

# MARTEC *Times*

## Hot off the press.....

### Martec LIVE on the web

See [www.martectraining.co.uk](http://www.martectraining.co.uk). A full website containing an interactive section for parents, young people and employers will be launched in the very near future! The website will provide information, advice and guidance, carry up to date news about Martec, show stories from learners, allow young people to contact us direct through the site and lots more.

### Martec staff get back to nature!

Monday the 1<sup>st</sup> October was a slightly different start to the week for the employees at Martec. A team building day was organised at Apedale Country Park which involved climbing through a giant spiders web, bridge building and ended in a huge water bomb fight! The day proved to be a great success and gave employees the chance to show just how well they work as a team! Many thanks to Peak Pursuits for their time and effort. To find out more visit [www.peakpursuits.co.uk](http://www.peakpursuits.co.uk)

### Welcome back Neil!

Martec is pleased to announce the return of assessor Neil Pope. Neil has been off for the last six months recuperating from a very serious motorbike accident. Neil has been with the company since 2004 and has worked in the e2e department but is currently a valuable member of the assessor team dealing with learners in light vehicle, body repair and refinishing, vehicle fitting and motorcycle technician. The staff at Martec would like to wish 'Popey' all the best in this return to work and a steady recovery.

### Motorvate back in action!

Martec's technical college – Motorvate is now open for the new term! Cliff Rowley is now in charge of Motorvate after the departure of Duncan Mould. Cliff and Tony will be responsible for the new caseload of learners and will be providing them with vital underpinning knowledge for their apprenticeship. Could all learners please attend on your set dates to help you progress within your qualification. You can contact Motorvate on 01782 626284.

## Top marks for Mark

Congratulations to Mark Tushingham who was awarded Highly Commended at the Staffordshire Providers Association Apprenticeship of the year Awards 2007. Mark has recently completed his Light Vehicle Technician Advanced Apprenticeship through Martec Training. However it's not been a smooth ride for the 22 year old from Meir Park, who was previously with another training provider and near completion of his Level 2 when the company went into liquidation. This meant that Mark was left with no evidence of his progress towards the qualification as the company was unable to release his paperwork. Due to his determination to succeed in the motor industry Mark went straight to his local Connexions and told them that he wanted to find another training provider as soon as possible.

He was informed of Martec and was back on the scheme within a month but had to start from scratch, which meant completing the whole of his Level 2 again! Something which might put most lads his age off, but Mark was in no doubt that all the hard work would



be worth it in the end and he flew through the qualification a lot quicker than most.

Mark said "After I had been at Norstone for nearly 2 years my boss Ron relocated to Spain and Gary the mechanic who trained me up also left, from then on I have been responsible for the day to day running of the

workshop. Along with the usual general repairs and m.o.t.'s, I do all of the paperwork and admin to make sure everything is kept running smoothly. Ron has put his faith in me from day one, this along with my responsibilities and the skills I have learned during my apprenticeship, has really increased my confidence and given me a chance to succeed."

Mark left school not knowing what sort of career he wanted to pursue, but he explained that the apprenticeship route was definitely the right choice for him as he gained hands on experience which helped him to pick things up very quickly. He has even been given the responsibility of training up new members of staff and looking after any work experience lads the company has set on.

Mark's boss Ron said "Mark is such a dedicated and honest lad, I have been able to leave my business in his capable hands knowing that I can trust him fully when I'm away. He is an asset to Norstone."

## A warm welcome

Martec would like to offer a warm welcome to Tony Barber! Tony joined Martec on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2007 and is now a fully fledged member of the team! Tony will be responsible for the new caseload of learners in November. He will be working as a technical tutor at our college – Motorvate, where he will be delivering underpinning knowledge and he will also be assessing the learners in the workplace to help them complete their Light Vehicle Technician Apprenticeship.

Tony brings with him a real passion for the motor trade as he was a senior vehicle technician for several years and he designs, builds and races off road Landrovers! This combined with his management background is sure to set him in good stead in a career at Martec.

Tony says "I have only been at Martec for a month but I have been made to feel very welcome and I'm settling in really well. I have been able to see

how the business works in all departments which has been very interesting. I hope that this is the start of a rewarding and long career with Martec which will enable me to use my past experience to learn new skills and develop within my role.



### Tony's Fast Facts!

Where are you from? - Bucknall  
Hobbies - Designing, building and racing Landrovers  
Any pets? - 3 horses and 3 dogs!  
Favourite Food? - Steak  
Favourite drink? - a decent cold beer!  
Favourite destination? - Mexico

## Engineering the future

Martec is now working in close partnership with Wolstanton High School and Newcastle-under-Lyme College to deliver the new Diploma programme of Introduction to Engineering. The scheme is aimed at year ten and eleven students from Wolstanton High who are predicted to get grade C's in their GCSE's next year, on completion they will receive a Level 1 BTEC Certificate. Students of even higher calibre will complete the Diploma side of the qualification at Newcastle under Lyme College. The 'pilot' partnership scheme was introduced in September this year and is aimed at students who will benefit from a more practical qualification.

