

Award winner's story

Brenda Bryan

Award Winner
South West

"Producing art gives my mind a rest and makes me feel confident and relaxed in myself."

As a single parent to her son and daughter, Brenda was struggling with mental health and learning issues, so when she heard about Art on Prescription through her counselling service, she jumped at the chance to rekindle her love of drawing from her school days.

She began with an Arts and Crafts taster course at the Community Mental Health Centre in Barnstaple in 2003, and has since grown considerably in confidence and skill, having gained a further 13 qualifications. Brenda is currently working towards attaining a Level 3 Access to Higher Education Diploma in Art and Design.



Brenda is a founder member of the Flying Fish artists, which is a social co-operative that believes art has a positive impact on the well-being of individuals and communities. Brenda's nominator, David, said: "Brenda's gentle unassuming manner has been an inspiration to many, selfless in her actions and what will soon be a decade of adult education."

If you know an individual whose learning has helped them to improve their physical or mental health, they could be eligible for the Learning for Health Adult Learners' Week Award. Projects that offer learning opportunities to help individuals to improve their physical and mental health can also be nominated.

Nominate now
at www.alw.org.uk/nominate

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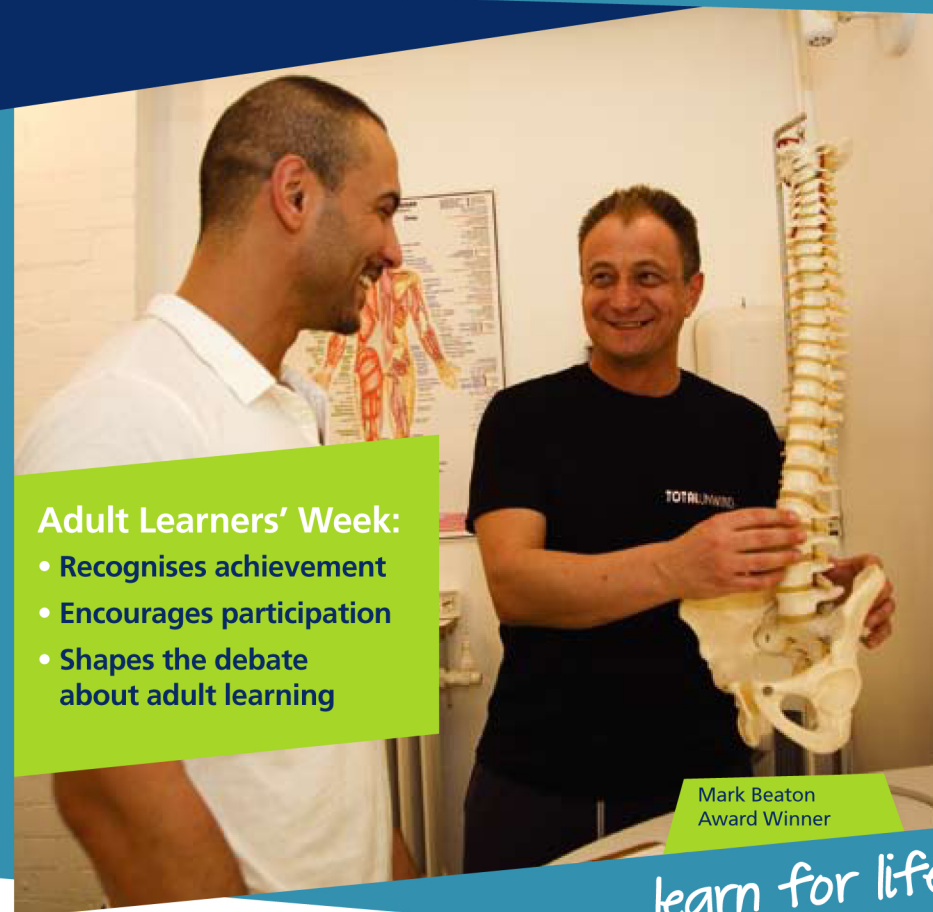
It **will** help to change someone's life

Nominating an inspiring learner will boost their self-confidence and turn them into a role model that others can follow back into learning.

Adult Learners' Week

18-24 May 2013

Learning for Health



Adult Learners' Week:

- Recognises achievement
- Encourages participation
- Shapes the debate about adult learning

Mark Beaton
Award Winner

learn for life

www.alw.org.uk

Co-ordinated by:

niace
promoting adult learning

Supported by:



BIS
Department for
Business Innovation
and Skills

The European Social Fund (ESF) aims to improve employment opportunities in the European Union by supporting Member States' employment and skills policies. In England, in 2007-2013, the ESF is investing £2.5 billion in jobs and skills.

What is Adult Learners' Week?

Adult Learners' Week is a national celebration of the benefits of lifelong learning and an opportunity to explore the many types of learning available to adults from all walks of life.

Events

It is the biggest annual learning festival in the UK and last year over 100,000 people participated in over 2,000 events. Staged by FE and HE colleges, large employers, government departments, voluntary organisations and charities, these events inspired, encouraged and helped adults into learning across the UK.



Celebrate and share your learning with our

'Learning through a lens' photo competition

We're looking for photos that reflect the many different types of learning to improve physical or mental health that takes place.

Visit:

www.alw.org.uk/photocomp
for more

Education providers use Adult Learners' Week to showcase the learning opportunities they offer. Employers use it to support and develop their staff. For voluntary organisations and charities it creates the ideal opportunity to reach more people. It also provides the perfect setting in which to recognise their hard work and the achievements of the learners they support.

Awards

Each year thousands of people are nominated for the highly coveted Adult Learners' Week awards. These recognise learning providers and individual learners. There are awards for a wide range of categories including *Learning for Work*, *Learning Through Technology*, *Learning Through Sport*, and *Young Adult Learner of the Year*. Anyone can nominate a project or an individual for an award. You can nominate online at: www.alw.org.uk/nominate. Nominations for 2013 must be made by **5pm, Thursday 13 December, 2012**.

Learning for Health

The Adult Learners' Week Awards celebrate achievements and encourage adults to take up learning. The Learning for Health Award recognises individuals whose learning has helped them to improve their physical or mental health, and projects that offer learning opportunities to help individuals to improve their physical and mental health. Examples include fitness and lifestyle activities, dealing with stress, family health, etc.

By nominating for the Learning for Health Award, you will be showcasing the active contribution that you and your organisation make towards celebrating excellence in adult learning. As a nominator, you will be able to actively participate in the regional and national publicity that Adult Learners' Week generates every year.

Join our national celebration of adult learning

By hosting your own Adult Learners' Week **event** and **nominating** inspiring learners or providers you are helping us to:

- Recognise achievement in learning
- Encourage participation in learning
- Shape the debate about adult learning and influence policy



During last year's festival:

- Over **75 awards** were presented across England
- Adult Learners' Week received over **1,300 award nominations**
- Adult Learners' Week was marked by over **2,000 events**

Celebrate the achievements of an inspiring learner you know by nominating them for the 2013 awards

National Awards Ceremony

The National Awards Ceremony is a key event and last year awards were presented by Vince Cable MP, Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills. There was wide ranging media interest throughout Adult Learners' Week with national titles including The Independent, The TES, The Daily Mail and The Sun all covering the activity.

For a full list of the awards categories visit:

www.alw.org.uk/nominate

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