

Sandy delivers the goods

A rep from a royal mail depot in Wiltshire has won the South West learndirect unionlearn award.

Sandy Best, who lives in Swindon, was presented with her award by BBC TV presenter Sally Challoner at an event in Bristol.



Pictured (L-R): Sandy Best, 'Baggy' Bagwell, Amy Armstrong from learndirect, Kev Sanderson and Helen Cole

NUJ member Sally said: “Sandy worked tirelessly to get a CWU learning centre opened at her local depot and, once open, she recruited more ULRs and enrolled them on relevant training courses.

“She negotiated with learndirect to provide tutor support and funding for courses one day a week. Since the centre opened last year, more than 30 learners have enrolled to take qualifications with learndirect, and many more are waiting to enrol.”

Harold ‘Baggie’ Bagwell, a bus driver from Ringwood in Hampshire, was highly commended.

“He’s been a bus driver for 30 years and is an active ULR,” said Sally. “He is trusted and respected by managers, supervisors and other drivers and is always approachable with a great sense of humour.

“Despite the challenge of limited on-site facilities, he has preserved in bringing in various learning initiatives, including on-site group courses, IT courses and Skills for Life qualifications.

“‘Baggie’ empathises with the challenges faced by colleagues and always offers friendly support and encouragement to new starters and those who struggle.”

Kevin Sanderson, a ULR at the Poole depot, was short-listed in the category.

Helen Cole, unionlearn Regional Manager for the South West, said: “It’s really terrific to see ULRs up for these awards and congratulations to Sandy, Baggy and Kevin for all their hard work and commitment to helping others learn.”

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