrating this week after getting their Level 3 Diploma in Body Massage Techniques following an intense nine month course at Castleknock's first private beauty school. Castleknock model Alison Cavanagh was down on the day to support the graduates.

Castleknock Beauty Academy owner, Patricia

Sheridan, who also owns Lavender Beauty Rooms, said she was delighted to see the first graduates of the school do so well.

"I just want to wish them the best of luck in the future. They were excellent students and I really enjoyed working with them, they are excellent therapists."

For many of the students, they are coming into the school with no previous experience but leave with top class qualifications.

"People are retiring early, or have lost their job and want to retrain. It's a great skill to have."

Graduate Sarah McDonald was let go

from her administration job and decided to pursue her dream of becoming a massage therapist.

She hopes to continue beauty training and is honoured to be one of the first to graduate from the school.

"It was a great course and Patricia was great to work with and so helpful," she said.

"I live in Roselawn so it's handy to have it in the area. I hope to work in a salon and as I progress maybe one day open my own salon," she said.

Asked about the course, Sarah said it was tough but worth it. "You think it is all prac-



Sarah McDonald pictured with Anatomy and Physiology tutor, Aidan Kelly; Castleknock Beauty Academy owner, Patricia Sheridan and Castleknock model, Alison Cavanagh

tical, but there is theory behind it. The biology side is the equivalent of first year nursing, it's a shock but really enjoyable and when you hear how happy clients are, it's rewarding like that; I would recommend it to anyone."

Anatomy and physiology tutor, Aidan Kelly, said

the courses are never easy and that it's the effort of the students that gets them the results.

"It's ongoing, so students have to be continuously on top of their work; each course starts at the basics and gets deeper into it. Today is about actually achieving it - it's a great day."

According to Kelly, a recent survey in the UK showed that beauty therapy is the happiest industry to work in, and with smiles on the graduates' and teachers' faces, it might just be true.

For further information about courses log onto www.castleknock-beautyacademy.ie

LEARN IT

Summer camps sell out

THERE is a huge demand for young kids to learn more about engineering as Learn It summer camps in Castleknock sell out.

Summer camps are big within communities over the holidays and this year it seems learning more about engineering and mechanics is top of the summer camp list.

Learn It Junior Engineer summer camp at Castleknock Community Centre being held in August is already sold out and a waiting list has been opened on its website. The Junior Engineer Camps are for children aged six to 12 years. Children learn about engineering and mechanical principles, and work on various structural and mechanical projects throughout the week.

This camp has a number of locations and dates across Dublin so check out www.learnit.ie for a list of locations.



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