

Champion Carl is Sellafield's first disability advisor

Sellafield Ltd has its first ever disability advisor.

Following on from the success of the disability champion's programme, the role of Lead Disability Champion was created and Carl Lewthwaite got the job.

Having had life changing surgery, Carl knows how disability can affect you at work.

"It is important that workers with disabilities have access to support, the right services and an opportunity to discuss issues during their time in work.

"I wouldn't want to sit and wonder "why me" if my surgery went wrong. Doing this role I can relate to a lot of people and hope that this helps."

Providing advice on a wide range of disabilities to managers, team leaders, HR, unions, employees and the occupational health department, Carl also works closely with the company's welfare officer, Liz Nicholls.

The new role has been strongly supported by the unions at Sellafield.

Carl added, "The role bridges a gap between employer and employee, involving trade unions, occupational health, human resources and line managers.

"Workers with disabilities have a right to work and employers a duty to ensure this happens.

"We have made a lot of good working relationships with other support organisations off site; this allows us to be able to get more help if needed for our workers."



United in support: left to right, Union reps George Smith, Peter Clements, Joe Murdock, Paul Shawcross, Carl Lewthwaite, Nick Jeffery and Ian Fisher.

Did you know?

- Sellafield Ltd has 27 disability champions
- Sellafield Ltd's first disability champions course, a five day programme, was held in March 2007
- Carl was nominated to receive an award on behalf of Sellafield Ltd at last year's Positive Action awards at the Halton Stadium in Widnes
- Disability Champions are notified of any changes to the Disability Discrimination Act automatically

Reservists mark their territory

The dress code at Sellafield was a little more formal for some employees than usual this week, as they spruced up and polished their buttons to wear their uniform to work marking a special centenary.

This week marked the Territorial Army's (TA) Uniform to Work Day organised to show that members of the TA do their soldiering in addition to everything else that is expected of them, and they are proud to wear the uniform.

The day gave employers, families and friends the chance to join society in affirming what the TA does for the UK in its 100th anniversary year.



Peter Burns, who works as a civil maintenance engineer at Sellafield, pictured, was proud to be able to come to work in his uniform. Peter received a newsletter from his head quarters asking members of the TA to join in and wear their uniform to mark the 100 years anniversary.

Peter is a sergeant in the Royal Engineers, based in Nottingham and has over 17 years in service. He is also an instructor with the Cockermouth army cadets and has been doing this role for 12 years with the Duke of Lancaster regiment. In 2003 Peter went to Iraq as a reservist.

Taylor-Jayne Fox, who works in Business Improvement, has also been in the TA for 17 years and has just been promoted to Major and taken up the position of Battery Commander at 216 Battery Royal Artillery (Volunteers) Bolton.

For Taylor the TA has given her a wealth of learning and experience. In addition to the specialist training undertaken with the Royal Artillery, she has flown with the red arrows, deployed from helicopters, been to Falklands, Belgium, Canada and Cyprus on training camps, as well as having completed a 6 month tour of duty in Kosovo.

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Student intake begins for summer of 2008

The 2008 intake for student placements at Sellafield Ltd has begun.

Based at Sellafield and Risley, 35 summer vacation students have been taken on for 10 weeks. In addition, 11 one-year industrial placement students and two year in industry students have also started with the company – taken on through the Engineering Development Trust.

The students are all under-graduates and have backgrounds in science, engineering and business. They will join a scheme that provides a mentor and development activities to support their studies and provide opportunities for personal development.

The students met on 14 July at the Grove Court for a welcome evening which was hosted by Ken McEwan and Helen Bennett. They were introduced to the organisation before having talks about the student placement arrangements.

They also had the opportunity to talk about opportunities for sponsorship, bursaries and future graduate recruitment opportunities.

Helen Bennett, head of talent management, within external training and development, said: "We are really pleased to welcome so many graduates, summer students and work experience students into the company this year as this is a really important part of growing our skill base at site.

"We hope all of the people joining us this year have an excellent experience and make a positive contribution to the work undertaken on site.

"We wish them well in their placements."



New starters: the intake at the welcome evening with human resources director Jim Gibson

Autograph auction starts Dunnery fund raising

The Charlie and Kathleen Dunnery Children's Fund starts its annual campaign to raise money for worthy children's causes in West Cumbria again this weekend (Friday 18th July).

That charity was set up by Cumbrian music legend and former It Bites front man Francis Dunnery, in memory of his parents.

But with Francis living in the United States, the Cumbrian fund raising activities are managed by Sellafield worker Mark Andrews.

Mark, who went to school with Francis, said: "The events are run annually and we have raised a serious amount of money over the past few years, all of which has been used to help children in West Cumbria.

"We have given money to the Senhouse Centre in Whitehaven and to Orgill School to name a couple, and each year we look to raise as much as we can."

Mark's auctions of celebrity memorabilia have become legendary in Egremont, from where he and Francis hail.

"I write off all over the world to different people trying to get gear signed for us to auction, we have had stuff from all kinds of people.

"I do get sick of the taste, licking the back of stamps, but it is worth it when you see the number of items we are sent, and they really do come from the very best people."

The auction night, held in the Ship Launch in Egremont, sees over 90 signed items from the likes of Robert De Niro, Oasis and Johan Cruyff.

This is the seventh time that the auction has been held, and even that has grown into two events.

"We now have the auction and some live music on the Friday, with Francis' nephew's band John and Wayne and the brilliant local act M T Arms. Then we back it up with a race night on the following night (Saturday 19th).

"All the races are sponsored, so a big thanks to Dalkia, James Fisher Nuclear, Amec, Capita, Hertel, Impwood Roofing, Hold Engineering and Johnson Controls for their support."

A full list of the items on offer has been posted on the Sellafield intranet market place and bids are being accepted in advance of the auction taking place for people who can't make it on the night.

Alternatively visit the CKDCF website at www.cdcf.org, where you can bid online.

Some items may not sell on the night – so check the website anytime to see what is still available.

From page two: Commenting on how her TA role brings back benefits to her work at Sellafield, Taylor said: "My time within the TA has provided me with a wealth of experiences and training opportunities.

"My current level of responsibility, with over 80 soldiers training and welfare, including those deploying on operations, requires a high level of people management, organisation and attention to detail. In addition, next year I am planning on working with TA North West UK Operations, supporting the civilian authorities in the event of regional or national emergencies."

Peter and Taylor were two of over 4000 invited to attend the recent TA 100 garden party at Buckingham Palace on Thursday 10 July 2008, where they both enjoyed afternoon tea in the presence of HRH the Princess Royal.

Peter attended the garden party with his wife, Lynne, line manager, Malcolm Crawford and work colleague, Julie Richardson.

The Prime Minister will mark Uniform to Work Day with a reception at 10 Downing Street, to underline the Government's support of the TA and what it does for the Army and Defence.

Further information regarding the day can be found on www.ta100.co.uk.

Quarterly update available

Sellafield Ltd's firstly quarterly update document for 2008 is now available on our website www.sellafieldsites.com

The update covers the successes and achievements from across Sellafield Ltd from May to June inclusively as well as productions statistics from across the various plants.

Situated within the newly launched online document library, the update document can be accessed via the website's Media Centre.

For all media enquiries and photographic requests please contact:

019467 85836/85838/85839/85848

Editor:

John Reynolds (85848)

Written by:

Karl Connor (85842)

Lucy Watson (85009)

Claire Fawcett (85013)

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