

**SPECIAL LEAVERS
EDITION**

ORCHARD PLACE WORKSHOP NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 34
OCTOBER
2011

FAREWELL TO OLD FRIENDS

Following close on the heels of those who left in July, it is now time to bid farewell to some more of our long term clients. They all have their own stories to tell of their time here, and are moving on to different things. We have spoken to them individually to get their views of their time here.

MARLENE

Said 'My journey of recovery began 4 years ago in the Wood shop. I was able to learn enough new skills under the expert guidance of the Technical Instructors, to enable me to make a child's rocking chair.



I now am using the computer skills I learnt on courses to increase my office skills and learn about the day to day running of the workshop office. I also help produce the monthly Newsletter. I feel I would never have had the confidence to learn all these new skills if it wasn't for the support and professional guidance that I have received from all of the workshop staff, so I would like to say a big thank you to them all.

Now I have gone through the doors of Orchard Place Workshop I know I am leaving them with a restored sense of self-worth, dignity and optimism for my future.'

Marlene has now started an Access to Learning Course with NEW College Redditch.

BARRY

Has made full use of the opportunities available during his 7 years here having tried his hand at Assembly, Woodshop, Picture Framing and more recently Tripod. He has enjoyed meeting different people and going on the daytrips. He will be carrying on with Tripod and looks forward to meeting up with the friends he has made here.



PAULINE

Said "I'm thankful for the help and support I have received from Orchard Place

Workshop. Now I am looking forward to having more leisure time, and I will treasure the memories of my 11 years here. ". Pauline has worked mainly in Assembly, but has lately taken on the challenge of learning the Cardmaking and Computer skills, and intends to carry on making cards at home using her new laptop .

WILLIAM

Moved from Barnsley Hall over to the Workshop when it opened in 1992. He used to work in a grocers but has preferred it here because ' the people are more friendly'. He has enjoyed all the work in Assembly, but is looking forward to his retirement, and catching up with watching his large collection of dvd's, as well as still meeting his friends in Bromsgrove for a cup of tea.



ERNIE

Has worked in Assembly for 6 years. He said "It's wonderful, it's very rare to get a good workforce and make some good friends as well". He wants to keep busy, and is hoping to attend a computer recycling facility in Worcester, near to where he grew up. He will also be meeting up with his friends at a café in Bromsgrove.





JIMMY

Has seen lot of people come and go during his 12 years with us. He has worked with Woodwork

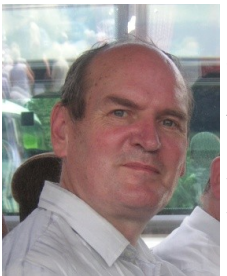
and Fix It, but has spent most of his time in Assembly. Recently Jim has taken on some driving for the unit, and takes care of the paper work for the vehicle. "I've really enjoyed it here, I've never been anywhere as long. I've met all my friends here and hope to carry on seeing them, I like all the people and staff, and feel at home here."

KEITH

Said " Staff and clients have all been very supportive, and I've appreciated the 'no pressure'



approach, and being able to take things at my own pace." During his 11 years at the unit Keith has worked in Picture framing, Fix It and Woodwork, and he hopes to use the skills he has learnt by manufacturing items from his workshop at home.



MICHAEL

Will be leaving Assembly after 19 years. He said he will be sorry to leave and will miss his friends and

hopes to carry on meeting up with them. He wants to spend more time helping his dad, and is currently using the Reablement Hub to try and find him an alternative service.



TOM

During his 5 years with us Tom has mainly worked in Assembly but also tried his hand at Woodwork. He

has enjoyed all the work he has been asked to do. He has enjoyed mixing with lots of people and has made a lot of friends. He has been referred to Lifetech (computer recycling) in Worcester and hopes to go for a trial soon.

PHILIP

said of his time with us 'I feel I've benefitted from all I've learnt here; working on the finishing side of the woodshop and the painting and decorating. I'd like to thank all the staff for their support and teaching me all the techniques I've learnt' Phil has recently finished 6 months with the Trust painters and decorators, working under the exemplar employer scheme, and is currently looking for work to suit his skills



ARTHUR

Has worked in Woodwork and Assembly during the last 4 years, and has recently started with

Tripod in the canteen. He said 'I have enjoyed it up to date. It's a shame for all of us who are leaving, but I will continue with Tripod which I enjoy. I'm going to enjoy my semi retirement and take one day at a time.'



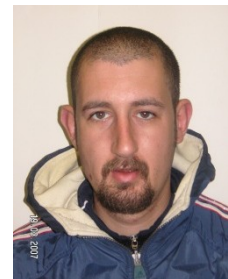
DENNIS

Has been with us in Woodwork for 14 years and said 'I will take a lot of nice

memories with me. I've enjoyed my time here and learnt a lot.' He is looking forward to his retirement and hopes to keep his hand in by using the skills he's learnt.

NIGEL

Said 'I've enjoyed my time in Woodwork over the last 16½ years and have a lot of fond memories. I am grateful to all the staff for the help they've given me, and I will miss everybody. I hope to keep in touch.'



ANDREW

Has spent most of his time with us in Assembly He has also tried his hand in the woodwork,

but preferred the packaging and collating work. He has started courses to help him with his future.

All the Workshop staff would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone the best of luck for their futures, and to say it's been a pleasure working with them. We hope they keep in touch as they continue on their personal roads to recovery.