



"Putting people first"

ISIS Interactive

The newsletter of ISIS Training
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In this Edition

- ISIS Awards dinner.
- Boston Business awards.
- Lincs and Rutland Skills Awards.
- Christmas quiz and features.
- How to avoid Christmas scams.
- Fun articles and features in "The Lighter Side".

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**Merry Christmas and a Happy New year
From all the Staff at ISIS Training
To all our Learners Employers and Customers**



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Welcome to the 2010 Christmas edition of ISIS Interactive, which is packed full of news and seasonal articles for your enjoyment. As 2010 comes to an end, here at ISIS Training we can look back on another eventful and successful year, which was celebrated in fine style at our annual awards dinner, a full report of which appears on Page 2.

In these difficult economic times, having the right qualifications can make all the difference to your job prospects. Similarly, businesses with highly trained and qualified staff will also prosper, so why not see what ISIS Training can do for you? We offer a wide range of qualifications, advice and support. Have a look at the qualifications we offer on our web site at www.isis-training.co.uk or get in touch with any of our centres using the contact information on page 12 of this newsletter.



The ISIS Awards Dinner 2010



The 2nd annual ISIS Awards dinner was held at the Sir Admiral Rodney Hotel in Horncastle on the 29th October; The awards dinner celebrated another excellent year for "Lincoln Academy Ltd T/A ISIS Training" as we are officially known and a now very well established and successful partnership with Lincoln College. The evening consisted of a 3 course meal followed by the presentation of the awards and then a bar and disco until the early hours of the morning. Around 45 members of staff, plus their partners and guests attended the dinner and thanks once again to **Helen Ward**, who organised the whole event and **Damien Greef** who set up the presentation equipment and assisted in the visuals that accompanied the awards presentation. The evening was a tremendous success and thoroughly enjoyed by all those who attended and was so good, I was even persuaded to get on the dance floor for the last dance, "New York, New York". This involved a lot of leg swinging and very little actual dancing, which was fine by me. I am so bad I will be asked to be on Strictly Come Dancing next year!!

The awards were presented by the ISIS Training Operations Manager, **Mary Turnor** and Lincoln College were represented by **Ian Sackree**, Vice Principle for Corporate Services and **Rachel May**, Director of Employer Engagement. Awards were presented to a number of staff in various categories, for their hard work, efforts and success over the past year. The most deserved award, which was voted for unanimously by all the staff, went to **Pip Whiteman**, our Quality Manager, for "Best Support Person"



There's something about Mary.....

Once again **Colin Ashmore**, the FLT Manager came up with a suitable theme to pay tribute to Mary Turnor. It was a hard task to top last years "If Mary was a dog" speech but he managed it by asking all of the Managers to come up with a line or phrase that accurately described Mary Turnor. He was rewarded with a series of quotes, limericks and poems which accurately described Mary's mannerisms, behaviour and habits whilst at work. After reading them all out, Colin presented an award to Mary Turnor on behalf of the ISIS Training staff, for the help and support she has provided over the last year. We wait with interest to see what Colin comes up with for next year.



The Boston Business Awards 2010



"The success of ISIS Training is due to the hard work an effort of all out staff, but it could not be done without the help and co-operation of our Learners and Employers who readily embrace the technology we use and quickly learn to adapt and make the most of our E-learning and E-assessment methods"

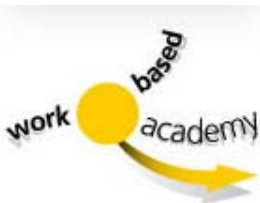
ISIS Training was runners up in the category **"Best use of IT and Communications"** at the annual Boston Business Awards, sponsored by Boston College. We reached the final for our continued work and further developments in the use of Learning Technologies including E-Portfolios, E-learning, Electronic Assessment methods and a range of Interactive learning resources we have introduced for our Foundation Learning Tier Learners. We were beaten into second place by "Sportsbikeshop" an on-line retailer who specialise in providing motor cycle clothing and accessories, boasting an annual turnover of £2.3 million pounds in global sales. The other runner up was Renta-site a company specialising in web design and web hosting services. The Judges admitted the entries of all 3 finalists were of a very high standard and there was very little to choose between them. However there can only be one winner so on this occasion we will have to settle for being second best.

