

# The Link

Crystal  
Chandelier



MAY 2006 [www.crystalchandelier.org.uk](http://www.crystalchandelier.org.uk)

Helping Skills for Life teachers shine

**The Crystal Chandelier project is a visionary, collective partnership managed by Learning South West that works to ensure there are enough teachers to meet the literacy, language and numeracy needs of adult learners in the region. Our target is to train 1,516 Skills for Life tutors by July 2007.**

“Welcome to the first edition of the Crystal Chandelier project newsletter, The Link, which will help connect the chandelier framework – the core team – to its crystal droplets, including professional development managers, working groups, partner providers and associates and, of course, Skills for Life teachers.

I am keen to share the impact the project is making, and to illustrate how this is being achieved through shared vision and genuine partnership.

I want this project to achieve much more than its targets – I do not want, at the end of the project, to see it drop like the chandelier in Only Fools and Horses!

The team and I want to maintain the impetus of recruiting new people into Skills for Life teaching, and support the development of their professional skills to match the changing needs of the future.

Please enjoy the read and be proud of your contribution in helping Skills for Life teachers shine.”

**Paula Jones,  
Project Manager**

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## On Target

**More than 440 tutors have been enrolled for Level 3 and Level 4**

**literacy, numeracy and ESOL courses, putting the Crystal Chandelier on course to**

**meet its targets.**

Our congratulations and thanks go all who have worked so hard to achieve this to date.

- The tutors will be shining more brightly thanks to the 120 mentors and trainers qualified to help them reach the highest standards. If you could act as a mentor, or feel you could benefit from a SfL mentor, contact your local Professional Development Co-ordinator (PDC) – *contacts on page 4.*
- A free half-day introduction to mentoring is available, with further training in the autumn.

*If you deliver L3/4 courses and would like to incorporate this half-day course in to your programme, please contact Annmarie Higgins on 07753822824 or [annmarie.h@virgin.net](mailto:annmarie.h@virgin.net).*

## The Big Push

**The current emphasis of the Crystal Chandelier Project, to maximise enrolments for the autumn term, has seen the launch of a new Bonus Incentive Scheme for providers.**

PDCs are working with colleges to agree targets for enrolment, retention, and achievement of learners for the autumn term. If colleges hit or exceed their targets they have earned the right to receive a bonus incentive, up to the agreed number of learners.

“It is critical that we try to enrol as many tutors as possible in autumn 2006 if they are to have a chance of being funded through to the achievement of their qualifications by the Crystal Chandelier project,” said Tim Boyes-Watson, Chief-Executive of Learning South West. “We hope the new bonus scheme will encourage colleges to set themselves aspirational targets to achieve record enrolments this autumn.”

*For more information on the Target Setting and Bonus Incentive scheme contact your local PDC.*





*Panning for ideas: Networking events come up with nuggets to share*

## Networking

### Last month's Panning for Gold event saw L3/4 tutors get together to share ideas and inspiration about Course Management.

Participants heard from experienced L3/4 tutors about what makes their programmes successful. Participants also identified key factors which combine to produce the excellent tutors needed to ensure a bright future for SfL learners in the region.

- If you've got something to say about Assessment be sure to put June 15 in your diary, as this is the next topic up for debate on the Good Practice Network agenda. Representatives from awarding bodies will be talking, and answering questions, at the meeting.

- ESOL and numeracy tutors can now have their say with the launch of two, new, dedicated Networks. The first workshops are to be held at Bishops Hull House, Taunton, on May 26.

The Networks will:

- Update on the latest national and regional developments in ESOL and numeracy
- Discuss common issues and act as a regional voice in searching for possible solutions
- Share ideas and examples of good practice

Members of the Networks will also be able to keep in touch via new ESOL and numeracy forums on the Crystal Chandelier website.

*To get involved with the Good Practice Networks contact Hayley Lazarus, Crystal Chandelier Administrator or visit [www.crystalchandelier.org.uk](http://www.crystalchandelier.org.uk)*

## More Free Training

The Skills for Life Quality Initiative, which aims to further the expertise of SfL practitioners, has been extended, until August, to offer more FREE training.

