

# inclusivelearning

e-bulletin/November 2019

# Hello.

Get Online Week was one good example about how best to engage a diverse group of learners new to digital. You could set up your own activity as a learning representative using **Learn My Way**.

You can register your place of work as a virtual learning centre, put on some catering and book a room using ULF Kickstart funding and make use of Norman Hunter's top tips (below). For more details, contact the ULF team.

Mental health awareness courses and information about your rights as a young worker are some things we offer with our online learning platform **Wranx** and **SkillCheck**. Contact us for more details.



JESS HURD/REPORTDIGITAL.CO.UK

**Martin Russo, Inclusive Learning Project Manager**

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## FIVE TOP TIPS FROM GET ONLINE WEEK

UNISON Learning Rep Norman Hunter, who is based at Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCRCA), put together his top five tips for supporting adults new to learning digital skills as part of Get Online Week last month.

- 1 Watch your language.** The language of digital skills is like any foreign language: we need to learn enough to get by but don't have to master it on the first day.
- 2 Play with the mouse and keyboard.** Spend time supporting people playing

games so that learners can click, drag and input.

- 3 Read the screen.** Show learners that if a message appears asking them to do something, they must do it before moving on.
- 4 Maximise the window.** Whatever application or window learners are working in, have it at full size.
- 5 Don't confuse by trying to impress.** If you try fix a problem in front of a learner, you will lose them.

## Inclusive tech guide

UNISON and disabled-led social enterprise Diversity and Ability (DnA) have put together a guide to inclusive technologies aimed at the workplace. From mind-mapping tools to spell-checkers, there are many tools that make work easier.

Find the guide at:  
<https://bit.ly/2NhDykC>

**For further information contact: 020 7121 5116**



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## Young workers

TUC Young Workers Month, which runs throughout November, is another chance to promote the power of union membership to young people in your workplace before UNISON's Year of the Young Worker draws to a close.

This year, the focus is on mental health, a theme that is designed to raise awareness of the impact of toxic workplace cultures on young people in particular. The focus also aims to encourage unions to give young people the tools they need to navigate the issues that contribute to poor mental health, including bullying, stress and insecurity.

Later this month, Leeds Local Government Branch is offering young workers the chance to identify their skills, boost their confidence and learn about their rights and responsibilities at a free workshop.

Get Work Savvy is a four-hour session, including lunch, designed to help young people at the local authority develop in the workplace and gain the knowledge and skills they need to make their job a rewarding experience.



## Unsung heroes

Isle of Wight Health Branch joined forces with the Isle of Wight NHS Trust to celebrate the unsung heroes of the health service on the island with a week-long celebration and an awards ceremony last month.

After staff at the Trust nominated more than 270 of their colleagues to be recognised for their contribution, the winners were announced at a special event held at Lakeside Park Hotel in Wootton.

"It is so refreshing to see the employer valuing its staff and presenting them with awards," commented National Learning & Development Organiser Oreleo Du Cran, who spoke at the event. "The lifetime achievement award was particularly special in that the winner, Sheelagh Holme, has worked for the NHS for the past 52 years – what a marvellous achievement."

Oreleo also praised Branch Secretary Jay Chappell and all the branch officers for contributing to the success of the week-long celebration and ensuring their members were recognised for their outstanding work and contribution.



## Craft campaign

National Learning and Development Organiser Katie Shaw delivered a craft and activism workshop to members at the North West Regional Women's Conference in Manchester in September.

After a brief history of the radical origins of craft, including a look at the Luddites, Katie explored contemporary examples using craft as a way of bringing people together to share their experiences of organising and as a useful tool in their campaigning work.

"We looked at examples of 'stitch-ins' where commuters embroidered train ticket designs featuring the increase in rail fares to present to their transport minister and at how a group of Black women in Ferguson, Missouri, set up the Yarn Mission, a knitting group to create space to talk about Black liberation within their local community," Katie says.

The group also explored how to use craft to combine learning and campaigning – whether making a branch banner from recycled materials or using menopause medication to create a display for the workplace.

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