The awards ceremony was held at the Boston College Skirbeck Road Site and 8 members of ISIS Training staff, together with representatives from two of the local Employers we have Apprentices with, Boston Mayflower and 1st in Flowers, were there to witness the success and watch our E-Learning Manager, Mick Gilroy, step forward to accept the runners up award certificate from Sue Daley, Principle of Boston College, on behalf of all our staff.

Before the actual award ceremony itself we were treated to a champagne reception and a 5 course meal, with wine kindly provided by our Ops Manager Mary Turnor. The entire meal was prepared cooked and served by students from Boston College and the food was excellent. After the meal and before the presentation of the awards Melvyn Prior of BBC Radio Lincolnshire, interviewed a local entrepreneur Lyndsey Young, live on stage. Lyndsey has had great success with her "Count on it" food labelling business, which she revealed she set up with £15,000 she won on the TV show Deal or No Deal.

The success of ISIS Training is due to the hard work an effort of all out staff, but it could not be done without the help and cooperation of our Learners and Employers who readily embrace the technology we use and quickly learn to adapt and make the most of our E-learning and E-assessment methods. We will continue to build on this success and look for even more technology and innovations to introduce during 2011.

Lincolnshire and Rutland Skills Awards 2011



It is now the Learners and Employers turn to be recognised and awarded for your efforts. This year these awards are going to be organised by the local Colleges and Training providers who make up the Lincs and Rutland Work Based Academy. The event will take place on 7th April 2011 at the EPIC Centre, Lincolnshire Showground. ISIS Staff have been compiling the names of both learners and employers we feel deserve an award and the nominations will be shortly submitted to the awards committee.

The format will be different to previous Work Based Learning Awards, with several new or different categories recognising success and achievement throughout the sector and the submissions process will be a lot easier and user friendly than in previous years. Following the submissions, all nominees will receive an application form, which your Learning Advisor and/or other members of the ISIS Staff will be happy to help you complete.

A Christmas Quiz

1. What date is St Stephen's Day?
2. In Charles Dickens' novel A Christmas Carol, who was Scrooge's dead business partner?
3. The song White Christmas was first performed in which 1942 film?
4. London's Trafalgar Square Christmas tree is traditionally given by which country?
5. In the song The Twelve Days of Christmas, '...my true love brought to me nine...' what?
6. Name the original eight reindeer from the 'Twas the night Before Christmas' poem.
7. Which Christmas carol includes the lyrics '...To save us all from Satan's power, when we were gone astray..'??
8. The character Jack Skellington appears in which 1993 Tim Burton film?
9. What colour are the berries of the mistletoe plant?
10. In the inspirational 1946 film, It's a Wonderful Life, what's the name of George Bailey's guardian angel?
11. What are the names of the three wise men said to have brought gifts to the baby Jesus?
12. What is New Year's Eve called in Scotland?
13. What Christmas item was invented by London baker and wedding-cake specialist Tom Smith in 1847?
14. In what year was Band-Aid's Do They Know It's Christmas the UK Christmas chart-topping record?
15. Which country did St Nicholas come from?
16. Who wrote How the Grinch Stole Christmas?
17. From which country does the poinsettia plant originate?
18. Who wrote Auld Lange Syne?
19. How many points does a snowflake have?
20. What is the name of the cake traditionally eaten in Italy at Christmas?

By Chris Huddleston
Lincoln AAT
(Answers on Page 5)

