

NEWSLETTER

September 2021



Welcome

Welcome to the September issue of the Open Learning Champions newsletter. As the days get shorter and darker, we'll be here to brighten your autumn with free online resources and events. If you have anything going on that other champions or learners may be interested in, please share! If you have trouble opening this, please contact scotland-engagement@open.ac.uk and we will send you a link to the online version.

Reminder: Champions coffee morning



There's still time to register for our coffee morning on **Thursday 30 September at 11 am**. We hope you'll join us for some peer support and coffee. This is a chance to talk with other champions about the challenges of the past year, to share resources and tools that helped you and your learners get through.

You can also tell us what you would like to see for future sessions. Bring your own coffee for this informal get-together.

[You can register for Champions coffee morning event here](#)

Maths Week Scotland 27 September –

3 October



Glasgow Science Centre are hosting a Maths on Toast workshop on the theme of 'Our World' during Maths Week. The full-day, face to face event will take place on Thursday, 30 September from 9:45 – 4 pm.

The workshop is for practitioners who would like to feel more confident delivering adult and family numeracy sessions and will look at ways of engaging learners with numeracy as well as resource development. It will look at perceptions of what maths is and where we find it in our everyday lives and explore the crucial role that hands-on, creative maths and the space and time to 'play' with mathematical ideas has in maths learning and numeracy.

Find more events and activities on the [Maths Week Scotland website](#).

[Register for the maths event here](#)

Connecting Scotland



The deadline for phase 3 of the Connecting Scotland programme, which provides devices and connectivity for digitally excluded people, is Monday 27 September at 5 pm. The good news is that from 28 September the programme will be accepting fast track applications from organisations that can identify users who are:

- Digitally excluded, and
- On a low income, and
- At the risk of social isolation and loneliness (particularly, but not exclusively, older people, people with disabilities, and single parents)

[Connecting Scotland programme – more information](#)

Scottish Charity Awards

We're delighted to see that our partners in Lead Scotland have been shortlisted for the Scottish Charity Awards on 1 October. They have been providing accessible practitioners and people experiencing barriers to learning throughout the pandemic. We partnered with them to develop [Everyday Computer Skills](#), a free online course created with and for disabled learners.

[More information on Lead Scotland's shortlisting at Scottish Charity Awards](#)

New OpenLearn resources

[Jumpstart University hub](#) - developed by The Open University in collaboration with the Russell Group to help students starting university prepare for and settle into their studies.

[Applying psychology at work](#) - a collection of free resources that have been curated by a team of applied psychologists within The Open University School of Psychology and Counselling *#WorkWellWednesday*

[Why are we so fascinated by ghost towns?](#) - BBC Ideas animation. [Find more content on our website.](#)

FutureLearn

We are very excited about this new course (please note: runs for 12 weeks and costs £675). [Online Teaching: Embedding social, race and gender-related equity](#) is a microcredential, meaning you can gain 15 credits towards a postgraduate qualification. The course has been designed by OU lecturers specialising in inclusive learning and Maha Bali, co-creator of [Equity Unbound](#) and advocate of a pedagogy of care. The course starts on 11 October.

There are some free courses starting soon on FutureLearn too. [The Online Educator: People and Pedagogy](#) is also provided by the OU. It starts on 18 October and runs for 4 weeks.

[Understanding Gender Identity: Trans People in the Workplace](#) will help you to create a more trans-friendly workplace. It runs for 2 weeks with the start date to be announced.



Open Learning Champions workshops

It may be a while before we can meet face to face but we are able to offer online Open Learning Champions sessions (1.5 hours). If your organisation would like to host one, [please get in touch](#).

[More information on Open Learning Champions workshops here](#)



Reminder

Remember to follow @OUScotland and @OUfreelearning on Twitter for updates and tweet us using

#OLchamps if you have anything to share.

You're welcome to share this with your colleagues, learners and networks. If you no longer wish to receive these mailings, you can [unsubscribe here](#) and we'll take you off the mailing list.

Keep well,

Gill and

Ewe



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