The courses on offer will include:

- Approaches to SfL for vocational and other subject teachers
- Working in partnership to embed SfL
- Engaging and motivating learners
- Using interactive approaches to teaching LLN
- Introducing e-learning
- Embedding LLN for Leaders and Managers

Courses are free but the number of delegate places is limited.

*For further information contact Annmarie Higgins Regional Training Organiser [annmarie.h@virgin.net](mailto:annmarie.h@virgin.net) or 07753822824*



## Web Site Developments

The Crystal Chandelier web site [www.crystalchandelier.org.uk](http://www.crystalchandelier.org.uk) provides a wealth of information for colleges and other providers offering L3/L4 SfL qualifications. It also includes career, training and professional development news and information, and allows tutors to share and access training material.

"The site is constantly being updated so please visit it on a regular basis," said Nick Cashin, Crystal Chandelier Quality Manager.

*If you want to know how ICT can benefit SfL contact Nick. Next meeting of ICT Working Group is July 12.*

## Wanted!

Could your organisation offer a teaching placement to a Crystal Chandelier beneficiary to enable them to complete their L3/4 qualification?

If so please contact your local PDC manager.

## Small is Beautiful

Extra help is available for L3/L4 participants who work for SMEs.

*Contact your local PDC for details.*



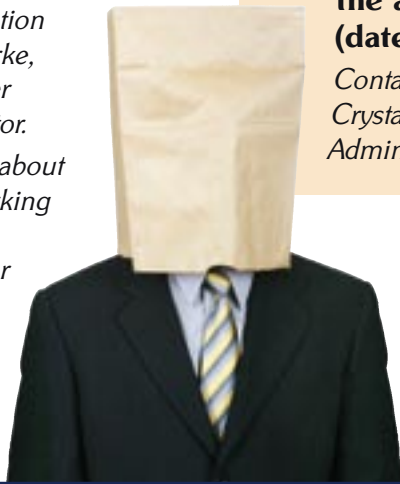


## Recognition at Last!

Members of the Course Design Working Group have been working hard to promote the need for greater recognition amongst experienced Sfl tutors.

They recently met with LLUK to further the roll out of the new Professional Recognition Learning and Skills (PRLS) scheme (L4) and are discussing, with funders, how the scheme could support tutors through the application process.

- For more information contact Kerin Burke, Crystal Chandelier Project Coordinator.
- To find out more about the Regional Working Groups visit the Crystal Chandelier website.



*Don't feel neglected  
– We're here to support you!*

## Training Dates for First Timers

Workshops for providers putting on courses for the first time will be held on May 10 and 31.

Contact Naomi Harris Crystal Chandelier Administrator to enrol.

– AND –

A training day for tutors delivering L3/L4 courses for the first time is planned for the start of the autumn term (date tba)

Contact Hayley Lazarus Crystal Chandelier Administrator to enrol.



## New Ventures

Crystal Chandelier's Project Coordinator for Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole, Marianne Gifford attended the launch of Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole's new Skills for Life Unit at Kingston Maurward College.

Joanne Smith leads the unit with Cathy Breward leading on the Crystal Chandelier Project.

"We look forward to a highly successful and productive partnership which will help support and develop Skills for Life teachers in the region," said Marianne.

- Helen Scott has been recently appointed Plymouth's Sfl PDC coordinator.

## Using Your Loaf

In September David Massey, 23, hopes to start his Level 4 Skills for Life Certificate for Adult Literacy at Plymouth University, supported by the Crystal Chandelier project.

For the past two years he has advised and inspired more than half the 250 strong workforce at British Bakeries in Plymouth in his role as Learning Centre Coordinator. David is passionate about education and unexpectedly fulfilled his life long career aspiration to teach with British Bakeries. He has worked there since leaving school at 16, trying his hand at everything from forklift truck driving to bread making, before becoming a fully qualified teacher.

