

# The LEADER

The newsletter of the Lead Sheet Association  
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## LSA opens doors to FTMRC zinc training

**IN an innovative move designed to spread the quality standards in roofing ethic beyond leadwork, the LSA has made its state-of-the-art training facility at East Peckham available to the Federation of Traditional Metal Roofing Contractors (FTMRC) for the delivery of training in zinc.**

The three-day basic standing seam courses, organised by the FTMRC and delivered by VM Zinc, will take place on November 24 and December 15 and will make full use of the roofing models that feature

much of the detailing common to both lead and zinc applications.

LSA training manager Nigel Johnston said: "We hope that this new relationship with the FTMRC can follow the successful training initiatives that have been developed over the years with the Lead Contractors Association."

There are already plans for VM Zinc to deliver a regular programme of basic, intermediate and advanced courses at East Peckham during 2010. It is also intended to hold a first architects' continuous professional development (CPD) event for zinc roofing

and cladding design on Friday November 27.

Anyone interested in enrolling for the zinc courses in November or December, or registering for courses next year, should contact the FTMRC direct on 01342 301627 or e-mail [rwr@ftmrc.co.uk](mailto:rwr@ftmrc.co.uk).

### SAP places available

**PLACES are still available for the next intake of entrants – on December 7 – to the specialist apprentice programme (SAP) in leadwork.**

The two-year, fully-funded training programme combines attendance at the LSA training centre at East Peckham with on-site training and assessments. It leads to an NVQ Level 2 in lead and Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) recognition.

Apprentices automatically gain the City and Guilds 6055 leadworkers certificate.

Please contact the LSA for further details.

*Sharing facilities: roofing models are used for zinc training*



## Leadwork training goes live in Dublin

**THE LSA is crossing the Irish Sea next month to deliver a basic bossing and welding course.**

Held at the request of Metal Processors Ltd, the training – which uses rolled sheet lead – takes place during the week commencing November 16.

Specialist metal roofing

contractors from all parts of Ireland are attending the course, which will provide them with a starting point for learning the essential foundations of leadwork practice.

Plans are in the pipeline to provide training on a regular basis during 2010.

Please contact the LSA for further details.

# Heritage gains backing from LSA



United front: LSA backs initiative to protect nation's heritage

**THE LSA is standing side by side with the Lead Contractors Association (LCA) in supporting an initiative to help protect the nation's heritage.**

Both associations have voiced their approval of a memorandum of understanding, published last

March, which was developed by ConstructionSkills, English Heritage and the National Heritage Training Group in consultation with the Parliamentary Arts and Heritage Group.

The intention is to introduce a new CSCS heritage skills and professional qualified person's card for people working on built heritage projects and sites, so that they can demonstrate competency in their specialist area and in health and safety awareness.

And from 2010 organisations providing funding and grant aid for historic projects will insist that craftspeople will have to have their appropriate CSCS heritage skills card before they

can carry out work on grant-aided projects.

After September 2010, when the managed industry accreditation process/grandfather rights for CSCS expire, leadworkers applying for their CSCS card must have an NVQ Level 3 in leadwork.

For further details or an application form please contact the LCA on 01342 317888, e-mail [rwr@lca.gb.com](mailto:rwr@lca.gb.com), or the LSA on 01622 872432, e-mail [training@leadsheet.co.uk](mailto:training@leadsheet.co.uk).

## Don't be the fall guy



Water penetration: timber decay is often the result

**ISSUES can often arise on site as to who is responsible for checking that falls are correct, particularly when a problem with leakage at joints occurs after the roof is completed.**

The minimum recommended fall for a gutter or flat roof in lead sheet is 1 in 80 approximately 12.5mm per metre run, between the steps on the roof or gutter.

The usual signs that there may be a problem are water ponding in gutter/flat roof or a localised build-up of atmospheric dirt and dust when the lead work is dry.

While ponding on the lead sheet in itself is not an issue, ponding at drips or wood cored rolls can leave the area vulnerable to water ingress due to capillary attraction that can occur. It must also be remembered that the joints in traditional sheet metal roof work along with slates and tiles are only ever deemed to be weather-tight and are not water-tight.

The water ingress is not always serious enough to cause major leakage into the building. However, the water that may occasionally penetrate could cause timber decay and give problems to the supporting structure.

So next time you are about to start laying lead sheet, don't forget to use that most simple of devices – the humble spirit level – and check whether you are likely to end up the fall guy who takes the rap when the leaks occur.

## ELLIS & CO (RESTORATION & BUILDING) LTD

of Shepton Mallet, Somerset

### Are looking to recruit a leadworker

to help restore some of the most interesting historic buildings in the south west

Recent leadwork contracts include Longleat House and Exeter Cathedral

Full driving licence and experience in leadwork is required

For further details please contact

**Matthew Ellis on 01749 342706**

Or visit

[www.ellisrestoration.co.uk](http://www.ellisrestoration.co.uk)

# Teacher turns plumber, thanks to LSA



*Career move: Fiona swaps teaching for plumbing*

**SINCE the middle of September the division of labour in Fiona Hillyar's household has changed somewhat. Rather than cooking the children's tea, Fiona is often to be found under the kitchen sink with a spanner.**

Fiona's decision to train as a plumber will mean not only a complete career change for her, but also gives her the ability to mend a dripping tap or unblock a u-bend without calling upon anyone else to help her out.

A former primary school teacher, she has been considering taking up something more practical for several years.

"I thought it would be great to have more knowledge of the systems within my own home," she explained.

"In the past we've been unhappy with work done by tradesmen, so I hope this will give me a better understanding of plumbing. Hopefully I shall also be able to

make a living with my new skills."

