

April to June 2007: Issue 14

## Learning to read at 83

Joyce Patrick, who returned to learning through a WEA Skills for Life course in Worcester five years ago, won the NIACE West Midlands Senior Adult Learner of the Year award in May.

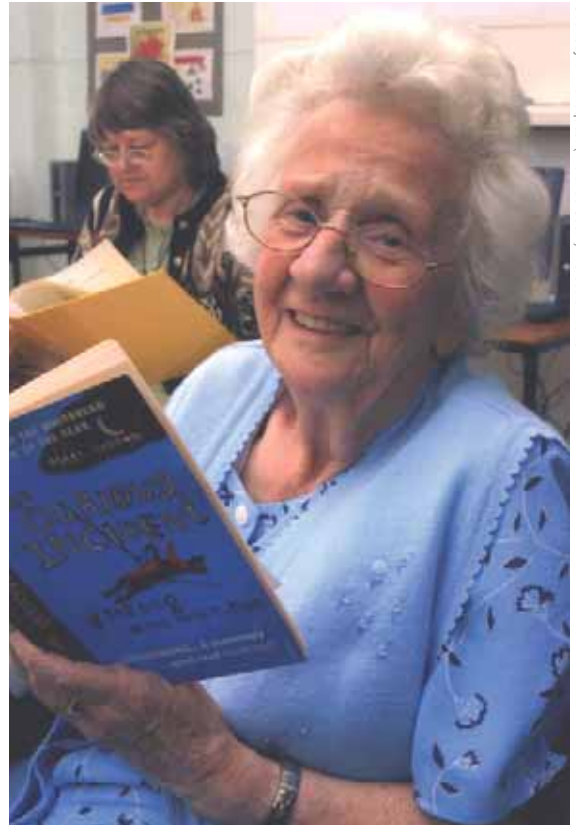
Joyce missed out on much of her schooling when young due to illness, and relied heavily on her husband to help with reading and writing until his death in 1998.

She was unable to read bills or sign her name, and despite being "terrified" of going back into education, decided to face joining the Worcester course as learning to read was "something I had to do".

Joyce persevered even after a bad fall in which both her legs were broken, and can now manage her own bills, read books and travel on public transport. She compares the decades before she learned to read as "a bit like being a stranger in a foreign country."

Joyce can now send birthday cards to her three children, eight grandchildren and nine great grandchildren, and reads regularly to another elderly lady who cannot get out and about. She has even had a go at computing, about which she comments, "it was quite interesting. I kept losing the mouse but I found it eventually."

Tutor May Youett says, "Joyce has given inspiration to other learners in the class as an older learner who persevered and achieved amazing results. Congratulations."



Courtesy of Newsquest (Midlands South) Worcester News

**More WEA award winners - pg 6**



**create07, the first ever creative arts festival held across the whole Yorkshire and Humber region, took place during June. The festival succeeded in celebrating the creativity of the area, with events covering the full range of the creative arts - including painting, music, photography, writing, film making, pottery and the use of digital media.**

create07 was organised by the WEA in Yorkshire and Humber and featured over 100 free events across the region. Some were showcases of work by learners on existing WEA courses while others enabled the audience to have a go themselves; some events mixed the two.

Well-known Barnsley poet Ian McMillan served as create07 patron, while the support of the Arts Council enabled two professional artists in residence to be appointed - writer Liz Cashdan and community artist Allison Williams; both ran workshops as part of create07. Photography and writing competitions were held too - the winners were:

- Photography: Cathy Cain from Sheffield for 'Magical Time'
- Poetry: Polly Blackley from Hebden Bridge for 'Blacksmith'
- Short story: Sarah Dunnakey from Hebden Bridge for 'The Marzipan Husband'

# Hadrian's Wall: The Romans in Northumbria

WEA North East Region is delighted to announce the launch of its new educational themed holiday programme. We are blessed with wonderful scenery and an amazing social and industrial history which we want to share with you. We are piloting our first holiday for WEA learners and members - 27th September to 1st October 2007 on the theme of "Hadrian's Wall - The Romans in Northumbria". For five days we will take you back in time to experience what life was like for the soldiers and settlers who lived along Hadrian's Wall.

