# CodeRefinery Newsletter April 2020

Dear reader,

Welcome to the fourth CodeRefinery newsletter! The CodeRefinery team would like to wish everyone good health during these challenging times. We are all facing disruptions to our way of life in one way or another, but in the CodeRefinery project we have been fortunate enough to be able to adjust to a new norm of remote work. While all planned in-person workshops this spring have been cancelled, we have been refocusing our efforts to develop an online training programme. In this newsletter we want to tell you more about our efforts to move our workshops online, but we also have other exciting news and announcements, as well as a best-practice guide on a Git topic that often causes confusion!

### Online workshops

We delivered our first online workshop on April 7-8 and wrote a “lessons learned” article summarizing our experiences to help us improve future workshops. Hopefully some of these points will be useful for those of you who have also moved to online teaching! Read the full article at [Lessons learned from running our first online workshop](<https://coderefinery.org/blog/2020/04/14/first-online-workshop/>).

We are in the process of adjusting the rest of our lesson material to be taught online and are planning many more future online workshops. We have also launched a new “notify-me” form where you can sign up for updates on upcoming online or in-person workshops and even sign up as a helper or instructor for future workshops. Read about these developments at [CodeRefinery workshops moving online](<https://coderefinery.org/blog/2020/04/24/online-workshops-update/>)

### Announcing the first Nordic-RSE conference

We have the pleasure to announce the first ever Nordic-RSE conference which will take place on December 1-2 in Stockholm! Many of you will have heard about the Nordic-RSE initiative in previous editions of this newsletter or elsewhere, but some of you may not. RSE stands for “research software engineer”, and Nordic-RSE is growing a community of people spread over the Nordics with the aim of sharing knowledge, establishing collaborations, organizing events and starting new RSE groups. Read more about this in the article [Announcing the first Nordic-RSE conference](https://coderefinery.org/blog/2020/04/24/nordic-rse-conference/)

### Research Software Hour

Research Software Hour is an online stream/show about scientific computing and research software. It is designed to provide the skills typically picked up via informal networks: each week, we do some combination of exploring new tools, analyzing and improving someone’s research code, and discussion.

The first broadcast is on Tuesday, April 28, 2020, at 20:30 Central European Time ([convert to your time](https://researchsoftwarehour.github.io/time/)). The stream starts 10 minutes early and you can use this time to ask any questions you may have.

Read an article about this new initiative in the [Research Software Hour](<https://coderefinery.org/blog/2020/04/24/rsh/>) article!

### CodeRefinery tools in action: NordicHPC

NordicHPC (<https://nordichpc.github.io/>) is a loose collaboration of computing facility staff and friends with a special focus on usability and reimagining HPC for the modern age. Most partners are somewhere between application experts or sysadmins of clusters, those who are the front line of supporting research and deal with all of the daily mess.

A key aim of the initiative is to share solutions and problems across centers and across countries, and collaboratively maintain said solutions. In the article [CodeRefinery tools in action: NordicHPC](<https://coderefinery.org/blog/2020/04/27/nordichpc-tools/>) you can read more about some of the tools that are being shared via NordicHPC and how they use the lessons of CodeRefinery!

### Best practice guide: Rebase vs merge

Have you ever wondered whether you should merge or rebase your branch? Or are you unsure what rebasing is all about? We mention rebasing in CodeRefinery workshops, but don’t really have time to go into any details. Read all about this in our best practice guide [Rebase vs merge](<https://coderefinery.org/blog/2020/04/24/rebase-vs-merge/>).