

# Martec training *Times*

## The changing face of Martec training...

Welcome to our 'New Centre' Special Edition of the Martec training times! As some of you may know 2009 has been a very exciting year for Martec training as we have fully moved into a purpose built all on one site centre. Previously at King Street, Martec training's new premises are now located at Lyme Valley on London Road, Newcastle under Lyme allowing for a much more accessible location for learners and enabling Martec training to have all workshops, classrooms and offices on one main road site.

Despite the economic recession that was looming, in 2008 Martec identified an opportunity to expand, purchasing a 15,000 sq ft training facility. A huge refurbishment project was carried out at the new site resulting in a modern, fully equipped, safe learning environment, where learners of all age and abilities can further their knowledge and gain qualifications within the motor vehicle industry. The expansion has created more jobs at Martec and we are now able to train a greater number of students at any one time. Learners have referred to the new site as "Excellent", "Very Realistic Working Environment" and "The best training facilities they have seen in the area".



Judith Dodd, Centre Manager says:

"We hope that the new centre and facilities will offer our learners an excellent learning environment, with training tailored to meet their individual needs, in order that they reach their full potential and acquire skills that they will need in both their chosen career and social aspects of their lives."

**Come and see us!!**

If you are a local employer, a parent or a prospective learner interested in what Martec training has to offer, then you are more than welcome to come and have a tour of our new site and facilities, chat to our friendly staff and see how Martec training could benefit you.

Call Sian or Tracey to arrange a visit on 01782 717272.

### Moving forward with E Learning

Martec training's relocation has allowed us to build our very own ICT Suite offering better equipment and facilities to meet the needs of the training courses we offer.

One main benefit of this is the opportunity to introduce Electronic learning throughout the provision. Feedback from our learner indicated that they enjoy and are comfortable using the latest technology in preference to 'classroom' based activities. We hope that using the new technology will make teaching sessions more engaging, interactive and fun for both learners and tutors.

Moodle and Mahara are two sites that we are currently developing, these sites will be accessible 24/7 from the learner or staff members own home. The sites will allow the introduction of e-portfolios, learners will be able to complete online assessments from anywhere with internet access, they will be able to contact other learners and members of staff, personalise their 'page', complete surveys and have access to interactive activities and relevant materials.

The e learning is in its early stages of development but opens avenues of great opportunity to maybe introduce online training courses, open up new markets and most importantly inspire higher achievement from our learners.

## New IMI motor vehicle courses

Martec training's in house work shop and expansion means that our e2e department has been able to introduce two new dedicated IMI accredited motor vehicle qualifications.

The first being the Level One Vocationally Recognised Qualification (VRQ) in Motor Vehicle. The course is delivered in house 2 days a week and offers learners the chance to do both practical and theory and to go out on work experience with a view to moving onto an apprenticeship should an opportunity arise.

The second new course is the IMI Entry 3 in motor vehicle which consists of a full day of practical work in centre, a day of 'Ed Excel Skills for Working Life' where e2e learners are taught how to become self sufficient by managing their money, learning to cook, building a CV, interview skills,

team and confidence building and working on improving their basic skills in numeracy and literacy to level one standard. The third day is centred around E learning where learners are taught ICT skills and set online projects and tasks through our Moodle Website.

Martec training recognised that due to the current economic climate and lack of employment opportunities there was a need to heavily market our services to young people in the area this year. By being able to offer them a chance to improve, gain valuable skills and qualifications Martec training hopes they will have an increased chance of gaining employment in the near future. The relocation, introduction of new qualifications and better facilities means that Martec training now has over 80 learners on the e2e programme.



If you are a local employer who would like to offer one of our e2e learners some work experience please call Sian or Lynda on 01782 717272

### Safety matters!

Martec training would like to take this opportunity to wish Alan Ball all the best on his retirement. Alan has worked at Martec training for over 7 years as Health & Safety Officer and was a very valuable member of the team. Alan is now enjoying his new found freedom on the open road in his mobile home on a tour of the UK.

Stepping into Alan's shoes is Terry Parkes. Terry brings with him a wealth of experience as he has worked in Health & Safety for over 30 years! He is now responsible for all risk assessments carried out on new placements to ensure that they offer a safe working environment before the learner steps foot through the door. Martec training would like to welcome Terry to the team!

## You know you're OK with ATA!

Martec training was awarded ATA accreditation for both Air Conditioning and Service Maintenance Technician in July 2009 and we have now set up our own in house ATA Assessment Centre! This means that we are the first and only local independent assessment centre in the county of Staffordshire.

This is great news for local businesses and technicians who need to find a solution to the July 2010 EC regulation that states that all Mobile Air Conditioning (MAC) technicians working with cars and car derived vans, must have achieved as a minimum requirement, a Refrigerant Handling Qualification to be able to handle F Gas and to carry on with their jobs.