Set in 140 acres of peaceful park and woodland, Gilsland Spa Hotel (below), owned and managed by the Co-operative Society, will be our base. The hotel is built on a hill and enjoys extensive views over miles of unspoilt countryside and is within easy walking distance of Hadrian's Wall. All rooms are en-suite with tea/coffee facilities.



**Your WEA Northumbria Holiday itinerary will provide an exhilarating learning opportunity with guided tours and visits to Roman sites. You will:**

- Visit the Roman Army Museum, see the Wall through an 'Eagles Eye', and stroll through the settlement excavations at the world famous Vindolanda.
- Visit Segedunum with its reconstructed Roman Bath.
- Discover the flora and fauna on an accompanied walk out along the Wall, building up an appetite for a pub lunch then return with an expert on the geology of Hadrian's Wall.

Evening sessions will include Roman art and culture and a practical workshop.

The hotel will also be offering its own evening entertainment programme.



## How to book

WEA Northumbria Holidays are in keeping with WEA tradition - high quality education with a priority on learners' needs. A holiday host will be available throughout your stay to provide any support you may require.

For more information about our exciting programme please contact Gloria at WEA North East (0191 212 6100) or book direct using the form enclosed or by contacting the Gilsland Spa Hotel:

Tel: 01697 747203 Fax: 01697 747051

Email: [enquiries@gilslandspa.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@gilslandspa.co.uk)

# Memories of Don Valley steelworkers

This DVD and book of the memories of former steelworkers from South Yorkshire, recorded in a project run by the WEA Sheffield No. 2 Branch, has

been launched at an event hosted by the Mayor of Sheffield.

The project was funded by Awards for All and aimed to record steelworkers' lives in their own voices before those voices were lost. It is believed to be the first first searchable and fully-indexed archive of its kind - using the original sound files rather than paper transcripts - which will allow users to hear the steelworkers telling their own stories.

The book is available for around £5 in the following Sheffield-area outlets: Magna, Kelham Island Industrial Museum, Sheffield Town Hall Reception, Sheffield Scene and the Famous Sheffield Shop.

Copies of the DVD are currently held at Sheffield Local Studies Library and Kelham Island Industrial Museum. At present only a version intended for academic research exists, although organisers are hopeful of being able to produce a user-friendly DVD of the interviews that will be playable on any DVD player in future.



## Joys of text

A seven week WEA pilot course in using mobile phones and deciphering text language has been a hit with older learners in Barrhead, East Renfrewshire.

Ian Borthwick, from Age Concern Dundee, praised the idea, saying that texting can help people stay in touch with their grandchildren. He added that, "obviously personal contact is very important, but texting can be a great way of keeping in touch and arranging visits."

Amongst the learners were father and daughter Eddie Russell, 91, and Jean Conway, 70.

## ESOL update

Further to the piece in the last WEA News concerning the threat to the universal entitlement to free English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) provision, and the campaign on this issue led by the University and College Union, which was supported by the WEA, Minister for Lifelong Learning Bill Rammell has announced a set of concessions.

These include an additional £4.6 million in 2007/08 in Learner Support Hardship Funds to support vulnerable learners and eligibility for government funded courses being restored to asylum seekers whose claims or appeals are beyond the Home Office six month target for completion. The LSC has also been asked to develop guidance on new forms of financial evidence for means-tested support.

For more on this issue see the UCU website:  
[www.ucu.org.uk/saveesol](http://www.ucu.org.uk/saveesol)

## Right to Learn

### A campaign for fair funding for Liberal Adult Education

By Liz Armstrong of WEA Newcastle upon Tyne Branch

Here in North East Region the Newcastle upon Tyne Branch has launched a campaign for fairer funding for liberal adult education - including meetings attended by other WEA branches, individual learners and other interested organisations. Lobbying of local MPs and national politicians, local and national press releases and the circulation of a petition are ongoing, and during Adult Learners Week we set up stall in Newcastle city centre to inform and enlist the help of the public - a first for many of us!

