



DERBY CITY BRANCH

Here for you

Spring Update - April 2022

Successful Stewards Training



Our Annual General Meeting

We supported a Easter Chaddesden Community Event organised by Local Councillors



Reasons to remain in UNISON

- Great workplace representation
- Free learning
- Free Legal Advice
- Your honest friend at work
- Compensation if your injured at work

In this issue

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 Free Training For Members
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 Fairness and Equality
 SGE Nomination Richard Platt
 and much more...



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Branch Secretary Report

Hi Everyone,

We've made it through to Spring, in a month where we have seen every weather type - we packed the winter clothes away thanked our lucky stars for warmer weather as energy prices rose, to then be hit by snow showers and cold winds, unpacked the winter clothes and most households new favorite line is.. put a jumper on!

Things cant carry on as they are, the cost of living has increased, gas and electric has increased, fuel has increased, everything has increased even a simple weekly shop of essentials has increased and we are all noticing the difference. The only thing that does not seem to have the same increase is our wages. We work hard, we deliver for our employers but are not rewarded in our pay packets.

For us to be rewarded we must work together, Many of you within Local Government were upset with the NJC pay offer, It was a

poor pay increase but unfortunately members didn't want to take further action. I respect and understand peoples views but for change to happen we have to stand together and stand strong. We deserve better, we deserve an increase!

A reminder of your branch contacts...

Email contactus@derbyunison.org
Phone numbers 01332 643216/7

Remember UNISON offers so much more than representation in the workplace.

Keep in touch and look out for the summer newsletter in July 2022



Becky Everett - Branch Secretary

beckyeverett@derbyunison.org

**HELP US END
PERIOD
POVERTY**



Can you Help us End Period Poverty?

We hope you will get behind our campaign to donate to our local charities who give sanitary products, unopened toiletries, or baby wipes to girls and women here in Derby.

When you go shopping buy an extra packet of any sanitary products, unopened toiletries, or baby wipes to donate to us, every donation will help someone in need.

If you are able to support please contact us on
contactus@derbyunison.org
or call us on 01332643216 / 643217

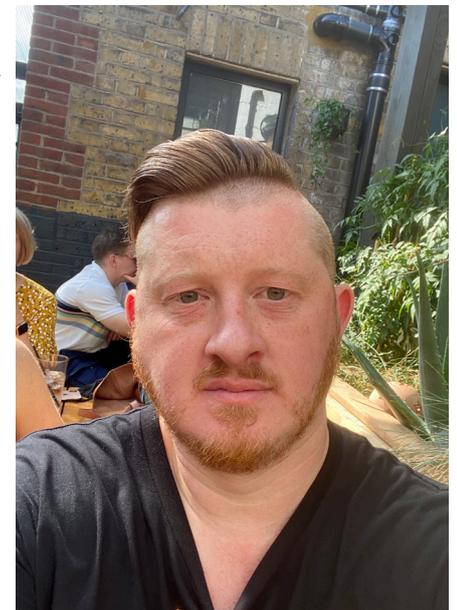
Derby City Branch Nominated RICHARD PLATT for the service group executive (SGE).

Richard is a committed UNISON member; he has been a member for over 15 years and held a range of branch officer positions at UNISON Derby City Branch. Richard is currently our Branch Chair, LGBT+ officer and our Comms officer. He is also an active Steward and Health and Safety Rep in his workplace.

We nominated Richard as he is an avid listener and will hear everyone's views and takes time to process information. He is fair in his decisions and has a knack of ensuring the quietest in the meeting has their voice heard. We know he will relay the member voice within the Service Group Executive without any doubt. Richard is extremely passionate about the members of UNISON and will do everything he can to ensure the needs of members are met.

Richard speaks out for all members and is dedicated in his UNISON work by not only supporting all members but as a strong branch chair who supports the branch and works closely with the Derby City team.

Richard is a real team player, who will be an asset to the SGE.



The ballot opens on 28th April 2022 and closes on 25th May 2022

Our members receive our essential cover and support, have access to exclusive benefits and can take advantage of many training opportunities.

Lighthouse Financial Advice
Travel insurance
Pre-paid Plus Mastercard
UNISON protect accidental death insurance
UIA home insurance
Pet insurance
UNION energy
Learning and development

Car insurance from LV
Vauxhall partners programme
Breakdown cover from LV = Britannia
Rescue
UNISON Drive
Wellbeing
Health plans
Vision Express
Dental plans

UNISON rewards
UNISON protect - family protection insurance

Personal and career development courses
Financial support for learning
Courses for reps and activists
Legal advice

Travel club
Croyde bay holiday resort

Simply Visit...

benefits.unison.org.uk

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Your branch office is now open and returning to a “normal” way of working.

Your branch office is now open and returning to a “normal” way of working.

