

Learndirect: Learning Through Technology Award Winner

Cath Mitchell, Newcastle upon Tyne

Geoff Owens (Trade Union Education Centre) – Cath used to work for Newcastle City Council.

Cath Mitchell – I worked as a cleaner, I didn't stop out of choice I stopped because I've got a form of muscular dystrophy. And as I got older it began to get worse. When it did come to an end what I thought was what on earth am I going to do next? Technology had changed and I hadn't actually learnt anything.

Geoff Owens (Trade Union Education Centre) – She hadn't realised that such large amounts of learning were available to her. She enjoyed the first aspect of learning so much that she enrolled onto an accredited I.T course.

Cath Mitchell – You're taught how to get online and once you can do that, that's about the whole beginning of it.

Geoff Owens (Trade Union Education Centre) – I think her condition affects her in peaks and troughs, so sometimes she can't come in but she will be here the following week.

Cath Mitchell – What I think about the future is just to keep going, just to keep educating myself with whatever comes along and whilst I can do that I've got more ability to find possibly a job or open a door to something else.