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EDITED BY JANE HAMILTON

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## TURN £10 INTO GOLD

SCHOOLKIDS are being urged to turn a tenner into profit by launching their own business. More than 250,000 pupils from 330 schools are to take part in the Tenner Challenge run by education charity Young Enterprise. Backing the scheme are the Business Secretary, Vince Cable, Innocent Drinks founder Richard Reed and the creator of

Moshi Monsters, Michael Acton Smith. Mr Cable said: "I am encouraged that a lot of schools have started up clubs for young people launching businesses. "Some of our most famous business people started with businesses from school, so I just want to do everything I can to encourage you." Visit [tenner.org.uk](http://tenner.org.uk) to get more information.

**COOK** up a career as a River Cottage apprentice. The restaurants and cookery school are taking on 40 trainees aged 16 to 19 for 12-month stints at approved local hotels and restaurants, with 24 training days at River Cottage HQ. Apply before May 20 at [rivercottage.net](http://rivercottage.net).

## IT'S OK, COMMUTER

THOSE Brits who travel for more than 90 minutes each way to work have doubled since 2008. The average worker lives almost 17 miles from work and takes 41 minutes to get there. But "extreme commuters" now make up nine per cent of all staff. Accountants travel the furthest, while car industry workers have the shortest daily trip, of just 22 minutes, research

from recruiters Randstad found. The number of employees who work as they travel has grown as tablets and smartphones have made it easier to stay in touch with the office. Randstad boss Mark Bull said: "Time is a vital currency. How much you spend commuting reveals a great deal. Savvy Brits are using their commute to become more productive."

## SOUND ADVICE IN MEDIA

WANT to get into broadcasting? Then make your voice heard at the first Sound Women Festival. Broadcasting industry greats, including Fleet Street legend Eve Pollard and BBC journalist Helen Fawkes, will be on hand with careers advice and insider tips on how they made it to the top in a competitive industry. Maria Williams, the Sound Women founder, said: "The festival is set to be a unique opportunity to hear how other women have battled the odds to get where they are today. "Each speaker has a unique story – but they're all united in their creativity and determination. We hope to inspire everyone who comes." Find out more at [soundwomen.co.uk](http://soundwomen.co.uk).

## JOB

**OVERHEAD** linesmen are wanted in the North West by ENS Ltd. Call 01270 758190 for more information or send your CV to [nora.gunning@ens-ltd.co.uk](mailto:nora.gunning@ens-ltd.co.uk).

## SPOT

## POWER RANGERS

GO green with one of 400 new jobs from the Mark Group. The energy-saving specialists are recruiting hundreds of new members of staff for their home performance team. The company, who install energy-saving and power-generating measures into homes, schools and businesses, are seeking 400 home performance assessors and managers to carry out home energy efficiency assessments at properties nationwide. While no formal surveying qualifications are required, the company are seeking people with a real interest in sustainability and energy-saving. Full training will be provided to successful applicants. To apply, check out [markgroup.co.uk/careers](http://markgroup.co.uk/careers).

## SARAH'S PRETTY CLEVER

SARAH ROUSSINOV owns the Cocoon Rooms salon in Ham, Surrey – and is looking to expand. She set it up on maternity leave from the salon at Chelsea Football Club, and counts celebrities among her clients. Sarah, 40, above, said: "It's no surprise salons are doing well – the job market is

very competitive at the moment so it's more important to look successful. "When recruiting, I look for someone with communication and retail skills, a caring nature and eye for detail. I want someone who will care for my business as much as I do – that's like gold dust. "You may have to work very hard as a

beauty therapist but it is sociable and fun. Seek work experience while studying. And, even if not allowed to do treatments, make yourself indispensable – you'll boost your job chances once qualified. "Try to stick at each job for at least a year. Future employers will like that if looking to invest in training you."

# Working in a beauty salon? I'd be made up



**RIGHT** now beauty salons are the workplaces where the future is looking good.

Despite the economic downturn, business is booming – with 22 per cent of British salons expecting to take on more staff this year. Industry experts estimate 10,000 jobs will be created in the UK beauty salon business in total this year, as Brits continue to splash out on small treats such as manicures and hair colouring. Salons in London and the North East have the highest number of vacancies, according to a Beautiful Britain report from product supply firm Salon Services. Three in five salon owners report feeling confident about customer numbers this year while 58 per cent have seen an upsurge in the num-

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ber of male clients coming through the doors. And while starting salaries tend to be minimum wage, there is huge scope to progress quickly and even run your own business or work on cruise ships or luxury hotels abroad. **Varied** Therapists can expect to earn between £6.50 and £9 an hour, or up to £12 for those working in London. These rates are often boosted by commissions on treatments and products. Job roles are varied, too – with specialities including manicures, hairdressing, eyebrow treatments, facials, waxing and massage. Every role needs qualifications but most are learned on the job alongside day-

release to study at local colleges. Most salons will take on trainees to learn the basics with staff being able to specialise later on. Salon Services boss Richard Hull said: "It is great to see that, despite the tough economic conditions, more than one in five UK salons still plans to take on more staff this year. "This is a truly resilient and entrepreneurial profession so, whether you are starting out in your career, or looking for the next step, there are lots of opportunities out there." There are currently more than 6,000 beauty vacancies available around the UK. ● **FIND jobs at:** [hairandbeauty-jobs.com](http://hairandbeauty-jobs.com); [salon-recruitment.co.uk](http://salon-recruitment.co.uk) and [apprenticeships.org.uk](http://apprenticeships.org.uk).

## JOB

**CONTRACTS** Support Services are looking for CCDO demolition operatives in the South East. Please call CSS on 01376 330701.

## SPOT



## BRANSON'S IN HIGH SPIRITS

BROTHERS Joshua and John Okungbaiye had every reason to be in high spirits after winning the Pitch To Rich competition. The south London siblings, pictured with Sir Richard Branson, scooped the £5,000 first prize with their

design for a theft-proof rucksack and will get mentor support from the Virgin boss. Sir Richard said: "I was very impressed. I'll be using my red bag and I'm happy to be one of their first brand ambassadors." Now their firm High Spirit will be helped to launch the

product nationwide. Joshua, from Thamesmead, said: "It's been a great learning curve. We'd recommend the competition to any budding entrepreneurs." For more info on the Virgin Media Pioneers and next year's Pitch To Rich, see [virginmediapioneers.com](http://virginmediapioneers.com).

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