

Norfolk common GROUND



Working with Trade Unions to Promote Learning

Winter 2006

Opportunities **KNOCK!**

A FREE one day conference



- Featuring a range of case studies, workshops, speakers and exhibitions.
- Sessions will look at current issues and initiatives as well as trade union learning partnerships in Norfolk.
- Fun quiz run by the BBC as part of their RaW campaign.
- Buffet lunch included.

A conference for trades unions, employers, managers, learning providers and others interested in workplace learning and workforce development.

1 March 2006

UEA Sports Park, Norwich

Booking form and programme inside



Reading more and writing better with the BBC

Last autumn, the BBC launched its biggest ever RaW campaign - a fresh, entertainment-led, three year drive to engage the passions and interests of the nation. With activity throughout the UK and broadcast content on every platform, RaW is dynamic, linking with local organisations and drawing on the UK's favourite drama and entertainment programmes.

The BBC wants to work with organisations informally in their communities, creating a network of pubs, sports clubs, libraries, workplaces etc all encouraging reading and writing for enjoyment in collaboration with the BBC.

You can now sign up online to become a RaW centre, at bbc.co.uk/raw/campaign.



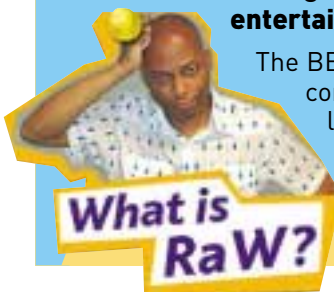
"I envisage the RaW quiz element being a fun and interactive half hour of light relief. Just an opportunity for folk to have a spot of fun - which in turn illustrates the entertainment approach of RaW."

Madeleine Forrester

BBC Learning Project Manager,
Eastern Region

Madeleine.forrester@bbc.co.uk

Madeleine will be appearing at the Opportunities Knock conference, complete with sparkly jacket, where she will co-host a RaW quiz with a BBC quizmaster imported all the way from London.



Development Fund Account

This is a new aspect of TULL. It enables us to respond in a practical way to barriers associated with developing learning projects and helping learners.

So often we hear project workers and ULRs say that if only they had a small amount of support – funding towards a course, books to help learners, etc. they could make more progress. Often this type of resourcing is just not available. The new TULL project enables ULRs to access small amounts of funding through a development account to support union learning projects and new learners in a practical way.

The account is linked to outcomes and is limited but should be helpful and add value to other forms of support available. We are able to allocate £300 per new ULR and £20 per learner to be spent on things that benefit the union learning project. This is available until March 2006 but there are limited resources. Contact TULL or your Union Project Coordinator.

Induction and resource pack for ULRs

TULL has produced a pack of useful resources and information for new ULRs. After discussion with union project coordinators and others at the recent TULL Steering Group, a pack has been put together. The briefcase contains practical resources, to assist new ULRs in their role: including a ruler/calculator, stationery, pen, information on local training providers, a TULL mouse mat, information about Norfolk "nextstep", newsletters, information from your individual union etc. Available to new ULRs through TULL or your local union.

Developing Prison Staff with the Prison Officers' Association (POA)

Norwich Prison Learning Centre opened its doors in March 2005. Since then 160 learners have taken up the courses on offer. Apart from IT (using the centre's own IT equipment) there is digital photography, music theory (how to read music), literacy and numeracy and they are always looking for new ideas.

Becky McGuire (learner support and teacher) and Pat Setters (centre manager) have found a new way to encourage people into the centre. A beauty therapist works from the centre once a month. Staff find it convenient to access these facilities near work and they are good de-stressors. "It's a great vehicle for advertising the centre" says Becky, "Someone may come in for a facial but then they find out about the courses we do and start to get interested."



Pat Setters briefing staff from other prisons on learning

Everyone in management agrees the centre is a precious commodity and they release staff for courses whenever they can. "We're spreading the word to other prisons now," says Becky. "At Norwich we're opening up new courses to members

of other unions." So if you fancy Spanish or Sociology GCSE get in touch with Becky McGuire or Pat Setters. Both courses are due to start in January 2006. Tel 01603 763740 or email: norwichlearning@yahoo.co.uk

ULR Network meetings

These are useful for local ULRs to meet and network with others working in their area. This can be beneficial when trying to build up numbers for courses, or to exchange local information or just to talk with others in a similar position. We have recently held a meeting in Kings Lynn to plan a local learning day and one in Norwich to look at the Norwich City Football Club Learning Centre. More are planned for the near future. Contact TULL about events in your area.



UNISON Learning Centre GOES LIVE

The Learning Centre at James Paget NHS Trust Hospital is due to go live in early January 2006.

The Branch attended a presentation from UNISON's Care Connect partner in June 2005 to look at how the Local UNISON Health Branches can establish a Learn Direct Centre in their workplace. They elected five new ULRs and a structure to develop learning in the workplace.

The local Branch at James Paget NHS Trust Hospital – The East Coast Health Branch – decided they would set up a Learning Centre. The Branch contacted their Senior Managers, who identified that this would benefit staff greatly, especially low paid staff. They supported the development of a Learning Centre and agreed that the UNISON Branch could have a room to use for the Centre.

The local Branch then contacted their Regional Office for funding. The Regional Fieldworker managed to secure £3000 from the Regional Lifelong Learning Fund. Another major source of funding came from TULL and the LSC project that they had are running. This generated a sum of £1500. The monies raised have helped the branch to buy laptops for the Centre.

