

# COMIC CREATIONS



Creating your own publications, whether it is a magazine or simple leaflet, can give any one involved in such a project a tremendous sense of achievement.

Many young people and adults alike, however, consider creation of a traditional magazine as beyond their reach because of their low literacy and numeracy skills and limited awareness of the potential of ICT and various software desktop publishing packages.

Comic Creations puts the fun into publication production by using ICT to support participants in the creation of a professional quality magazine. Comic Creations removes the barriers of poor literacy and numeracy which could otherwise prevent participants, young and old from taking part in a magazine-type production project.

Comic Creations sees participants - young and old - working as editorial teams to produce a high quality glossy A4 magazine containing news and features of interest to their targeted readership. The stories produced are created using a comic strip format with 'writers' planning their story, sourcing images and designing colourful and eye catching pages. In the process they develop literacy, numeracy and ICT skills as well as story telling and interviewing before moving onto to develop a new awareness of the potential of desk top publishing packages.

Magazines are created through a series of workshops designed to provide participants with a permanent example of their achievements. Portfolio building can also see those involved in creating their magazine securing one or two accredited Open College Network North East Region (OCNNER) units.

The aim of Comic Creations is to develop individuals to their full potential and to improve their aspirations as well as:

- Developing or improving work readiness in participants in particular entrepreneurship, time management, task management, team work, independent learning, various communication skills, self reflection and self evaluation, thinking skills, creativity and flair.
- Providing those involved with the opportunity to develop skills in news writing, layout and design.

This programme also offers progression links to other EBC media programmes including radio and TV/video work.

The attraction of Comic Creations is that it can be run at a basic level for primary school pupils, it can be customised for special needs pupils and can also be run for secondary pupils and event adults.

A series of workshops see participants focussing upon various aspects of news writing, information gathering and research.

Secondary school pupils and adults also develop their skills whilst gathering evidence for an appropriate Open College Network North East Region (OCNNER) accredited qualification.

Education Business Connections provides:

- An exciting new way to learn with the emphasis on 'hands on' learning and development of key and employability skills.
- Media professionals offering expert advice and guidance.
- Development of all learning materials in conjunction with the Open College Network North East Region.
- Support for students in preparation of portfolios for accreditation submission.
- Flexible delivery to meet customers' needs and students' learning requirements.
- Full programme organisation.
- Full post-activity evaluation service.

**'BUILDING CONFIDENCE IN YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGH A CREATIVE APPROACH TO CURRICULUM NEEDS AND BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS'**