Finally, after 2 long years of Covid restrictions and government lockdowns, we are now open for normal work, Even after an official branch opening way back in October where we thought normality was round the corner, we then faced further restrictions. HOWEVER we can now say we are open! we are enjoying meeting members in the branch and now back at the workplace. We are mindful Covid hasn't gone away and are taken every precaution we need to make to keep the office safe for you our members and your branch officers. We enjoy the visits from stewards and the regional team to collect resources for workplace visits. Matt Dwyer has recently collected items for Agincare & MHA and Sean Kelly-Walsh has been and collected items for Derwent housing & Derby College.

We also have an office space at the Council House for any Derby City Council Members for anyone who wishes to meet there or in the City Centre, both Ian and Dennis are also happy to meet in the Quad for a cuppa Currently this office space is manned Thursday and Friday but we can access anytime if it suits you.

Welcome to all our new members

We would just like to say a very big welcome to all of our new members at Derby Homes, Derby City Council and all other areas of our branch. it's fantastic to know you have now joined us and we can support you from now on. Don't forget you can always recommend a colleague to join us, just get in touch. Look out for more updates and exciting things coming in the future.

Don't Forget you can access the UNISON Knowledge Base at any time by clicking here
<https://www.unison.org.uk/get-help/knowledge/>



Our Julie Walker is Chair of the Regional Womens Network. Julie arranged a fantastic event empowering women for UNISON Women members of the East Midlands .

WORDLE



UNISON



Are you paying too much subs?

Don't pay more than you need to.

check the list and let us know if you are paying too much (or too little)

Annual pay - Can we use the subs banding chart
<https://joining.unison.org.uk/membership-rates/>

East Midlands Regional Report

Your Regional Team have been out in force supporting the Branch with visits to Derwent Living, welcoming new members and reps. If you are an MHA employee we will have been out to all of your workplaces across April, sharing some UNISON goodies and listening to your views. We have been working hard on some difficult representation for members as a Regional Team and are pleased to report successful results for those members, who it has been a pleasure to help. This year proves to be even more difficult for our members with the Cost of Living Crisis and continued cuts to public services, pay rises lower than inflation and real terms pay cuts for many. UNISON membership is there for you in good time and bad so please do check out all of the reasons to be a UNISON member and the support services available. Your branch work hard to engage with all members. If you would like us to visit your workplace do get in touch.

Update YOUR details

There is so many people to update when you move house, change jobs, get married, retire make sure you add updating UNISON to your list.

Email us at contactus@derbyunison.org we will make the changes to your membership so you don't miss out on important information relating to your workplace.



Are you one of our many Young Members?

Our Young members officer is arranging a go Karting day out, please email contactus@derbyunison.org if you are under 27 years of age and if you would be interested in joining in this event. Its sounds like a fun day out.

Exclusive Member discounts



Good news...
As a member of UNISON, you're entitled to exclusive discounts and savings on a range of LV= insurance products through your union membership. Just go to...

<https://www.lv.com/unison>



Regional Team- Emma, Sean & Matt

Get involved, become a steward

Whatever your problem at work, from broken central heating to mass redundancies, UNISON workplace representatives (reps), stewards and other activists work together to protect the interest of members.

Get intouch with us if you want to get involved more, everyone can make a difference no matter how small.



Why Not Share this Newsletter with a Friend?

Go on and share this newsletter with a friend who you think would like to be kept informed. Also if they don't receive it help them to update their contact details, send us an email to contactus@derbyunison.org



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Stewards Training

We recently ran our first face to face stewards training - this was a huge success, and several Derby City Stewards were recently accredited.

A lot of blood sweat and tears went into planning the first branch held stewards training, I was keen for our stewards who had been recently ratified at the AGM to have the stewards training as soon as was possible, waiting till the summer wasn't an option for me. We need the stewards now; we need to build confidence and make sure members know our stewards are trained and ready to help where needed.

We had a complete mix of stewards, and a few were experienced and needed reaccreditation. On Tuesday 29th March, 13 stewards nervously entered the training venue, on Friday 1st April, 13 stewards left Derby conference center ERA accredited and ready and eager to make a difference. watching people grow in confidence over the week and listening to real life situations regarding representations etc was fantastic.

4 Derby City Council Stewards based at Stores road, 4 Derby Homes stewards, 1 Derby City Council School Steward, 1 Derwent living Steward and 2 reaccredited Stewards from Derby city Council and Harmony Trust. We also has a steward from Lincoln join our training. The week was a huge success. Huge thanks to our tutor David Limer.

Stewards Training Feedback

From being a rep for a number of years found the training unison provided to come across very professional and Dave the tutor was very professional and explained everything very well.

Dave was never concerned to answer any question that was asked of him and if he couldn't give you the answer there and then would find the answer for you.

You was made to feel at ease and even tho some people knew more than others everyone seemed to support each other and everyone seemed to have an input in every task that took place

Many thanks Richard Ruston

Attending the stewards training was fantastic I main thing it helped me with was my confidence and getting to know other stewards face to face was great as before it was all on teams the tutor was great he made fun as was so easy going you could ask him anything overall the course was knowledgeable , fun , inspiring Sharon



Please keep a look out for events across Derby we are running and or supporting. We look forward to having coffee and cake with you.