We feel this is necessary, despite increases in government funding for adult learning in recent years, because the focus has moved towards narrow working life skills objectives for those under 25. It is estimated that over the next few years the subsidy for liberal adult education courses will reduce to the extent that class fees will double. As a consequence of this fewer adults will be able to afford to attend classes, classes will not recruit and will close and there will be less choice available.

Whilst we recognise that it is important to have a skilled workforce it will be disgraceful if a country which enjoys one of the richest economies in the world allows liberal adult education to become the education of the "better off" and denies its benefits to the many who will not be able to afford it in the future.

Are other regions and branches doing similar things? Would any other branches like to get involved in the petition exercise? Have other branches any suggestions about how we might proceed?

If you want any more information or can help in any way do get in touch at [liz\\_armstrong2000@hotmail.com](mailto:liz_armstrong2000@hotmail.com) or write to me via North East Regional Office at 21 Portland Terrace, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE2 1QQ.



By Richard Crisp, who has been an officer with York and Exeter Branches and sits on the Renewing Membership Group

## MBE Awards

Congratulations to the following recipients of MBEs:

**Marion Vincent**, who was honoured not only as Chairman of Birstall and Rothley Branch but also for her multi-faceted community service as a heritage and tree warden and Rothley website creator since retirement. Having recovered from a long battle with illness, Marion decided on a five-year stint of local voluntary service

**Peter Hewitt**, a much respected tutor who has taught in Cambridgeshire for over 40 years. WEA Cambridgeshire Federation nominated Peter for services to adult education, but the MBE is for services to the Community in recognition of his additional work for the Prison Service, Historic Churches, Music and Town Council.

**Derek Sharman** from Berwick, another WEA tutor who received an MBE (albeit back in the New Year's list). Derek teaches local history in addition to his work organising heritage events such as the 2003 commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the union of the Scottish and English crowns.

## WEA Conference

English Branches, Scottish Local Associations and other voluntary structures recognised by Regional Committees are reminded that each has the right to send one Member who may speak and vote at Conference in October. The deadline for Motions has passed but we are now into the period during which Amendments may be submitted. If you haven't received papers dated 22 June which have been addressed to the above, please contact Conference Secretary Angela Clark on 020 7426 3450. If you have insufficient funds and your Region cannot help, remember to set your course fees to cover such costs by 2009.

**Conference agenda - page 7**

# Branch Centenaries

Two of the WEA's older Branches are celebrating their centenaries this year. **Glossop Branch**, on the edge of the Peak District, is one. Having continued its activity throughout both world wars, Glossop's heyday was reportedly in the 1940's & 1950's, when leading national and international figures came to speak on their programme of single lectures. Their tradition of a series of one-day talks continues.

**York Branch** is also celebrating 100 years of adult provision. Members marked the milestone with a special get-together in the City's Guildhall in June together with civic guests, tutors and learners past and present. The first classes occurred after a request from a meeting of civic leaders. Gradually it became a major provider of adult education in the City, through the efforts of local hard-working volunteers and WEA leading light William Temple, Archbishop of York.

York currently provides 40 different classes per year, catering for 800 students, at several venues throughout the City; subjects include languages, history, music, crafts and science. The branch has also supported the establishment of other Branches on the periphery of York and beyond.

Not too far behind in seniority is **Congleton Branch**, which is in its 90th year and hit the local press headlines with its art class exhibition in the public library.



Raising a toast to a century of learning: Edna Ward, Janet Marsham, Terry Fowler, Margaret Moorhouse and Margaret Sweet celebrate in York's Guildhall

## Thinking Outside the Branch Box

What an exciting scheme the North East Region have in their 'WEA Northumbria Holidays' venture (page 2). If every Region and strong Branches were to follow suit, it would be possible both to raise substantial funds for the work of the WEA and significantly raise our profile to the wider public.

