



Short Annual Report for WEST on Activities during 2014/15

1. Bursary Fund

We provided a total of small bursaries in support of women studying on a range of courses in further education in Sheffield, Chesterfield, Leeds and Dearne Valley. Case studies were placed on our new website www.westskills.org.uk and winners were welcomed to the Annual Film night we held in November to raise funds, where we showed the film 'Made in Dagenham.'

2. Outreach

In 2013 we appointed an Outreach Worker to work with other organisations in Sheffield City region to promote Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths (STEM) and built environment subjects and careers to women and girls. The Outreach Worker, Liz Kettle has also developed our website and promoted the charity at a range of events across the city. Example activities she has run in 2013 include:

- Promotion of Furniture Making courses at Sheffield College
- Developing Taster sessions for girls in engineering and welding
- Supported WiSET team at Sheffield Hallam University with Day of Disasters course for girls (engineering careers activity day)
- Supported WiCAT in Sheffield and promoted a range of courses including home maintenance.
- Supported a number of women with links for work experience and mentoring by other women.
- Updating the tradeswomen's database
- Developing a number of case studies for the WEST website
- Working across Sheffield College to support a range of initiatives on girls and women in engineering and linking to women in SET organisations.
- Developing PR opportunities for the charity.

3. Fundraising

The main activities on fundraising for 2013 were the film evening and a 130 mile sponsored cycle ride by Ros Wollen and Jill Collins, trustees for WEST over 3 days from Liverpool to Leeds along the canal. Publicity for the ride was very good. Details are on the website.

4. Future developments

- Continuing to do fundraising events to support the bursary scheme.
- Developing an activity book called Yes We Can to show young children that women can do lots of jobs that men do - from scientist to bricklayer. There will be puzzles and stickers as well as colouring in - with links to real women who are doing those jobs!
- Developing partnership work and exploring new projects.