

Learner of The Month 2010

February
Amy Hillan



Amy Hillan is pictured receiving her Level 2 Health & Social Care NVQ with her assessor John Maxwell. Amy formerly worked in Hair & Beauty before starting her career in care. She works for TL Care in Upton. Amy started her qualification in December 2009 just a week after her 21st birthday. She worked hard to complete her qualification setting demanding targets for herself and achieving 4 months earlier than planned. Amy has moved job since completing her qualification and has moved within TL Care to a residential home for older people. She enjoyed her NVQ so much and can see the benefits for both her service and herself that she has started her Level 3.



March
Janine King

Janine King is pictured with her assessor Belinda Price being presented with her level 2 Health & Social Care NVQ in March 2010. Janine works in Hartford Hey a residential home for older people in Parkgate. This was her first job in care and she had been employed for 9 months before starting her qualification. At 41 years of age Janine was a late entrant to the workforce. She had spent many years caring for her grandfather at his home until he moved into residential care for the last few months of his life. Her grandfather had said she took such good care of him she should make it her career. Janine took his advice and started looking for a job in care. Janine showed excellent commitment to her qualification working hard to achieve her goals. She grasped the opportunity to enhance her knowledge and skills often researching and reading up in her own time. Janine`s confidence and understanding of her role has grown and she is able to reflect on the changes to her practice since starting the qualification. Janine said “if only I had known so much when I looked after my grandfather I would have been able to look after him better”.

April

Sheendell Malaiba



Sheendell is pictured with her assessor Belinda Price being presented with her Level 3 Health & Social Care NVQ in April 2010. Sheendell is from the Philippines and English is her second language. She works as a senior care worker at Summerfield Residential Home. She had just discovered she was pregnant before starting her NVQ and was committed to achieving her qualification before going on maternity leave. Her work was to a high standard demonstrating in depth knowledge of care. She completed her Level 3 in 4 months, a few days before the arrival of her lovely new daughter.



May

Jacqueline Connolly

Jacqueline is pictured with her assessor Izzy Veste following an awards celebration organised by her employer Plus Dane Group. Jacqueline had been very anxious starting her level Health & Social Care Level 3 lacking confidence in her ability to achieve. The standard of work Jacqueline produced was excellent demonstrating the complex work she does to support women and families settle in local communities. Her confidence grew and she was confident enough to do a presentation on her project to other agencies.

June

Ian Higgins



Ian Higgins from David Lewis Centre is pictured receiving his Level 3 Health & Social Care NVQ with his manager Zowie Jupp and assessor Nicki Bagshaw. Ian had been out of education for over 20 years and found the idea of doing a qualification daunting. With extra support and guidance Ian's skills improved tremendously. He started to do his own research and developed his IT skills enabling him to access information from the sectors websites. He completed his qualification in 6 months well ahead of schedule. He is now encouraging other staff to do their qualification

July

Maureen Cotgracve



Maureen is pictured receiving her learner of the month certificate with Dawn Hodge. Maureen is a mature learner who works as a foster carer for Wirral Social Services with over 4 years experience. She has been one of our most enthusiastic learners completing her Level 3 Child Care qualification in less than 3 months. She would have completed any work set her before the ink was dry on the plan.



August

Richard Parkinson

Richard achieved his level 3 Health & Social Care in July 2010 having already completed his level 2. Richard has dyslexia and on starting his level 2 was not confident he could achieve it given his past negative experience of doing this qualification with another provider. With extra support Richard's confidence grew and he took on a more senior role and asked to do his level 3. With both qualifications Richard worked hard to keep to ensure he progressed and through his work he demonstrated excellent person centred skills with service users.

September

Ann Anyon



Ann works for Hinderton Mount, a residential home for older people. As an older learner she was anxious about doing her level 2 having done no qualifications since leaving school. She completed her level 2 and her confidence grew. She took on more responsibilities at work and acted up in a senior role. She gained promotion and her new found confidence enabled her to start her Health & Social Care Level 3.

October

Maureen Ashton



Maureen works for Meridian Care at Roby Lodge in Huyton. She was a new entrant to care having previously owned her own business. Maureen was 60 years of age and had no qualifications. She completed her level 2 under Train to Gain in September 2009. Maureen gained promotion and was motivated to go on to do her level 3. Under ESF funding Maureen started her level 3 and completed on time. All this achievement is even more impressive as Maureen is dyslexic but did not let this be a barrier to her career. From a woman who counts sky diving as a hobby we should not be surprised!!!



November

Monica Ellis

Monica completed her Level 3 Health & Social Care in November 2010. Monica has many years experience of working in hospital and residential settings, but has never done a qualification before. To celebrate her 70th birthday in March she decided to start her first qualification. She was anxious but worked hard and achieved a month early. Monica is an inspiration to others and shows it is never too late to learn.

December

Louise DeMain



Louise is employed by Stockport Social Services as a Training Officer. She started her Level 4 Learning and Development in November 2009. This was her first NVQ and she was very anxious. She had a number of serious health issues during her programme but always came back and showed great perseverance. She achieved her qualification in December 2010.