

# ESF

in the East Midlands



## CHANCE TO CELEBRATE ESF LEARNING

**Adult Learners' Week Awards (ALW) 2010 may not be until next May 15 - 21, but providers are being urged to get their nominations in now.**

Part-funded by ESF, ALW is the UK's largest learning campaign and it wants to hear the stories of people who have transformed their lives through learning.

Organised by the National Institute of Adult Continuing Education (NIACE), it's a team effort by education and training providers, broadcasters and national and local government.

As well as promoting education and training for adults it celebrates the commitment, interest and passion that adults bring to their learning.

**Providers can nominate individuals for the East Midlands ESF awards for individuals whose ESF learning has had a real positive impact in their lives. Plus there are four national ESF awards:**

- Opening Doors to Adult Learners - recognising and promoting (provider/project) excellence in the provision of adult learning.
- Group Award - recognising and promoting the benefits of adults learning or working together towards a collective goal or purpose.
- Learning Works - recognising learners who have improved their prospects either in a current job or in finding a new job.
- Outstanding Learner of the Year - recognising and celebrating the achievements of an inspiring individual adult learner. (The winner of this award is selected from the nine regional ESF individual award winners).



Last year's regional winner was Nottingham man, **John Kelly**, who spent twenty years in and out of prison, but turned his life around and is now working towards becoming a fully qualified counsellor all thanks to an ESF project.

Nominations can be sent in between now and mid-January 2010. Go to:

[www.niace.org.uk/alw/2009/register-2010awards/form2.htm](http://www.niace.org.uk/alw/2009/register-2010awards/form2.htm)

or email: [alw@niace.org.uk](mailto:alw@niace.org.uk)

Providers can also register their interest to get regular updates on the 2010 awards.

**niace**  
promoting adult learning

## ESF Website and Marketing Tools Update

ESF Works is the website showcasing projects illustrating the variety of activities taking place under ESF. It is a 'live' place to share best practice, showcase achievement, take part in discussions, and listen to participant voices. See [www.esf-works.com](http://www.esf-works.com)

ESF DVDs are still available and a great way to introduce ESF participants to the programme and form part of their induction. To get copies, please e-mail Henry Kukiewicz [henry.kukiewicz@lsc.gov.uk](mailto:henry.kukiewicz@lsc.gov.uk)

'ESF and You' tells down to earth and engaging stories of five ESF participants and the life-changing impact of their ESF projects. Existing participants will find the film beneficial as well as new learners.

Also still available is a film showcasing ESF achievements to date 'Investing in Job Skills'. This is aimed at a wide range of stakeholders and the general public.

New booklets, highlighting ESF achievements so far can be distributed among participants, delivery partners and employers. These are also available from the above contact as well as ESF posters and plaques.

## County focus - Derbyshire

# ESF CARES ABOUT CAREERS

**A caring Derbyshire man with learning disabilities is brightening up the social lives of the older community thanks to an ESF funded project.**

'**Andrew Hughes**, 24, hasn't let a knock to his confidence at a previous job get in the way of his ambitions to work in the care industry. After attending 'Step Up' which is delivered by Ability, Andrew is now working part-time at a local care home as their events co-ordinator.

The project, one of the many voluntary and community organisations who are offering ESF youth programmes, is working alongside the Derbyshire Learning & Development Consortium.

With support from Ability staff, Andrew has increased his confidence and also completed a work placement two days a week at a day care centre supporting elderly service users with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.

Andrew said, "The support I received from Ability was fantastic. I would recommend anyone in my position to



contact them. They couldn't help me enough. I've been in my new job for over a month now and it's very varied - we take residents on trips to the park and I arrange different activities. I feel very at home here - particularly as my mum used to work at the care home".

**Louise Crossley** from Ability said, "Andrew's confidence came on leaps and bounds when attending the job search sessions and taking part in role play for interview techniques. He soon felt comfortable using the internet and local papers to look for job vacancies.

He was soon successful at getting through to the interview stage for the role of events co-ordinator within the

care home. When the interview was drawing closer, he was nervous and his confidence began to fade, so reassurance and support was needed, which seemed to do the trick as he was successful!"

Derbyshire  
Learning &  
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Consortium



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## My Working Week

# An insight to the role of an ESF adviser

Angela Carroll, Information, Advice and Guidance Adviser, Care Training East Midlands

### Monday

I spend most of the day conducting initial appointments with people who are out of work. Together we write an Individual Action Plan which sets out steps to help them return to work. At the end of the session we arrange another appointment as it's crucial to maintain contact to ensure the client is happy in their training and receiving adequate support.

### Tuesday

Today I received a visit from someone who had lost their job and was feeling demoralised.

There has definitely been an increase in the number of people that are being made redundant because of the current economic downturn. I offer advice to guide people through training so they can find a job that's right for them. I deliver the support through ESF and DWP funded Flexible Routeways.

The person had been working at the same construction firm for years and was shocked to be out of work so the first step is to discuss what work he is looking for and then to help him to write a CV and covering letter. I have been unemployed in the past and have struggled to get work, so it's good to be able to help other people in this situation. I referred the client to a local training provider in Derby.

### Wednesday

I currently have a client list of 100 people in Derby, so sometimes if the clients are happy with it I will



Care Training  
East Midlands  
[www.CTEM.uk.com](http://www.CTEM.uk.com)



book two or three clients in together so I can run a job search workshop. I really relish the chance to guide and encourage others who find themselves needing support to improve their skills.

### Thursday

I attended a jobs fair in Alfreton today. My role at the event is to assess people for eligibility for the training programme and sign people up. If people are not eligible for the training or the positions available I will direct them towards other training or general support. Over 100 people attended the Care Training East Midlands event and they came from across Derby, Nottingham and Chesterfield. It was a

great success and 11 of the attendees who submitted an application form were immediately offered a job with Partnerships in Care.

