

inclusivelearning

e-bulletin/October 2017

Hello.

As a ULR, how do you support online learning? For starters, when you plan an event, you can apply for Kickstart funding at learning.unison.org.uk/ulf to book the room and pay for catering, circulate a newsletter to promote it, make a poster and ask your branch to help with publicity.

You can research ideas through online providers such as Learn My Way www.learnmyway.com, FutureLearn www.futurelearn.com or Citizen Maths www.citizenmaths.com. And with some help from us, you could facilitate your workshop.

Please contact **Oreleo Du Cran** and **Jon Tennison** for more information about organising learning in your workplace.



JESS HURD/REPORTDIGITAL.CO.UK

Martin Russo, Inclusive Learning Project Manager

GET INSPIRED ABOUT READING AND WRITING AT YOUR WORK

Stepping up: inspiring reading and writing for pleasure in your workplace is a one-day workshop for ULRs, activists and organisers who are keen to promote reading and writing in the workplace or would like to take the work they're doing to the next level.

The workshop will include a creative writing session with author, journalist and educator Anstey Spraggan, who won the HG Wells short story prize in 2015 and has won the Faber Academy QuickFic competition three times.

It will also offer participants the opportunity to share their

experiences with each other, pick up tips and explore new directions in their learning work, whether they are new to the role or seasoned pros.

The workshop will be held at UNISON Centre in London on Thursday 16 November. Places are free, lunch will be provided and travel expenses will be covered.

To apply for a place on the workshop, complete the application form at bit.ly/2y49jY9 and return it to Learning and Organising Services by Wednesday 1 November.

EOIS? THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT

You can now collect expressions of interest (EOIs) in learning wherever you are via a new app developed for both Apple and Android smartphones and tablets.

The EOI Go app allows ULRs to complete an EOI and then submit it directly into UNISON's Trax learning database instead of sending the information separately to Trax at a later date.

You can download the app via the links below, which contain simple instructions on how to install the app without going through the App Store (Apple) or Google Play (Android).

- Apple: <http://bit.ly/2xRczXA>
- Android: <http://bit.ly/2gaHrlq>

For further information contact: 020 7121 5116



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Learning Lincs

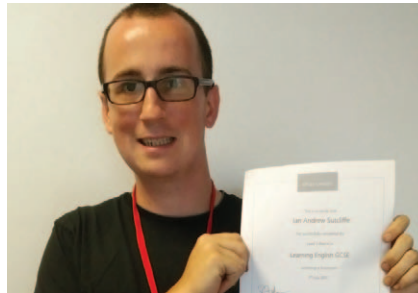
UNISON branches across Lincolnshire have pooled their resources to create Learning Lincs, a new fund worth £10,000 (including regional and national match funding) to cover the cost of courses for members in the county.

Lincoln MP Karen Lee, who was a UNISON learning rep before she was elected this summer, helped launch the new initiative last month alongside UNISON Assistant General Secretary Roger McKenzie.

The launch event also featured contributions from ULR Nigel Wass, who is a police and community support officer, and UNISON member Tracii Edwards, an emergency medical dispatcher who has benefited from the union's lifelong learning programme.

The launch was part of the September meeting of the Greater Lincolnshire Public Service Compact, which brings together public sector employers, partners and suppliers to discuss common issues.

Regional Learning and Development Organiser Gavin McCann says the next step is to recruit more ULRs to join the team that is already working well promoting cross-branch learning throughout the region.



Ian's journey

Rochdale UNISON activist Ian Sutcliffe has embarked on a Spanish degree with The Open University (OU), after building his confidence through 10 years' worth of learning and training through the union.

Ian took his first UNISON courses when he became a health and safety rep shortly after joining his local branch when he started work as a gardener for Rochdale Borough Council.

Two years ago, Ian took part in all four of UNISON's one-day member learning workshops (Your Skills Your Future, Power to be You, Making the Most of the Internet and Stress Management).

"The workshops developed my confidence and gave me the encouragement to continue studying," he says – which led to him completing his Level 3 English course online with a distinction and a Level 3 Maths online course with a merit.

Now that he has embarked on his degree, Ian is aiming to take advantage of UNISON's bursary scheme, which is part of the union's national partnership with the OU.



JESS HURD/REPORTAGE.CO.UK

All together

UNISON members from local government, the NHS and the police service in Northamptonshire are improving their English and maths skills together on new Level 2 courses that launched last month.

The 28-week maths course runs at the UNISON county branch office in Northampton every Tuesday evening, while learners on the equivalent English course gather at police headquarters nearby on Thursdays.

UNISON learning rep Jenny Brown, who works for Northants Police, had previously organised two successful maths courses for her members, with a tutor supplied by the adult learning team at the county council.

Earlier this year, the Northants ULR forum decided to promote a new round of English and maths courses to all UNISON members in the county – who filled up all the places available on both of them.

While Jenny took on the organising again, ULRs from all the UNISON workplaces across the county promoted the courses to their members and the county branch volunteered to host the maths course.

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