

inclusivelearning

e-bulletin/October 2018

Hello. ■

We have some online resources that could help ULRs reach and engage with more people in the workplace. UNISON's **Wranx online learning** offer and **Skillcheck** can support developing literacy and numeracy skills.

So as a learning rep, you could use our Kickstart fund for room hire and refreshments and run a demo on one of these packages we now offer.

For more details, contact our team on **kickstart@unison.co.uk** or get in touch with **Katie, Oreleo** or **Jon**.



JESS HURD/REPORTDIGITAL.CO.UK

Martin Russo, Inclusive Learning Project Manager

If you have trouble clicking through the links on your e-bulletin email (perhaps because your employer has set up a firewall), you can download the complete PDF from **bit.ly/2EHr8NJ**

HELP US SHAPE THE DELIVERY OF ADULT LEARNING

UNISON is currently working with the Workers' Educational Association (WEA) and the social purpose company Behavioural Insights Team to look at what changes and activities we can build into courses to help people stay on track with their learning.

We want to hear both from members who have taken up learning opportunities as adults and from members who have not done so because of the barriers they faced or any other reason.

The survey takes between five and 10 minutes to complete and you may be contacted to do a phone interview afterwards. The survey can be found at

<https://bit.ly/2lvA1MJ>

SUPPORTING LEARNERS

Unionlearn is running a new programme of Supporting Learners events across the country to update ULRs on workplace learning news, promote new resources and highlight new campaigns.

The events are free to attend for all union reps and officers and will include lunch, although unionlearn will be unable to reimburse travel costs associated with attendance.

To check the dates and book your free place, visit:

www.unionlearn.org.uk/events

For further information contact: 020 7121 5116



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Reading Ahead

UNISON hosted the national launch of the latest Reading Ahead challenge last month with a lunchtime event featuring award-winning author Ann Cleeves, author of the Shetland detective series that has been adapted for TV.

"Shetland tourism has gone up by 43 per cent since the television show has been on – that's more money coming into the country – generating jobs, generating income – and there would be no Shetland on the television, there would be no Shetland books, without libraries," Ann said.

"That's not just because they supported me as a writer but when I was a kid we didn't have books in the house except library books – it was being taken to the library every Saturday that got me reading and then got me writing."

Head of Learning and Organising Teresa Donegan said UNISON was delighted to be launching Reading Ahead, as the initiative helped participants progress to other learning opportunities that benefited themselves, their employers and society as a whole.



NHS ESOL

The first cohort of migrant workers employed by support services provider ISS at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust are starting a course in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL).

Thirty ISS staff, whose mother tongues are Spanish, Portuguese and Nepalese, completed their initial assessments last month, which were conducted by The College of Haringey, Enfield and North East London (CONEL).

"The Regional Organiser Pamela Okuns-Edokpayi has been instrumental in ensuring that this course went ahead," explains National Learning and Development Organiser Oreleo Du Cran.

"When this cohort has completed the course, we hope to roll it out to more employees and members across the organisation, depending upon need to ensure fairness of opportunity."

UNISON has been conducting meetings with ISS management since January this year to organise the course and the union had made sure that the workers' contracts included their possible participation in ESOL learning as part of the employer's 'duty of care'.



Meet Lyndsey

Lyndsey Marchant is bringing all the experience of learning and the skills she developed as a UNISON organiser to her new role as North West Learning and Development Organiser, a post she took on in April this year.

As well as working as Fighting Fund Organiser, a Local Organiser and as a part of the Merseylearn Union Learning Fund (ULF) project, Lyndsey has been a teacher, supported young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) and helped unemployed people gain Functional Skills qualifications.

"This job is an opportunity for me to use all the learning experience I have gained," Lyndsey says.

Lyndsey has recently finished the regional schools staff summer school, which offered members four free courses to help them at work, and is currently working on the 2019 member development programme.

"The best thing about the role is face-to-face contact with members about what we can do to help them and working with branches to organise around learning in the workplace," Lyndsey says.

For further information contact: 020 7121 5116



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