

# Barnsley *matters*

## All Change at UNISON Barnsley

As reported in our Winter 2017 edition of Barnsley Matters, the February 2017 AGM saw the retirement of the long standing UNISON activist and latterly Branch Secretary of the Branch, Brian Steele.



The AGM saw the election of our new Branch Secretary, Ben Harvey. Ben joined UNISON in 2010 when he began working for BMBC as a Human Resources Advisor and became the Steward for the department in July 2015. He became Communications Officer and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Officer at the February 2016 AGM. Ben became a Convenor on a part-time basis in April 2016 covering Finance, Assets, IT, Legal Services, Governance and Public Health and a number of schools. Since becoming a Steward, Ben has thrown himself into a world of branch meetings, marches, demos, conferences and the occasional picket line. Ben has a very understanding fiancé and three cats and occasionally finds time to play in a brass band.



Ben has a small but dedicated team of volunteer Branch Officers and Stewards (Reps) working alongside him:

**Assistant Branch Secretary:**

*Rhona Bywater*

**Chair:** *April Pepper*

**Vice-Chair:** *Simon Tewson*

**Treasurer:** *Jenni Healey*

**Education Officer:** *Gillian Nixon*

**Health & Safety Officer:**

*Liam Roddis*

**Communications Officer:**

*Simon Tewson*

**Equalities Officer:**

*Donna Sellars*

**Sports & Social Secretary:**

*Owen Adams*

**Welfare Officer:**

*Mick O'Roarke*

**Retired Members Secretary:**

*Kevin Swift*

**Young Members Officer:**

Chris Knowles

There are still posts that need filling, including Recruitment Officer, Political (Labour Link) Officer, Assistant Treasurer, Pensions Delegate and International Officer. If you are interested in any of these voluntary positions, please feel free to contact the Branch.

### CONTACT US

☎ 01226 772988

✉ [branchoffice@unisonbarnsleylg.org](mailto:branchoffice@unisonbarnsleylg.org)

🌐 [www.unisonbarnsley.co.uk](http://www.unisonbarnsley.co.uk)

🐦 @UnisonBarnsley

📺 UnisonBarnsley

## Continued Membership after Leaving Employment

***As a UNISON Member, did you know that if you have ceased employment, rather than cancelling your membership you can apply to be an unemployed member for up to 2 years at a cost of £4 per year.***

This offer will entitle you to retain the benefits from the union provided that you remain unemployed.

If you have recently retired from work or are planning to do so then you can also apply to become a Retired UNISON member.

This will give you access to a range of benefits and still be an active member of the Union.

For further information you can either contact your local Steward or the Branch Office.



## Charity Sponsorship

**At the February 2016 AGM a resolution was passed such that the branch would sponsor an appropriate local organisation for the year. In 2016 this resulted in a successful partnership with Barnsley Youth Choir.**

The branch donated £250 to enable a member of the choir to attend and perform at the Edinburgh Festival.

A sponsored walk was also undertaken by members of the branch and the choir which raised over £1,000.

The nominated charity for 2017, as ratified at the February 2017 AGM is Crisis Skylight South Yorkshire.

You may have heard of Crisis, the national charity because of their much publicised Crisis at Christmas work in London and other big cities. They are dedicated to ending homelessness by delivering life changing services and campaigning for change.

Crisis Skylight South Yorkshire is an outreach service covering Sheffield, Rotherham, Doncaster and Barnsley and they offer a range of practical workshops, classes, training and one to one support and guidance for single homeless



*Crisis Skylight South Yorkshire is the branch's sponsored charity for 2017*

people to help them break the cycle of homelessness and rebuild their lives.

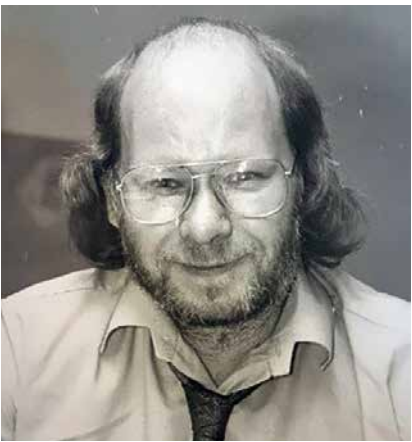
A £250 initial donation has been paid from the Branch and on the morning of Saturday 19th August volunteer UNISON activists are going to be packing bags at Tesco supermarket in Penistone with all customer donations going to CRISIS Skylight South Yorkshire. Please get in touch with the Branch if you'd like to volunteer to help on this date.