Fiona is writing herself into the LSA record book as the first female to enrol on the City & Guilds 6129-22 Level 2 certificate in basic plumbing studies course.

So far she is enjoying the work and can fit it in around looking after her children, aged ten and 12.

"I'm very practical by nature so it suits me very well," she said. "The tuition is excellent, clear and very understandable."

Fiona would like to work for a plumbing company on completion of the course, in order to gain more experience before setting up on her own.

"I believe there is a niche market for female plumbers; many people have told

me that they would trust a woman to come into their home more than a man," she said. "I certainly don't feel that being female poses any disadvantages in a predominantly male trade."

## Laceys' Leadworks

Architectural leadworks

Lead burning

Peter Lacey

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## LSA training courses

**WE can offer you training in the following:**

- ◆ Plumbing taster days
- ◆ Intensive plumbing
- ◆ City & Guilds 6129 – 22 basic technical certificate plumbing Level 2
- ◆ City & Guilds 6089 NVQ Level 2 plumbing
- ◆ Plumbing teachers
- ◆ Basic bossing
- ◆ Basic welding
- ◆ City & Guilds 6055 leadworkers certificate modules 1, 2, 3 and 4
- ◆ Advanced City & Guilds leadwork certificate module 5
- ◆ Decorative lead casting
- ◆ Seminars/continuous professional development (CPD)
- ◆ Supervising leadwork
- ◆ Conservatory installers
- ◆ Merchants' seminars
- ◆ Taster days/leadwork awareness
- ◆ Estimating
- ◆ National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) – on-site assessment and training (OSAT)
- ◆ Specialist Apprenticeship Programme (SAP).

A number of new courses are also in the pipeline. Eco courses will include solar hot water, rainwater harvesting and renewable energy awareness.

Health and safety, working at heights and manual handling will also be available.

**For course length and costs please visit the website at [www.leadtraining.org.uk](http://www.leadtraining.org.uk).**

## Show us your metal!

**STILL growing – that's the popularity of the LSA's one-day seminars for professionals on the design and installation of rolled lead sheet which conforms to BSEN12588: 2006.**

Architects, surveyors and construction supervisors are given the opportunity to work with lead sheet and form details during the practical sessions, using leadwelding and bossing working techniques.

Technical presentations are delivered by the technical and training officers and cover various aspects on lead sheet installation and design.

Certificates for six hours' continuous professional development (CPD) are issued to the delegates at the end of the day.

Please contact the LSA for further details.

# OSAT – the experienced worker’s route

**ARE you a skilled leadworker with many years’ experience, yet are finding that you haven’t the correct qualifications for many of the bigger jobs?**

Nowadays it is essential to have the Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) card in leadwork before many of the construction giants will allow you on site. And to obtain this card you have to gain the appropriate NVQ to prove your competence.

The on-site assessment and training (OSAT) route is designed for experienced workers to fast-track to the qualification they need to gain the appropriate CSCS card.

Forty-two-year-old Keith Bence, who works for DBR (Leadwork) Limited in south east London, is one

such leadworker who is aiming to have his CSCS card by the end of the year.

He explained: “When I applied for the card earlier this year I was put in touch with Nigel Johnston at the Lead Sheet Association. He has been out to assess my work since then, and I have to compile and provide photographs of my work and answer a number of questions to prove my competence so that the NVQ in leadwork can be awarded.

“This will probably take about eight months in all.”

DBR’s projects director Nigel Passey said: “The training part of the programme quickly addresses any shortcomings and is much quicker than having to go back to college.



**Experience counts: assessment leads to CSCS card**

“And as far as the whole process is concerned, it gives me confidence that all our working practices are correct and endorse DBR Leadwork – it’s what our clients deserve and expect.”

## Help to keep our standards high

**ARE you passionate about maintaining high standards of leadwork?**

Then why not become an on-site assessor for the LSA’s training centre? Your experience can be used to make sure that leadworkers seeking to obtain their NVQ in metal roofing are properly vetted and the work they carry out meets the industry’s set standards.

If you are interested then please contact Nigel Johnston on 01622 872432 or send your CV with work experience by e-mail to [training@leadsheetassociation.org.uk](mailto:training@leadsheetassociation.org.uk).

However, don’t worry if you have not been involved in this type of work before you apply, as training will be provided to help you obtain the qualifications you need to become an industry-recognised assessor.



**Maintaining standards: John joins the assessors team**

## Straight from the assessor’s mouth ...

JOHN Joyce is the first person to join Nigel Johnston as an assessor at the LSA and is excited to be at ‘Ground Zero’, as he calls it,

of the exciting times ahead for the on-site assessment and training (OSAT) route for leadworkers.

“Until now there has been no full accreditation in lead sheet for the industry,” he explained.

John has trained and assessed with Nigel for over ten years and

this year has worked closely with him to set up OSAT for leadworkers. His background is in plumbing and further education in the private and public sectors.

So what are the credentials to become the type of assessor Nigel is looking for to join his team?

“A good working knowledge of lead sheet, but perhaps less obviously, excellent people skills,” replied John.

“It can be quite tricky pointing out where some workers are falling short of the standard, so knowing how to deal with them tactfully and positively is essential.”

**Would you like to advertise your business to thousands of potential customers?**

**For a space in the next issue, please contact Nigel Johnston by calling him on 01622 872432 or by e-mail at [training@leadsheetassociation.org.uk](mailto:training@leadsheetassociation.org.uk). Rates are extremely reasonable!**

**News and views? Please send your comments and ideas to Nigel Johnston, Lead Sheet Association, Unit 10, Archers Park, Branbridges Road, East Peckham, Kent TN12 5HP.**

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