

Previously on the PodMag:

Recap

Karen:

Ok, No, Open a window, that is one of your best ideas so far.

Dave:

If I pull on this, I can just get this pane of glass.

Karen:

Just be careful Dave.

The glass smashes

Sound of glass smashing.

Kevin:

Ok you two, you can come in now.

Kevin:

Ok well thanks for popping in you two it's been really great to hear about all the things you are doing with the conference, I hope it goes really well.

Dave:

Ah, thank you so much your Deanness.

Karen:

Ah I really do like Kevin Dave, he took that all really rather well didn't he?

Dave:

Well, tell you what, giving him that pot of honey was a stroke of genius. Now, do you think we should record this week's show?

Karen:

Yeah.

Dave:

Are we going back to the greenhouse?

Karen:

No, it's been very nice actually of the security guards to offer us the use of their new secure room.

Heavy Door Slams shut

Slamming noise

Karen:

Well, that's a bit too secure, but at least there's no windows for you to break. So, have you got the mics?

Dave:

Yeah I have, look smuggled them past the head guards Ivan and Boris.

Karen has papers in her hand.

Rustling paper sound

Dave:

What have you got there?

Karen:

The list for today's show.

Dave:

Oh I do love a good list.

Karen:

I know you do Dave.

Dave:

Hold on, what's this? Cheese, butter.

Karen:

(Laughter) Let's get on.

Dave:

Two pounds of bacon, are you sure this is the right list?

Intro to the PodMag:

Music

Karen:

Hi, and welcome to the PodMag, I'm Karen Foley.

Dave:

And I'm Dave Middleton

Karen:

Today we're broadcasting from a new secure location.

Dave:

I never thought I was going to say this Karen, but I actually preferred the stationery cupboard.

Karen:

Hmm, I know, speaking of the stationery cupboard, we've had some complaints, last week we introduced the show for Harleyjack and we've had a lot of complaints.

Dave:

A lot?

Karen:

Yeah.

Dave:

The other listener you mean?

Karen:

Well actually all from Eugenie, remember the cleaning lady?

Dave:

I'm trying to forget.

Karen:

Yeah, well she's taken a little bit of offence, she says she's listened to every single episode and , stuff about cleaning up after us, and cleaning up after the greenhouse and that we really should appreciate her more, and look it's even on nice headed paper.

Dave:

Yes, Eugenie and Co.

Karen:

Eugenie and Co. photocopying services and solicitor to the stars.

Dave:

It says Solocitor.

Karen:

Oh dear, anyway Eugenie, we're glad you're still listening and we're sorry about that. We're aware we've got lots of other listeners.

Dave:

You don't suppose she's got a key to this door do you?

Karen:

If you have Eugenie, we'd be ever so grateful.

Dave:

In the meantime, let's get on with the news.

News Intro:

Music

Dave:

First item on the news.

Karen:

First item on the news this week is that we have a brand new website outside of the Open University Firewall which means that now anybody, yes anybody, your mum, your friends, your brother or your sister can register now to attend the conference and see the PodMag and This Student Life and everything else that was on the website.

Dave:

My mum?

Karen:

Your mum, yeah she's ever so keen.

Dave:

No, but I've told her I've got a proper job I don't want her listening to this, are you mad?

Karen:

Yeah, but anyway for the rest of that's really good news. Our new web address is Connections.KMi.open.ac.uk and if you haven't registered, do register, give us your email address and we'll keep you up to date with how you can get involved.

Dave:

Sounds brilliant, actually a big thank you as well to our software designer Geoff who has done a fantastic job in putting that together at very short notice.

Karen:

And laughing at most of our jokes.

Dave:

No he didn't laugh at any of them actually.

Karen:

Luckily he won't listen to this (*laughter*)

Dave:

Luckily he has no interest.

Karen:

Anyway, next item of news Dave.

News Intro:

Music

Dave:

Ok, well we are tweeting,

Karen:

Tweeting, good.

Dave:

We are tweeters now.

Karen:

That's a proper conference thing to do now isn't it.

Dave:

It is, that's what happens at real conferences, people tweet and they tweet a lot, and you are able to tweet and you are able to follow us on our new twitter account.

Karen:

In fact, do you know what Dave. I'd love our listeners to send us more emails and tweet to us, nice emails you know.

Dave:

I don't mind what sort of emails they are, I'm desperate for some, I used to read them on a Thursday afternoon.