David worked part time at British Bakeries while studying first for A' Levels and later an IT and Education Studies BA Hons degree and PGCE in post 16-teaching.

David has developed the British Bakeries Learning Centre to become a flagship Centre, recently featured in the TUC's 'Skills for Life Advocates

– "This is What We Do" DVD and receives many visits from other organisations wanting to replicate his success.

Skills for Life continues to be a priority for the British Bakeries Learning Centre, and The Bakers, Food and Allied Workers Union (BFAWU), which has already helped more than 35 employees study basic literacy, language and numeracy through learndirect online courses, as well as sessions delivered on-site by the local college. David is looking forward to taking up his one-year, part-time, Skills for Life course at Plymouth University, supported by Crystal Chandelier funding, meaning even more of his colleagues will benefit from Skills for Life.

"Skills for Life is an area where everyone can improve," he said.

"A lot of people at British Bakeries came straight to the work place, from school, and have never returned to education. Skills for Life will give them more confidence, and improve their skills to go even further, and encourage them to do more learning and courses.

Teaching Skills for Life will improve the skills and confidence of employees, enhance quality in the workplace, and the organisation will become more self-sufficient as learners don't even have to walk out of the building to access learning opportunities.

Working in the Learning Centre is a lot of hard work and we're very busy, sometimes taking work home, but I don't mind. Seeing learners achieve their goal, receive their certificates, and the enthusiasm when they can't wait to find out their results, makes it all worthwhile and rewarding."

*On a roll –  
David Massey*



# Spreading the Word

## Can you help recruit more SfL tutors for the South West?

The Crystal Chandelier project team is launching a major targeted campaign to promote SfL teaching in the South West, running throughout the summer term, to encourage potential tutors to sign up for the autumn term.

The campaign will raise the profile of SfL teaching as a career aspiration and provide advice and guidance about routes into teaching.

The campaign will see case studies and information placed in the local press, and radio, during Adult Learners Week (20-26 May 2006) followed by an advertorial campaign in early/mid June.

*If you can help in putting forward Crystal Chandelier beneficiaries for case studies, please contact Beth Jerrett, Crystal Chandelier Marketing Coordinator on 01460 220147 or email [jerrettbeth@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jerrettbeth@yahoo.co.uk).*

Look out for new and improved information for existing and new SfL tutors being developed by The Advice and Guidance Working Group. They are working with the LSC, Next Steps and London Strategic Unit to improve existing materials and develop new-targeted information.

*Next meeting May 26.*

A number of key events, held by organisations across the South West, are to be targeted to encourage people to train as SfL tutors thanks to the work of the new Partners and Sectors Working Group.

*Next meeting June 6.*

*Can you hear us?  
– We love S4L tutoring!*



The Crystal Chandelier project is managed by Learning South West which supports the learning and skills sectors across the region.

## Crystal Chandelier

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### The Crystal Chandelier Team:

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## A Face to the Names

**From left to right front row:**

**Kerin Burke**  
Crystal Chandelier Project Coordinator

**Joanne Smith**  
BD&P's new Head of PDC Unit

**Marianne Gifford**  
Crystal Chandelier Project Coordinator

**From left to right back row:**

**Tim Boyes-Watson**  
Chief Executive, Learning South West

**Terri Williams** Somerset PDC Manager

**Nigel Benton** West of England PDC Manager

**Hayley Lazarus** Crystal Chandelier Administrator

**Hugh Pollock**  
Gloucestershire PDC Unit Manager

**Mike Jolly** Wiltshire & Swindon PDC Manager

**John Willis** Devon & Torbay PDC Manager

## Professional Development Coordination

The project supports Professional Development Coordination in each of the South West's LSC regions (except Cornwall, which is outside the scope of the Crystal Chandelier project)

### Bournemouth, Dorset & Poole

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### West of England (includes North Somerset, Bath and North East Somerset and South Gloucestershire)

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## Your Comments

If you have any comments or queries about any of the articles in the first edition of The Link, or have suggestions for the July edition, the Crystal Chandelier team would love to hear from you.