



# Gold ERS member helps a new MA member develop Technician program – leads to service leavers in jobs

Jo Parker – Workshop Controller, Stephen Eagell Toyota

- Jo Parker completed five years in the Royal Air Force as a Senior Aircraftsman.
- Upon leaving the services he found employment at a large supermarket as a night manager for seven months. Unfortunately, this did not work out and due to the demands of working nights he soon parted ways taking a new position as an assistant manager at a restaurant.
- Still lacking job satisfaction and wanting to incorporate his passion for cars into his work life, Jo was signposted to Mission Motorsport to find out more about the Mission Automotive initiative.
- Toyota GB, just one automotive organisation engaged in the Mission Automotive initiative was working alongside the MA account managers to implement its first Armed Forces Engagement programme having identified the skillset and talent that ex-forces personnel can bring to the business.
- Jo was put forward for the Toyota Level 2 Technician Course held at the Toyota Academy in Burnstanton, Derbyshire. Having successfully completed the course he was successful in securing a full-time technician job for a dealership in Birmingham in 2020.
- Having settled into his role as a Technician in the workshop, Jo has excelled, and his skills and talent recognised. 4 months into the job, he has been promoted to Workshop Foreman and is now responsible for managing the workshop, staff and reporting to senior management.

*“Being able to be part of the Mission Automotive initiative has changed my life. I am now in secure fulltime employment with an employee who recognises the talent that ex-service personnel can bring to a team. I would whole-heartedly recommend that a service leaver wanting to get into the automotive industry speak to the guys at Mission Motorsport. They have first hand experience of what it is to leave the services and have a great understanding of the automotive industry”.*