

## inclusive**learning**

e-bulletin/July 2019

# Hello.

It was lovely to meet so many of you on our stall at National Delegate Conference in Liverpool. We had some great conversations with ULRs, branch secretaries and other reps discussing member learning and how it makes an effective organising tool.

In this issue, we've got a brand new digital learning tool from Wranx to help young members understand their rights in just two to three minutes per day. We also hear about Helen's OU degree, Jane's award-winning digital champions activity and Jenny's promotion of maths learning.

We're looking forward to seeing some of you at the unionlearn conference later this month.



Martin Russo, Inclusive Learning Project Manager

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## RIGHTS REFRESHER FOR YOUNG WORKERS

UNISON and Wranx have got together to launch a free, bite-sized digital tool to help young workers understand their employment rights around pay, health and safety, holidays and equality.

The Young Workers Rights module covers everything from the protections enshrined in law by the 2010 Equality Act to how much holiday young workers are entitled to.

Like all learning with Wranx, the new module works through the learning technique called 'spaced repetition': once you enrol, you receive

a daily email alert to remind you to log back in and answer a changing set of questions.

Each set of questions allows you to assess how well you know the answers to key issues on young people's employment rights. Each day's questions allow you to grow ever more confident about all your answers over the course of the module.

Sign up to the module by visiting https://unionlearn.ulp.wranx.com and selecting Young Workers Rights from the dropdown menu.

## For further information contact: 020 7121 5116











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#### **Aiming higher**

Healthcare assistant (HCA) Helen Russell, who works at the Royal Cornwall Hospital in Truro, has just completed the first year of her Open University (OU) BA (Hons) degree in health and social care.

Helen built her confidence to tackle the degree by enrolling on Return to Learn last year. "I was a bit nervous that my writing and my maths skills wouldn't be up to date, so when UNISON sent me an email flyer about Return to Learn, I thought, 'I'll try this first and see how it goes'," she says.

The course helped improve Helen's skills and confidence. "Return to Learn helped me learn how to write essays, taught me I quite like doing research and made me feel brave enough to attempt something at university level," she says.

When Helen finishes the degree, she hopes it will help her progress at work, either into nursing or progressing to become an operating department practitioner (ODP).



#### **Digital award**

Blackpool UNISON learning rep Jane
Eyre was named Workplace Digital
Champion of the Year at the 2019
Digital Champion Achievement Awards,
which are organised by leading digital
learning and skills provider, Digital Unite.

As well as providing one-to-one Digital Champion support to her colleagues, Jane has set up a Digital Champions programme and encouraged 18 co-workers at Blackpool Victoria Hospital to volunteer as Digital Champions.

Jane has also used the resources in Digital Unite's Digital Champions Network to create a six-week Computers for Beginners course for staff, which runs at lunchtimes and in the evening.

Anyone with a basic understanding of how to use digital technology, confidence with basic digital skills and the time and patience to support someone in their learning can become a Digital Champion through UNISON.

To find out more about setting up a Digital Champions project in your workplace or to register your interest to sign up to the Network, please email: dcn.admin@unison.co.uk.



### **Maths support**

UNISON learning rep Jenny
Henry-Jeffries, who is a healthcare
support worker at Portsmouth's
Queen Alexandra Hospital, has
taken on the role of Numeracy
Champion to help colleagues
overcome their maths anxieties.

Jenny herself knows what it is like to struggle with maths as an adult learner. "When I was doing my functional skills maths, there was no one in my department who was able to help me and the tutors at my first college weren't that supportive," she says.

After switching to a more supportive college, Jenny passed her maths exam with 83 per cent, and decided to become a Numeracy Champion to encourage more co-workers to follow in her footsteps.

"With that result giving me the confidence, I was happy to jump into the role where I could help signpost people and support them because if you can tell people how you managed to overcome your fear, you might truly be able to help them," Jenny says.

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