

London Trip

On Monday 13th February members of the Youth met up at Stowmarket train station to embark on an exciting trip to London. Our destination was Glassworks in Soho, London. Once we arrived at London Liverpool station we split up and made our way to Glassworks, half of us went in a taxi and the other half went on the underground trains. I was on the underground and we arrived 20 minutes after the taxi group but we were still early! We were greeted with a refreshing coke and cups of coffee as we observed the beautiful surroundings that were the Glassworks offices. Shortly after we met Hector Macleod, the boss and founder of Glassworks. He showed us to the meeting room which was full with awards that Glassworks has won. Hector then showed us a show reel of Glassworks work. The show reel contained such amazing work; the effects and animation used was just so cool! Hector explained afterwards how the adverts are made. When the filming is completed Glassworks then add in effects and animations that are impossible to film and the finished results are breath-taking. Hector explained how they added these animations and effects. Hector then walked us next door where a man named Alan showed us an exclusive unseen Range Rover sport advert! I thought that the lighting effect was pretty amazing and that really caught me. We were then put in to two groups. The group I was in was shown by Martin how they got the advert ready for the internet. The other group with Alan made a DVD containing the Range rover advert ready for us to take home.

It was then time for us to get lunch. Hector took us for a short walk across Soho and into Nando's. The food on the menu looked so delicious! You could choose how spicy you wanted your food. I had a chicken fillet in burger which was delicious! I don't think anyone will forget the chicken wing roulette that was going on at one end of the table. Nine chicken wings were a little bit hot and spicy and one was very hot and spicy! After lunch we headed back to Glassworks. We then met Warren who showed us some stills of celebrities in the advert before any effects are added and then afterwards when they had put effects in. I am sure that we were all pretty amazed. Warren had taken out the wrinkles and spots; he could even then make the tone of the skin look slightly darker. The group was then shown some previous adverts that Glassworks had completed and then told how they had made it. In one advert they made some planes look completely life like and in another made some little monsters from scratch to moving in human hair! It was so cool! We then moved to another room to meet Ben who let us have ago on special equipment that could change the shades, colour and darkness in an unreleased music video. It was one of those things that you could probably never do again; experimenting with how a new music video could look. Our last stop was in the meeting room with Nick. He showed us how in an Audi advert a man moulded clay but they then altered it so in the advert we see him moulding metal. Lastly he showed us how he made Churchill the dog in the Insurance advert move and talk which was awesome!

Sadly our time at Glassworks was over and once we said our goodbyes we set off back to London Liverpool for the train home. On behalf of everybody that went to London I would like to thank Hector so much for an amazing and unforgettable day out and also to all his team on the day who showed us how the effects and animations are made and how the advert gets ready to air. The trip to London was an unforgettable and amazing day out for all of us.

Thank you to Sheila, Cathy Smith and Ginny Nolan for taking and looking after us.

Islay MacLaren