



15-21
MAY
2010

News Letter for the East of England

Adult Learners' Week Awards for 2010

Why not celebrate the New Year by nominating an adult learner, project, group or family whose remarkable achievements deserve recognition for an Adult Learners Week Award! Each year we seek out the most remarkable learners – those whose stories will inspire others to learn something new:

Nominate at: www.alw.org.uk/nominate closing date 29th January 2010

We need your support to celebrate the outstanding achievements of our learners – and to use their special stories to help inspire others to give learning a go!

These are not ordinary awards – these are Adult Learners' Week Awards!

Make a Difference for 2010

A happy New Year to all our colleagues across the East of England – and how are those resolutions holding up? Here are a few more to consider for your learners:

- ✚ Learn a new word every day – start at www.dictionary.com
- ✚ Learn a dance – ballroom, jive, jazz or whatever - there are classes available all over the region!
- ✚ Read the classics – get a list at www.pagebypagebooks.com
- ✚ Take a First Aid course – just three hours of training that will give you the confidence to act in an emergency, see www.sja.org.uk
- ✚ Give yourself a money makeover – see www.moneysavingexpert.co.uk
- ✚ Volunteer to help others – match your skills to those needing help – www.vso.org.uk or www.timebank.org.uk
- ✚ Revisit the school subjects you loved – isn't it a shame you gave up painting or can't remember algebra?
- ✚ Use Adult Learners' Week to inspire others to give learning a go!

Adult Learners' Week is the UK's largest and longest running learning campaign. Held each May, it encourages thousands of adults to give learning a go: whether it's learning for pleasure, catching up on skills, or getting that new job or promotion.

Adult Learners' Week Photography Competition 2010

This competition is aimed at learners who live or work in the East of England. It is primarily aimed at new learners, especially those new to digital photography and looking to get the most from their picture taking. Individuals considered disadvantaged or excluded are particularly welcome to participate.

The three themes for 2010 are:

1. My Town
2. Emotion
3. Adults Learning

The overall winner will gain the title of **Adult Learners' Week Photographer for 2010** and receive their choice of either a Digital Camera or Digital Photo Frame worth £200.

For more information and entry details email: rr.brown@btinternet.com

A note for Learning Providers

The photography competition gives you the opportunity to run a number of photography related short workshops, such as:

- ✚ **Using a Digital Camera** – key features and techniques
- ✚ **Taking better pictures** – themes, composition and lighting etc
- ✚ **Preparing & printing pictures** – using image processing software

co-ordinated by supported by



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future.
It's in
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Be Inspired

Adult Learners' Week Aim

To raise the demand for learning - encouraging and inspiring participation through the spread of positive and motivational messages

Adult Learners' Week National focus days

- **Cultural Diversity Weekend – 15 & 16 May** –
(www.portal.unesco.org/culture)
- **Learning @ Work Day - Thursday 20 May** –
(www.campaign-for-learning.org.uk)
- **Silver Surfers Day – Friday 21 May**
- (www.hairnet.org)

Why get involved?

Adult Learners' Week is a real opportunity for you to make a difference by inspiring others to give learning a go – there are many benefits to getting involved:

For learning providers: attracting learners to your courses – a focus on getting information to your policy makers – further develop the provision you offer to the community – to celebrate the achievements of your existing learners and as a tool to encourage others to take part

In the workplace: reducing staff turn-over and absenteeism - improved communications, industrial relations, staff morale and employee performance

For partners: take advantage of the high profile media campaign (over 2,300 items of media coverage were generated in 2009) – be represented at key events during the week – exhibit at the ALW Awards Ceremony.

What do past learners / award winners say?

Michael Douglas (unemployed and homeless progressing to employment as a football coach) – “Learning has helped me achieve my dreams of helping people and coaching. Without learning I wouldn't be the same person I am now. Learning makes me complete.”

Rene Coles (progressed from car park attendant to teacher) – “Learning is fun and exciting, I am always looking for the next course I can do. The learning I have done has allowed me to gain so much knowledge – it's fantastic”!

Useful Contacts

Regional ALW Co-ordinator
Roy Brown
07946 577801
rr.rbrown@btinternet.com

www.alw.org.uk

Much more information, help and advice on Adult Learners' Week and access to super resources, networking and co-ordination

Event in a box – promotional materials and interactive toolkit CD

New Horizons – motivational magazine for potential learners

www.quickreads.org.uk

www.niace.org.uk/signupnow

Great inspiration and free resources etc

www.alw.org.uk/calendar

The Online Events Calendar
Learndirect Helpline
0800 100 900

www.niace.org.uk

The principal co-ordinator of Adult Learners' Week and a wealth of all things 'Adult Learning'

NIACE Communications & Promotions Team

0116 204 4200/1

email: alw@niace.org.uk

www.bbc.co.uk/raw

A range of good resource

Coming in the next News Letter!

- More detail on the suggested ALW Themes
- More on your events!

Roy Brown