

Branch Communications Officer – Report to AGM 2017

Communication is vital to our branch. I have tried hard over the last year to meet the demands of getting information out to members, while looking at improving our methods of communication.

This has seen a number of bulletins (both branch-wide and targeted for specific groups) being produced and distributed either on paper or electronically (by email and/or on our website and Facebook page). These have covered a number of key campaigns and issues:

- Budget cuts and negotiations over Terms & Conditions
- The Split Shift working proposals in Social Care
- The change in Primary Education Support with the introduction of PEYSAs
- Changes to pay and Pensions
- Changes to fees and procedures for Social work/Social care registration by SSSC.
- The tremendous Fair Pay Strikes and victory by our FE College members
- Coverage of threats and struggles over issues such as outsourcing in other councils across Scotland
- Wider political campaigning such as Refugee support, Food banks and Dundee Together

Thanks to Karen Grogan for maintaining our “Dundee City Unison” Facebook page and our employed staff who continue to support us and are still working around some of our more remote workplaces, such as schools, smaller social work sites etc. Again, they have also published and distributed both general branch-wide and targeted bulletins over the last year or so (so thanks to Lorcan, Kirsty, Anne, Audrey and Barry).

I have been able to do more this year to publish branch-wide bulletins but they have been supportive and helpful in getting them out and working with other officers on more targeted bulletins.

The branch web-site has been revamped to use a platform that will allow more people to publish news and material on there. I’m still looking for volunteers to really get this going. As usual, please feel free to expose any failings we may have in our communications, as we are keen to ensure they are meeting our members’ needs. Anyone who wants to volunteer their skills and/or time in assisting with branch communications, please speak to me at the AGM.

Also remember that our union is unique in having its own welfare service that provides lots of general and individual assistance at times of need. This service “**There For You**” is run by our branch volunteer Welfare activists/officers. In Dundee City Branch our Welfare Officer is **Roz Ronan**. Contact Barry at the branch office and ask for Roz. You may never know how we may be able to help until you ask. It’s free and confidential.

Fraternal Greetings, Arthur Nicoll (p.s. – I’m moving to Dundee House – so will see more of you in person)

Details to Keep (Tear off and keep in your wallet/purse):

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Branch Admin Officer: Barry Inglis

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