You know Christmas is coming when

1. Adverts for drinks like Disaronno and Drambuie appear on the telly.
2. Random words like "Noel" and "Let it snow" start appearing everywhere.
3. You hear "Fairy tale of New York" for the first time...and its only November!
4. The Coca Cola "Coke is Coming" advert appears on the telly.
5. The Sky TV Channels begin showing their usual array of Xmas films, 3 times a day, every day from November including, Santa Jr, Santa Who? Christmas in Wonderland, Home for Christmas, Deck the Halls, Christmas without Snow, Christmas in Connecticut and a Different kind of Christmas.
6. Snow lands on Emmerdale, Coronation Street and Albert Square ensuring they have a white Christmas for the 50th consecutive year. The Met office cannot provide any explanation for this phenomenon!
7. Ex X-Factor contestants get invitations to turn on the Xmas lights in towns like Barton-on-Humber, Brigg and Bourne. The entertainment industry cannot provide any explanation for this phenomenon!
8. The newspapers and magazines are full of tips on how to avoid embarrassment at the fictional office party (Do these actually exist? Has anyone ever been to one?)
9. A celebrity who has been off the radar for a bit will come out with a "My Christmas Hell" story. This will be about something that happened 20 Years ago that he/she has just suddenly remembered.
10. There is life on the High Streets of England after 5 0' Clock.
11. Everyone is saying how they are not going to have Turkey this year, but then buy one as usual.
12. A power cut, fire or flood happens so the residents of Emmerdale, Albert Square and Coronation Street can all have their Xmas dinner together in the Woolpack, Vic and Rovers Return. (For the 50th Consecutive year, whilst enjoying the 50th consecutive white Xmas).



By Bah Humber

Xmas Quiz Answers

1. 26th December
2. Jacob Marley
3. Holiday Inn
4. Norway
5. Ladies dancing
6. Comet, Cupid, Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Donner, Blitzen
7. God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen
8. The Nightmare before Christmas
9. White
10. Clarence
11. Balthasar, Melchior, Caspar
12. Hogmanay
13. Christmas cracker
14. 1984
15. Turkey
16. Dr Seuss
17. Mexico
18. Robert Burns
19. Six
20. Panettone

"Even if you suspect you have been ripped off, your bank will not stop the payment going through and you have to wait 28 days before making a complaint or trying to get a refund"

Don't get ripped off this Christmas!



Every Learner Matters
"Stay Safe"

Christmas is a time when there are lots of scams going around and it is easy to get caught in the excitement of buying Christmas shopping and buying presents. Here are some known scams and rip-offs to avoid.

POSTAL SCAMS

Trading standards officers are warning people about a postal scam operating in Lincolnshire. The scam, which has been confirmed by Royal Mail, entails a missed parcel delivery card, which looks genuine, posted through your door. It says it is from a company called PDS (Parcel Delivery Service) and was unable to deliver a parcel. It goes on to say the intended recipient needs to contact 0906 661191 – a premium rate number. People are being warned to not call this number as it is a mail scam originating from Belize. Callers will hear a recorded message. By this time they will have already been billed £315. Anyone who receives a card with these details should call Royal Mail Fraud on 020 7239 6655.

INTERNET SCAMS

Another fraud is cleverly disguised web sites offering cheap or fake designer clothes by simply changing the suffix from .CO.UK, to .COM for example. They will ask you to pay by debit card and normally you will either not receive the goods or get cheap imitations. The websites look like the originals and will even appear in search engines by cleverly re-arranging the words. To prevent getting caught out do not open the link direct from Google, or other search engines, but type the address directly into your browser, and you should be able to tell if it is genuine or not.

Most genuine sites use the Pay Pal system or if you can pay by card, use the VeriSign security system. If these two methods of payment are not available, do not use the site. Also if you have to register or set up an account on a site, do this before you buy anything and wait for a confirmation e-mail to arrive, do not register as part of the payment process, because once you have entered the card details, it is too late!

Finally did you know that even if you suspect you have been ripped off, your bank will not stop the payment going through and you have to wait 28 days before making a complaint or trying to get a refund?

MARKETS AND CAR BOOT SALES

Although perfectly legal and the vast majority of sellers at these places being completely honest, you may not be able to get a refund or exchange any faulty goods that you purchase at a Christmas Market or a car boot sale. Firstly you have to remember exactly who you bought the goods off and as Markets tend to have lots of stalls, this could be quite difficult. Also, by the time you have realised there is a problem, the market could easily have moved on to another location. Secondly, you will not always get a receipt, or proof of purchase at markets and especially at car boot sales. The goods sold at these places are often of inferior quality and there is a very good change that could be fakes, especially designer clothing or in the case of CD's DVD's or Computer games, illegal pirated copies.





