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March 2017

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www.unison-rochdale.org

Following on from our successful AGM on 1st March 2017 our Branch Officers for 2016/2017 are as follows:

Branch Chair	Geoff Crossley
Deputy Chair	Yasmin Bari
Branch Secretary	Maureen Howarth
Assistant Branch Secretaries	Jonathan Harding & Christine Davies
Treasurer	Olga Kiszko
Education Coordinator	Jenna D'Agostino-White
Membership Officer	Stephen Kilroy-Jolley
Voluntary Sector Officer	Michael Lyne
Communications Officers	Sam O'Brien
Health & Safety Officer	Paul Forrest
International Officer	Ian Sutcliffe
Welfare Officer	Janet Davidson
Sports Sectary	Belinda Thomas
Equality Officer	Roland Baynes
Retired Members Secretary	Beryl Hughes & Helen Harrison

Three simple ways to join UNISON today:

www.joinunison.org

Call UNISON

0800 171 2193

Fill in the form on the back and send it to the address below

Don't Forget Workers Memorial Day Friday 28th April 2017

Rochdale UNISON will be taking part in the annual commemoration of workers who are injured and killed as a result of hazards at work.

At 1:00pm on Friday 28th April a wreath

will be laid by the Rochdale UNISON memorial tree in the Memorial Gardens opposite Rochdale Town Hall, along with two minutes silence as a mark of respect. All are welcome.

We still have positions available for members to attend the National Delegate Conference 20th—23rd June 2017 and the Local Government Conference 18th—19th June 2017

1 x low paid female member (earns less than £9.72 p/h) to attend Local Government Conference

1 x Young Female Member (under 27 years old) to attend the National Delegate Conference.

Travel, Accommodation and Subsidence is provided by UNISON If you are interested in attending any of the Conferences, please contact the branch 30th March 2017



UNISON joins largest ever protest in defence of NHS

On 4th March UNISON members joined tens of thousands of health workers, patients and other unions to protest at the cuts and underfunding in the NHS.

Speaking at a rally afterwards Carol Sewell from UNISON said:

"May and Hammond repeatedly refuse to give it the money it needs. They are content to let it be run down; to watch as the waiting lists pile up; to stand by as patients lose out." She told the protest that "We have to make the government realise this can go on no longer. Our NHS has been there for all of us, and our families, through thick and thin, through the good times and the bad. Now is its time of need: the NHS needs us and we cannot be found wanting."

Care Workers for Change

We care workers provide an essential service supporting the frail and the vulnerable within our communities. It's hard work both physically and emotionally. But it's vital work.



We nurse, clean, feed those who need our help. Families rely on us to provide care with dignity to their loved ones. Society could not function without us.

Yet we feel invisible, undervalued and overstretched. All too often we are not allowed the time or resources we need to provide the level of care people deserve. And poverty pay and zero hour contracts mean we often struggle to provide for our own families when we get home. We know better than anyone that social care is broken. It can't go on like this. We refuse to be invisible any longer. Care workers are standing together with the backing of the communities we serve to demand ethical care. We call upon the government to provide fair funding for social care. We call upon the council and NHS commissioners to insist that we have the time and resources we need to care with dignity. And we call upon our employers to end job insecurity and poverty pay for care workers.

To succeed our campaign needs your involvement and support.

If you are a care worker you can join UNISON <u>online</u>, on the phone by calling 0800 171 2194, or by printing and returning the membership form on the back of this newsletter. If you are a member of the community or represent a community organisation then you can sign our <u>community pledge</u> and indicate how you might be able to give active support to this vital campaign.

You can view UNISON's Ethical Care Charter for home care here.

Care Workers for Change is now on Facebook at:

https://www.facebook.com/Careworkersforchange/

Together we can win a better future for social care.

UNISON National Executive Council Elections

This year UNISON members will have the opportunity to vote for a new NEC. Many members have been dissatisfied with the current leadership of our union. Too often local UNISON branches have been left to battle redundancies and cuts to terms and conditions town by town when a coordinated national fight was needed. Rochdale UNISON branch have nominated candidates who we believe can begin to steer the union in a more positive direction. The ballot runs from 3rd April to 28th April. We have backed the following candidates.

Community - Janet Bryan Kieran Grogan

Health - Neil McAllister, Jordan Riviera, Claire Dixon, Roger Hutt

Higher Education—Sandy Nichol, Kath Owen

Local Government—Paul Holmes, Jane Doolan, Andrea Egan, Paul Gilroy

Water, Energy and Transport - John Jones

Black Members - Sonia Stewart, April Ashley, Hugo Pierre

Young Members - Josie Runswick

National Disabled Seat - Roger Lewis Pam Howard

North West — Tony Wilson, Evelyn Doyle, Karen Reissmann, Steven North, Luisete Batista

Please remember to vote. https://www.facebook.com/groups/1623909067914686/

Join UNISON – essential cover if you work in public services

Return to: UNISON Rochdale, 46 Richard St, Rochdale, OL11 1DU

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Please give your ethnic origin: (tick one box)		□ Black UK	☐ White UK
	☐ Black er Caribbean	□ Diach oulei	White other
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