

New Career for Old

Gary Abbott who lives in Coventry chose to undertake the ITQ Level 3 for IT users after an illness prevented him from working for a considerable time. Following the illness Gary decided on a complete career change from the motor vehicle trade to fault finding and servicing IT equipment.

Having taught himself IT skills over time, Gary decided that he needed a formal qualification and liked the flexibility of the ITQ format.

Gary completed his course from home in approximately 24 weeks with help from his tutor at Henley College, Coventry and studied the following Level 3 units:

- A Make selective use of IT
- B Operate a computer
- C IT maintenance for users
- D IT trouble-shooting for users
- E IT security for users
- F Artwork and imaging software
- L Website software

COURSEWORK

As part of his course, Gary also produced two major pieces of work. The first was 'The Silver Surfer's Guide' designed to be used by Age Concern (or similar) for assisting and guiding 'older' first time, computer users. This covered units: B / C / D / E and was written in simple, jargon-free, user-friendly language.

The second was a 'Family Tree' website, which he developed for his own use and to be included in 'The Silver Surfer's Guide'. This covered Units: F and L.



"The ITQ has given me a new and deeper knowledge of IT and the skills I need to start a new phase of my life with a new career. I enjoyed it so much that I definitely want to progress to higher levels of learning in the next academic year". > Gary Abbot