

Welcome to the Summer term

Dear Learner,



During the past few months, the Service has been undergoing a significant restructure in order to meet a reduced budget. All members of staff have worked hard to develop new ways of working together and with partners in the community to safeguard the services we offer to you. Although the restructure has been difficult at times, we believe that the streamlined Service is now in a strong position to go forward.

Almost all the necessary reductions in staff numbers have been achieved voluntarily and I would like to express my appreciation on your behalf for the work of all those who have quietly left the Service at the end of the last term. Since there are still a few loose ends, we cannot publish the final structure in this issue of Inbrief but hope to do so in the next one.

Meanwhile, the wider City Council's restructure is also making good progress. As a result of this, the Service has become part of the Directorate for Enterprise and Skills (Director, Charles Green) and joined colleagues in the Schools, Skills and Learning Service (Assistant Director, Tim Westwood). In addition, following Full Council on the 18th of this month, Cllr. Phil Page became the Cabinet Lead Member for the Service.

New Cabinet Member for the Adult Education Service

Councillor Phil Page, Cabinet Member for Schools, Skills and Learning, has said how pleased he is to include the Adult Education Service in his portfolio of Cabinet responsibilities. Even though the Service is new to Cllr Page, he is not new to education and training and he has a strong interest in promoting learning for everybody.

Cllr Page has been in Local Government for 31 years and was the full time secretary for NALGO for 20 of those years. His interests include ballroom dancing, gardening, visiting different towns and National Trust properties and, most importantly, his grandchildren.

He was elected councillor for Bilston North in 2003 and since then he has worked constantly to develop training and recreational facilities for young people and services for older residents in Bilston.

Recently he has established the *Friends of Bilston North* group to promote the area. The group's current aim is to acquire Lottery Funding to maintain and improve Peascroft Wood with the involvement of local schools. Cllr Page is passionate about the heritage of Bilston for local people and sees Peascroft Wood as an important part of local history.



Councillor Phil Page, Cabinet Lead Member for Schools, Skills and Learning, helped the Mayor present Certificates of Achievement at the ALDD Learners' Celebration on 19 May 2011

Learners' Council Re-launched

Last year, the Learners' Council reviewed its constitution and membership so that it could be sure of its impact on improving the Service. It now has a vibrant new mission and aims to be the voice of people who use the Adult Education Service. It represents learners and other stakeholders. It not only looks at what the Service does but also contributes to its continuous improvement.

The Adult Education Service wants to be accountable to people who use it and views the Learners' Council as one of the most important bodies to ensure that happens. The Learners' Council meets six times a year to make an increasingly significant contribution to reviews, workshops and other activities. One of its most important responsibilities is the café at Old Hall Street. This is managed and supported by the Learners' Council on behalf of the Service. Through this process, learners have a direct involvement in the events for the many charities the café supports.

The next meeting of the Learners' Council is due to take place on 14th June. The areas below are currently represented by learners who are there to speak for you:

Access to HE	Vivine Brown and Danielle Fox
Access to Art & Design	Suzanne Lavender, Alexander McNutt and Debra Shelley
Arts Crafts & Media	Harry Rayner (Chair), Peter McLeay (Vice Chair)
Healthy Living	Stella Hurd
ICT	Monica Smith
Languages	Kelly Parchment, Paula Hayward
Professional	Justin Hinton

Inspired by Wightwick, learners help make art history



Work by art students inspired by the fantastic surroundings of Wightwick Manor and Gardens is on show now at the National Trust property in Wolverhampton. Artists used a range of media, from painting and sculpture to textiles and photography.

Making Art History is a collaboration between Wolverhampton Adult Education Service and the National Trust which has presented artists with the chance to develop work inspired by any aspect of the Wolverhampton stately home, from the building itself to the lives of its inhabitants.

Course Tutor Moya Lloyd said: "Wightwick Manor is a living house and an outstanding example of late Victorian taste and craftsmanship which makes it a great setting for artists to gain inspiration and to express themselves.

