

# MARTEC *Times*

## Awards Hat-Trick!

**O**n the 15th of May 2008 the Oscars of the world of apprentices was back for a fourth year running to pay credit to the county's unsung achievers. The awards are also a celebration of the continued commitment of Staffordshire's business community and the Training Providers that help the young apprentices reach their dreams and ambitions. The Staffordshire Apprenticeship Awards 2008 was held at the Best Western Moathouse and was hosted by award winning TV comedian Jason Manford who not only presented the awards but kept the crowd entertained with his hilarious stand up throughout the evening.

Martec's staff, award nominees, families and colleagues took up over three tables this year due to the high number of nominations we received. The night turned out to be a great success for all involved with Martec as all of our nominees walked away with a glittering award!! Here is an over view of our success!

### Apprentice of the Year Award

Congratulations to Emma Woodward for winning the Runner Up prize in their category! Emma who is currently working at AH Brooks Solicitors in Leek. Emma started her Business Administration Apprenticeship in May 2007 and due to her quick grasp of her role and skills needed to succeed she completed her qualification in just 9 months! Soon after achieving this Emma was promoted to senior clerk – a massive accomplishment for someone of Emma's age.

Since starting at AH Brooks, Emma has assisted in producing the companies' quarterly newsletters and is now responsible for the production and distribution of future issues. Thanks to Emma's effort this became a successful marketing tool for the business. Emma said, "I feel such an achievement when I ask a client how they heard of us and they respond through the newsletter".

Emma has also helped organise the local show within the company marquee. Emma spent the day speaking with potential clients and explaining what AH Brooks can offer. Emma hopes to start further



Left to Right—Emma Woodward, Ashley Hawe and Reg Aldridge

qualifications very shortly "Achieving my Apprenticeship is just the start of many things to come".

### Personal Achievement Award

Congratulations to Ashley Hawe for winning the Personal Achievement Award 19-24! Ashley who is currently employed as a Vehicle Technician at Tri-Aid in Tunstall. The judges were looking for a learner who possesses the ability to overcome problems, obstacles or barriers in learning at work and achieving against the odds.

Always a mechanic in the making, Ashley struggled with Type 1 diabetes from a young age. Now aged 19, he has realised his dream of becoming a motor technician. After joining Martec's e2e programme he became known as the class clown but he really knuckled down and his determination means he is now a respected and valued member of the team at Tri-Aid due in no small part to his caring, fun loving nature.

Ashley's boss Tom Trivett says "Ashley has never let his illness get in the way of his work. From the very start he has proved himself to be a hardworking

and dedicated lad and is truly an inspiration to other young apprentices out there who want to be successful in their chosen career."

### Employer of the Year Award

Congratulations to Reg Aldridge of Endon Services for winning the title of Small Employer of the Year Award.

Endon Services Limited started trading nearly 31 years ago and from day one the managing director, Reg Aldridge, has been committed to training apprentices. The company is constantly expanding, thanks in some part to their commitment to Apprenticeships. They are currently training three apprentices within their growing workforce of 18. Currently, four out of their five strong senior management team started out as apprentices, a testimony in itself to the management development potential of a carefully structured apprenticeship programme.

When an apprentice is first interviewed for a job at Endon Service Station, Reg feels strongly that it is important to invite their parents along as well. "It is

important that their parents see where their child is working, if they have any concerns about how they will be treated as an apprentice they are discussed here and assured that we will be investing a lot of time and effort into their child"

Endon Service Station is an active member of Martec's employer forum. They feel it is important to be kept up to date with changing standards and new qualifications being introduced and also to have their say.

Reg also intends attending local high schools to promote retail motor engineering in relation to the emerging new engineering diploma; he hopes this will be the start of many more events he will be able to be involved in to raise young peoples' awareness of what options are available to them in the retail automotive industry when they leave school.

**Martec's Directors, Pauline and Peter Marson and General Manager, Mike Askew would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the award winners, their employers and all Martec Staff. Keep up the good work!**

## A Warm Welcome to..

Martec's new apprentices who started on the scheme in April!

Scott Matthias and Adrian Mills are both working in Body Repair at Ipstones based Moorland Classics, Liam Kelly is working as a paint refinisher at M&M Vehicle repairs, both Alexander Brickley and Adam Rubrey are working at Wheels n' Tyres, Cheadle as Vehicle Fitters, Scott Barrowdale has started as a Light Vehicle Technician at Penkhull Service Station and Jonathan Bromley is also a technician at Longton based John Beech Recovery.