Automotive Technician Accreditation (ATA) is regulated by the Institute of Motor Industry (IMI), this assessment

gives technicians the chance to gain recognition for their skills and provides proof of their ability and desire to work to a high professional standard.

With over 16,000 ATA registered technicians across the UK, the IMI has launched a consumer campaign, 'You know you're OK with ATA', to help motorists search on-line for their nearest business employing ATA registered technicians, at [www.OKwithATA.com](http://www.OKwithATA.com)

If you work with Refrigerants or are a Service Technician wishing to gain ATA Accreditation then call Tracey on 01782 717272 to book an assessment or to find out more!

**Act now before its too late!**

## The Wall of Fame

Congratulations to the following learners who have all recently completed their Apprenticeships

### Body Refinishing

Tom Amison - GRS Logistics  
Robert Wibberley - Dalehall Body

### Body Repair

Darren Parsons- Beeson & Galloway  
Tom Chawner - GRS Logistics

### HGV

Timothy Granados - Wardles  
Nathan Wilkes - JD Commericals

### Business Administration

Gemma Burton - AH Brooks & Co.  
Victoria Taylor - BS Marsons

### Customer Service

Sean Bessex - Endon Services

### Parts Operations

William Salt - A to Z  
Calam Bradbury - Platts of Longton

### Light Vehicle Technician

James Hancock - Greenhous  
John Rushton - Landranger  
Shayne Edwards - Hoddens  
James Berry - GC Cars  
Daniel Bentley - Platts of Longton  
Nathan Podmore - BS Marsons  
Michael Dodd - Madeley Heath Motors

## Did you know that we're not just about cars?

When most of you think of Martec training the words Motor Trade and Mechanics will no doubt spring to mind? This is of course the image and reputation that we have built up over the years with the support of local garages, to become one of the area's most recognised Motor Vehicle Training Providers.

However we offer a LOT more! The last few years have seen a huge growth in our non motor vehicle qualifications with around 23% of our learners are working towards a qualification in Business Admin, Retail or Customer Service.

Martec training can deliver Apprenticeships, Advanced Apprenticeships and Train to Gain in the following disciplines:

Light Vehicle Technician, Vehicle Fitting, HGV Technician, Body Repair and Body & Paint, Business Administration, Customer Service,

Retail Operations and Warehousing.

All of the above are accredited by the recognised awarding bodies – Institute of Motor Industry (IMI) or City & Guilds.

Despite the recession of 2009 Martec has successfully managed to maintain its numbers on the apprenticeship schemes from the previous years . The motor trade itself was hit pretty hard by the economic climate and earlier in the year a few unfortunate redundancies were made, however all these learners were found new placements by Martec training and carry on working towards their apprenticeships.

By continuing to work closely with local businesses and promoting the benefits of apprenticeships, Martec hopes that the future will look brighter for young people in the area.

Someone who is already on her way to a brighter future is our very own Apprentice Tamara D'Angelo (pictured on the right).

Tamara joined Martec training in November 2008 as Admin Assistant and is on target to complete her Business Administration Apprenticeship by the end of the year.

Tamara's role involves maintaining learner's details on a database, monitoring their progression, registration of certificates, covering reception and general office duties like answering the phone, filing and typing letters.

Tamara says: "I'm so glad I chose to do an Apprenticeship, it enables me to carry on learning while in a real working environment. It's helped me to decide which career I want to pursue and made me more confident. The staff at Martec have supported me in my work from the start and I am moving on to do my Advanced Apprenticeship at the start of 2010."



If you are a local employer and would like to offer a young person an opportunity as an Apprentice or just want to find out more how Apprenticeships can work for you, then call Sian for more details on **01782 717272**

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>	We always struggle to read the comments made by the assessor on our Apprentices' 12 week review sheets. This is due to poor quality from the carbon copy sheet used.	All assessors now have electronic note pads which enables them to write out the review, give you the clear top copy and the review comments are then stored electronically on file. These can be printed off as and when to save paper wastage.
<b>Learners</b>	I have nearly finished my Apprenticeship and want to know what happens now? As I would really like to move on to my Advanced Apprenticeship.	Three months before you are due to complete your Apprenticeship you will have a review with your assessor and employer. This is to decide if you have the competence to progress and if the business has adequate facilities to satisfy the standards of an Advanced Apprenticeship
<b>Parents/ Guardians</b>	My son/ daughter is with Martec training and I would like to find out how they are progressing and want to know who to contact if I have any questions or concerns?	Martec training is always happy for you to arrange an appointment to come in and discuss progress, or any other concerns, you may have with the appropriate member of staff.

