

PRESS RELEASE

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YEOVIL COLLEGE LECTURER PRESENTED WITH REGIONAL SENIOR
LEARNER OF THE YEAR

Yeovil College lecturer Denise Hodgson has been celebrating at being presented with Regional Senior Learner of the Year as part of Adult Learners' Week 2010.

Being branded 'thick' at school and told she was not clever enough to be a nurse meant Denise settled for life as a hospital chef and spent subsequent years working in a care home. Denise, however, felt she had more to give and completed an Open University course in Mental Health. During this time she was diagnosed with dyslexia, which finally explained many of her problems with learning at school.

Determined not to let dyslexia become a barrier between her and career progression, Denise has since completed numerous courses and graduated with a Diploma in Lifelong Learning from University Centre Yeovil, in October 2009.

Denise now works as a Vocational Training Manager, teaching health and social care subjects to 14–19 year olds at Yeovil College.



Denise said, ***"I am having such a good time teaching young people, sharing my knowledge and experience; I feel very privileged."*** Denise ended, ***"This really is lifelong learning. It has been a hard journey however... This has been an unbelievable experience. I never thought I could do this."***

Denise (aged 56 and from Yeovil) was presented with her award at the South West Adult Learners' Week Regional Award Ceremony at Woodbury Park Hotel & Golf Club in Exeter, where the Guest Speaker and presenter of the awards was TV presenter Linda Bellingham.

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Notes to Editors

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Photograph shows Denise Hodgson with Linda Bellingham.