

Case study: How training can help the 50+ back into work

One of Age Concern North Tyneside's customers had to stop working as a chef as his job had given him health problems. It wasn't so much the job itself as he enjoyed his work. It was the hours he had to work - split shifts which meant getting up early and finishing late which all became too much for him.

But he was still keen to work and started to look for a catering job in a residential care home as this would give him the regular hours he was after and was something he was well qualified for. He had a shock, however, when he discovered how many jobs were being advertised on job vacancy and company websites, and that online application forms were becoming the norm. This was a far cry from how he had expected things to be, and was a real problem as his IT skills were very limited. It meant that not only was he unable to find jobs, he could not apply for them either.

He needed IT training and attended Age Concern North Tyneside's Walk through Windows introductory IT course. He was soon looking for and applying for jobs online. It wasn't long before he found himself a good job working as a chef in a residential care home, having spotted and applied for the job on the web.