UNISON Derby City will be at this years Derby PRIDE

DERBY PRIDE 2022

Saturday 10th September
@ Markeaton Park, Derby



Fairness and Equality

PLEASE REMEMBER - Everyone is entitled to be treated with dignity and respect. The ability to live and work without prejudice is a fundamental right, regardless of your background, sexuality, disability, identity and experiences.

One of UNISON's main aims is to help workers fight for fairness and equality in the workplace and beyond. Challenging discrimination and winning equality is at the heart of everything UNISON does.

Besides the right not to be discriminated against or bullied, fair treatment also includes dignity at work, access to opportunities and equal working conditions and pay.

There is never a wrong time to speak up!

Contact us or read more here...

<https://www.unison.org.uk/about/what-we-do/fairness-equality/>



Your workplace needs you!

Never before has a workplace needed a steward and a Health and Safety Rep.



If this is something you might like to consider please contact the branch, full training, full support and a huge welcome awaits you at Derby City. Its proven that there are less workplace issues in a workplace where there is a UNISON steward.

Branch officers for 2022

Chair - Richard Platt

Branch secretary - Becky Everett

Treasurer - Julie Walker

Assistant Branch Secretaries -

Ian Middleton, Dennis Jackson, and Richard Ruston.

School convener - Jill Cartwright

Welfare officer - Jayne Daniels

DCC Welfare Officer - Ian Middleton

LGBT+ Officer - Richard Platt

Health and Safety Officer - Dennis Jackson

Comms Officer - Richard Platt

Unison Learning Rep Lead - Jill Cartwright

Life long learning lead - Julie Walker

International Officer - Debi Bell

Young members officer - Josh Holmes

Vacancies - Equality Officer / Black members officer / Women's Officer
None of the positions hold any facility time but are all very worthwhile positions to hold in your UNISON branch. Please contact Becky or Julie for more details. contactus@derbyunison.org

Welcome - We want to formally welcome Richard Ruston to the branch team as an Assistant Branch Secretary, Richard will be doing his branch training and learning the way the branch office works over the next few weeks.

Did you attend the AGM?

Did you attend the AGM? The AGM was held on Friday 25th February 2022, At Derby Conference Centre once the hour of business is completed (we must do this bit) we then throw a party to say Thank you to our members. We had a 2 course Indian meal, a live band, a raffle, and a good old-fashioned disco. our Raffle raised over £250 for UNISONs There for You Charity.

Save the date for next years AGM Friday 24th February 2023 at Derby Conference Centre in Derby

There for you helps you our members when things go wrong, we are living in a world where every penny counts the rising costs of Gas, Electric, increase in Council Tax and Fuel are crippling many families. When you find the washer is leaking, the freezer has packed up or your child's schools' shoes no longer fit or a school trip you just can't stretch to. Please don't sit head in hands we can help, our specially trained welfare officer can help with an application to There for you, For those much more urgent situations we may be able to help you at branch level.

Please contact us contactus@derbyunison.org



UNISON Learning is for you.... I challenge you - tell me something you want to learn, There will be a course for it, There will be training available... Try me.... I will find the course for you and its FREE!! yes FREE £0 and 0p.

- A unison member has just completed a PA skills course for FREE this got the member a chance pf promotion.
- Another member has just completed her Level 2 in Makaton FREE a valuable qualification for her workplace and any future career.
- The skills academy has access to over 300 courses some are a few hours some are over a few weeks. There is something for everyone.

We also have members join in with weekly online yoga sessions, and we have had huge success with the family baking. Our members have some upcoming chefs in the UNISON families. Contactus@derbyunison.org



Did you know we have a retired members group? Would you like to still be involved and take part in helping future activists with your knowledge and experience? You can join for a fixed price of £15 to Join don't hesitate to contact us below.

Please feel free to cut out the below to keep to remember how to contact us

Our New Location

We couldn't be more proud about our new offices, we officially opened the Branch in October 2021 and we can't wait to see you when current Covid-19 restrictions change. We will let you know as soon as it is safe to do so.

We have two private meeting spaces and a communal space where we will be able to engage with you, and also deliver small training sessions, also providing desk space for our officers to work effectively in the future



Contact us

**UNISON Derby City Branch,
59 Roosevelt Avenue,
Chaddesden,
Derby, DE21 6JR**

Telephone:

01332 643216 / 643217

Email:

contactus@derbyunison.org

How do I Join?

From
£1.30
a month

You can become a member anytime for support and help.

Call **FREE** to join - **0800 171 2194**
or Visit join.unison.org.uk

Keep informed

Make sure you Like us on Facebook and follow us on twitter for regular updates and information

**facebook.com/
unisonderbycitybranch
twitter.com - @unisonderbycity**

or visit our website on

www.derbycityunison.co.uk

there
for you

Members experiencing financial and emotional difficulties can contact our welfare charity, There for You, which provides a confidential advice and support service for members and their dependants.

supporting UNISON members
when life gets tough

For more information contact us on **020 7121 5620** or email thereforyou@unison.co.uk or contact us for more information