

Learning at Work

The union teamed up with broadcasters in the north and the south to Make Learning at Work Day on 22 May a useful and innovative occasion.

ITV Yorkshire played host to a joint Learning at Work Day event which was organised by BECTU in partnership with ITV Learning and Training. Other organisations from the locality enthusiastically participated including Leeds Metropolitan University and Screen Yorkshire.

The day was planned as a learning fair and about 80 people attended. Visitors filled in a learning survey asking what skills they were interested in and what might be the best way to acquire them. There was a prize draw and the winner won a £100 voucher towards training – and if they were a BECTU member the union promised to double the winnings.

Visitors to the fair had the chance of a one to one session with NTI which is part of Leeds Met to discuss learning needs. Leeds Met brought laptops loaded with Final Cut Pro to allow people the chance to try non-linear editing. Careers advice was freely available plus tips on how to write CVs and how to market yourself; the Open University gave details of their courses and how it all worked; and Northern College and the Workers' Education Association also participated.

BECTU learning organiser John Crumpton who helped organise



the event commented: "The day was extremely enjoyable and very productive for those who took part. It brought people together focussed on a creative activity and a lot of really good connections were made there." He was delighted that a lot of younger people joined the union on the day after realising the range of benefits and services BECTU provides in addition to its key role of collective bargaining on behalf of members. ●

Information and opportunities: (above and below) participants in Learning at Work Day at ITV Yorkshire; right: BECTU learning organiser John Crumpton chats to fellow member Jonathan Jarzenbowski



BBC goes Photoshop crazy

Staff at BBC Information and Archives in Brentford took the opportunity to try out taster sessions in Photoshop as part of National Learn at Work Day on 22 May. Over 20 staff attended the hour-long sessions, provided by BBC Training and Development tutor Paul Myers.

Students learned how to turn mediocre snaps into something special and use the software to create some stunning effects and graphics. Staff also had the opportunity to ask advice and gather information on further courses, funding and career development.

A busy day's learning activities were organised by BECTU's union learning rep James Coupland, who commented on the day's events: "Overall, the day was a total success. Feedback showed that those who attended the workshops thoroughly enjoyed their sessions and wished they had been longer. In fact, a few attendees have subsequently signed up for the full Photoshop course. I would like to thank Phil Ross of BBC Training and Development for providing the training and working with BECTU to make the day such a success, and also Unionlearn, who provided support and funding."