

NHI STUDENTS VISIT FORTH VALLEY COLLEGE

Date: 29th April 2009 Publication: The Week, Oman



STUDENTS ON STUDY TOUR

The National Hospitality Institute studens were given a send off by His Highness Sayyid Tarik bin Shabib bin Taimur al Said as they prepared to fly out to the UK to see how the hospitality industry works abroad.

The students will spend a week in Edinburgh at Forth Valley College.

The return leg of a scheme saw a group of Scottish students spend a week taking notes on the sultanate's standards of hospitality. Robert MacLean, principal, NHI said that this first trip abroad for the college's students would prove to be a spur for other young Omanis to get involved

in the hospitality industry. He hoped that it would raise the profile of vocational training as an alternative to higher education. Around 85 to 90 per cent of general managers in the industry come through vocational training courses.

"We are trying to raise a level of importance for vocational training. It does not get the same level of importance and funding as you would get for higher education. There is a need to motivate and encourage more young people to get involved in vocational training," MacLean said.