Drink Driving Sentences

- A mandatory minimum 12 month driving ban.
- A fine of up to £5,000
- Up to 6 months imprisonment.
- Higher insurance premiums.
- A criminal record.

What is a unit of Alcohol?

- Pint of 4% lager = 2.3 Units
- 175ml glass of wine = 2.3 units
- 25ml glass of 40% single spirit and mixer = 1 Unit

Did you know?

- The recommended maximum amount of salt per day for adults is 6G our about 1 teaspoon. So take care with crisps, salted nuts and other nibbles, all of which have a very high salt content.
- Most people put salt on their food through habit and before they even taste the food, rather than because the food needs it.

Ingredients

- 1 medium potato cubed
- 2 Leeks, thinly sliced
- 2 Carrots, thinly sliced
- 1 Onion, finely chopped
- 2 Courgettes, sliced
- 50g frozen peas
- 1 tin chopped tomatoes
- 1 vegetable stock cube
- Freshly ground pepper
- 750ml water

Time – 30 minutes

Serves – 6

Calories

18 kcal per 100g portion
50 kcal per 283g portion

Have a Healthy Xmas



Every Learner Matters
"Be Healthy"

Christmas is a time for eating and drinking to excess and everyone having a good time (and rightly so!). However there are plenty of risks, not least of all drink driving, when the Police will be out in force over the Christmas period.

Don't Drink and Drive!

A single drink can put you over the drink drive limit, which is 80mg of Alcohol in 100ml of blood. These figures do not mean anything to most people, but is roughly the equivalent of 1 glass of wine. 1 pint of beer, or one single measure of spirits.

Try this non-alcoholic cocktail, great for designated drivers. Nobody will realise you are not having a "real drink" so you won't feel pressurised for not doing so.

Put equal measures of cranberry juice, red grape juice, and ginger ale into a tall glass. Add lots of ice and a chunk of lime (say 1/6th) squeezed, and the lime is then dropped into the glass. Give it a stir and off you go.

What are the recommended alcohol limits?

Men are recommended not to drink more than 3-4 units per day on a regular basis. Women are recommended to drink no more than 2 -3 units per day. There is a good chance you will exceed these recommendations over Christmas, so here are some simple tips to prevent that dreaded hangover.

1. Eat before drinking so the alcohol isn't absorbed so quickly.
2. Drink a glass of milk before alcohol, it coats the stomach lining and slows the absorption of alcohol.
3. Don't drink to impress or feel you have to keep up with you mates. Drink at a pace you are comfortable at and stop when you feel you have had enough.

Eat some fruit

Fruit makes a great snack that can be eaten any time of day. Have a piece of fruit before you leave for a party, you will arrive not feeling hungry so will be less tempted to eat more than you normally would. A fruit smoothie drink is another healthy option, which will also line your stomach and help to absorb the alcohol.

Quick Vegetable soup

This is a low-fat easy to make soup that can be used as a starter for Xmas dinner or as an alternative to another heavy meal!



Method

1. Place the potato, leek, carrot and onion in a pan with the stock cube. Then gently bring to the boil and simmer until the vegetables are tender.
2. To make a chunkier soup, remove just 1 third of the vegetables, then wizz it in a blender with half of the tomatoes
3. Return the puree to the pan with the remaining stock and vegetables, add the frozen peas, the rest of the tomatoes and heat through. Serve with freshly baked bread.

MP3's Killed the Radio Star (But it wasn't that difficult really!)

During a long boring drive down the A17 from Sutton Bridge to Lincoln, I was trying to find a decent radio station to listen to when I realised how appallingly bad terrestrial music radio stations in general are.

BBC Radio one used to be the choice for everyone who liked pop & rock music, but now it seems to be aimed at the 10 – 18 year old age group. They used to play all types of music, but now they seem to play almost exclusively rap, hip-hop and X factor style reality stars. OK it improves in the evening and at night slightly, with good alternative music, indie and rock programmes like Zane Lowe and the veteran Ann Nightingale, who has been pushed out to 2AM, but during the day the main play list consists of around 15 songs, which means you hear the same thing over and over again for a week, until the play list is changed. There is a female DJ on Radio 1 who has become a total parody of herself. When she is on, it is like listening to someone doing an impersonation of her.

