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## Stone Train facilitates the new Level 3 Award



StoneTrain, the training arm of the Stone Federation of Great Britain, is helping experienced stonemasons improve their career by facilitating the new Level 3 Award: Occupational Work Supervision. The course is led by Instructing Assessors David & Mark Priestman, who are both firm believers in the importance of working closely with the ConstructionSkills National Specialist Team to develop awards and maintain the highest standards in their assessing work.

StoneTrain had its first intake of candidates from major stone restoration contractor StoneWest, in November, followed by a second group from Triton. There is already a queue for the third group.

During the pilot course Mark Priestman was called on to provide assistance beyond the call of duty when one of the participants, Bobby Maggs from Stone West, suffered a dislocated shoulder in a construction site injury. Despite being in much pain, Bobby made

the effort to attend the two-day face-to-face course, but his injury rendered him unable to write. As well as co-presenting the course, Mark took time out to take notes and act as a 'scribe' for Bobby and also visited him at his home during the rest of the sixth month course because Bobby was still unable to complete such elements as the job knowledge questionnaire unaided. The joint effort has paid off though! To his delight, Bobby became the first candidate with StoneTrain to submit a completed portfolio for the supervisor award.

This level of commitment and dedication is typical of NSAC trained assessors. As Mark Priestman says: "It's all about making evidencing as pain free as possible for the experienced worker." *He also added, "David and I feel passionate about our sector and are driven by the desire to see a qualified workforce."*

