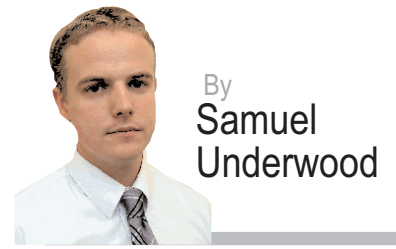




L04457H7 and L04458H7

■ **HERE IS THE NEWS...** And this is Rowena Hill reading it (above). Pictured, left, Dave Benson Philips performs the official opening



By Samuel Underwood

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Tune in! School's new radio station just oozes class

REVAMP, a radio station run by pupils, for pupils, was launched at Littlehampton Community School on Tuesday.

Paid for with £5,000 won by a team from the school at last year's Yell Make Your Mark National Enterprise Championships, the station uses professional equipment and is the first in a state school in the country to use industry-standard software by RCS.

The opening ribbon was officially cut by children's entertainer Dave Benson Philips, who said: "I think it's an amazing thing they have done. Of all the things they

could have spent the money on, to choose to spend it something that is so community-orientated is fantastic and the fact that the school let the kids decide how to spend the money is even better."

The station broadcasts over the school's intranet system and features a diverse range of content, from music and chat to news and sport.

The idea was dreamt up by two

Year 11 students, Sarah Kempson and Jordan Wade, in answer to the question of how to spend the school's winnings.

Sarah, now the station's programme co-ordinator, said: "We thought it would be a good idea for the school and would be a real asset. I want everyone to be able to listen to a variety of music and to get what they like out of it."

"We called it Revamp as the

school used to have a radio station years ago and this is it, revamped and ready for the future.

"I want to get some of the school's clubs involved so that people can see what's going on around the school and I also want to use it as a tool to celebrate achievement, so if someone's done particularly well in a sport or academically, they can get credit for it."

The 11-strong team running the

station all fulfil various roles, including news readers, sports editor, creative director, and so on.

Since the equipment was installed over the summer holiday last year, the team have been coached over 12 weeks on how to use it by David Cunningham, technical director of Splash FM.

Mr Cunningham, whose company, TailorMade Radio, installed the equipment, said that giving students at the school the opportunity to learn how to use industry-standard software would give them a head start should they choose a career in radio.

The school's head teacher, Jayne Wilson, added: "I'm very proud of all the students who are involved. They have spent hours after school putting an awful lot of their own time into it."

For now, the station is only available through the school's intranet, but plans are afoot to apply for a short-term licence which would allow broadcasting out into the community.



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■ **THE EXPERTS:** Revamp staff, from the left, Tabitha Mardle, Adam Chatfield and John Colenutt

PHOTOS: MICK CANNING

■ **THE REAL THING:** Arun District Council chairman, Stephen Haymes, and Littlehampton mayor, Malcolm Belchamber, watch the radio station going on air



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