

WEDGE LOCAL

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Gary Achieves Learner of the Year

Gary Drohan of Merseyside Galvanizing is celebrating the ultimate recognition after receiving the prestigious 'Adult Learner of the Year 2014' award at the annual In-Comm Training & Business Services Award Ceremony.

After studying the ILM Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Management in 2013, Gary's standard of work saw him fast tracked to study the Level 5 NVQ through the recognised training provider In-Comm, and was selected and nominated by course tutors for the 'Adult Learner of the Year' accolade.

With 257 people attending the ceremony at Walsall Football Club on 20th June – including businesses, adult learners and apprentices – Gary was one of few selected candidates to be put forward for the award by course tutors – who also work with a number of businesses from across the whole of the West Midlands.

Robin Fry, Director, explained: "We're over the moon for Gary. Individuals from a wide range of companies across the region were put forward to win the award so it truly is a fantastic achievement. As a company, we currently have 26 members of staff studying the Level 3 Advanced Supervisory Management course with many of whom keen to pursue Level 4 and 5 in the future."

Gary added: "Being announced the Adult Learner of the Year 2014 is a fantastic achievement, my hard work and commitment has paid off and I feel extremely honoured to have been up against so many other worthy winners. Wedge is at the forefront of training and development of its staff, and I'm certain I would not have won this award without the backing and support of Wedge, my immediate managers, and all the people at IN-COMM."

Celebrations All-Round For Kevin

Kevin Addiss, who joined Edward Howell in 1976, is celebrating success after being promoted from the role of Operations Manager to the plant's new General Manager. Steve Milnes, Director, explained: "Kevin is extremely hard-working with a fantastic work ethic, and thoroughly deserves his recent promotion. We're thrilled for him and wish him all the best in the months and years to come."



Kevin Addiss

Inside this issue...

Plant Pays Respects to Peter



James Jogs for Footie Charity



Family Fun Day Celebrates Life of Joanne



Plant Pays Respects to Peter

South West Galvanizers recently said a sad farewell to Peter Clarke, who passed away earlier this year.

Born in North Leverton, Nottinghamshire, on 11th July 1948, Peter Clark began his career at the age of just 15 when he joined the Royal Navy working on submarines. With over 20 years service, Peter was awarded the Herbert Lott Award for modifications he made on one of the submarines he served, and was one of just six others in the armed forces to receive this prestigious award.

Anthony Wonnacott, General Manager, explained: "Demonstrating his engineering brilliance, Peter made a huge contribution to the plant's performance over many years, and revolutionised the engineering by making the equipment much more effective and reliable."

"He joined South West Galvanizers as Maintenance Manager in 1992 and was hugely influential; with some of the projects he oversaw leaving a lasting legacy at the plant.

"His wife Christine and two children were very special to Peter, and in the last few years his grandson Nathan was a shining light in his life during

his difficult illness. We've listened to many stories told by his family and they evidence what a fantastic, funny and true gentleman he was.

Anthony continued: "My colleagues and I had the pleasure of working with Peter for many years and our working relationship was both colourful and fun, and we will be forever in his debt for the support and guidance he gave us over the years. He had a unique spark for life which was contagious, and even during his illness, was a true example of how life is a precious gift. He is sorely missed by South West Galvanizers but we are very lucky to have constant reminders of his work and brilliance to keep him very much in our thoughts."

Christine Clarke added: "On behalf of myself and our family, we'd like to say a special thank you to all of Peter's colleagues at Wedge for their kindness and thoughts, and his motto 'smile when you think of me' is giving us great comfort at this time."

Peter, thanks for the memories.

Your trusted boss, colleague and friend – Anthony Wonnacott, Director / General Manager