Karen:

I know, I know.

Dave:

Actually on a Thursday afternoon I just have a snooze, but when I'm not having a snooze I like to read the emails, so keep them coming in, but you can also tweet us and you can follow us, the twitter feed is @PodMag .

Karen:

And our email address is PodMag@open.ac.uk

Dave:

Keep them coming in.

Karen:

Lovely, third item of news, we went to the HEA conference this week didn't we Dave.

Dave:

All the way to Aberystwyth.

Karen:

Aberystwyth, and we were talking about Student Connections.

Dave:

That's in Wales by the way, if anyone didn't know.

Karen:

It is in Wales, well yes, nice it was and we were talking there about student partnerships and things and met some lovely colleagues who were very impressed with what we were doing and that was really nice.

News Bulletin Music blares out

Music

Karen:

Dave! Would you please pay attention.

Dave:

Sorry, sorry, I was just err, just a quick drink of coffee in between takes, erm yes, sorry where were we?

Karen:

The news. What is this?

Dave:

I don't know what this is actually, it's brown and it was thrown, I mean I don't like these plastic mugs they're making us drink out of.

Karen:

And I think this is supposed to be food.

Dave:

Food? Oh yes so it is. Euw, it's still moving. What's next?

Karen:

Right next, This Student Life.

Dave:

OK, well This Student Life has reached a really good point actually, the people who have been listening to this since day one will know we're following the journey of Neil, Donna and Katie and their friends, Dave.

Karen:

Cheryl, Cheryl's a really important one (*laughter*)

Dave:

Cheryl who we're trying to write out (*laughter*), I keep writing her out and Karen keeps putting her back in and Ted of course, and everyone loves Ted, and the anyway the three students now have actually managed to communicate with one another, they are sending each other emails, they're talking to each other on the phone and now they've started skyping each other as well which is a good way of saving each other money.

Karen:

Absolutely

Dave:

For financially hard pressed students.

Karen:

Like Katie.

Dave:

Like Katie, who's having a few problems financially.

Karen:

She's had quite a few problems.

Dave:

In fact, I think they're starting a whip round for her, but that's another issue. But at the moment what they are doing is getting together, and do you know what they are doing?

Karen:

What?

Dave:

They are doing a presentation for the conference, they have started working on their presentation and are very excited about it.

Karen:

Ah fantastic.

Dave:

They are going to be meeting over the next couple of weeks to start putting their presentation together.

Karen:

It's absolutely brilliant, and do you know what, in real life that is what our students are doing now.

Dave:

That is real life isn't it?

Karen:

No, that's a drama.

Dave:

Is it?

Karen:

Yes.

Dave:

You mean they are not real?

Karen:

NO, well we were in it (*laughter*).

Dave:

Well that explains something then, because I'd written to Katie and got nothing back (*laughter*).

Karen:

I know, anyway.

Dave:

Actually the tenner I put in there to help her out, that never came back either (*laughter*).

Karen:

Right, ok.

Dave:

Anyway, so moving on

Karen:

Yes, well moving on.

Dave:

What is that?

Karen picks up some cutlery

Clinking noise

Karen:

This food is terrible, I'm not eating that.

Dave:

Moving on is a bit wrong, it's moving around your plate, chase it with a fork, go on, you'll get it eventually, get it to stay still.

Karen:

How long are they going to keep us in here for?

Dave:

Well I think it might be until they've actually cleaned up all our clothes, because they took them all away from us. I've got to say though Karen you look very fetching in that orange jumpsuit.

Karen:

Well, it will be fine once I accessorise.

Dave:

Hmm, what's next?

Karen:

Next, conference news.

Dave:

Ah, conference news, people the conference is going great.

Karen:

It is isn't it.

Dave:

Brilliant, it's absolutely amazing, and we've just had our first Activate workshops.

Karen:

Yep, we've had our first Activate workshops, students are working on their presentations, we're lining up the academic ones and with our new website you'll start to see the programme shaping together within the next few weeks.

Dave:

I just can't wait to see Katie, Donna and Neil's presentation, have they been, I haven't seen them at the Activate workshops.

Karen:

You know they're not real though don't you, they are just characters.

Dave:

Are they?

Karen:

Yeah.

Dave:

Are you sure?

Karen:

Yes, I'm absolutely sure.

Dave:

Are we real?

Karen:

Laughter

Dave:

I'm starting to worry now.

