

## Linzi Weare: Hairdressing

**Competed in:** WorldSkills Calgary 2009 – Team UK  
**Awarded:** Medallion for Excellence  
**Home town:** Gloucester  
**Region:** South West  
**Date of birth:** 22/09/1989  
**Age at competition:** 19  
**Employer:** Reds Hair Company

### Qualifications

- Currently studying towards an NVQ Level 3 Hairdressing
- NVQ Level 1 & 2



### What was your route into Team UK?

Linzi followed the WorldSkills UK route and impressed the judges at both the regional and national competition stages. After success at both the Squad and Team selections, Linzi was awarded a place in Team UK.

### Why did you choose to get involved with WorldSkills?

Linzi works with Donna Leach who was the WorldSkills Shizuoka 2007 UK competitor.

*“Having seen what an amazing experience Donna had, I decided to go for it!”*

### What training did you undertake as part of your journey to WorldSkills and what impact did this have on your life?

The intensive training began for Linzi as soon as she was shortlisted. Linzi spent most of her weekends training with her mum at Reds Hair Company.

*“I learned loads of new techniques and practised the WorldSkills Competition styles over and over again. The work that I did for WorldSkills is quite different from my usual day to day work, but the techniques I learned and developed helped me with real clients.”*

### What was WorldSkills like?

*“It is so hard to describe what it was like and all I can say is that it was brilliant! I was so surprised how well Team UK got on. We only really have our skills in common, but I made some great friends.”*

### What did you have to do during the competition?

The hairdressing competition comprised of 8 modules which Linzi had to complete to their individual deadlines over the 22 hour competition period. The modules were designed by the WorldSkills experts to cover all aspects of both men's and ladies' hairdressing including cutting, converting, colouring and sculpture.

### Who inspired you during your journey to WorldSkills?

Linzi's mum and employer, Claire Weare, provided her with her main source of inspiration.

*“My mum really encouraged and helped me throughout my training and preparation for WorldSkills. She knew how much it meant to me and did everything she could to help me do well at the competition.”*

**What did it being part of Team UK and competing at WorldSkills mean to you?**

*"It felt really good to be part of Team UK. Walking out on to the stage during the opening ceremony and having everyone in the crowd screaming and cheering made me feel so proud and really brought home what I have achieved. It was such an honour to be part of the most successful Team UK to date."*

**How did it feel to receive a Medallion for Excellence?**

Although Linzi had done all the training and preparation she could, she knew that one of the modules during the competition hadn't gone to plan.

*"I was so relieved and pleased to receive the Medallion of Excellence. I just knew by the last day that I wasn't in the running for a medal anymore but to be able to bring back a Medallion was fantastic."*

**What has competing done for you both personally and professionally?**

The competition experience has given Linzi some new skills that are proving to be very useful at work.

*"Competing under pressure has built my confidence and ability to manage time. At work, I'm much more confident and I'm able to deal with any problems that occur quickly and without hesitation. As a person, I'm much stronger and more independent."*

**What is the dream?**

*"One day I want to be my own boss and have a salon of my own. I'm keen to continue learning and maybe one day I could be a WorldSkills Expert."*

**Would you encourage others to get involved in WorldSkills?**

*"It's a fantastic opportunity that I would suggest anyone with a passion for their skill should go for. I'm already helping and encouraging my colleagues at work to get involved and with a bit of luck the 2011 Team UK competitor might be a Reds employee as well!"*

**What do you think of the event being held in London in 2011?**

*"It's a really good opportunity for people to find out more about skills and the WorldSkills Competition. Hosting the competition in the UK allows schools and colleges to see the competitions in action and this should have a positive impact on students' perceptions of vocational skills."*



For more information about the WorldSkills, UK Alumni, contact the UK Skills communications team:  
T: 020 7429 2806 E: [ukskills@ukskills.org.uk](mailto:ukskills@ukskills.org.uk) W: [worldskillsukalumni.org.uk](http://worldskillsukalumni.org.uk)

Brought to you by  
**ukskills**

**Edge** There are many paths to success  
Official supporter of Squad and Team UK, and sponsor of WorldSkills, UK Alumni

  
**BRATHAY**  
DO IT THE BRATHAY WAY  
Providers and supporters of training and development for Squad and Team UK