

N24-Norwich Branch Newsletter

Working together in the Norwich region

Happy New Year to all our members

Welcome to the second edition of the N24-Norwich Branch Newsletter. January is set to be an important month for the branch with arrangements for two special meetings as well as the normal committee meeting. As always, we invite all N24 union members to attend branch meetings. Details of these meetings are given below... we look forward to seeing some of you there.

Extraordinary Meeting, January 19th: Motions for Congress

Like all trade unions, the GMB belongs to its members, and it is the members that make up the 500-strong delegation for the Union's biennial Congress. Norwich branch are hoping to send a delegate and observer to the 2005 Congress which is at Newcastle-upon-Tyne in June. The Branch is meeting to discuss which motions should go forward to region and hopefully on to congress. This meeting will commence at 7.30 pm, January 19th 2005, at the Angel Gardens Public House, Norwich. All members are welcome and we look forward to a lively debate.

The current proposals for consideration at this meeting include;

- Trade unionism solidarity to protect pension rights and agreements.
- Promotion of ability for all delegates and representatives to question guest speakers at GMB meetings of all kinds.
- Condemnation of British held prisoners without being subject to the process of the law and with access to full legal representation.
- Call for the British government to support international pressure to remove the wall separating Palestinians from Israel.
- Call for the resignation of prime minister having misled the public over the Iraq war.



The website has become a central point for information about branch activities and developments. There are helpful links for union shop stewards and safety representatives. If there is anything that you would like to see on the web pages then please contact the webmaster; webmaster@norwichgmb.com

2005 Branch Meeting Dates

Wednesday 19th January
Special Meeting regarding
Motions to Congress
Wednesday 2nd February
Wednesday 6th April
Wednesday 1st June AGM,
Wednesday 3rd August
Wednesday 5th October
Wednesday 7th December

2005 Committee Meeting Dates

Wednesday 5th January
Wednesday 2nd March
Wednesday 4th May
Wednesday 6th July
Wednesday 7th September
Wednesday 2nd November

Meetings held at 7.30pm,
Angel Gardens Public House.

Introduction to the Webmaster & Auditor



Steve Moore is currently an Instrument Technician at Bayer CropScience in Norwich. He is a shop steward, safety rep and learning representative. Steve is the webmaster for the branch website and is one of the auditors who check the branch accountancy.

Work your proper hours day – 25th February 2005

Friday, February 25 is the day in 2005 when the TUC is urging people who do unpaid overtime to 'work your proper hours' on that day so that they take a proper lunch-break, and arrive and leave work on time. This should remind Britain's employers just how much they depend on the good will and voluntary extra work of their staff, the TUC says. Indeed the TUC is urging Britain's bosses to take their staff out for lunch, coffee or a cocktail on 'work your proper hours day' to say thank you for their hard work and commitment.

Meeting with Ian Gibson MP



In addition to the organised branch meetings and the congress meeting, we are looking forward to the opportunity to meet with Dr Ian Gibson. Once a date has been confirmed, we will publish the details on the Norwich GMB Branch website.
www.norwichgmb.com

Hardship Funds

From time to time the Branch receives mailings from members and their families requesting financial assistance. The branch seriously considers every request made for those who are genuinely suffering hardship. For further information please contact the Branch Secretary in writing, address on the website. Once again, Norwich Branch would like to take this opportunity to wish you a healthy and prosperous 2005.

Introduction to the Equality Officer



Terry Nokes is our elected branch Equality Officer. Terry is a Shift Operator at the Bacton Gas Terminal. He is a Branch representative on London Regional Council and Senior APEX shop steward & safety rep for Transco. Terry is also actively promoting a retired members section for the Norwich Branch.