

## NHS Book Week Event Draws Crowds

UNISON Learning Project Worker, Marta Chaba, and Local Organiser, Alasdair Matheson, took the Book Week challenge to an Inverness workplace last month. Marta and Alastair's stall at Raigmore Hospital in Inverness had a steady stream of visitors who were enticed by the selection of books and materials on offer. The event was part of Book Week Scotland which aims



to encourage people from all walks of life to read, or read more, for pleasure. UNISON's book day was supported by Book Week Scotland and Scottish Union Learning. Scottish Union Learning supports unions across Scotland to engage in initiatives which focus on literacy, numeracy and digital skills and which raise awareness and support for learners with learning differences, such as dyslexia. For more information, contact Catherine Garvie, Development Officer, at [cgarvie@stuc.org.uk](mailto:cgarvie@stuc.org.uk).



### In brief...

#### Scottish Union Learning Everyday Skills Event 2017

This event will be held on February 23, from 10-4pm in the Albany Centre, Glasgow. Further details will be issued in due course. Please note that you must have the permission of your union to attend Scottish Union Learning events.

#### Mobilise Your Workplace!

Young workers who are not active in a trade union but want to know more about standing up for themselves and their friends are invited to an educational workshop on 15 February 2017 in Aberdeen from 5-8pm. Email Sarah Collins at [scollins@stuc.org.uk](mailto:scollins@stuc.org.uk) for more information.

#### 120<sup>th</sup> STUC Annual Congress comes to the Highlands

Affiliates have been invited to the 2017 STUC Annual Congress which will be held at the Macdonald Aviemore Resort from 24-26 April 2017, with the theme, "Modern Unions + Fair Work = Economic Progress." Please note that you must have the permission of your union to attend STUC events.

#### Staff Changes

Development Officer Pam Urquhart recently left Scottish Union Learning to pursue other interests. Meanwhile, a new Admin Assistant, Fiona Cormack, joined the Highlands and Islands team in December.

# Young People Embark on Careers at Sea



Twenty young people have taken their first steps as deck, engine or retail apprentices with Caledonian MacBrayne. Dan Henderson, RMT Learning Project Worker, was joined by RMT colleague Brian Reynolds to welcome the new recruits as part of their induction at City of Glasgow's Riverside Campus. They are the third group of Modern Apprentices to join CalMac in the last four years and the first to be trained in Scotland under the Modern

Apprenticeship Framework for Maritime Occupations. CalMac has worked closely with the RMT, Scottish Union Learning and industry groups over several years to introduce the maritime MA programme. This year, in an industry first, 10 retail apprentices will begin 15 months of training in hospitality skills. They will join the 10 deck and engine room apprentices who were also taken on this year. Under its new eight-year contract, CalMac is committed to develop the maritime Modern Apprenticeship programme and it is hoped that there will soon be options for MAs in IT, Customer Service and Port Operations.

## Contact

### Scottish Union Learning in the Highlands and Islands

UNISON Building  
53 Shore Street  
Inverness  
IV1 1NF  
Tel/Fax: 01463 248 905

Eleanor Adam  
Development Officer  
Email: [eadam@stuc.org.uk](mailto:eadam@stuc.org.uk)  
Mobile: 07876 260 412

Fiona Cormack  
Admin Assistant  
Email: [fcormack@stuc.org.uk](mailto:fcormack@stuc.org.uk)

Mairi Maciver  
Admin Assistant  
Email: [mmaciver@stuc.org.uk](mailto:mmaciver@stuc.org.uk)

[www.scottishunionlearning.com](http://www.scottishunionlearning.com)

## Digital Unions: Remote Connections



Digital Unions is reaching out to workers in the farthest parts of the Highlands and Islands sessions thanks to ULRs like UNISON ULR, Mairead MacIntyre. Mairead, who recently undertook ULR training, organised digital learning sessions for NHS workers at her workplace: Uist & Barra Hospital in Balivanich. Andy, a tutor from Lews Castle College UHI in Stornoway, travelled to the workplace to deliver sessions on 'Safe Social Media' which combined cyber security with the basics of social media.

