

# Insight

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## What CSF is achieving

To date the CSF has funded **50** projects, with over **800** participants, of which **208** have successfully been supported in employment.

Ex-employees have been supported on over **600** occasions to apply for jobs and attend interviews.

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## Headline news

We want to hear from you! The newsletter is open to organisations to feature or showcase their organisation and their CSF project. If you are interested please contact us.

## Don't forget

Please ensure your monthly updates are sent to us on time. The update for January is due on Wednesday 12th February 2014 and the next one for the month of February is due on Wednesday 12th March 2014.

“

Welcome. It is with great pleasure that we present the first edition of the Community Support Fund (CSF) newsletter– Insight ”

We intend to publish this newsletter bi-monthly and distribute it electronically to all CSF funded organisations

The overall aim of the Community Support Fund is to make a positive difference to the lives of the individuals and families affected by the Remploy factory closures. We hope the newsletter will be an avenue where we can showcase the good work being carried out by the various organisations running CSF projects.

## Community Support Fund Forum – CSFF

We held the first CSF teleconference forum in December 2013. This is an opportunity for CSF funded organisations to share best practice across the organisations, provide updates on project progress and good news stories. When possible discuss and resolve general issues and concerns.

The next forum is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 25th February. Details will be sent out nearer the time.

## Geographical split of CSF awards

A variety of CSF projects are being delivered in the following areas (please note some projects are delivering in more than one area):

|                    |                        |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| North West – 12    | East Midlands – 2      |
| Greater London – 2 | East of England – 1    |
| South West – 1     | Yorkshire & Humber – 4 |
| South East – 3     | Scotland – 8           |
| North East – 8     | Wales – 7              |
| West Midlands – 3  |                        |

## Useful Links

• Office of Disability Issues: <http://odi.dwp.gov.uk/>

CSF pages: <http://odi.dwp.gov.uk/odi-projects/community-support-fund.php>

• Strengthening Disabled People's User-Led Organisations Programme:  
<http://odi.dwp.gov.uk/odi-projects/user-led-organisations.php>

## Good news stories from: Access Ability

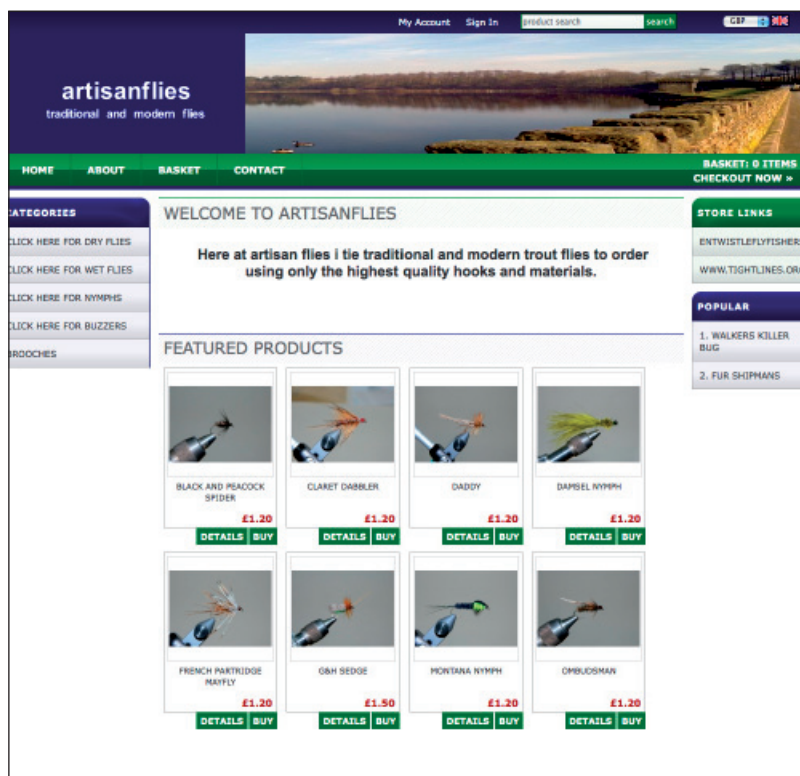
Dave was employed full time for 8 years at Remploy, Bolton. Following the closure of the factory he found himself made redundant and out of work. Dave had always enjoyed fishing in his spare time and made his own fishing flies. Dave joined the Access Ability programme based in Bolton library every Tuesday, which provided a regular meeting point for him and 15 of his colleagues.



Through one to one sessions Dave received the support, guidance and funding he required to establish his own online fly fishing business, Artisan Flies. [www.artisanflies.co.uk](http://www.artisanflies.co.uk)

He now regularly sells his bespoke, hand made fishing flies all over the world. He now promotes his business through utilising social media sites such as Facebook and Tumblr.

Through funding received from the Community Support Fund (CSF) has supported and enabled Dave to fulfil his lifetime passion of creating a self employed business, making and selling products that he has a personal passion for.



## Good news stories...

There are so many exciting and interesting things going on within your projects, and we would like to hear about your good news stories.

## Learning from CSF Connect Projects...

We believe it's important to learn lessons from what we do. So would love to get feedback from organisations running connect projects. Please tell us:

- What has worked well in your connect project?
- What could be improved, or would you do differently if you could?

Please send your articles/good news stories/feedback to: our articles for the newsletter to:

[odi.businessperformance@dwp.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:odi.businessperformance@dwp.gsi.gov.uk)

We would like to use this opportunity to wish you a

**Happy New Year!**