Of course, such initiatives are not the preserve of Regions. I recall Terry Fowler (see picture) of my

alma mater Branch, York, running annual musical appreciation study trips to Italy; they have recently organised popular and lucrative 5-day study trips to Edinburgh (Fine Art) and Chichester (Country Houses, architecture and contents). Branches can rely on the cachet of the WEA and its tutors to attract customers to subscribe to such profitably costed trips and events. All it takes is one very enthusiastic volunteer!

Please contact me for input on Branch issues in future editions of WEA News by email to [rcrisp@wea.org.uk](mailto:rcrisp@wea.org.uk) or via the postal address on page eight. Or post to the open discussion forum at <http://mail.wea.org.uk/branchsecretaries>

# More funding for Highlands women



**WEA Scotland's Highland Women At Work project received increased funding in March from the Scottish Executive's Equalities Unit, to provide learning opportunities for women across the Scottish Highlands.**

The project offers training, support and information for women in the Highlands who are considering re-entry to the workforce or more active involvement in voluntary activities, as well as those already working who wish to upgrade their skills or move onto management or leadership positions. The overall emphasis of the project remains on 'Renewing Democracy - Making Our Voices Heard'.

Project co-ordinator Frances Powell (pictured) was one of only two women from Scotland invited to a Downing Street event marking International Women's Day in March. Frances discussed the Women at Work project with then Minister for Women Ruth Kelly, and the group was addressed by Tony Blair, whom Frances describes as, "charming and polished, and positive about the progress of women after ten years of this Government. He also recognised there's still much to be done with and for women, both here in the UK and overseas."

## WEA film screening

**Shadows, a film made by two WEA students from the Ten Feet Away Video Project, will be screened as part of the Holloway Film Festival on 8th July.**

The film was made on a single winter's night in North London, using a hand-held camera. It was originally to be used for a larger documentary project on isolation and homelessness in inner London. John Quinlan, who edited the film, explains that, "It is called Shadows because living on the streets is increasingly being seen as part of the norm, with the causes rarely acknowledged. Increased economic pressures and escalating individualism leads ultimately to the isolation of human experiences."

Also showing on the same evening at the festival is Park, a film by WEA tutor Justine Gordon-Smith, which focuses on a year in the lives of a mix of people from a wide range of social groups who share Elthorne Park in West London.



## Like Father, like Son

**By Paul Mace, a WEA tutor in East Midlands region**

An unexpected outcome from one of my WEA classes being observed last year was that I have been asked to write an article about both my father and I having been WEA tutors. There the similarity ends. My father gave lectures on philosophy/psychology while I promote music activities for students with mental disabilities.

I took up teaching for the WEA after I had retired from full-time music teaching, whereas my father, Alec Mace, taught for the Association at the outset of his distinguished academic career. My father went to Cambridge in 1912 intending to enter holy orders, opting for the Moral Sciences Tripos to provide a useful background for theology. Under the influence of his teacher G.E. Moore, philosophy became more than a background; he remained absorbed in the "moral sciences" for the rest of his life. At Cambridge he became a pacifist and moved on to what he described as his postgraduate studies at Wormwood Scrubs and Dartmoor during the the First World War.

Life for pacifists/conscientious objectors during the First World War was far from easy. Not only were they ridiculed, labelled cowards and insulted in all possible ways, but also they often found it hard to obtain employment. My own soft spot for the WEA is because it employed my father as a tutor, at a time when he was being rejected by everyone else. My father always maintained that nearly all human evils are "due to stupidity". He reckoned that the First World War was completely unnecessary - this would have been before the slaughter at such places as The Somme. His feelings about the second war were quite different. He would have willingly fought against the evils perpetrated by the Nazi regime in the thirties. Instead, as he was too old to join up, he helped get persecuted academics (mainly Jewish) out of the German occupied countries, and was instrumental in obtaining suitable work for them when they arrived in this country.

