

Toe by Toe for All

(Thoughts after a good day)

It's uplifting being a mentor
Helping men to read and write
But I'm learning every moment
I'm teaching to the bright.

Though they may not read a label
They can build an engine in the dark
Though they can't count the pieces
They know when and where to mark.

The mentees think they are not bright
That their thoughts were always slow
But I beg to differ with them
As their best was never on show.

Letters have always tripped them up
Not knowing how they gel.
They never seemed the right way round
And they never learned to tell.

But now we are making progress
One to one as friends
Learning the letters and sounds
And the mixing words that blend.

With pride they say "I can read"
Yet there is still so much to change
We still have to encourage learning
To enable the mind to extend its range

Tonight they can turn their lights off
After laying down a book
Content at reading a passage
Understanding as they look.

Yes, we have won another life
Built a block within its walls
Taught pride and understanding
Enabling one more to rise, as is our call.

Rob – HMP Acklington