

Welcome to this edition of the national European Social Fund Newsletter.



## The Skills Show Experience events

Following the successful 2013 Skills Show national event in Birmingham last month, local level Skills Show Experience events continue to be rolled out across the country. These bring skills demonstrations, 'have a go' activities and careers advice to young people, particularly those not in education, employment or training. A number of events are involving ESF providers and are open to ESF participants and people eligible for ESF support. In January some larger events are taking place in Manchester, Blackburn, Oxford and Blackpool that are expected to attract between 1,000 and 2,000 visitors. We hope to bring you news and photos from some of these in future newsletter editions.

[>>The Skills Show Experience Update](#)



## Adult Learners' Week 2014

Are you an ESF provider thinking about writing a nomination for an ESF Adult Learners' Week (ALW) Award or want to know more about events taking place in your area during ALW in June 2014?

The National Institute of Adult Continuing Education (NIACE) runs Adult Learners' Week. NIACE Outreach Coordinators can:

- support you with writing and submitting your nomination(s) for the Adult Learners' Week ESF and other Award categories (closing date 5pm on 30 January 2014);
- help you with exploring ideas and initiatives to celebrate Adult Learners' Week;
- advise you on how to best publicise your Adult Learners' Week events and activities and generate interest; and
- put you in touch with local and regional partners for your organisation, project or provision to run shared events and have-a-go activities.

Contact details for the Outreach Coordinators across England are available in the Outreach section of the ALW website.

[>>Adult Learners' Week](#)



## Telling the Story Conference – Brussels

Representatives from EU member states, including the UK, came together on 9-10 December for the Telling the Story Conference in Brussels to discuss how to communicate the European Structural Investment (ESI) Funds. It was the first EU communications event of this kind to bring together those working in each of the five EU funds (European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund,

Cohesion Fund, European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, European Maritime and Fisheries Fund). The conference, which attracted over 800 delegates, focused on ways to provide sound, shared approaches for the communication strategies that will accompany ESI Funds programmes during the 2014-2020 funding period.

[>>Telling the Story of European Structural and Investment Funds 2014-2020](#)

## Holly's Hollywood hats



Hats designed by milliner Holly Young (pictured, left) are to be featured in a major feature film, currently in production. Holly's business emerged from her experience with the ESF Convergence Skills Funding Agency co-financed 'Empowering Smart Women' project and their business enterprise programme in 2010. Holly will design 30 hats for an Ascot scene in The Secret Service being made by British producer Matthew Vaughn, with top

costume designer Arianne Phillips.

[>>Holly's Hollywood Hats](#)

## ESF-Works project closure

As mentioned in our previous newsletter, the Tribal ESF-Works Technical Assistance project closes on 31 December, 2013. No ESF-Works content, on the Tribal website or elsewhere, will be available after this date, so you are encouraged to visit the site by end December to access the examples of effective practice, films, interviews, thematic reports etc.

[>>Closure of ESF-Works website](#)

## Next ESF Newsletter



Due to the holiday period the next ESF Newsletter will be published during week commencing 6 January. Until then, we'd like to wish you Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

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## Helpful Links

[@DWPESFEngland on Twitter](#)

[ESF-Works](#)

[Skills Funding Agency Co-financing Organisation \(CFO\)](#)

[Ministry of Justice \(National Offender Management Service CFO\)](#)

[Department for Work and Pensions CFO](#)

[Greater London Authority](#)

[Inspiring Work: Cornwall and SW](#)

[TAEN \(The Age and Employment Network\)](#)

[Europa \(Europe ESF website\)](#)

[The National Council for Voluntary Organisations NCVO](#)

[Gibraltar](#)

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## Get in touch

We want to hear about your ESF news and success stories, and welcome your ideas for features on our website – [just contact us](#)