

## Awards mark 10 years of union learning in Highlands and Islands



The spotlight was on seven ambassadors for lifelong learning as they stepped up to receive awards at a red carpet event organised by Scottish Union Learning in the Highlands and Islands. The ceremony, held at Inverness College UHI, commemorated 10 years of union-led learning in the region. The Highlands and Islands Union Learning Awards also paid tribute to the achievements of Union Learning Reps and to the commitment of local employers and learning providers in supporting learning in the workplace. Guests also paid tribute to the quality of the celebration dinner which was, appropriately given the learning theme, prepared and served by college catering and hospitality students.

Receiving Learner Awards were Tracey Campbell (UNISON); Phyllis Henderson (PCS); Teresa Kobylska (USDAW); Jim Maclean (PCS); Ronald Payne (ASLEF); Paul Shaw (RMT) and Roksana Ulas (USDAW).

ULR Awards went to Julie Beattie (UNISON); Joan Docherty (Prospect); Andrew Gardner (ASLEF); Karina Liptrot (PCS); Colin Macdougall (CWU); Roxana Meehan (UNISON) and Marjory Shane (PCS).

Caledonian MacBrayne took the Employer Award, with Inverness College and Deaf Communication Project receiving Provider Awards. Full details of the awards will soon be available on the Highlands and Islands website at [www.scottishunionlearning.com/support/highlands-and-islands](http://www.scottishunionlearning.com/support/highlands-and-islands)

## What's on...

### Coming soon – the Highlands and Islands ULR Conference 2013

The 6<sup>th</sup> Scottish Union Learning Highlands and Islands ULR Conference will be held at Eden Court, Inverness on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2013. ULRs will shortly receive more details. You must have the permission of your union to attend STUC events.

### Modern Apprenticeship news

The leaflet 'Your Rights as a Modern Apprentice' has been updated. Please email [mmaciver@stuc.org.uk](mailto:mmaciver@stuc.org.uk) if you would like a copy. Learn more about the Scottish Union Learning Modern Apprenticeship Project and download a copy of the Modern Apprenticeship Toolkit at <http://www.scottishunionlearning.com/support/modern-apprenticeship-project>

### Get online for the 2012 Scottish Union Learning Annual Report

The 2011-2012 Scottish Union Learning Annual Report is now available to download online at <http://www.scottishunionlearning.com/news/139/scottish-union-learning-annual-report-2011-2012>

# Ann's pet Indie shows dogs love learning too



Ann and her Australian Kelpie, Indie

Readers of eNews may know that Ann Irvine from the Highlands and Islands Scottish Union Learning team, is a keen lifelong learner and now it seems her two-year-old Australian Kelpie, Indie, is getting in on the act!

The pair star in BBC Alba's 'Sgoil nan Cuileanan' (Puppy School) series which began this month. The 9-week series, presented by Donald Macsween ('Sweeny', best known for the 'Sheepdog Trial' series), aims to transform 10 naughty puppies into perfectly behaved pooches. Ann said, "Indie got on pretty well at Puppy School, gaining a certificate for the best leg weave!" Clever girl! (Indie, that is..!).

## Contact

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## 2013 H&I Development Fund bids' success

The current Highlands and Islands Development Fund projects have been successful in their bids to continue their work, bringing lifelong learning to workplaces across the region.

Dan Henderson of the RMT and Catherine Deveney of the NUJ were among those to have their bids supported, following the recent announcement by the Scottish Government to provide continued funding for Scottish Union Learning in 2013-14.

Both the UNISON Development Fund Project and the Migrant Worker Project, hosted by UNISON, will continue to run in the Highlands and Islands. Marta Chaba, the Migrant Worker Project Worker, and Philippa Clark, the UNISON Development Fund Project Worker, will work closely on providing learning opportunities to migrant workers, women and low paid workers in remote areas of the Highlands and Islands. The common ground between the two projects has helped them develop a more integrated approach in reaching out to workers in new workplaces which has been particularly successful in relation to work they are doing in small care homes.

Dan's project, helping maritime workers on CalMac ferries to access learning, will aim to increase the scope of courses on offer and consolidate the learning partnership with Caledonian MacBrayne, which saw the company recognised with an award at the recent Highlands and Islands Scottish Union Learning Awards. Catherine's project aims to bring vital traditional and digital skills to workers in the media, as well as working with key partners across the Highlands and Islands to create a learning infrastructure which supports the future of the industry.



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