

NEWSLETTER

November 2022



Welcome

It feels like 2 days ago I was writing the last newsletter. My 2 girls are starting to talk about Christmas nonstop and that's the lights up in Edinburgh now - looking rather lovely too. I hope this newsletter finds you all well. In the [October newsletter](#) we highlighted some resources that we hoped might be useful for those concerned about the cost of living. I wanted to highlight these again as we all know this time of year can be particularly challenging for many.

We need your voice

Supporting Open Learning Champions and staying connected - we need your feedback

We are working on the creation of a new online course for new Open Learning Champions and reviewing how we can best support you as existing champions. To support this I would be hugely grateful if you could spare 5-10 minutes to complete the following survey **so we can capture as much of your rich experience as possible to support you and your fellow champions.** To complete the survey, please click [here](#). We would appreciate if you could complete this survey by the **14th of December** as your responses will help us with our planning for the new year.



We want your stories

Each month we will include the link to [this form](#) and ask you to share -

- stories of success, whether that's a great session or an exciting outcome for one of your learners **or**
- 'reviews' of courses you have found useful, lessons learned, and challenges overcome **or**
- any other stories / approaches to practice you think worth sharing.

We would then share some stories in each newsletter - I'd like to see the newsletter become a connection space for you all, in particular for this unable to come to our bi-monthly coffee mornings. **So please - share your stories** 😊

Champions Coffee Morning - 18th January



I am writing this an hour after the 29th of November coffee morning and I am still buzzing about how energetic, engaging and thought provoking it was. Lovely to connect with those of you who attended and glad to hear the cake went down a treat. Very much looking forward to the next one already.

On that note we hope that you will be able to join us online for our next coffee morning on **Wednesday 18th of January 10:00 - 11:00**. As usual, we will be sending out cake for you to enjoy so please do let us know your dietary requirements when you register. If you would like to receive cake, please ensure you register by the 9th of January so we can get in contact with you for your cake choices. Details of the topic for the next coffee morning will be confirmed in our December newsletter.

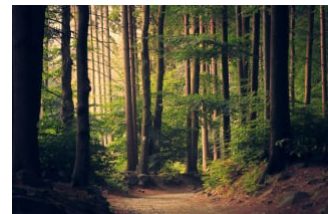
[To register for the event click here](#)

Once a champion always a champion

If you move organisation please let us know your new contact details so we can keep you in the Open Learning Champion network – hopefully your role as a champion will benefit your new organisation as much as the last.

Focus on sustainability

Hot on the heels of [COP27](#) Kat and I thought it would be good to highlight a series of courses on OpenLearn and OpenLearn Create that may be of interest to you and your learners. You might also be interested to read about the amazing [Mock COP](#) that the OU hosted for schools in the Highlands and Moray. See below for courses -



- [OpenLearn Sustainability Hub](#)
- [OpenLearn Create Climate Change Resource Collection](#)

Breakdown of some OpenLearn

courses

- [Neighbourhood nature](#) (3 hours level 1)
- [An introduction to sustainable energy](#) (3 hours level 1)
- [Introducing the environment: Ecology & ecosystems](#) (5 hours level 1)
- [Sustainable Scotland](#) (5 hours level 1)
- [The frozen planet](#) (7 hours level 1)
- [Introducing key global development challenges](#) (6 hours level 3)
- [Living without oil](#) (8 hours level 1)
- [Why sustainable energy matters](#) (8 hours level 1)
- [Working with our environment: An Introduction](#) (11 hours level 1)
- [Environment: treading lightly on the earth](#) (15 hours level 1)
- [Could we control our climate](#) (24 hours level 1)
- [Can renewable energy sources power the world?](#) (24 hours level 1)

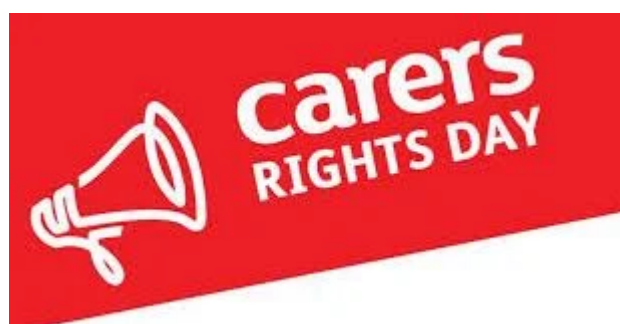
Learner pathways

If you have any learners who are thinking about next steps with the OU you may want to refer them to:

- [One of our Access modules](#) (30 credits SCQF level 6)
- [Environment: journeys through a changing world](#) (60 credits SCQF level 7)

For those who may be interested in a green job, then the [Green Jobs Workforce Academy](#) may be of interest – industry insights, relevant courses and jobs can all be found here.

Courses for carers



In recognition of Carers Rights Day which was on the 24th of November 2022, we wanted to remind you all of the content for carers that exists both on OpenLearn and OpenLearn Create:

OpenLearn

- [Physical activity for health and wellbeing in the caring role](#) (6 hours level 1)
- [Social care in the community](#) (3 hours level 1)

OpenLearn Create

- [Caring Counts: A self reflection & planning course for carers](#) (10 hours level 0)
- [Caring for adults](#) (15 hours level 0)

- [Exploring learning disabilities: supporting belonging](#) (24 hours level 1)
- In case any of you are in a higher education setting, [Carer Aware at University](#) (2 hours level 1)

If you would like to know more about the support The Open University provides to students who are carers, please see [here](#).

New OpenLearn courses

You can bookmark the '[Latest from OpenLearn](#)' page as well as following OpenLearn on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and the fantastic [YouTube page](#). Below are some new courses and articles that may be of interest.



Courses

- [Diversity and inclusion in the workplace](#) (24 hours level 1)
- [Applying social work law to asylum and immigration](#) (8 hours level 2)
- [Introducing technology and innovation management](#) (15 hours level 1)
- [Women and Workplace Struggles: Scotland 1900 - 2022 collection](#)

Articles

- [The role sustainable chemistry plays in shaping the planet's future](#)
- [Religion and violence](#)
- [Sniffing out signs of life](#)
- [Key historic LGBTQI+ figures](#)

Share your thoughts...

We are keen to find out what you thought of this newsletter. Did you find it informative, interesting and useful? Please click on the thumbs up or thumbs down below.





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.

If you have any questions about Open Learning Champions, please do not hesitate to get in contact with us at scotland-engagement@open.ac.uk.

Keep well,

David, Ewe and Kat



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