"The resulting work is varied and very interesting and the showcase will be of interest to anyone who loves art and history."

Among the inspirations on offer at Wightwick Manor are an interior from the Arts and Crafts movement, work by William Morris, original decoration and furnishings and an outstanding collection of pictures by the Pre Raphaelite Brotherhood of artists formed in 1848.

The main exhibition is now sited in Wightwick Manor and will be on show between 18 – 31 May.



Art Goes Green



Pieces of art made using recycled materials were recently exhibited in the Foyer Exhibition Space as part of Wolverhampton Adult Education Service's inaugural recycling exhibition.

This year, tutors have been encouraging learners on all the Service's courses to create art and crafts from recycled materials.

Pieces of jewellery which learners created from recycled materials, as well as examples of papier-mâché and collage, were on show.

Tutor Natasha Bruce Carline said,

"We are encouraging our students to look around their homes at what they might otherwise throw away.

"Things like old keys, ribbons, buttons, bottle tops, luggage labels and broken jewellery can all be used to make some stunning pieces of artwork, and already they are developing some unusual ways in which to use recycled materials in their designs."

Look out for the next exhibition which will showcase work created by learners who have been attending the Enter Arts Course. This exhibition will run from Wednesday 25 May - Saturday 18 June 2011.



Adult Learners' Week Celebration



Hugh Williams collecting his certificate from The Right Worshipful, The Mayor of Wolverhampton, Councillor Bert Turner.

Hundreds of people with disabilities who enrolled on adult education classes celebrated their achievements at an event on 19th May.

Wolverhampton Adult Education Service runs around 20 classes for people with learning or physical disabilities, with subjects as varied as Art, Crafts, Pottery, Flower Arranging, Cookery, Tai Chi, Holistic Therapies, Jewellery Making and Belly Dancing.

As part of Adult Learners' Week, the Mayor of Wolverhampton, was invited to the event to hand out certificates marking 200 learners' achievements.

An exhibition of work created by the learners was on show. Creative Studies Programme Manager, Sian Fletcher, said, "We currently have around 200 people with a disability taking courses with us. Many join us from the council's day centres at Stowheath and Oxley, and also from Green Park School. More independent learners are also encouraged to attend mainstream classes.

"We make sure the learners are given the help and support they need in class, and a Grade 2 Ofsted inspection in January 2009 commented very favourably on the high level of support we provide."

Cyclists raise over £400 – on the road to nowhere!



Adult Education staff and learners helped to raise more than £300 for Comic Relief by cycling more than 1,000 miles – without even leaving the building.

Each year Wolverhampton Adult Education Service café staff Linda Page and Janet King organise events to help raise funds for many different charities, and this year they set colleagues and learners the challenge of riding from John O’Groats to Land’s End.

Linda, the café manager, said: “Red Nose Day was a great success and we achieved our goal of cycling 1,003 miles from John O’Groats to Land’s End without leaving the café!

“The distance was achieved on exercise bikes and I would like to thank all the staff, learners and friends from St George’s House Hostel who did their share of the cycling and helped us raise funds for such a worthy cause. We also held a Red Nose Day bring and buy sale and a fundraising Dinner and Dog Racing event.”

For information on forthcoming events please call Linda Page on 01902 551656 or email enquiries@aes.wolverhampton.gov.uk

Open Day Saturday 18 June 2011 10.00am - 3.00pm



Take this first opportunity to enrol on a wide selection of courses, meet staff and

find out about the programmes we offer.

Venue: City Learning Quarter, Old Hall Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 3AU.

To find out more, contact reception or visit our website (see below).

Foyer Cafe Daily Specials

Homemade

Cottage Pies, Lasagne,
Steak & Vegetable
Pies, Pasta Bolognese
£1.25 EACH

Cheese & Potato Pie,
Corned Beef Hash
£1.00 Each

Opening Times

Monday - Thursday
9.00am - 4.00pm

Friday 9.00am - 1.00pm



Manager Linda Page and
Assistant Manager Janet King

Adult Education Service

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