There are also plans for a group of us to do a 'Ground Force' type project to make improvements to a service user's garden/home in order to help them maintain their tenancy. If you can offer any kind of assistance with regard to this, please contact the Branch Office.

# Martin Waterhouse



*It is with much sadness and sincere regret that we have to report that the Branch lost a much respected member and activist early this year. Martin Waterhouse, UNISON Steward and Health & Safety Representative at South Yorkshire Pensions Authority, was taken ill whilst on a weekend break in the Lake District. He spent twelve days in Blackpool Victoria Hospital but unfortunately passed away on 30th March.*



Martin worked at the Pensions Authority for over 37 years. He was a trade union member throughout that time and was a NALGO Steward in his younger days and a UNISON Steward for the last

seven years. Martin's memory was honoured at the UNISON National Conference in June 2017 when his name was displayed alongside other comrades who had passed away during the previous twelve months.

He will be remembered for his sharp political mind, self-deprecating humour and dry wit. He had an active social life based around music, sport, travel and beer and frequently his weekend and leave days would combine all four!

He will be sorely missed by everyone who was fortunate enough to know him.

***Rest in peace Marty.***



## General Surgery

**Tuesday 12th September 2017 at the UNISON Branch Office, 4 Burleigh Court, Barnsley, S70 1XY**

30 mins consultation with an advisor to assist with a range of financial issues:

- Financial Protection
- Pensions
- Saving/Investments
- Mortgages

For further information or to make an appointment please contact the Branch Office on 01226 772988 or email [branchoffice@unisonbarnsleylg.org](mailto:branchoffice@unisonbarnsleylg.org)

## Trip to Scarborough

Sunday 20th August



### Coach Prices:

Free to Lottery members,  
£5 members and children up to 12 years old and £10 non-members

For further information or to book seats on the coach then please contact the Branch Office on 01226 772988 or email [branchoffice@unisonbarnsleylg.org](mailto:branchoffice@unisonbarnsleylg.org)

# Branch Lottery Winners 2017

## JANUARY

Prize	Amount	Name	Lottery Number
1st	£100	C Massey	301
2nd	£50	H Williams	430
3rd	£50	S Rockett	361
4th	£50	B Bowler	142
5th	£50	K Hibbard	447

## FEBRUARY

Prize	Amount	Name	Lottery Number
1st	£100	Thompson	452
2nd	£50	G Nixon	315
3rd	£50	K Hibbard	443
4th	£50	L Smith	388
5th	£50	G Bestall	135

## MARCH

Prize	Amount	Name	Lottery Number
1st	£100	D Turner	411
2nd	£50	S Neal	313
3rd	£50	J Lythe	295
4th	£50	K Hibbard	443
5th	£50	L Perry	101

## APRIL

Prize	Amount	Name	Lottery Number
1st	£100	J Gascoyne	169
2nd	£50	M Blueitt	139
3rd	£50	W Hawkins	240
4th	£50	R Whitaker	199
5th	£50	M Kilroy	276

## MAY

Prize	Amount	Name	Lottery Number
1st	£100	M Curson	106
2nd	£50	J Weller	254
3rd	£50	C Massey	300
4th	£50	O Adams	478
5th	£50	M Tyas	416



**RETURN TO LEARN**

UNISON

A FREE course to get you back into learning

Available to UNISON members in the YORKSHIRE AND HUMBERSIDE REGION

### RETURN TO LEARN INFORMATION EVENING

11th September 2017 6-8pm  
Room 10, Barnsley Town Hall

#### Course starts

25th September 6-8pm again in Room 10

#### Contact

Tanya Shearer at [T.Shearer@unison.co.uk](mailto:T.Shearer@unison.co.uk)  
0113 218 2330  
or Gillian Nixon [gilliannixon@unisonbarnsleylg.org](mailto:gilliannixon@unisonbarnsleylg.org)  
07540766274

## AGM Prize Draws

### AGM 1st Prize – £50

*Courtesy of UNISON Branch Office*  
Martin Waterhouse

### AGM 2nd Prize – 2 x Barnsley Youth Choir (BYC) Concert Tickets

*Courtesy of BYC*  
Nik King

### AGM 3rd Prize – £40 Love2Shop Vouchers

*Courtesy of LV*  
Owen Adams

### AGM 4th Prize – £50 Love2Shop Vouchers (Recruit a Friend entrants only)

Paul Bonds

### AGM 5th Prize – £50

*(Branch Lottery Members only)*  
Sue Sleight