Should anyone have any record or knowledge of what C A Mace taught and where he tutored in the years 1918 to 1922 (when he was appointed Lecturer in Philosophy and Psychology at the University College of Nottingham), I would be very glad to hear from them (please email [news@wea.org.uk](mailto:news@wea.org.uk) or use the postal address on page 8; submissions will be passed on to Paul).

# Adult Learners Week Awards



**Congratulations to Neil Kirsch, who attends WEA Barnet Branch courses and has won NIACE's Older Learner of the Year Award for the East of England.**

Taxi driver Neil is about to complete a degree in English - having left school at 16 with only a couple of GCEs. His father, who died five years ago, had always stressed the importance of reading and learning, but Neil had rebelled against this and had never picked up a book since leaving school. Neil says, "His death made me think about my life - as well as his and the great pleasure he had taken from reading and studying. As a way of paying tribute to my father I decided to pick up one of his books and read it. I loved it."

Neil has completed English Language and Literature GCSEs and an A-Level, and is now in his third year of a part-time degree from Birkbeck College.

Neil (centre in the photo) was nominated for his award by David Tyler (right) from WEA Barnet Branch (which is in WEA's London Region) and WEA tutor Michael King (left), who teaches in both London and Eastern Regions.

**Jacque Phillips from Swindon Womens' Branch is pictured receiving her Swindon Learning Ambassadors Adult Learners' Week Award for Outstanding Personal Achievement** from Councillor Colin Lovell. The award was given to Jacque in recognition of her overall progress in drawing and painting over the last three and a half years. Despite considerable physical problems, in particular with her eyesight, Jacque's confidence and ability has increased, and she has developed a talent in making greetings cards, which she sells to friends and family. Her sense of humour has had a positive influence on the other learners within the group, often encouraging them to move forward with their work.



## Books and authors



June Chatfield, a WEA tutor in London region, has recently published '**How to Begin the Study of Natural History**', which David Bellamy describes in his foreword as a "comprehensive introduction to the whats, whys and hows of natural history." The book is published by the British Naturalists' Association, and can be obtained for £7.50 from the London Botanical Institute, 323 Norwood Road, London E24 9AQ, or from [www.bna-naturalists.org](http://www.bna-naturalists.org).

WEA Sheffield Organiser Rob Hindle has published '**Some Histories of the Sheffield Flood 1864**', a collection of his poems giving a snapshot of the effects of the flood on people and places. He wrote the sequence of poems while participating in a Writers' Development Programme run by Yorkshire Art Circus, and it reflects his interest in using poetry as a means of examining history and our relationship with it. The collection is available from Templar Poetry (<http://www.templarpoetry.co.uk>) and was a Pamphlet and Anthology Winner in Templar's Pamphlet and First Collection Competition 2006.

