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News from Digital Unite - July 2012



All new learning guides

To help brighten up your summer, we've recently launched a plethora of new guides to add to our free, and now very extensive, [online learning resource](#), see below.

Don't forget our guides are useful for all sorts of things and all sorts of people - you can pass them on to friends and family, use them to teach others or just savour them in delicious solitude, byte by byte...

- **Interested in Pinterest?**

We've got three new guides that explain all about Pinterest, from [what it is](#) to [how to use it](#) to some of the [best pinboard examples](#) around.

- **Game on – your internet guide to the Olympics**

With just over a week to go until London 2012 we've got a new guide to help you get the most out of the [Games online](#).

- **Get internet copyright right**

Here we help to navigate the murky waters of [copyright online](#), from downloading to legislation to understanding the technical terms.

- **Get 'appy with our top ten iPad apps**

With more than half a million apps available for download for Apple's iPad we've cut to the chase with our selection of [some of the best](#).

- **Simplifydigital simplify using the internet**

We've teamed up with Simplifydigital, the broadband, TV and home phone experts, to share their expertise about [Using the Internet](#). Their three guides offer advice on ['Troubleshooting an internet connection problem'](#) and [How to find what you want on the internet](#) as well as their [Ten top tips for using the internet](#).

Win a Digital Camera!

Our dedicated Guides section on [Digital Photography](#) will help you remove that irksome red eye, download those precious snaps to your computer and then share them with your friends and family. With 16 free and easy-to-use guides it's the one-stop-shop to help you with [saving](#), [editing](#) and [sharing](#) your pictures.



What's more we're currently giving away a rather excellent Panasonic Lumix 14.1 megapixel digital camera worth £80 ([and yes, we've got a guide on megapixels too...](#)).

To be in with a chance of [winning](#) all you need to do is register on our website and answer a very simple question. Closing date is 30 August 2012.

Digital Champions champion our Online Courses

BENEFIT: Digital literacy can help people save money, reduce their loneliness and social isolation and enhance health and wellbeing.

FACT: Four out of five internet users (86%) aged over 55 years say that having access to computers and the web has improved their lives and 81% say being online makes them feel part of modern society.

Here at Digital Unite, our two new online courses, the **Digital Champion ITQ** and the **Quick Start course – Helping Beginners Get (and Stay) Online** have been helping people develop their digital and teaching skills so they can help others.

Here's what some of our course learners have been saying about them:

"It's certainly given me a better understanding of what the internet can be used for, and increased my confidence to help people. There were lots of creative tasks that I can now introduce to learners."

"Doing the course has given me the IT knowledge to help me deliver training instead of buying it in from an external provider."

To find out how our courses could help you and your organisation visit our [website](#) today!



Spring Online 2012 Best Event Shortlist

Around 2,000 digital taster events were held during Spring Online with Silver Surfers' Day 2012 (23-27 April), our award-winning national digital inclusion campaign for

older people and other less confident computer users.

Six organisations have now been shortlisted for the Spring Online 2012 Best Event. These are:

- The **DVLA in Wales** who teamed up with Swansea City Council to help over 50 people aged between 50 and 80 years with their first experiences of emailing, web browsing, using Skype and shopping online.
- The **Wealden Senior Citizens' Partnership** who worked with Heathfield Community College to bridge the generation gap with students helping older people get to grips with modern technology including Facebook and Twitter.
- **Starting Point in Stockport** who took over their local fish and chip shop to introduce local older people to the wonders of genealogy teaching them how to trace their family trees online.
- **Home Group** who ran taster events for their tenants right across the country, transforming their one-to-one computer learning sessions into social occasions complete with a Swing/Big Band theme.
- **Halton Housing Trust** who involved their local primary schools, enlisting Little Diamond Helpers to show the 'grown ups' how to send emails to the Queen and how to take a trip down memory lane on Google maps.
- **Wigan and Leigh Housing** who got people on board with new technology by running taster sessions on their mobile bus which they parked at supermarkets, on the local estates and in town centres.

The winner of the Best Event competition will be announced at an official awards ceremony in the autumn and will receive two places for nominated team members on Digital Unite's [Digital Champion ITQ](#) and £100 in cash, a total prize value of over£1,200.



Computers for Carers – donate your unwanted PC

Having access to computers and the internet can open up a whole new world and reduce feelings of isolation and loneliness. This is particularly so for carers who are often so concerned about their loved one, they often forget about their own health and wellbeing.

[Computers4Carers](#) is a campaign run by [Chill4Us](#), a small non-for-profit organisation that is helping to give carers a 'window to the outside world' by seeking unwanted computers that can be passed on. The laptops or computers must be in working order with at least Windows XP.

For more information about Computers4Carers and how to get in touch and donate visit their [website](#).

Become a Digital Unite tutor today

If you have good digital skills and would like to earn a bit of money by passing on those skills to others then why not

Join in with our community

Be part of the discussion on our [community](#) with these hot topics:

become a Digital Unite tutor. Our next induction workshop is taking place in London in the autumn so now is a great time to join. More information and our latest prospectus are on our [website](#).

- [Computers for carers](#)
- [Chance to win £100 and help a student](#)
- [How long should a computer last?](#)

Nominet award winners for 2012

This year saw another high standard of entries in the [Nominet Internet Awards 2012](#), which aims to showcase projects that help to make the internet a more secure, open, accessible and diverse experience for all.

Winners, announced at an awards ceremony in London earlier this month include a series of internet safety sketches from the CBBC Horrible Histories team, a website educating youngsters about AIDs and HIV, and a free online service that helps those below the poverty line gain easier access to benefits.



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