Radio Two is the most listened to radio station in the UK apparently, but all the shows seem to follow the same basic formula. I stumbled across "Steve Wright in the afternoon" who I remembered from his Radio 1 days and he used to be very funny. The show hadn't changed that much and was still quite funny, but the music he played was awful. It seemed to be being used as fillers between the chat and features such as "Factoids" and consisted of bland, safe middle-of-the-road oldies by Elkie Brooks, (Pearl's a singer) Dean Friedman (Thank your lucky stars) and Tie a Yellow Ribbon by Dawn, featuring Tony Orlando whoever he is. Were Dawn any good when they didn't feature him? They couldn't have been any worse! Surely it should be the other way around, the features and chat used as fillers between the music. The non-stop oldies sounded promising (3pm – 3:30pm) but they spent so much time playing jingles, trailers and telling you these were the non-stop oldies that they didn't actually manage to play very many. Still Britney Lohan Smith from Milton Keynes got an "I chose the non-stop oldies badge" for bothering to send her selection in.

Commercial Radio is no better, they always promise "A better music mix" but you never get it. You are also promised "Hits and Memories" but get an anagram of "Hits" (work it out) and Mediocrity. The adverts on commercial radio are particularly annoying, I know they are necessary as that is where the income comes from and the name "commercial" drops a big hint also. But do they have to be so appallingly bad? And why do they insist on changing the lyrics of famous songs to advertise a Supermarket, Double Glazing or Car sales? It is just really annoying, especially when the tune you hate is stuck in your head for the remainder of the journey. You know the type, to the tune of "Teddy bear's picnic"....*If you go down to the High Street today you're sure to pick up some bargains.....* After hearing that advert I won't be going anywhere near the High Street!

And the DJ's don't want to be DJ's anymore they want to be entertainers. Some think they are stand up comedians, when they are actually employed to sit down and play music. They all have to be "Wacky", "Crazy" and "Look at me I'm mad I am". Then they tell you stories about their lives and what they are doing in the evening or what they had for tea. Sorry, I am not interested, put some music on preferably something with guitars in it, isn't that how pop music used to be made? The day will come when I will be asked the question, "What type of computer is a Guitar? Can you get I-Tunes on It" or as I was genuinely asked once, "does an Electric Guitar need batteries" NO! That's for Guitar Hero which is a game, not a musical instrument!!

I used to really enjoy listening to the radio, especially DJ's like the late John Peel, who would play a tune say if he liked it or not and if he didn't, would promise never to play it again and then play another tune. You knew you had to be good to get your music played on his shows, no X Factor, or sampling for him! Now I just make sure I have plenty of CD's or an IPOD in the car, as my radio attention span and annoyance threshold is down to about 5 minutes. As my wife famously said on a Journey up to Newcastle, "Don't bother turning the radio on, you'll only hate it and start moaning" and she was dead right!! So I put a Joy Division CD on and she started moaning! Honestly, you just can't win sometimes.....

"Today I am going to talk about myself a lot and not play very much music"



HERE COMES A CELEBRITY GET ME OUT OF HERE!!

Are we totally obsessed with celebrities in this country? Or is it just a cynical ploy by the media to convince everyone that we are? I picked up a magazine recently and the lead story screamed "Christine and Frank, the news we've all been waiting for"! Apparently Frank Lampard (England & Chelsea Footballer) asked his girlfriend (Christine Brinkley, the One Show and Daybreak) to marry him. It took me about 3 seconds to decide it wasn't the news I was waiting for and a quick survey around friends and family produced similar results, they couldn't care less. My daughter who bought the magazine didn't know who they were, then said "Oh it's that footballer and her off the telly" Not a great deal of interest really, but the magazine in question were trying to get us all to celebrate this announcement with national outpourings of joy similar to when Prince Charles and Diana Spencer made their announcement. (The wedding, not the divorce) and we weren't even getting a day off work! (Stop press!! We are now that Katie and William are getting married....yippee!!!!)

