



ENGINEERING FOCUS

MARCH 2012



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**Bloodhound
SSC
Education
Centre Launch**

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BLOODHOUND SSC – SPECIAL LAUNCH EDITION

Pupils meet the staff behind the Bloodhound world land speed record attempt.

Local pupils joined the Mayor of Dartford and other guests as Wilmington Grammar School for Boys hosted the British team behind the 2013 world land speed record attempt in South Africa. Star of the show was a full sized model of the Bloodhound SSC car which has been designed to not just break the current land speed record of 763 mph set back in 1997, but to surpass the 1000mph barrier. To put it into perspective, at full speed, the thirteen metre Bloodhound car will cover a mile in 3.6 seconds.

The visit was to launch Wilmington Grammar School for Boys as an official Bloodhound education centre, one of only three schools in the country and the only one in the South East. Mr Williamson, the school's Headteacher was delighted with how well the day had gone. "As the only



Early start—unloading the car at 6.00am

specialist Engineering school in Kent, many of our students are focussing on Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths for their futures. As a Bloodhound Education Centre, we will be able to provide them and other local pupils a fantastic opportunity to inspire and educate them."

As well as the jet and rocket powered car, guests and pupils from over ten different schools were treated to a video presentation, an opportunity to meet the engineers behind the project and take part in a number of related activities and games laid on by the school.

At the end of the day however, it was the Bloodhound car, which has the equivalent power to 180 Formula 1 cars, which stole the show.



Hundreds of students and guests get the opportunity to see the 13.1 metre car



SETTING UP AT 6.00 AM



Headlights were used until it was light



The car balances on the forks of the forklift. Our thanks to Steve Rains for volunteering to help us unload the car



A 6.00 a.m. Start might be a shock to the system for some people, but the experienced team from Bloodhound SSC went straight to work.



The car is lifted down from the lorry by forklift and sits on two wheeled cradles called dollies.



Once on the dollies the car can be pushed into the 18 x 9 metre marquee.

“Britain has actually held the land speed record for 69 years out of its 105 year history.”

Jo Finch

Project Animator

Eddy Lampkin, Mayor of Dartford with Andy Williamson Headteacher at WGSB and Jo Finch from Bloodhound SSC



SPOTLIGHT ON THE SHOW CAR! WELL HEADLIGHTS ACTUALLY



Several Bloodhound SSC displays accompanied the show car, including an up to date 1/10th Scale model of the car with a price tag of £5000 if you would like one.



One student commented that if everyone in the school donated £6 we could afford one for the foyer.



ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE DAY



40 business guests, over 80 primary students, hundreds of secondary students and their parents came to see the show car.



Hundreds of people were fascinated by the show car and wanted to be photographed beside it to show other people what they had seen. Including the schools FI Bloodhound Team (below).



While they were there they also had the chance to try the Bloodhound Driving Experience Simulator

“You learn most by getting it wrong, good old trial and error. There is too much emphasis on tick boxing the right answers”

Jo Finch
Project Animator



Jo Finch, from Bloodhound SSC gives presentations about the project throughout the day to over 500 people.



Displays from our highly successful FI teams showed their work and gave a great opportunity for visitors to discuss the engineering involved in the projects.



Students made k'nex cars, balloon cars and retro rockets as well as seeing rapid prototyping machines and laser cutters.



Christine James from Primary Engineer explains their wide range of projects to business people, teachers and students. For more information go to www.primaryengineer.com



The Speeding Snails hold the world record in the Bloodhound class.



THANK YOU!

The Bloodhound SSC Education Centre launch day was a huge success and we would like to thank the following people who volunteered their time and expertise to make sure that it happened. Firstly our thanks go to the team from the Bloodhound SSC project: Jo Finch, Jazz, Peter, Steve Lewis and Jonathan Ellis, who worked tirelessly throughout the day to make sure every question was answered.

To Chris Commons and Mark Scott for supervising the extremely popular Bloodhound Driving Experience, a fantastic simulator giving people the opportunity to try to control jets, rockets air brakes and parachutes and try to break the 1000mph barrier.

To Colin Wheeler a local engineer who organises the Trevithick's Industrial Dartford every year, held in Dartford Central Park during May.

To Steve Rains from R.J. Rudd and Company for coming to the school at the start and end of the day to take on the challenge of balancing the show car on the forks of his truck and lifting it down onto the dollies and then up onto the lorry with only a few inches clearance at either end!

To Ken Smith who was our chief photographer for the day.

Finally to all of our visitors, business people, primary and secondary students and parents for making the day as successful as it was because of the interest and enthusiasm they showed in the project.

TREVITHICKS INDUSTRIAL DARTFORD
4th Annual Event
MAY 12th 2012
Dartford Central Park 10am-5pm
STEAM IN DARTFORD
FREE ENTRY
FULL SIZE STEAM ENGINES
VINTAGE VEHICLES
MINIATURE STEAM ENGINES
STATIONARY ENGINES
VINTAGE TRACTORS
Road Run Dedicated to Richard Trevithick
Sunday 13th at 12 noon Overy St Dartford
Contact: Colin Wheeler 07762 301463
wheelereng@btinternet.com



For more information and images go to <http://wgsbengineeringfocus.weebly.com/bloodhound-ssc.html>
or <http://www.bloodhoundssc.com/>

Bloodhound SSC Outreach Work

If you are a primary or secondary school in the South East region and you would like a team of staff and students to visit your school to cover a STEM based topic about the Bloodhound SSC please do not hesitate to contact me so that we can discuss the projects that we have available to you and your students. Please e-mail me at esmith@wgsb.org.uk

Primary Outreach Work

During the year we visit local primary schools to run STEM projects with Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. I need students to come along and help me run these activities and I am always looking for volunteers from any year group. This is particularly helpful if you are applying for the STEM Leadership Award with Primary Engineer. If you are interested in helping out or would like more information please e-mail me at esmith@wgsb.org.uk



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