



**WELCOME
TO THE
ABST**



What does the ABST do?

We have been supporting bakery students and trainees since 1925. The baking industry has changed quite a bit since we first started, and we have changed with the times to ensure that we continue to support you during your time in training and education.

Over the past few years, training in the baking industry has also changed, with many bakery students now completing higher education, and an increasing amount of apprenticeships have also started. As a result of this, the way the ABST supports all its members has also changed, to ensure that all members are given the same opportunities to progress into a fulfilling career within the baking industry.

Supporting you is our number one priority, and we have a number of initiatives which are supported by the baking industry. This brief introduction pack gives you some more details about what we do, and how we can support you during your training. If you require any more information that is not detailed in this pack, then please get in touch with us via social media or email. You can even contact us through our website www.abst.org.uk

Sam White
General Secretary

**Supporting
Bakery
Students &
Trainees
since 1925**





Annual Conference

Each year in June we hold our biggest event of the year, which is our annual conference which is held at Alton Towers Hotel and Theme Park. This is where over 300 bakery students & trainees and representatives from the baking industry come together for an action packed weekend to inspire and develop the skills of the bakers of the future.

This three day event allows both students and trainees the opportunity to network, learn new skills and develop their awareness of career aspects in the baking industry, through speaking to industry representatives, and past students that have successfully progressed into fulfilling careers.

Friday

We have live demonstrations for delegates attending conference, and fancy dress themed evening on the Friday night with prizes for the best costume on the night.

Saturday

Our national competitions are also held during this event, where we see 100's of students and trainee entries in a number of different categories presented to our judges. Our judges are selected from industry for their expertise in certain areas, and we encourage members to ask them for advice and tips on how they can improve further.

Delegates can also visit the Splash Landings water park and Crazy Golf at Alton Towers.

Saturday evening is our black tie dinner where students and trainees receive their awards and prize money.

Sunday

On the last day of conference, delegates have the opportunity to go into Alton Towers theme park which is included in the ticket cost, before departing home on the afternoon.

The cost of this event for student and trainee members, which includes 2 x nights accommodation, meals, entry to ABST conference events, Alton Towers splash landings & crazy golf tickets as well as entry to Alton Towers Theme park for around £160 each. You must be a member of the ABST to attend conference. Further information about conference is available on our website.

Sophie Carey
ABST Conference Secretary



National Competitions

Each year we hold our National Competitions during our annual conference, where we see over 300 student bakers and trainees compete, including 13 bakery colleges and a number of workplace apprentices from around the UK and Ireland.

There are a number of different categories available for members to enter, so no matter what your specialist area is, there is bound to be a competition for you to enter. The categories include fermented, pastry, confectionery, cake decorating, sugar flower and LIVE competitions. The schedule, which details each competition is published in February each year before conference, which gives you the opportunity to select the competitions that you wish to enter and also see what the prizes are.

We have a number of different prizes, including trophies, medals, certificates, training days and all expenses paid trips to sponsors. This is a great way to show off your skills and compete against other colleges. To check out previous entries, go to our Instagram for inspiration. Simply click the Instagram logo opposite to be transferred to our account.

Graham Duckworth
Competition Secretary





Fundraising Support

We realise that attending events that the ABST holds can cost money, which we also understand as students and trainees may be difficult to get hold of on occasions. That's why we are working with our sponsors to help you raise the funds so you don't miss out on any great opportunities.

One of our initiatives is working with selected sponsors to supply your college with free ingredients. These can then be made into products by you, and sold in your shop at college or uni, or through your own organised fund raising events. All the money that you make would then be used to fund events that the ABST holds during the year.

This is a great opportunity to raise funds, and reduce costs for events, and it also improves your skills and also develops your understanding of the business side of the baking industry. Many colleges have used this initiative over the years, and some have managed to raise enough funds to pay for conference tickets completely. For more information on this support, ask your lecturer if it is ok for you to do this, and then get in touch with us so we can let you know who to contact via the website www.abst.org.uk



Other benefits

As a member, you don't just get to attend conference, enter our national competitions and receive support from our fund raising initiatives.

