

## **90 years young and still enjoying the office life**

A great-grandmother from Moston in Greater Manchester, and potentially the country's oldest office worker, was special guest of Age Positive at the Greater Manchester Employer Coalition Awards held recently in the Hilton Hotel.

Joan Winnington, from Moston, works as a traditional typist in the Manchester city centre offices of Chase Saunders Financial Services. Even though she could have retired thirty years ago, Joan still enjoys going to work and using the shorthand and typing skills she learned as a school-leaver.

Joan was a guest of the Government's Age Positive initiative at the prestigious Greater Manchester Employer Coalition Awards 2007 recently held at Manchester's landmark Hilton Hotel. The Awards are a showcase for businesses that are leading the way in breaking down barriers to work and investing in their most valuable asset, their workforce.

Joan commented: "It's a wonderful feeling to know that I'm still appreciated for the work I do. Tonight I have met people from similar companies who value you purely on what you do and simply don't care what age you are."

The Age Positive Employer of the Year was announced as Focus DIY who fought off strong competition from fellow finalists the Co-operative Group and recruitment specialists Morgan Hunt to scoop the title.

Joan also met with Chris Bisson, best known as Vikram Desai from Coronation Street, who introduced the glittering event. She is photographed (left) chatting with Chris and her 70-year old colleague at Chase Saunders, Mrs Mildred Wilson (right).

Employers can find out about the business benefits of employing an age diverse workforce on the Age Positive website at [www.agepositive.gov.uk](http://www.agepositive.gov.uk) or call 0113 232 4444 for a free information pack.

