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# Young Designers rise to the Challenge

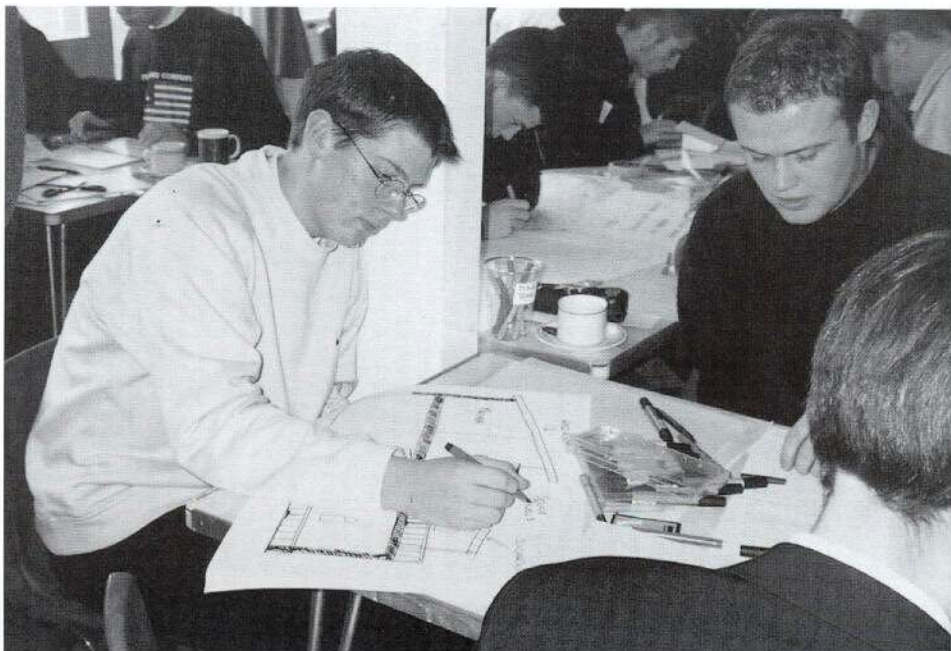
NATIONAL Architecture Week was more than a promotional week for the profession as far as nearly 50 sixth formers and their tutors were concerned. These A-level Design & Technology students took their ideas and skills to a 'Design Challenge' workshop arranged by Edenbridge architect Annette Hards with support from Michael Winter, architect and resident in his own 'green' house designed in a modern style to make use of environmentally sustainable building methods and amenities.

A visit to the house was included in the programme. But back in the pavilion at the Neville Ground the practical topic of the day for the students was the design of a small 'sustainable' sports pavilion. Joining them on the project were architecture students from the University of Greenwich, seven architects, three teachers and Cathy Gaunt representing West Kent EBP, one of the sponsors of the day with local councils and the RIBA South East Region.

Later, the students joined in a lively discussion on the possibilities of designing environmentally friendly living spaces and then made their team presentations to the designers. The sixth formers made an impact.

Annette Hards said, "It was an opportunity to work with a wide range of young people with lots of good ideas. They were able to learn that there is never a completely 'right' answer to design problems."

Ken Davis of Past Systems said, "I learned how imaginative young people are and how prepared they are to consider new ideas."



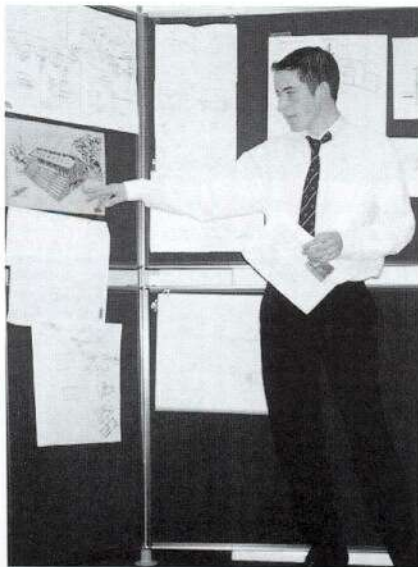
*Ben Miller of Tunbridge Wells Grammar School works with architecture student Andrew Street on the sketch of their team's pavilion. Pictures: P. Banham.*

"I think they have a better appreciation of how difficult designing buildings is and that choices have to be made."

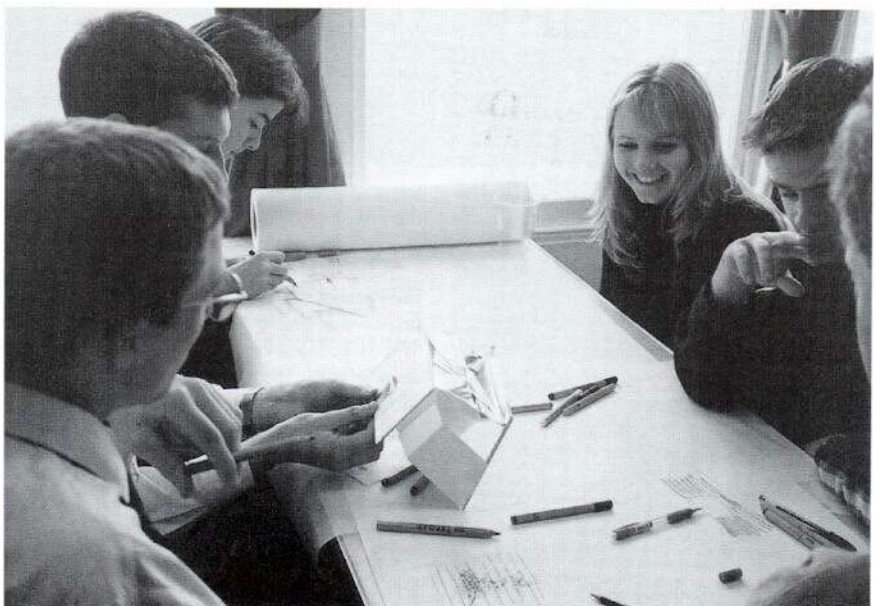
Andrew Street, one of the Greenwich architecture students said, "I enjoyed working with younger people who were enthusiastic about building. I also enjoyed the mix of characters."

The schools taking part in Design Challenge were The Judd School, Tonbridge, Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys, Hayesbrook School, Tonbridge and Hugh Christie Technology College, Tonbridge.

**BUDGET GIRLS:** Girls from Highworth School, Ashford have enjoyed taking the roles of borrowers with varying needs and lenders with varying interest rates and conditions. They were working on the NatWest Face2Face with Finance programme with Sue Pope and Laurance Backler of NatWest. "They got totally involved in their role plays," said Sue Pope, "But most importantly they learned about budgeting their own finances."



*Unveiling one of the ideas and explaining it to the critical audience.*



*Girls from Judd School and other students turn their idea into a three-dimensional model.*