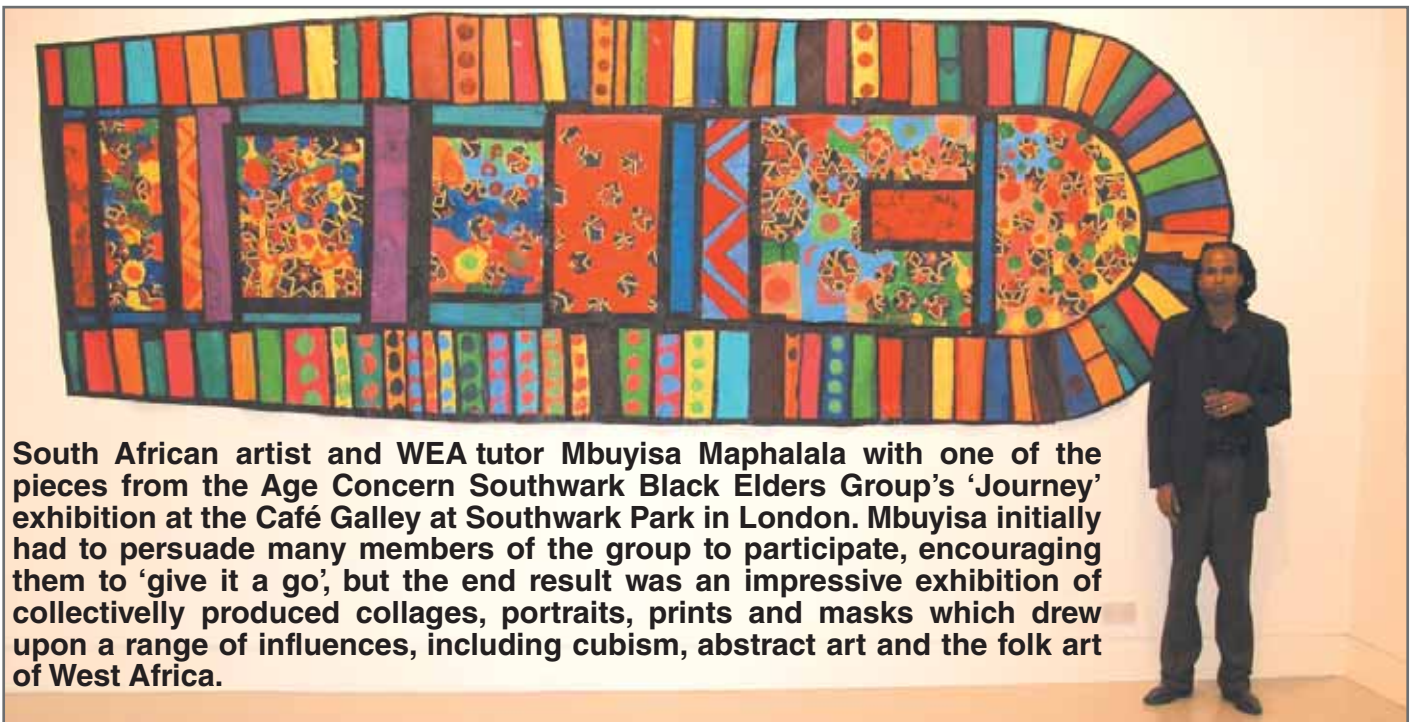


WEA London Region contacted author **William Woodruff** in connection with World Book Day in March. His reply is reproduced below:

For me the WEA was a key which opened the door to knowledge and friendship. I was a WEA student before the Second World War (Reg Sorrenson MP was my teacher. He held his class at Westminster). After the war I became a WEA teacher myself at East Leake (Nottinghamshire).

I've never forgotten the East Leake group. They'd jointly bought a pig, which in those hungry days they were fattening up for Christmas. No class began without the local bank clerk reporting on the pig's condition. I lectured on World History. I don't know whether it was my wisdom or the pig which held the class together. After my lecture and a lively discussion, they would accompany me to the bus stop clutching parcels of food scraps. Presumably they would then go and visit their pig.

Those lectures were the beginning of what would fifty years later become my 'Concise History of the Modern World'.



South African artist and WEA tutor Mbuyisa Maphalala with one of the pieces from the Age Concern Southwark Black Elders Group's 'Journey' exhibition at the Café Galley at Southwark Park in London. Mbuyisa initially had to persuade many members of the group to participate, encouraging them to 'give it a go', but the end result was an impressive exhibition of collectively produced collages, portraits, prints and masks which drew upon a range of influences, including cubism, abstract art and the folk art of West Africa.

## What adults really want to learn

A survey conducted during Adult Learners' Week has revealed what adults in Hampshire would like to learn. The 145 separate subjects mentioned by respondents ranged from DJ skills, street dance and graffiti art to dry stone walling, Egyptology and maritime history.