The Learning Centre will offer courses ranging from Skills for Life to NVQs. Further funding and support from TULL is planned as the centre develops.



Conference Programme

- 9.30am** Registration and coffee
- 10.00am** Chair's welcome and opening remarks.- Peter Medhurst, LSC Norfolk, Council member.
- 10.15am** Local Case Studies – employers and unions working in partnership
- Developing prison staff - POA
 - James Paget NHS Trust Hospital - UNISON
 - Anglian Windows - GMB
- Questions and discussion of case studies
- 11.10am** Workplace Learning in Norfolk - John Brierley, Executive Director, LSC Norfolk
- Questions/discussion
- 11.30am** Coffee and exhibition

11.50am Workshops 1

See workshop sheet in your pack for rooms and your workshop

- 1** Digital Photography and attracting new learners, Steve Walker GMB
- 2** Trades Unions and workplace learning centres, Pat Setters, Becky McGuire POA
- 3** Learning Agreements in the workplace, Phil Kemp UNISON
- 4** Organising and Learning, Sam Leigh, Amicus and Shona Ray TGWU
- 5** Coaching and Mentoring, an approach to ULR development, Martin Bamford USDAW

12.45pm Lunch

- 1.30pm** BBC RaW (Reading and Writing)
A 3 year literacy campaign from the BBC. An introduction and Interactive group quiz
Madeleine Forrester - BBC Regional Learning Project Manager and guest presenter

2.30pm Workshops 2

- 6** BBC RaW in the Workplace
- 7** Working in a rural environment -@TULIP and CWU Royal Mail.
- 8** Move On/Get On at Work - 'hands on' experience of using this entitlement approach to Skills for Life, Anna Poulton
- 9** Adult Learners' Week in the workplace, Anne Hansen, NIACE

3.30pm Plenary. Any final questions and comments

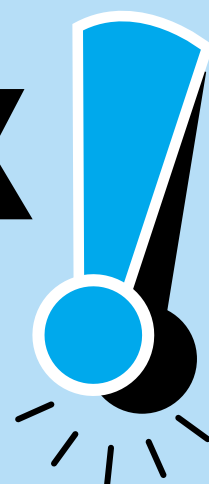
3.40pm Close. Tea will be available until 4.00pm

Exhibitions and demonstrations from Learning Projects, Trades Unions and Learning Providers will carry on through the day.

You can book a personal interview session with the nextstep, Information Advice and Guidance Service.

Please complete an evaluation sheet before you leave.

Opportunities KNOCK



1 March 2006

**UEA Sports Park,
Norwich**

Booking form

TEAR HERE

Name

Organisation

Job title/role

Address

Postcode

Telephone

Fax

Email

Workshop preferences

Session 1

1st choice

2nd choice

Session 2

1st choice

2nd choice

Any special dietary or other requirements

Please return this form by 20 February 2006 to

Richard Crook, Trade Union Learning Link Norfolk
Harp House, 54 Wells Road, Fakenham NR21 9HJ

or fax: 01328 855357 or email: info@tull.uk.net

Because of the new format for this conference we can only accommodate a limited number of delegates –
PLEASE BOOK EARLY.



ULRs Freddie Tanti (left) and Chris Whipps (far right) on Football Basics Day, with two willing participants.

Anglian Windows give **GMB** the all clear

Anglian Windows was founded in 1966 in Norwich and is one of the city's largest manufacturers, with units spread right across the city.

The GMB Union gained recognition in 2005, which gave the momentum for recruitment of shop stewards and union learning reps.

The company sees working with the union as a positive relationship that benefits all those involved. Dean Hunter from HR has fully supported the union and has also granted the use of a training room with two computers. The GMB have matched this with two more PCs and a printer funded by the LSC through TULL.

The learning project is still very new, with four ULRs recruited that will be trained by early 2006. Already there has been a good interest for learning with a Football Basics day. Prizes were given to those that achieved good scores on the assessment programme. As a reward a presentation evening with a tour of Norwich City Football Club, was organised for Anglian Windows and other Norwich based companies the GMB have projects with. Mike Loynes was lucky on the night and won a signed football from NCFC players.



ULR Mike Loynes with the football he won at the Norwich City FC evening

Mike Loynes and the other ULR's, Paul Millinton, Freddie Tanti and Chris Whipps are all very keen to develop this into a successful project that gives new opportunities for workplace learning.

TEAR HERE

Richard Crook
Trade Union Learning Link
Harp House
54 Wells Road
Fakenham
Norfolk NR21 9HJ

Did you know?



You can get free impartial, professional advice about learning and work opportunities. To book an appointment or to find out more contact your ULR, your union or TULL.

Trade Union Learning Link Norfolk (TULL) aims to promote union participation in learning across the county. TULL was formed in 2001 and is funded by the Learning and Skills Council Norfolk.

For further information contact:

Richard Crook, Heather De Lyon
Project Managers
Trade Union Learning Link
Harp House, 54 Wells Road
Fakenham NR21 9HJ

T/F: 01328 855357 M: 07887 803091 E: info@tull.uk.net



Leading learning and skills

www.tull.uk.net

The TULL website includes brief information about learning projects in Norfolk through local union learning activity and case studies, and has leaflets and documents which can be downloaded.

PLEASE
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