Other momentous stories in similar Magazines included (with names omitted) "My secret diet hell" Why are you telling everyone if it is a secret? "Stars with no make up" (Who cares!) and a famous fading model screaming "I can't cope" Well stop running to the papers every 5 minutes, tipping photographers off about you're whereabouts and retire and enjoy your life, you've made millions. A TV Talent show contestant claiming she was more talented than one of the judges, not hard I must admit, but whose earning the millions for sitting in a chair doing the judging? Not you I'll think you'll find and now you have scuppered your chances of winning the show, there's only one winner here and again, its not you! Was the story really worth the magazine fee? None of these stories are really earth shattering stuff, so do millions of people really need to be fed this trivia every week and would their lives be worse without it?

I use to enjoy the odd quiz show on TV, the attraction being the excitement of ordinary people getting on the telly and also their naivety and the slip-ups they made on Family Fortunes for example. (Name a household item beginning with the letter C - Cissors!) I would have given her the money myself had that been up there! Now they've all been taken over by celebrities as well so we have Celebrity Family Fortunes. Not even real families but soap families, who people actually believe are real, "Oh I see Holly has given up heroin to be on Family Fortunes" and look! "Dirty Den has risen from the grave, its amazing what they can do on telly these days, he must have SKY Plus'd his death"! We also have Celebrity Countdown, Celebrity Celebrity Squares (I made that one up), Celebrity Mastermind, Celebrity Who wants to be a millionaire, Celebrity Apprentice, Celebrity Mr & Mrs, and Celebrity Big Brother to name just a few. All carefully scripted to make sure they don't make fools of themselves, with protracted negotiations with their agents. Obviously they have got to play up to their image, with the Comedians having to be extra funny, the dumb blondes having to be extra thick and ditz and the former Big Brother contestants, who now *think* they are celebrities, being even bigger nobodies.

They have also taken over cooking shows with Celebrity Master Chef, Celebrity Come Dine with Me and Celebrity Ready, Steady Cook and when they are finished, have the cheek to bring out a recipe book (written by someone else no doubt) to make even more money. Fitness is another area taking over by celebrities. Here is an example. Out of work celebrity unexpectedly gets a job but is told to shape up, so hires a personal trainer to get them fit and in shape. They make sure all exercises and training is carried out in a public park to give maximum paparazzi opportunities and generate tantalising headlines as to why they are working out. "Is (insert name) being lined up to be the next James Bond"? Don't think so, because the last time I looked James Bond was male. Once complete, they promptly sell the pictures of their new svelte selves to aforementioned magazines. They then release a DVD telling us all how to get fit and then go on chat shows preaching about the importance of healthy eating and keeping fit. This is after they have spent the previous 2 years out of work gorging on fast food whilst smoking and drinking like a trooper. Of course the Personal Trainer gets no credit for their efforts, it is all their own hard work (The celebrity that is). So as well as being a Master Chef, Master Mind, Singer, Ballroom Dancer, and Outdoor survival expert, they are now also a fully qualified fitness instructor.

Then after reading all the amazing skills they have we forget what they actually got famous for and suddenly start wondering what they actually did for a living before acquiring all these celebrity talents. And then we realise, oh yes, they once had a hit with a cover version of some old 1960's record, whilst appearing in a soap and are now famous for being a famous celebrity who appears on celebrity TV shows.....Get me out of here!

And I would like to announce my new TV Show "I'm a celebrity, pay me lots of money for doing nothing", which will be followed by a book, a DVD and a 50 date lecture tour on my own importance including descriptions of how beautiful, famous and marvellous I am!!





THE 2010 ENTERTAINMENT AWARDS



A light-hearted look at the good, the bad and the ugly in the world of entertainment during 2010

Most Pointless TV Shows

1. The 2014/18 World Cup bids – Everyone knew who was going to get them before hand (Russia and Qatar) and we weren't disappointed. However it still lead to much wailing and gnashing of teeth about the injustice of it all after watching 14 hours uninterrupted coverage of the whole boring event.
2. The Best ABBA Song Ever – Everyone knows it's "Dancing Queen", so how did "The Winner Takes it All" win? Must have been a fix to sell more records, because everyone in the world has a copy of Dancing Queen.
3. Any so called "Talent show" – The progress of the likes of Wagner and Anne Widdecombe prove beyond doubt that talent does not come into it, they are simply popularity contests and in Britain we always vote for the underdog.