The Jeffery-Machin Foundation, which exists to provide adult learning in Hampshire, carried out the survey. The Foundation was set up in 2006 following a bequest of nearly £1 million left to the WEA for that purpose from Canon and Mrs Jeffery-Machin.

The survey was carried out both online and through the distribution of 70,000 leaflets through libraries and local newspapers in the county. The top ten subjects requested are listed in the box at right.

The Jeffery-Machin Foundation is planning a series of summer taster events across Hampshire this summer, including digital imaging in Basingstoke on Saturdays in August, web design in Portsmouth on 4th August and local history in Petersfield. Visit [www.hampshirelearning.co.uk](http://www.hampshirelearning.co.uk) for more on these and the other activities of the Foundation.

### Top ten subjects requested

- 1 - Languages (13%)\*
- 2 - Computing / PC skills (13%)
- 3 - Digital photography (9%)
- 4 - Art and crafts (8%)
- 5 - Local history (7%)
- 6 - Sign language (6%)
- 7 - Creative writing (4%)
- 8 - English literature (3%)
- 9 - Cookery (2%)
- 10 - Gardening (2%)

\*languages requested included English, French, Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese), Italian, Spanish, Bengali, Norwegian, Greek, Polish and Turkish.

## Stationery rules extended online

As of 1 January this year, Companies House rules governing stationery were extended to include electronic communications and company websites. Whether in hard copy, electronic or any other form a company must state its name, where the company was registered, the company number and its registered office address in legible lettering on all letters, order forms, official publications, cheques, invoices, receipts and websites. Whenever an email is used where its paper equivalent would be subject to the business stationery requirements then that email is also subject to the requirements.

The relevant sentences that cover this requirement for documents, emails and websites written on behalf of the WEA are:

**Registered Charity number: 1112775**

**Company limited by guarantee in England number: 2806910**

**Registered office: 3rd Floor, 70 Clifton Street, London EC2A 4HB.**

## WEA Conference agenda

The preliminary agenda for WEA Conference in October has now been circulated; the deadline for amendments to motions is 31 August.

Motions submitted for discussion and decisions at conference cover issues including the future of WEA membership; campaigning for adult education funding; revitalising volunteering in the WEA; environmental sustainability; fee concessions for learners over 60; the Observation of Teaching and Learning (OTL) scheme; bureaucracy within the WEA, and WEA promotion/profile.

WEA Branches and Affiliates that are keen to have their say and vote at Conference, who have not yet booked to attend, can do so using the form sent in April - or contact Conference Secretary Angela Clark on 020 7426 3450.



# Arrivals, departures and exchanges

## Eastern Region

**Jean Levison**, Regional Administration Officer, retired on 25 May after 19 years in post, and has been succeeded by **Jacquie Taylor**. We extend our best wishes to Jean on her retirement and welcome Jacquie to the WEA Eastern Region.

## Southern Region

**Jill Britcher**, who retired at the end of May, will be known to many readers. She joined the WEA 28 years ago as a volunteer and actually found committee meetings fun. After completing her degree she joined the WEA in 1992 as a tutor and then tutor organiser, working mainly in Workplace provision, particularly with the developing Unison partnership. She regarded this time as the most exciting, when it seemed that anything was possible. Much of this pioneering work is now mainstream and Jill went on to become Acting District Secretary of the old South Eastern District. She finished her time in Southern Region as a much respected support for volunteers across the region, managing the constitutional changes required and encouraging active consultation. She will be much missed by all her colleagues and many voluntary members.

## Yorkshire and Humber Region

Three long serving staff in the region retired before Christmas; apologies for these not being covered in a previous issue. A 2-page document produced by the region with reflections on their time at the WEA from each of the three retirees is available on request from [news@wea.org.uk](mailto:news@wea.org.uk)

**Teresa de Saram**, Organiser for North Yorkshire, worked for the WEA for 14 years. In her early days at the WEA Teresa was involved in revitalising the branch programme, before being involved in funding bids and projects from the European Social Fund for work including computer training for the farming community across the Yorkshire Dales and Moors. As Teresa says, "Where else would I have ended up in muddy farm yards, running courses in an auction mart and appearing with the farmers on BBC1 Countryfile or fighting their corner with MAFF and DEFRA and Ministers." In recent years, Teresa moved from this hands-on work to managing the North Yorkshire area, with responsibility for 22 branches, the staff team and

hundreds of volunteers.

