



Radu Tutuianu &lt;radu.tutuianu@gmail.com&gt;

## Upper Room & UR4Jobs e-Newsletter

1 message

UR4Jobs &lt;ur4jobs@yahoo.co.uk&gt;

Reply-To: ur4jobs@yahoo.co.uk

To: radu.tutuianu@gmail.com

18 October 2009 at 13:04

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## Upper Room & UR4Jobs Newsletter

Support for Central &amp; East Europeans in the UK

October 2009

UR4JOBS is a specialist service that supports migrant workers from the new accession countries of Central & Eastern Europe. UR4Jobs aims to improve the employability of migrant workers and acts as a one stop shop for information about living and working in the UK. The UPPER ROOM works with the vulnerable people of West London and is a registered charity dedicated to the relief of poverty, suffering and social disadvantage.



### Issue content

- The BIS Column: New Helpline to Protect Vulnerable Workers
- The Upper Room makes Polish & Romanian Connexions
- Central East European Forum in the UK
- Beautiful Open Day
- Fire Damage at St Saviour's Church
- Polish Language Counselling Service
- UR4Driving: On the Road to Success
- Harvest Festival 2009
- Romanian Facilities Enable Employments
- 5 Free Passports for Vulnerable Polish Workers
- Film Club at the Upper Room
- Central & East European Traditions Become UNESCO World Heritage

### The BIS Column: New Helpline to Protect Vulnerable Workers

### Quick Links...


[Information for Central & East Europeans in the UK](#)

[News about Central & East European Nationals](#)

[Jobs & Volunteering through UR4Jobs](#)

[More about UR4Jobs at the Upper Room](#)



[GMB Festival of Learning - Community Cultures](#)



**The BIS Column**

**New Single Helpline To Protect Vulnerable Workers**

UR4Jobs has teamed up with The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) to launch the first in a series of dedicated columns aimed at providing readers with handy information and advice about issues relating to employment rights. BIS is committed to protecting and assisting migrant workers and raising awareness of their rights in the workplace. The new free Pay and Work Rights Helpline has been created in order to pursue this objective.

Calls from some mobile phones will be free and others may vary. Check with your mobile phone provider for more information.

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## The Upper Room makes Polish & Romanian Connexions



During August, we visited the St Brother Alberts Aid Society in Gdansk and Casa Ioana in Bucharest, two organisations that agreed to provide support for UR clients who wish to return to their home countries. The Upper Room and St Brother Albert agreed that cooperation between ourselves could only enhance our service.

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## Central East European Forum in the UK

On the 27th of July, the UR4Jobs, Poland Street, Polish Consulate in London and 25 different organisations discussed the criteria and the future of the CEEF. The Forum aims to promote contacts among CEE Nationals and the Agencies who work with them. The next meeting of the Forum is on the 19th of October 2009.



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## Beautiful Open Day



Andrew Slaughter, the MP for Ealing, Acton & Shepherd's Bush, and Jenny Edwards, the CEO of Homeless Link, attended the UR4Jobs Open



Day, on the 23rd of July, at the Upper Room. 15 different Organisations that offer services for our clients came along to the special event to share information and promote their ventures.

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### Fire Damage at St Saviour's Church

On the evening of 28th July a serious fire broke out in St Saviour Wendell Park Church that houses both The Upper Room and UR4jobs. The fire was brought under control relatively quickly by the Fire Brigade, but there was still significant damage to an area of the building, as well as widespread smoke and water damage throughout.

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### Polish Language Counselling Service

From October 2009 UR4Jobs will offer a FREE one-to-one counselling service that is based on time limited solution based counselling. Sessions will be delivered by a qualified therapist who is a native Polish speaker. The service is available to Polish speakers who are either unemployed or on low incomes and is initially accessed via a referral form.



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### UR4Driving: On the Road to Success



UR4Driving project officially launched its driving school with its partner Hammersmith and Fulham Community Transport Project in September 2009. UR4Driving is a new, joint venture with the Hammersmith and Fulham Community Transport Project (HFCTP) to reduce recidivism and improve the employability/life skills of 20 young ex-offenders a year.

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### Harvest Festival 2009

The highest growth activity with the Upper Room is the Harvest Festival collections. This year the Upper Room is expecting to continue the high level of participation by local schools and churches to exceed last year's total of 68 schools and 63 churches. Anyone working in the food industry is encouraged to donate to us good quality surplus foods.



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### Romanian Facilities Enable Employments



Thanks to Homeless Link who funded the 'Enabling Employment' Project, Romanian and Bulgarian clients at the UR4Jobs benefited from the A2 Specialist Worker & the new Welcome Guide. The 3 months Project aimed especially at assisting A2 Nationals to obtain working permits, accession worker cards, self-employment registration.

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### 5 Free Passports for Vulnerable Polish Workers

In July 2009, the Polish Consulate in London has given acceptance for five passports free of charge. Thus, five of the Upper Room clients received their new passports and started to move into employment. We would like to thank the Polish Consul, His Excellency Robert Rusiecki, and we are so grateful to the staff from the Polish Consulate for their responsiveness.

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### Film Club at the Upper Room



The Upper Room is proud to be partnering Open Film Club (OFC) to host regular film nights at the Upper Room starting from the beginning of next year. "I look forward to developing the film club from January at the magnificent Upper Room", says OFC's founder Christoph Warrack. Please email [christoph@openfilmclub.net](mailto:christoph@openfilmclub.net) if you're interested to volunteer.

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### Central & East European Traditions Become UNESCO World Heritage

Romanian traditional song, Doina, together with the Hungarian masked carnival, Bulgarian Nestinarstvo and Estonian Seto polyphonic singing have been inscribed in September 2009 on the UNESCO List of the Intangible & Endangered Cultural Heritage of Humanity. Watch and listen to the ethnic community treasures: fire-dancing rite and solemn spontaneous chants.



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email: [ur4jobs@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ur4jobs@yahoo.co.uk)  
 phone: 02087405688, 07967312207  
 web: <http://www.ur4jobs.co.uk>

Newsletter edited by Radu Tutuianu, Online Editor.

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