Best/Funniest Line in a Soap (only one winner here)

The eternally optimistic line in Emmerdale uttered by Chas when she was arranging a night out in 'otten with Charity. "And then we can get some chips and eat them on the night bus on the way home" Brilliant – what is the chance of there being a night bus going from a rural market town like 'otten, to a tiny hamlet in the Dales? Correct- absolutely none!

Most unlikely romances in soap

1. Minty and Sam Mitchell in Eastenders – It would never happen, batting way above his average!
2. Paddy and Rhona in Emmerdale – Everyone knows Paddy only goes out with/marries Dingles! It's 3 so far or is it 4? And counting.....(Mandy, Emily, Chas and ?????)
3. The amount of men attracted to Fiz in Coronation Street – Why?



Worst Gig of the year

The 2009 X Factor finalists at Market Rasen race course – truly appalling and it poured with rain!



Best Gig of the Year

Hard to single one out, but Michael Eavis proved once again that Glastonbury is probably the best music festival in the world.

Best Comedy on TV

An Idiot Abroad (Sky 1) Sky have unearthed an absolute star in Karl Pilkington.



Worst Comedy on TV

Ricky Gervais's contribution to An Idiot Abroad and most of the BBC's attempts at Sitcoms

Most Far Fetched Storyline on TV

Got to be the Tram crash in Corrie, on par with the plane crash in Emmerdale a few years ago for ridiculousness.



Biggest mistake on TV

Scrapping GMTV for Daybreak. I was never a fan of GMTV, but compared to Daybreak, I actually miss it!!

Best Films

For pure escapism – Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows and for fantasy and if you're a fan of Tim Burton, Alice in Wonderland. (And both coincidentally featuring Helen Bonham-Carter)



Worst Film

Due Date – the film isn't actually that bad, its just the fact the story has been done millions of times before and follows the typical road movie script, but now we have the convenient use of the "No Fly List" to add to the mix of totally implausible reasons why someone can't get home. If it was set in a 3rd world country, it might be believable, but in America, with some of the best Roads, Rail and Transport in the world, I don't think so. Also it isn't a patch on the original Trains, Planes and Automobiles.

The ISIS Team

WBL Operations Manager
Mary Turnor

WBL Managers
Alison Tofton (Lincoln)
Vanessa Everington (Boston)
Nicky Bush (AAT)

Quality Manager
Pip Whiteman

E -learning Manger
Mick Gilroy

E2E Manager
Colin Ashmore

Admin Team Leader
Jean Robinson

IT Technician
Robert Edison

WBL Team Boston
Tina Hassanali
Collette Steadman
Frances Bradley
Daniel Arkin

WBL Team Lincoln
Sandra Portess
Helen Roberts
Sandra Gothorp
Meera Chauhan
Jacquie West

Learner Support
Liz Uden

Admin Team Lincoln
Helen Ward
Sarah Brown

Admin Team Boston
Gill Moon
Kirsty Beresford

FLT Lincoln
Suzanne Chambers (Team Leader)
Sarah Foster
Sophie Pateman
David Wright (E2E Broker)

FLT Boston
Kayleigh Panton (Team Leader)
Grace Clark
Marriane White

FLT Gainsborough
Vicky Mitchell (Team Leader)
Hannah Parker
Flick Scott

Marketing Team Lincoln
Richard Appleton
Paul Farmer

Marketing Team Boston
Pam Bambridge
Andrea Young

Apprentices
Helen Penistan (Admin)

ISIS Staff News

Arrivals, Departures and Movements

We welcome a new part-time Hospitality and Catering Assessor, **Daniel Atkin**, who begins work in our Boston office in January after the Xmas Break. All the best in your new job role Daniel and we wish you a long, happy and successful stay at ISIS Training. **Hannah Parker** one of our FLT Key Worker from our Gainsborough College site, is leaving us temporarily as she starts her Maternity leave awaiting the birth of her 1st child. Our IT Apprentice **Damien Greef** leaves us after completing his IT Practitioner Apprentice qualification to start a new full-time position with LCS Software of Grimsby. This is a great opportunity for Damien to further his career in the IT industry and we wish him every success in his new job role.



