

# Quest Editorial – January 2009

Tim Lynn, a ‘time-served’ chief petty officer in the Royal Navy found that his biggest problem was not ‘when to leave’ but ‘what to do after leaving.’ With guidance from resettlement staff, and additional research, he settled on the building trade after his research showed a big market for multi-skilled trades people dealing with small jobs. Whilst many places offer multi skilled training, he decided on The Builder Training Centre in Croydon (see **the advertisement on page 26**), with courses in roof construction, tiling and archway building in bricklaying. The centre also had the advantage of being commutable from the Hampshire area. ‘Staff were easy going and extremely helpful on the phone. After providing details of courses I was interested in and my availability, a package was provided very quickly, including local accommodation with evening meal. ‘I completed seven courses with the BTC, some of which were new to me while others were to refine my techniques. The tutors are tradesmen with many years of experience behind them; the training is very much hands-on from the word go and, because of the enthusiasm of the tutors, the courses are fun. The reception staff are helpful, friendly, and willing to go those few extra yards. After the courses, if you need further advice or techniques explaining, the information is given. By lunchtime on day one you feel right at home. With the knowledge gained from the courses, and expert advice from the tutors, my confidence and ability levels have vastly improved.’ Lynn is now working for himself. He has a full order book for the next three months and is working on quotes for a further three months. He recommends those thinking of the building trade as a future to ‘give it a go. The rewards are there for those who have the skill and the determination.’



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## The Builder Training Centre

**T**he Builder Training Centre (see the advertisement on page 47) has welcomed many Armed Forces people over the years, and is expanding with the introduction of more qualification courses, and larger premises. They provide short intensive plumbing, plastering, tiling, bricklaying, carpentry, kitchen fitting, roof tiling, roof construction, home maintenance and electrical foundation courses. All are suitable for people with little or no experience and aim to provide hands on, practical experience. All tools and equipment are explained and demonstrated and fact sheets are supplied, so there is no need for written work. ‘Our courses are ideal for those looking for a new career, second income or purely to extend your DIY skills.’ Infantry Sergeant Keith Earl found that: ‘The resettlement package that was offered was by far the best value of the four places I looked at. The structure of the four courses I did was very good. The training facilities were excellent. The instructors’ knowledge and experience was outstanding. I found you could ask about any project that you are working on and would get good advice.’ Electrical qualification courses are also available for Part P (VRQ Level II Domestic Installers Certificate), 17th Edition (2382-10 and 2382-20), Inspection & Testing (2392-10) and PAT Testing (2377-11 and 2377-12). Offices are open seven days a week with staff ready to take calls on 0800 389 2775, or e-mail [sally@buildertrainingcentre.co.uk](mailto:sally@buildertrainingcentre.co.uk), or visit the website at [www.skillsclub.com](http://www.skillsclub.com)



Resettlement Students  
– back row left to right: Roddy McNaughton, Ronnie Haddow, Andrew McNaughton, Ronnie Haddow, Andrew McGuire, Keith Earl – front row left to right: Kevin Goodwin, Ted Ashworth, Jason White