

Torque

the Motor Industry Newsletter - January 2010

Welcome to Torque, the monthly newsletter from the IMI for Motor Industry employers.

As the professional association and Sector Skills Council for the automotive retail industry we would like to keep you up to date with news, views and information from our sector.

If you have any comments, or if you know anyone who may like to receive this newsletter, please email marianne@motor.org.uk. We will not pass your details on to any other organisation.

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IMI Annual Dinner 2010

The IMI Annual Dinner will be held on Thursday 11 March 2010 at The Landmark, London, and will again feature the Skillmiles Recognition Awards. Skillmiles is a UK-wide initiative to drive skills development and the Recognition Awards acknowledges support and commitment from participants.



The IMI Annual Dinner has become an established event in the automotive industry calendar and it is a rewarding networking evening.

For booking information please call Marianne Clarke on 01992 511521 or email marianne@motor.org.uk. Alternatively click on the link below to download a booking form. Closing date for bookings is the 11 February.

[Download a booking form here ...](#)

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£1,000 for new apprentices in Scotland

Scottish businesses of all sizes and in all sectors are to be given the opportunity to receive £1,000 to take on a new apprentice.

The latest strand of the 'Invest in an Apprentice' scheme and a national marketing campaign was announced ahead of the Jobs Summit - Keep Scotland Working in Glasgow.

The £4 million scheme is time limited and will run from 11 January to 26 March,

reflecting views from employers and companies who say they need help now. The incentive is available for up to 4000 employers.

The scheme is part of ScotAction, an integrated package combining new and improved measures to help individuals and businesses through the recession and will provide skills assistance - including wage subsidies in some circumstances - for training for work, training in work and training from work to work to help Scottish people and businesses survive the downturn and thrive when the economy starts to recover.

For more information on ScotAction, the Scottish Government's skills support package for leading Scotland out of recession and on to economic growth, [click here](#)

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Skills Priorities for the Automotive Retail Sector

Last month the UK Summary of Skills Priorities for the Automotive Retail Sector was published. This paper describes the current and future skills priorities for our industry drawing on research undertaken by the IMI and a range of secondary sources.



You can read the UK summary report by [clicking here](#)

Full skills priority reports for the UK and each of the nations (Scotland, Wales, England, Northern Ireland) will be published next month and will be featured in this newsletter, or visit the [Research area](#) of the IMI website.

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ATA at the Motorcycle Expo - Sunday 24 to Tuesday 26 January

The IMI will be promoting the successful ATA Motorcycle route to motorcyclists and trade alike at this year's Motorcycle Expo. The Expo is a dynamic exhibition for the motorcycle and scooter industry and starts this Sunday at the Birmingham NEC. To find out more about the benefits ATA Motorcycle can bring to you as a business, a technician or as a motorcyclist, please visit stand 8 in the Knowledge Shop and speak to the ATA team. There will also be a presentation about the ATA motorcycle route called **Prove your competence with ATA** each day of the show.



If you are interested in visiting the exhibition, please visit <http://motorcycle-expo.co.uk/> to order free tickets.

[To visit the ATA website click here](#)

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Regional Apprenticeship Redeployment Support Programme



Learning and Skills Council redeployment programme is still available for employers and providers who have apprentices who are under notice of redundancy or have been made redundant. The RARSP programme provides support and funding support in order for learners to complete apprenticeship qualifications. [Read more ...](#)

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Apprenticeship Week 2010

Apprenticeship Week will take place from Monday 1 February to Friday 5 February 2010.



The Week, which is organised by the National Apprenticeship Service (NAS), will celebrate the talents and skills of apprentices. It will see apprentices, employers, providers and all those involved with Apprenticeship programmes come together to celebrate the value of Apprenticeships.

National and regional activities will take place and each day will have a different focus.

Following the success of Apprenticeship Week 2009, activities this year will include employer events, job swaps, breakfast briefings and apprentice challenges.

[Find out more here ...](#)

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Apprenticeship grants

National Apprenticeship Service, in collaboration with Association of Colleges (AoC) and the Association of Learning Providers (ALP) announce a new initiative to help more young people find Apprenticeship placements. The initiative releases funds for employers who can commit to provide new or additional apprentice places for 16 and 17 year olds. [Read more ...](#)

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Industry Placements Help Employer Business Needs



In an example of where training provision is meeting local industry needs, the IMI has helped with local apprentice training provision in Northern Ireland. The multifranchise Donnelly Group recruited 12 apprentices who created their own Donnelly class at the Southern Regional College (SRC). At the same time the main tutor for the group also started on a Learning & Skills Development Agency (LSDA) Lecturer into Industry project. Brian Black, the SRC Lecturer, spent a couple of days a week for several months in the Donnelly Group workshops, ensuring the apprentices were learning relevant information for the Donnelly Group requirements.

Because of this joint participation the apprentices were found to be more productive at an earlier stage in their apprenticeship with 100% retention. The Donnelly Group and SRC won a Partnership Award at the 2009 NI Apprenticeship of the Year event.

For more information or to participate contact carolineh@motor.org.uk

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IMI raises £4,000 for BEN

In December the Institute of the Motor Industry presented a cheque to for £4,000 to BEN for all the internal fundraising the staff at the IMI had done throughout the year.



The photograph shows BEN representative, Valerie Moore receiving the cheque from Sarah Sillars OBE and IMI staff. Fundraising throughout the year included casual days, cake sales, staff BBQ at Fanshaws, book sale and staff donations.

Our Board also contributed to the final total as it was decided not to take a table at the BEN Ball and instead donate the money directly to BEN.

[To go to the BEN website click here](#)

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Latest Motor Industry News

Skoda picks up another batch of awards

Car manufacturer Skoda won three more prizes at the What Car...

[\[Full Story \]](#)

Mazda deliveries move to Scotland

Japanese automaker Mazda will deliver vehicles destined for Scotland from Rosyth from this month in a bid to reduce the firm's CO2 emissions and put its Scottish customers first...

[\[Full Story \]](#)

Older drivers are safest

Drivers over the age of 70 are less likely to crash than young drivers...

[\[Full Story \]](#)

[For more of the latest Motor Industry News click here ...](#)

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Regards

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