21 Years at Wedge (l-r) Peter Clark and Jeremy Woolridge.



21 Years in the Navy, Peter Clark (right)

40 Years' Service for Manchester Men

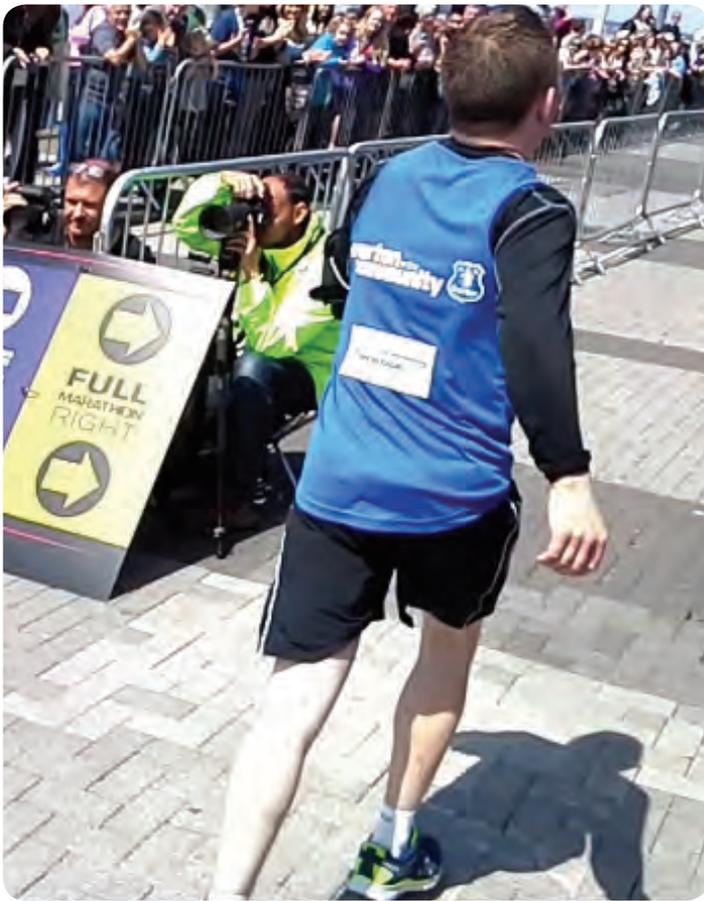
Manchester Galvanizers is celebrating a very prestigious milestone which has seen three members of its team each reach their 40th year of working at the plant – clocking up an impressive 120 years between them!

Billy Cowsill started working with the firm on 25th March 1974, John Sammon on 13th May 1974, and Neville Butterworth on 11th February 1974.

Mark Waters, Commercial Manager at the plant, said: "We're so grateful for the hard work and commitment provided by Billy, John, and Neville during their 40 years at Manchester Galvanizers. We'd like to say a huge thank you to them for their extremely loyal service over the years and look forward to celebrating more milestone achievements in the future."



(l-r) Mike Davies, Billy Cowsill, Ray Worrall, John Salmon, Neville Butterworth, Chris Boardman.



James Jogs for **Footie Charity**

James Fenwick of Merseyside Galvanizing has undertaken a gruelling marathon to raise vital funds for Everton in the Community, a charity very close to his heart. On 25th May, James ran 26.2 miles and completed the whole course in just 3hours, 44minutes, and 26seconds, raising £300.

"It was the hardest run I've ever done in

my life," James explained. "Everton in the Community is a fantastic charity and helped my son Ben, who has autism, dyspraxia and anxiety issues, to build his confidence through football. Thanks to all of those who sponsored me and contributed to such a worthwhile cause," he concluded.

Everton in the Community helps Everton

Football Club support in excess of 1,500 local charities per year to continue their vital work. It provides donations of merchandise and signed memorabilia to help charities raise funds, as well as organises the appearance of members of the first-team squad at numerous events to help raise awareness of various good causes around the city.



Robert Celebrates Arrival of Baby Boy

Robert Blamires, Solutions Developer at Wedge Group Galvanizing is celebrating after becoming a dad for the first time. Robert's wife Amanda gave birth to Samuel Arthur Blamires on 20th May at 11:50am weighing 6lbs 8oz.

We'd like to offer our congratulations to both Robert and Amanda on the birth of their baby boy, Samuel, and wish them all the happiness for the future.

Family Fun Day Celebrates Life of Joanne

Manchester Galvanizers has raised £722 in memory of a colleague who passed away from an undetected heart condition in March 2013. The Manchester team organised a family fun day at Heywood Sports Village in memory

of Joanne McFarland Monck, with all proceeds donated to the British Heart Foundation. Guests attending the event were treated to a variety of entertainment acts including dancers, singers, DJs, and a special Disney princess appearance.



Tony Marks Granddaughter's 1st Birthday

Tony Linsley, Sales Manager at Humber Galvanizing, was given the coveted title of 'Granddad' following the birth of his granddaughter, Lillie May Fisher, on 14th August 2013.

Tony explained: "Lillie is an absolute smasher and I'm thrilled to be a granddad. With her very first birthday coming up, the family will all be soaking up the sunshine with a garden party to mark this very special occasion."



SIGN UP! SIGN UP! SIGN UP! SIGN UP! SIGN UP! SIGN UP!

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