Would you like to feature in our next edition? If you have any news or stories please contact Sian on 01782 717272

# The Wall of Fame

## Level 1 Achievers

- Daniel Allen - Literacy & Numeracy
- James Berry - Numeracy
- Daniel Bettany - Numeracy
- Dean Crawley - Literacy
- Thomas Eyre - Numeracy
- Steven Lockett - Numeracy
- Martin Nutall - Literacy & Numeracy
- Stacey Ormerod - Literacy & Numeracy
- Robert Wibberley - Numeracy
- John Wicks - Numeracy

## Level 2 Apprenticeship Achievers

- Joseph Brocklehurst—Jubilee Garage
- Jason Clarke—Madeley Heath Motors
- Chris Heath—N. Staffs Tyre & Battery
- Lee Knight—AC Autos
- Joanne o' Toole—BS Marsons
- Chris Shaw—N. Staffs Coach Painters
- Chris Smith—C & C Vehicle Repairs
- Adam Taylor—D & H Tyres
- Michael Johnson - Pittshill Service Station (Advanced Apprenticeship)

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

# More than motors

Martec as you will probably already know is traditionally recognised as providing training in the Motor trade, however Martec also delivers training in other areas such as Business Administration, Customer Service, Warehousing & Distribution and Retail Operations. The last six months has seen Martec take on an increased number of learners in these areas, predominantly in Business Administration and Customer Service. One person who has benefited from this is Phil Royle the Operations Manager of Robert Eardley & Sons, he said:

*"We really needed to find someone who could help our admin department out as they were getting increasingly*

*busy, so when we were approached by Martec and told about the apprenticeship scheme it seemed perfect for us. Martec found us a fantastic young lady who is currently working towards her NVQ Level 2 in Business Administration, she has come on in leaps and bounds in such a short time and even though she is still learning she has become a very valuable member of our team."*

Over the next year or so Martec is hoping to further develop this side of their business, so if you are an employer or know anyone who would benefit from taking on a young person in these areas please contact us for more details on 01782 717272.

# Helping move young people forward

There are 170,000 young people currently out of training, education and employment in England.

e2e is an initiative funded by the Learning and Skills Council and delivered through Learning Providers. It is aimed primarily at 16-19 year olds, currently not receiving training, who are not in education or employment. e2e aims to move them forward, providing them with the skills and qualifications they need to progress towards entering the workplace and contributing positively. Within e2e they will have the opportunity to experience a working environment, to build vocational skills and understand more about the employment opportunities open to them.

Martec's e2e department has a number of local businesses who are always keen to support the initiative by offering work experience to the young people at the centre. Work-based learning and first hand experience of the workplace is important. It helps make up their minds about their future and develops their confidence and skills. It gives them a taste of the wider skills and knowledge needed to be employable.

## What happens when I join?

When we first meet you, you will complete an initial assessment over 4 weeks where we will discuss what you want to achieve, identify your needs and agree on a learning plan.

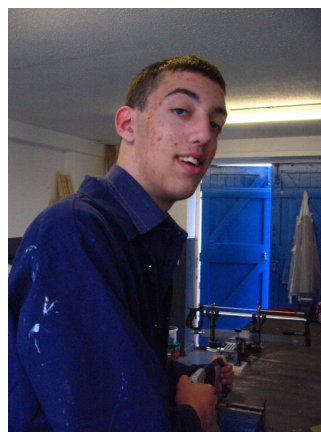
You will have help in developing your motivation, confidence, personal and social skills. This may include out of centre activities and team building. Issues such as bullying, taking responsibility, antisocial behaviour are also considered.

You will get support and tuition with basic skills such as Literacy and Numeracy

You will learn what qualities are needed to be successful in the work place. You will have help in applying for jobs and get the chance to gain hands on experience of employment work placements.

## How long does e2e last?

The scheme is based on your needs and you can stay on the scheme until you are ready to move forward. However most people stay on the scheme for approximately 22 weeks..



## Are you an employer?

We need as many businesses to get involved as possible. There are many benefits to employers from answering skill shortages and becoming a real part of the community to having a chance to see how potential employees suit your organisation's culture.

Work experience can be negotiated to serve both the needs of the employer and the young person

Employers providing places will receive full support from the provider

Placements are designed to benefit both employers and young people

All documentation will be completed by the provider

Will assist you in recruiting your future apprentices

You can give something of your experience back

## Want to help?

If you run a local business then you are important to the success of e2e.

If you would like to help make a real difference to the life of a young person call us on 01782 717272 and ask for the e2e department

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 were unsure about what qualification your learner was taking	Information sheets were hand delivered to all placements explaining the learners' qualification and what was required, along with details of who to contact if there were any problems
<b>Learners</b>	You were unsure about what happened after you had attended an interview at Martec	We are in the process of developing new visual material to explain 'The Learners' Journey' at Martec. We hope to have these in use in the very near future.
<b>Parents/ Guardians</b>	You were unsure who to speak to at Martec if you had any problems	We have now placed the names of the Welfare officer, Health and Safety Officer and General Manager along with contact numbers in the training agreement that all parents/ guardians receive.