Everyone at Martec welcomes them on board and would like to take this opportunity to wish them every success in their chosen field and qualification

# The Wall of Fame

**Congratulations to all of Martec's recent achievers**

### Level 2 Apprenticeship Achievers

Daniel Millward—KS Autos  
 Scott Turner—GA Barnes  
 John Wicks—Castletown  
 Anthony Davies—Staffs Test Centre  
 Emma Woodward—AH Brooks

### Adult Apprentices—Level 3

Mark Bentley—Wardle Transport  
 Simon Boardman—Brocksford Motors  
 Christopher Clewes—MHM  
 Peter Gregorick—Wardle Transport  
 Christopher Rhodes—Ken Jervis  
 Lynn Wilkes—Formula 4

### Level 3 Apprenticeship Achievers

Geoffrey Barrow—Holdcroft  
 Peter Batey—PMF  
 Matthew Clayton—NSTB Longton  
 Dylan Davies—Cars R Us  
 Paul Hambleton—M&M  
 Jordan Steele—GRS  
 Matthew Payne—Millenium

### Train to Gain Achievers

Kevin Beech—MHM  
 Michelle Price—Martec

## Rally Around for Charity

Three members of Martec staff are taking part in a Ramshackle Rally to raise money for the Douglas Macmillan Hospice.

Phil Mayer, Phil Lee and Paul Shaw who work in the e2e department will be taking part in the rally this August, it runs from Calais to Valencia and participants must place their trust in a hundred quid's worth of scrap metal and set off on an epic road trip covering 1450 miles.

The car needs to be themed so they have kitted themselves out in army gear and the car will be spray painted green camouflage under the theme of Dad's Army!

One hundred teams will compete in what promises to be the craziest banger rally on the European circuit before joining in with 40,000 others throwing squashed tomato's at each other. The rally lasts for four days as teams compete in the daily challenges to score points, the team with the most points at the end is the winner and will receive £1500 in prize money to donate to their favourite charity.



If you would like to sponsor the Ramshackle 'Dad's Army' Trio and help raise money for the hospice then please contact Phil on 01782 717272.

# The Future is Blooming for e2e

It has been a busy 12 months for the e2e programme, which has seen a lot of changes and new programmes introduced. Asdan is now running well with lots of certificates being issued for learner achievement. On the e2e programme learners can gain up to six certificates as well as working towards a City & Guilds Basic Skills qualification, these can be achieved with help from our new basic skills tutor Michelle Parsons. (pictured below)

Michelle aged 26 from Winsford in



Cheshire, came to Martec on a teacher training placement in October 2007 and then joined as a permanent member of staff in April.

Michelle says "I am really pleased to have joined Martec as a full time member of staff, everyone has made me feel really welcome. I teach small groups of learners and help them work towards their level one numeracy and literacy qualifications, I'm thoroughly enjoying the work and love interacting with the learners."

E2e isn't just about certificates it's also about a step towards employment in an area you enjoy with our work experience programmes. We have strong links with organisations such as The YMCA, Further Options and Abbey Hill School and we also deliver programs to local schools.

The e2e department are currently working very closely with Regent College who deal with young people with disabilities. They have been given an over grown unused allotment in Shelton and are now responsible for the restoration of it as part of their e2e

development programme. Learners will be gardening, planting, building fences and supporting walls. The project will not only be developing their practical skills but will also encourage team building and improve their basic skills as they will have to measure and plot the area.

The allotment project follows on from the very successful 'Newcastle in Bloom' where the learners planted daffodils alongside the old peoples' homes close to Martec's head office.



Your Feedback is our improvement! From recent surveys and feedback sheets we have identified some issues regarding Information, advice and guidance Below are three issues raised and how we have responded ..... THANKS FOR YOUR FEEDBACK!

Who Said?	What they said....	We DID!
<b>Employers</b>	You wanted to know how long you can have an apprentice on trial before deciding if they are suitable and what the overall procedure is.	You can have a learner on a 4 week trial to see if both you and the young person are happy and suitable for the role. If so he/ she will come in for a 2 day induction and will then commence their apprenticeship qualification.
<b>Learners</b>	You wanted to know if you are entitled to the national minimum wage when you have completed your apprenticeship.	Yes if you are aged 16-17 you will be entitled to £3.40 p.h., if aged 18+ it is £4.60p.h. This is in every employers placement guide but a new letter has been devised to notify your employer of this when you complete.
<b>Parents/ Guardians</b>	You wanted to know if you son/ daughter is entitled to holidays with pay during their apprenticeship	Yes they have the right to 24 days which can include bank holidays. A statement of employment is filled in by the employer which states a job description, holidays, working hours, when and how much they get paid.

### ARE YOU A LOCAL EMPLOYER?

WOULD YOU LIKE TO OFFER A YOUNG PERSON A CHANCE TO FOLLOW THEIR DREAMS AND COMPLETE AN APPRENTICESHIP IN THEIR CHOSEN CAREER?

CALL SIAN FOR DETAILS ON 01782 717272