**Mary Lewis** served as a member of field staff for over twenty years, ten in Northern District and ten in Yorkshire and Humber. Prior to this she was a part-time tutor, a branch member and a WEA student. Mary says, "It has been a privilege working with such committed, enthusiastic and often eccentric people. My life has been richer for knowing them and the WEA." Mary has been replaced as Regional Education Secretary by **Jenny Major**.

**Julian Harber** first worked for the WEA in 1973, when he taught a class in London for Wembley-Brent Branch. He was appointed Tutor/Organiser for the newly formed local authority of Calderdale, West Yorkshire in 1975. Julian was instrumental in setting up the Helping in Schools programme, which now runs across England. This began in response to two new school governors from Hebden Bridge who contacted Julian because they knew little about the role they were supposed to perform. Julian became a school governor and then a voluntary helper in the same school, experiences which led to the first accredited Helping in Schools course for volunteers in primary schools in 1994. Julian is continuing to advise the WEA on matters relating to Helping in Schools provision. He says, "During my 33 years with the WEA there have been good times and not so good times. But one thing has been consistent throughout, and that is that I have constantly learnt from voluntary members, colleagues, tutors and above all from WEA students...there are I think few other jobs in education that could have given me such wide experiences."

Congratulations to **Richard Moreland**, who received an Adult Learners' Award sponsored by Fosters Bakery following a nomination from Barnsley organiser Sheila Smith.

**Alison Ainsbury**, Organiser for Scarborough, has left the WEA for pastures new, whilst two new staff have started work in the Leeds regional office: **Wynford Wright**, Administrator and **Susan Marshall**, Finance Assistant.

Several stalwart volunteers have finished their WEA service including **Pam Spurgeon** from Grimsby Branch and **Peter Hughes** of Ecclesfield Branch. **Mark Gamsu** is a new member of the Regional Executive Committee and **Elizabeth Dunnett**,

**Ivan Minto**, **Audrey Twigg** and **John Wills** are all new members of the Regional Committee.

## Commercial Services

**Bob Tarbuck** began work as the WEA's new Director of Commercial Services on 18th June. His role will include finding new ways for the WEA to fund and expand its work.

Bob joins the WEA from a post as CEO of Exeter Enterprises Ltd, the commercial services arm of the University of Exeter.

WEA Commercial Services has been registered at Companies House and as its CEO, Bob will eventually report to its Board which will be chaired by one of the WEA Trustees, Anne King.

## Corporate Services

**Genna Pasch**, Education Strategy Officer, left the WEA on 11 May to take up a new job with Surrey County Council as a Special Educational Needs Case officer.

**Tracy Burrell** has joined the Development and Training team part-time for the next few months to develop the WEA's Virtual Learning Environment.

## About WEA News

WEA News is produced for WEA staff, tutors and voluntary members. Many thanks to all who contributed to this edition, including:

Michael Holland, Angela Jones, Steve Rushton, Liz Carlin, Jane Babbage, Ann Walker, Inge Riley-Cuperus, Yvonne Ritchie and Stephen Connelly.

If you have an item for inclusion or would like to comment on the newsletter please let us know.

It is not always possible to include all items submitted but every effort will be made to do so.

Correspondence should be addressed to:

WEA NEWS,  
c/o WEA, 3rd Floor,  
70 Clifton Street,  
London EC2A 4HB

or emailed to [news@wea.org.uk](mailto:news@wea.org.uk)

Views expressed are not necessarily those of the WEA.

© Workers' Educational Association