

**National Senior Learner of the Year
Jim Kelly**

Fiona Larden (Fircroft College, Birmingham.): Jim Kelly's 83 and he left school at 14 without any formal qualifications. He was one of the youngest D-Day Landing veterans.

Jim Kelly (National Learner of the Year.): That's me on the left waiting for a demob. I've always regretted not having a very good education.

Fiona: He always, I think, felt the lack of qualifications and one of his grandchildren had, kind of, inspired and encouraged him to go back into education and start learning again.

Jim: It's time I looked after her. She was asking me questions and I would say, I don't know Beck. And after about half an dozen times she said to me, don't you know anything Grandad? So I went and enrolled.

Fiona: Over the last few years he's done a variety of short courses, including IT.

Jim: Each course I did I was getting more confident. Before like, if some people were in conversation, I couldn't join in but now I feel very confident to join in.

Fiona: If a student's struggling a little bit or lacking in confidence, Jim's always quietly there at their elbow, gently encouraging them.

Jim: Oh it's had a great effect on my life.