

# BRANCH AGM NEWSLETTER

# HAVE YOUR SAY, HAVE YOUR VOTE

Our branch will be holding its Annual General Meeting on the dates opposite.

Our Branch AGM is the single most important meeting of the year. It is your chance to find out how UNISON has been active on your behalf during the year. It is also your chance to be more active in UNISON. Read the information on our branch posts enclosed.

**YOUR SAY AND YOUR VOTE** - Put the dates in your diary now. We look forward to seeing you.

# Calling all weekly & fortnightly paid staff!!

UNISON will be holding meeting's with all weekly and fortnightly paid staff to discuss the Belfast Trust's proposal for single pay frequency. These meeting's will take place in GALWAY HOUSE on MONDAY 15<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, at 2.30pm & 6.30pm.

Please come along to these meeting is possible or contact the branch on 028 9504 1890 if you are unable to attend these.

#### **UPDATE YOUR DETAILS**

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind members we always need your details to be current and updated. Have you changed your address, your work place, your telephone number?

Please contact membership services on 028 9027 0190 to update or you can log onto the myUNISON site at www.my.unison.org.uk

# **2016 AGM DATES**

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 10.45AM Knockbracken Hall, Knockbracken Healthcare Park

Tuesday 8<sup>h</sup> March 2.00PM Holywood Arches Health Centre

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 7.30PM Belfast Bowling Club Shaws Bridge

# **Belfast Trust Reviews**

As many people are aware the Belfast Trust is reviewing District Nursing, Social Care, Admin, PCSS, mental health, learning disability, physical disability & many other areas of work.

This may mean a change for many staff and different ways of working.

If you should have any concerns please contact us at 028 9504 1890

# **HOME HELPS**

We have negotiated contracted hours for home care workers and every member of staff now have a contract and will soon be working on a rota basis.

This is fast becoming a more professional service which will highlight the standard of care that this group of staff have always given to clients.



# STORMONT PROTESTS

On 4<sup>th</sup> November UNISON were at Stormont protesting against the never ending cuts and reorganisation that is leading to chaos, low morale and putting patients at risk.

NI healthcare workers are the only workers across the NHS who have not had a pay rise and earn less than other NHS Workers in the rest of the UK. UNISON and other trade unions are still awaiting an answer from the health minister to our members pay claim for 2015 / 16. We had a great turn out at this event and this event was covered in the local media. This again just goes to prove that there is a huge feeling of discontent among our staff

# **Legal Services**

Throughout 2015 we have represented members at grievance and disciplinary hearings and provided legal assistance and representation from our specialist employment solicitors – Thompsons NI. Over the past few months UNISON has secured £30'000 for our members in work related injury cases.

Many UNISON members suffer multiple types of disadvantage, inequality and discrimination. We will ensure these are the voices that drive forward our agenda in 2016.

# **Day Centre Protests**

With over 1200 responses to the public consultation we have managed to hold off the privatisation of these services.

# **Dublin Day Trip**

In December we again ran our FREE bus trip to Dublin for members, everyone who went had a great day out.

We will be running this trip again later in 2016 so please keep an eye on our Facebook page & the notice boards in your workplace for more information or speak to your UNISON rep.

# PRIVATE AND INDEPENDENT SECTOR

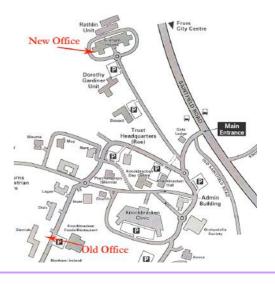
UNISON Northern Ireland branch continues to support and represent members who work in the Private and Independent Sector. This includes domiciliary workers, nursing and support staff that make up the teams in Nursing homes. We continue to recruit and organise within numerous employers, encouraging members to become workplace reps/stewards. We also encourage members to take the opportunity to attend training courses provided by UNISON.

#### **NEW OFFICE LOCATION**

We have moved offices recently and can now be found in Graham House, Knockbracken Healthcare Park.

You can see our new location on the map below.

Please note our new number: 028 9504 1890



# **UNISON WELFARE – 'THERE FOR YOU'**

The branch want to remind you to use this service which is FREE to all UNISON members and is there for you at times of difficulties or crisis. For full details see the UNISON website www.unison.org.uk/get-help

# **Branch Contacts 2016**

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