Karen:

I thought we'd got through all this philosophy Dave.

Dave:

Anyway we've got some great people coming along, we've got Nicola, Rachel, Yakapole, we've got Sudie who's in Norway, Yakapole is in Italy. We've got Karen, another Karen, we've got Grace, Peter, Moira and a few more who's names are.

Karen:

Ben, Joan, Patricia, Kathy, Ruth, Graham, Victoria, Brendan, Sophie, Bridget, John, Susan, how could we forget Susan Corbett, loads of people coming along, Jess, Linda, it's going really really well isn't it.

Dave:

It's fantastic.

Karen:

And the ideas are brilliant, I must say guys so impressed.

Dave:

I've got a question now.

Karen:

What?

Dave:

Is it too late? Is there someone sitting out there now, the other person who might just have drifted into listening to us, and they're wondering whether we're real no doubt, wondering about, can I get involved, is it too late for me to get involved?

Karen:

No, anyone can come to an Activate workshop, they tend to be on a Monday night and you can check out the website for when they are actually happening and all we do is get together and talk about our projects, talk about what's interesting, some people work in groups, some people on their own, so if you would like to make a contribution, such as a slideshow, a video, a talk, a blog, a

poster whatever sort of output you want and you want to come along please do, we want students to get involved and although now the conference is open to everyone outside the Open University it's only Open University students and academics who get the chance to present.

Dave:

Karen, I need to ask you this.

Karen:

What?

Dave:

You know what's coming up?

Karen:

No.

Dave:

Easter

Karen:

Easter? Oh I can't wait to see what you're going to buy me.

Dave:

Why could I be buying you something for Easter?

Karen:

Well, why not?

Dave:

I don't know, I never got you anything for Christmas so I'm still wondering why you think I would bother at Easter.

Karen:

Yes well I thought that after the complaints (*laughter*)

Dave:

Well there was that, yes.

Karen:

And the silence (*laughter*)

Dave:

The silence that lasted well into the new year, ok, no but we will be having a short break over Easter won't we, I just want to warn people, because I realised.

Karen:

While I eat my considerable amount of Easter eggs.

Dave:

Karen is expecting to get Easter eggs.

Karen:

So it's Open University, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AA.

Dave:

Send your chocolate eggs (*laughter*) for Karen. Okay, what will be happening is there will be a, it won't be every Monday night because there a couple of Mondays, Easter Monday for example where we won't be doing any workshops, so just keep an eye on the website to see when the Activate sessions are running and also we will be taking a short break from the PodMag there will be a week where there will be.. I'm sorry everyone, there will be a week when there is no PodMag.

Karen:

Why?

Dave:

Well aren't you swanning off somewhere, for your Easter break to some exotic location?

Karen:

Yes, I'm going to sort out my summer collection actually.

Dave:

Yes, and you have been talking a lot about accessories (*laughter*), and I have a whole lot of work that I have to do, I've got to erm, well I've got an email I've got to write and that will take me most of Easter, so we will be having one week off. But only one week, we'll miss you in that time.

Strange noise heard

Sound of slurping, squelching

Dave:

Karen, what are you doing?

Karen:

What is this bucket?

Dave:

I wouldn't look in there, anyway I don't really know, come away from it.

Karen:

I don't like the look of that.

Dave:

I don't either. No, anyway come back over here.

Karen:

OK fine.

Dave:

Why would they put a bucket in here anyway? Maybe they are doing the windows, oh no there aren't any windows, why would they need a bucket to do windows which don't exactly exist.

Karen:

I'm not that keen on this place to be honest, I'm going to have to start looking around.

Dave:

Karen.

Karen:

Yes?

Dave:

Are you sure we exist?

Karen:

(Laughter)

Break:

Music

Dave:

I can't stand it Karen, I can't stand it, I'm going stir crazy we've been in here so long, life is passing me by, look at all these little lines I've put on the wall.

Karen:

Dave we've only been in here for 12 minutes.

Dave:

Oh, is that right? Oh, ok then, I still can't stand being locked in this tiny little room, why have they locked us in here, when do we get our other clothes back, I don't like orange, it clashes with my hair, it's terrible. Oh, hold on a minute, do you know what, this door is actually open.

Door opens

Sound of door opening.

Dave:

Karen, we're free (*laughter*) free at last, come on let's go, okay everyone we'll see you next time, keep listening.

Karen:

(*laughter*) come on lets go, bye.