Sandra Excels at Health and Safety!

Congratulations to Sandra Portess, one of our Lincoln Office WBL Learning Advisors, who has recently completed her Health and Safety NEBOSH qualification, gaining a distinction in the process! Sandra completed the qualification by studying mainly in her own time and fitting the training around her ISIS Job commitments. A tremendous effort Sandra and everyone passes on their congratulations to you.



Meera take a bow!

During a recent interview with an External Verifier, one of our learners, Anna Coffey was extremely complimentary about the quality of support and guidance she had received from her Learning Advisor, **Meera Chauhan**; and this was a factor in her decision to continue with her learning through ISIS Training. **Meera, take a bow!**

Collette becomes a qualified Accounting Technician!

Collette Steadman, one of our AAT Learning Advisor/Tutor's has recently completed her level 4 Association of Accountants qualification and is now formally recognised as an AAT Technician. Collette is now studying for her Cert-Ed Post Graduate Teaching qualification; does this girl ever stop learning? Well done Collette and congratulations from all at ISIS on another tremendous achievement.

AAT learner lends a helping hand during the bad weather!

One of our AAT Learners became a Good Samaritan, twice in one day during the recent spell of bad weather. Her AAT Tutor, Sandra Gothorp tells the story.

"Becky Brown an ISIS Training AAT learner, who is also a first aider at work, came across a gentleman who had slipped on the ice in the car park near Comet. He had obviously broken his ankle and Becky stayed with him whilst the first responder and ambulance arrived.

Carrying on into Lincoln, Becky then came across a lady who had fallen, landing with her weight on her wrist. Becky strapped the wrist up in a sling and got her to a safe area to wait whilst a family member came to pick her up to take to the hospital".

Well done Becky definitely the person to have around when the weather is bad!

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"Putting people first"

About ISIS

As one of Lincolnshire's leading and most respected training providers ISIS Training can provide fully funded or very low cost training for new and existing employers. Most of our qualifications are work based to ensure minimum disruption to your business and are all tailored to your specific needs and work practices. At ISIS we utilise a wide range of technology in all our qualifications including electronic portfolios and assessment methods using digital cameras, voice recorders and laptop computers. These are enhanced with well proven traditional assessor visits and evidence gathering. We currently offer qualifications in:

- **Business Administration**
- **Team Leading**
- **IT User**
- **Accounting**
- **Hospitality and Catering**
- **Customer Service Management**
- **IT Practitioner**
- **Legal Secretary**

Government is fully behind the Apprenticeship Programme

The current coalition government are fully supportive of the Apprenticeship programme with plans to increase the number of Apprenticeships to 50,000 across all areas. In a recent survey, 86% of people thought it was important for employers to take on an Apprentice in the economic climate. What more of an incentive do you need to use the best training provider in the area and boost your business by taking on an Apprentice? Now is the time to speak to us about the benefits of taking on an Apprentice and working with ISIS Training. For further information about Apprenticeships visit: <http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk/>

Become a progressive employer – take on an Apprentice!

EV Visit Confirms ISIS Training continues to maintain high standards

Tony McDonagh, our EDI External Verifier, paid a visit on 09 December. He had no concerns about our assessment and internal quality assurance practices. There is a new aspect to the external verification process; Tony also carried out an audit which required him to comment on a number of aspects about our provision, including learner support. He spoke with Anna Coffey, a learner under our Learning Advisor Meera Chauhan's care. Anna recently completed her Business and Administration Apprenticeship and will be moving on to her Advanced Apprenticeship. This is the feedback we received.

"Learner support is comprehensive. Induction is in depth and delivered at the appropriate speed and level meeting individual learner's needs. Appeals procedure is again covered and discussed in depth with learners, who are also given copies of the appeals procedure. Learners go through the process to identify their strengths and weaknesses at the centre. Monitoring of learners is conducted throughout the time they are on programme. Feedback is recorded on each learner's record. Guidance on progression is given throughout the programme with further clarity given near completion, so learners can make an educated judgement. Confirmation of this occurring has been given by a range of learners over the past year including Anna Coffey who was interviewed today."

Well done everyone for continuing to uphold our quality practices and making the visit a successful one – again!