A further 18 were selected to go onto specialised Progression to Employment in Care training tailored to the needs of the recruiting employer. The programme is partly funded by the European Social Fund (ESF).

It's really satisfying when an event has gone this well and so many people have achieved positive outcomes from it.

### Friday

Fridays are a really valuable time for me to arrange appointments with new clients and to find out about any new upcoming provision to help create a more competitive workforce across the East Midlands.

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## County focus - Derbyshire

# ESF ROCKS

**A 17 year old musician known for his hard rock gigs across Shirebrook is set to help other aspiring musicians to do the same thanks to ESF.**

**Daniel Keith**, who has lived in Shirebrook most of his life, left school with just one C grade GCSE in Science.

After a brief stint cleaning and stacking shelves at a local supermarket, he was unsure where his life was heading until he was referred to a ESF work placement programme at 'Elmton and Creswell Village Company'.



Now Daniel is an inspiration to young people across the county as his determination to succeed means he is set to follow his musical dream after being accepted to start a BTEC 1st Diploma in Music at West Notts College, alongside taking learndirect Level 2 in Maths and English.

Daniel said, "The placement has been really excellent. It's given me the chance to develop lots of skills. The positive feedback and support I've received has really helped me to develop my confidence and made me realise I can achieve a career in a field I'm passionate about. After my BTEC I'd like to go on to university to continue my studies and then I'm hoping to become a music teacher, unless I become a rock star!"

'Elmton and Creswell Village Company' is delivered by Derbyshire Learning & Consortium's Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) member organisations across Derbyshire.

**Julie Holling**, from the 'Elmton and Creswell Village Company' said, "Throughout the placement Daniel showed he had other abilities apart from his music, achieving good results in literacy and numeracy and demonstrating strong team work.

The placement has really helped boost Daniel's confidence. He took every element of the placement in his stride, and we're really pleased that he's now secured a place doing a BTEC in his chosen field."



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## County focus - Lincolnshire

# Sleaford ESF learners' new drive

As part of New College Stamford's ESF project to boost job chances for young people, four dedicated centres have now opened in Stamford, Sleaford, Spalding and Grantham to provide a base for young adults on the programme.

And as part of a volunteer day to the Bubble Car Museum at Byards Leap, near RAF Cranwell, staff and learners from the new Sleaford centre helped paint and decorate the display areas inside the museum used for displaying the vehicles and painted a number of outdoor storage sheds, all ready for the 2009 season.

**Henry Lambert**, 17, from Ashby de la Launde, Lincoln, said: "At the end of the day we were all pretty tired but the sense of achievement that we all got was amazing among the group." Thanks to support through the project, Henry is now applying to join the Army.

**Chelsea Beaven**, 18, from Sleaford, is now on an Apprenticeship at North Kesteven District Council. She said: "The skill I gained from this is communication, as I had to be aware of the other people around me when doing physical work to ensure there weren't any accidents."

**Doug Garriock**, 18, from Sleaford, said: "Overall I think this was a fantastic day out, I enjoyed doing the work as it gave me a sense of accomplishment and I could look at the work I had achieved." Doug is currently receiving ongoing support whilst looking for work.

**Susan Potter**, Sleaford centre co-ordinator added: "The group worked really well together developing their team working skills and overcame any problems they encountered. Overall they had a fun, but exhausting day carrying out work for a worthwhile cause."



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## KATHRYN'S LUCKY NUMBER

**Kathryn Smith**, 43, joined the ESF JobMAETs programme early this year and after thirteen appointments with her advisor, she didn't need luck to land an administrative job at Boston's Pilgrim Hospital.

Kathryn said, "During my time on JobMAETs, my advisor was friendly, helpful and supportive. My confidence has increased and I have a very promising future ahead of me."

JobMAET adviser **Carly Burn** said, "I am thrilled with such positive feedback and am sure that we continue this success through helping other customers in the same way."

Kathryn is one of more than 200 unemployed people in the Boston area that have been helped back into employment, training or voluntary work thanks to the project, run by TNG, since August.

**jobcentreplus**

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# ESF in the News

Featured in previous newsletters, a trio of ESF success stories have gone on to enjoy a range of media coverage, which is helping spread the word about ESF and how its helping boost job skills across the region



**Goretti Mannion** gained promotion to become a trainer following 26 years as a factory operator, after going on a ESF Train to Gain project, run by Tresham College Business Solutions.

She went on to further inspire other job seekers, particularly those with dyslexia, like herself, when she appeared on BBC Look East, BBC Radio Northampton and in the Northamptonshire Evening Telegraph.



**Weller Howard** was one of the first people in the country to gain a job via the new ESF Response to Redundancy programme, after she got a job within a week of joining a project run by Pitman Training. She had a busy week, filming with Central News, popping across to the Ram FM studios to do an interview, then speaking over the phone to Radio Derby and having her story featured in the Derby Evening Telegraph and the Northampton Chronicle and Echo.



**Kaylie Bower** was one of the first ESF success stories when she got a job at Homebase earlier this spring after going on a confidence boosting ESF project run by New College Stamford.

Her journey caught the attention of a national newspaper and was recently featured in a Daily Mirror supplement about careers advice. Her local newspaper, the Stamford Mercury then ran a story about a local woman being in the national news!



## We want your news!

If you know of a learner whose life has been turned around thanks to ESF and their story deserves to be in local press and even appear on TV, please contact **Jo Sheppard at COI News and PR** on 0115 971 2781. The deadline for copy for November/December edition is 20th November. Don't forget we also want to hear about any project milestones or interesting visits and events.

