

N24-Norwich Branch Newsletter

Working together in the Norwich region

Welcome to the first edition of the N24-Norwich Branch newsletter. In issue 1 we would like to introduce ourselves and highlight some of the information resources that have been provided for you the members. The Norwich APEX and GMB branches have recently amalgamated into the N24 branch and this has provided us with a sound foundation from which to operate. As GMB members you are invited to attend branch meetings which are held bi-monthly (details below). In addition to attending these meetings, the branch committee meets on the alternate months.

Introduction to the secretary

Branch Secretary: Neil Cooper



Neil Cooper is your elected branch secretary and has been in the role for the last 6 months. He is employed with Bayer CropScience in Norwich. A cheery character, as you can see from his picture, Neil is the central point of communication for branch and can be contacted on 07979 684494

Web site goes live



www.norwichgmb.com

Visit the Norwich branch's own website for information, updates on branch activities and contact information. Regular updates!

What is your union branch for?

- We can give you support and advice on work related matters
- Put you in touch with people who can give support and advice on non-work related matters
- Help you recruit new members
- Help you to refer problems or complaints about the union to the correct people
- Help you if you are ill or lose your job
- Give you the opportunity to get involved in wider social issues and the wider union movement
- Allow you to access free or reduced price goods and services
- Give you the chance to socialise with friendly like-minded people at your branch meetings

How about coming along to the next branch meeting, have your say and find out how your branch operates? All meetings are held at the Angel Gardens public house, Angel Road, Norwich. (Visit the web site for directions www.norwichgmb.com)

Next Branch Meeting: 12th October 2004, 7:30pm

Introduction to the president

Branch President: Phil Innes



Phil Innes is your elected branch president. Phil was the branch secretary of the APEX Branch before N24 was formed. Phil is a Fire Safety Officer at Bayer CropScience. He is the Chair of their Staff Representatives committee, a

Safety rep and a Member nominated Pension Trustee of their pension fund.



If you would like a visit to your branch meeting from a Director of the GMB-owned Premier

Financial Protection (PFP) then contact your Branch Secretary. PFP are our financial services company providing quality products direct to members.

Valuable resource for safety representatives

Safety representatives are key members of any workforce and it is proven that organizations that have GMB safety representatives are safer. However large a company may be, it is often the representatives who hold the knowledge and understand legislation detail. Visit the Norwich GMB branch website and click on the safety tab for links to the European 'six pack'.

Subs From 1st October subs will rise by 5p a week for grade 1 members, 3p a week for grade 2 members and 5p a week for under 18s and members working under 10 hours a week.

Computer system available

Following the amalgamation of the Norwich GMB and APEX branches there is now a surplus PC. The branch has decided that this surplus PC should be auctioned.

Specification

900Mhz AMD Duron Processor,
96 Mb RAM, S3 Graphics,
18 GB Hard Disk, DVD-CDROM,
15" Monitor, 56K Internal Modem,
XP Home 2002, Lexmark Z33 Printer
All complete with a PC table!!

If you would like to bid for the PC then please send sealed bids to the Branch Secretary, Neil Cooper, 30 Angel Road, Norwich NR3 3HP by Friday, 1st October.

Applications will only be accepted from fund paying N24 branch members and as such, you must include your membership number and contact information with the bid.

The winning bidder will be contacted by the Branch Secretary to arrange a collection time and you must arrange your own transportation.



Ethical Threads GMB's own clean clothing brand

If you balk at wearing T-shirts that may have been made in Third World sweatshops, possibly by child labour, then check out the GMB London Region's own 'clean' clothes label at www.ethicalthread.co.uk

In partnership with unionised suppliers who have signed up to the International Labour Organisation's employment standards, we can now offer a large range of clothing and merchandise.

www.ethicalthreads.co.uk