

Key is to stay positive

After almost two years being jobless, Lance Arnold proves hard work and a positive attitude can give you the edge in today's highly competitive jobs market, as **Dimity Barber** discovers

LANCE Arnold is living proof that persistence pays off when it comes to landing a job.

The 50-year-old had been unemployed for the best part of 18 months after being laid off as a forklift driver.

But things are looking up for the Hallam resident, who last week started a full-time job with new company Alpha Green, producing environmental audits to help make residential properties more energy-efficient.

"When I was made redundant I was shocked and horrified. I really felt like the world was falling apart. I was really worried I wouldn't get another job in this economic climate," Mr Arnold said.

Staying positive while unemployed has been a struggle, but he said it was his attitude that

ultimately gave him the edge.

"I did get despondent for a while, thinking I might never work again. I never thought I'd find myself in that position – 50 years old and unemployed with a mortgage," he said.

"But overall I tried to be as positive as possible and do something every day towards finding a job; sending out my resume, targeting businesses area by area and 'cold calling' with my resume, looking for jobs online and visiting employment agencies.

"Sometimes it was degrading and disappointing, but there's always a chance you'll be in the right place at the right time. That's what happened for me. I went to Sarina Russo Jobs Access and they had just listed some jobs with a new company and I was lucky enough to

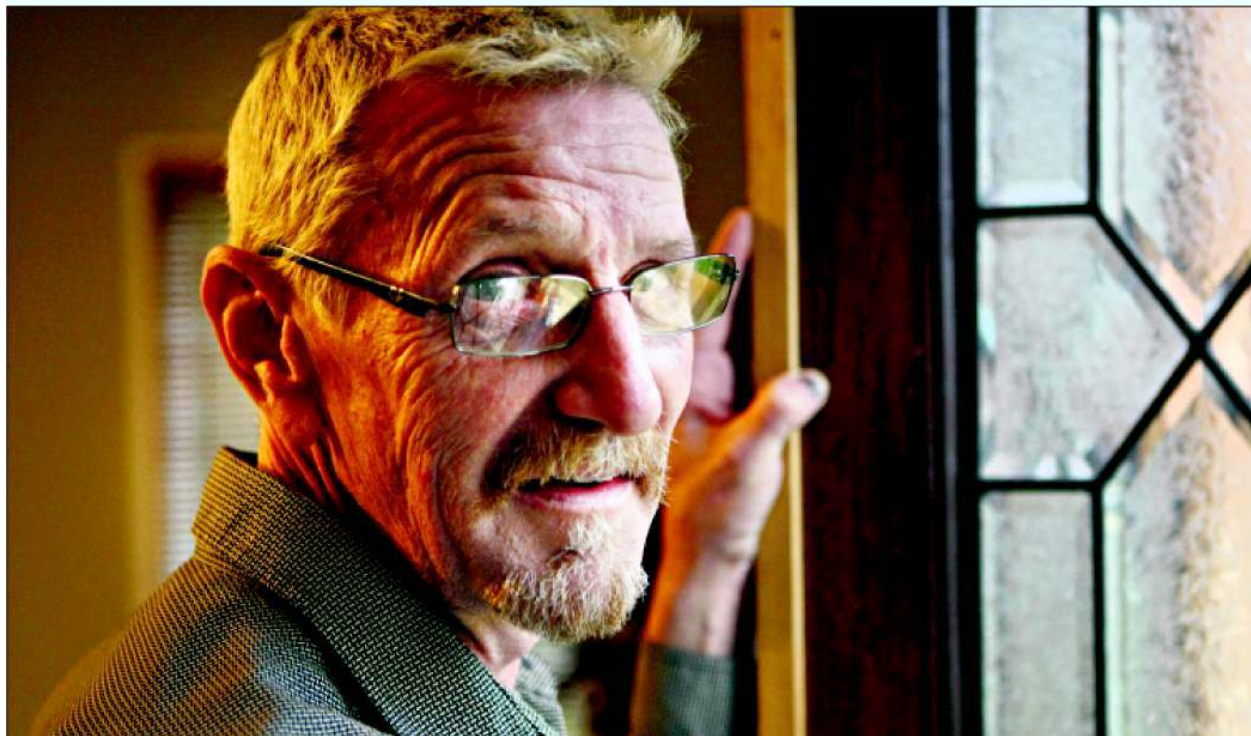
get one."

Scoring a job has given him a new lease of life. "I'm over the moon. I feel invigorated. The pressure has gone. It's great."

Mr Arnold's advice to other job seekers is simple: "Don't give up hope. Look at the image you are putting out there. Be positive. Positivity breeds positive actions."

LANCE'S TIPS

- Make sure your resume is in tip-top shape
- Cold call on businesses
- Be diligent and do something towards finding a job daily
- A positive attitude breeds positive actions



Lance Arnold has just scored a job after being unemployed for 18 months.