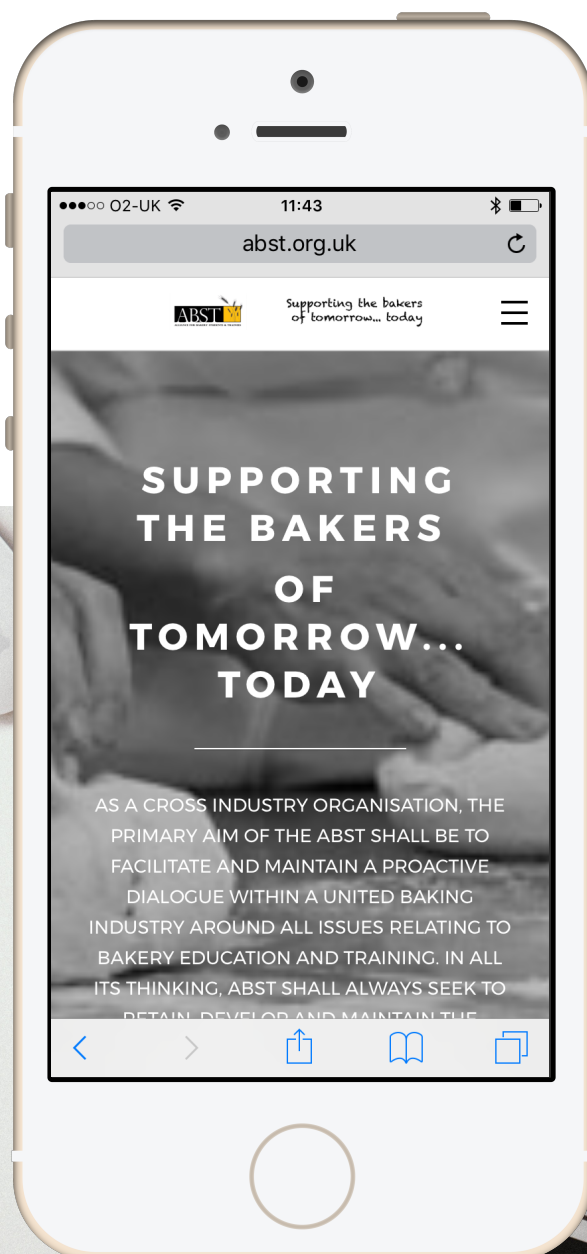
We also have our our #TheBakersBite Blog which is written by student and gives you information about whats going on in the ABST and other events in the baking industry. This is on our website, and is sent directly to your inbox as a member, but you can also view online on our website. This is also a great opportunity to let everyone else in the ABST know what you have been doing so if you have something you want everyone to know, such as fund raising activities, then get in touch and we may publish your story.

As a member you will also be able to gain access to our members only area, which will be updated during the year with information relating to the baking industry which may be useful to your studies.

Our website is mobile and tablet friendly, so you can access the information on the go, wherever you may be. We are also on social media, including Facebook, twitter and Instagram so why not like and follow us to make sure you don't miss out on anything going on. To make it even easier for you to get started, simply click the social media logos opposite to go to our pages.

Jessica Dalton

Communication Secretary





Student Funding Support

Previous members have always stated how important it is to have the opportunity to go into industry and learn different skills in a range of different areas and types of bakeries.

However, sometimes the travelling involved and cost of staying overnight for work experience can be challenging. The ABST has linked up with the Craft Bakers Association in order to ensure that any student that wishes to go on a placement, can receive funds to help with the expenses.

Work placements are a great way to try out different areas in the baking industry to get a feel for the type of career that students might want to go into. The baking industry has many different career pathways, with technical support, new product development, sales and food science being just a few examples.

There are also many different types of bakery ingredient manufacturers who develop premixes for both bread and cakes, flour millers, baking powder and yeast producers to name just a few.

If its an ingredient that is used in the bakery, then you can guarantee that a baker has helped develop it.

So with that in mind, work experience in a number of different areas is really beneficial for students who maybe unsure of what area to go into.

The Student funding scheme provided by the Craft Bakers Association aims to help students fund travel and other expenses for placements in the UK. This opportunity is available to ABST members.

For more information on this scheme, visit our website where you will find the application form and further details.

**MORE
INFO**



Membership
£FREE

Membership

If what you have heard from others and you like the sound of what you have read in this brief introduction, its really easy to become a member. In fact it will only take about 2 minutes to do. You can even do this via your smart phone!

Membership is currently free runs from September to July so is based on the Academic College or University year. So its really important that if you do want to be a member, you join in the September to ensure you receive all the information available to you. You can join in June, but your membership will run out in the July, so you may as well get the full benefit of the whole year, including access to our members area and email updates too. You must be a member to attend conference and also enter our national competitions.

If you cant wait to become a member, then simply click the link opposite to be directed to our website, www.abst.org.uk where you can join which will take about 2 minutes.

Please ensure that you give us the correct email address when you are asked, as this is where all the information we send you will be.

Soon after registering, you will be sent an email which will ask you to log into the online membership area. You just need to enter a password and your email address in order to gain access.

And thats it! Don't forget, if you ever have any questions or need some support, just let us know! As we said at the beginning, supporting bakery students and trainees is our number one priority, so feel free to get in touch with any questions.

Christopher Foxall

Website Editor

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