

inclusivelearning

e-bulletin/June 2018

Hello.

Libraries often form a lifeline to many public services but they equally offer opportunities to develop and build up skills, particularly literacy and now digital skills. In this edition, the evidence clearly shows how our projects can work together to reach out and develop learning. So, if you are a ULR trying to think of a way to get some learning off the ground, why not start at the library?

And congratulations to Jane Yugire on her well-deserved Northern TUC award.



JESS HURD/REPORTDIGITAL.CO.UK

Martin Russo, Inclusive Learning Project Manager

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NORTHERN TUC HONOURS UNISON LEARNING REP

UNISON learning rep Jane Yugire, who is a Bridges to Learning project worker at Newcastle-upon-Tyne City Council, was one of two ULRs recognised by the Northern Region TUC in April.

TUC General Secretary Frances O'Grady presented the award to Jane, who works in the council's Care at home Reablement Service, as part of the region's celebrations of this year's 150th anniversary of the foundation of the TUC.

In her role as project worker, Jane has helped promote learning to a large number of her colleagues and helped ensure that some of the most under-represented women gain the skills and confidence to speak up at work and in their communities.

She is most proud of her work promoting apprenticeship opportunities to existing staff. "We worked on apprenticeships at the city council for such a long time and now they are very much part of the induction programme," Jane says.

"We have really been able to break down a barrier that existed for a long time at the authority."

Learning: the next 25 years Come to our fringe event at UNISON National Delegate Conference.

Listen to speakers Lyn Brown MP and UNISON AGS Roger McKenzie and hear the winning entry from UNISON's first ever creative writing competition.

12.45pm, 20 June 2018,
Syndicate 3, Brighton Centre.

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Book night

Newcastle City Branch celebrated this year's World Book Night with two events in the city in partnership with City Library that both highlighted the branch's commitment to the Reading Ahead challenge.

Participants in the events at Westgate Community College and at Civic Centre were able to use book swaps and enter a free raffle at both locations, with prizes including World Book Night titles, signed books by award-winning local author Mari Hannah and tote bags from The Reading Agency.

In addition, there were free books and a World Book Night factsheet that included additional learning activities.

"Both events were well attended and there was a great atmosphere created with further readers signing up for our Reading Ahead challenge," says Branch Lifelong Learning Co-ordinator Evan Peck.

"Once again the Quick Reads proved very popular, especially with *The Beach Wedding* by Dorothy Koomson being one of the listed World Book Night 2018 Books."



Schools workshops

Schools staff in the Eastern region are improving their skills through a series of UNISON workshops jointly funded by the Inclusive Learning project and UNISON's own member learning programme.

The programme kicked off with a successful behaviour management workshop close to the union's regional office in Chelmsford, Essex, in April, delivered by a tutor from The Open University (OU).

Seventeen members in a range of different job roles and from a number of different schools took part in the Essex workshop, which was organised by Eastern Region Fighting Fund Local Organisers David Yates and Josh Cooper.

"People were positive and the day went extremely well, although several members told us they would have preferred a bit more about techniques to manage difficult behaviour in the classroom," David says.

In response to requests from participants, David and Josh are circulating certificates to everyone who took part so they can use them in their appraisals to evidence their learning.



Kirklees challenge

Staff at Kirklees Council in West Yorkshire have taken part in the Reading Ahead challenge for the first time this year with the support of UNISON learning rep Michael Pogson and Kirklees Libraries staff.

Michael started enrolling participants in February after putting posters up on noticeboards throughout Kirklees Flint Street offices in Huddersfield and promoting the initiative in the monthly building newsletter that goes to all staff.

The eight people who took part (most of them environmental health workers) collected their certificates at an event last month.

Mike says that working with Kirklees librarian Leah Clark was very helpful as she was able to supply participants with books.

"It was a real partnership between UNISON and Kirklees Libraries," he says. "We're now talking to Leah to find other places in the council where we can run Reading Ahead – including the building where new ULR Carole-Ann Gleadall works."

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