

Newsletter

UNISON Enfield Retired Members Association

Retired Members' Conference 2019



This year's conference for UNISON's retired members conference took place in Southport, and saw around 500 members attend from across the union. Discussions were held on issues such as pensions, social care, transport and older people's travel passes, how austerity had hit older people, health, and also the importance of different generations working together to defend pensions, benefits and other entitlements.

Gary Williams attended on behalf of the UNISON RMA, helping run a workshop on the unions's Stars In Our Schools campaign, and speaking on a motion about changing the rules of the national retired members conference. His full report will be made available to members shortly.

Unfortunately the motion from Enfield was not admitted to the agenda, but there is another route by which the branch's concerns can be raised.

The conference was very ably chaired by Josie Bird, UNISON's youngest-ever President. The guest speaker was Christina McAnea, one of UNISON's Assistant General Secretaries. In a wide-ranging speech, she talked about the importance of retired members to the union, and also the need to ensure that people are registered to vote as a General Election is coming. Most older people are registered, but they can play an important part in talking to younger members of their families about why voting matters.

Welcome to the latest issue of your Enfield UNISON Retired Members Association newsletter.

Please let us know what you think about it!

Did you know Enfield UNISON is on the internet?

We all love a newsletter, but you can also keep up with Enfield UNISON news on the internet at www.enfieldunison.co.uk or if you use Facebook by searching for Enfield UNISON.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Don't miss out!

Membership Meetings/Events

- 12 Nov(CR)**
Guest speaker to be confirmed
 - 11 Dec Xmas Lunch**
(Enfield Conservative Club)
 - 14 Jan 2020**
(Venue to be confirmed.)
 - 11 Feb AGM (CC)**
 - 10 March (CC)**
 - 17 April Spring Buffet**
(Civic Centre Restaurant)
 - 12 May (CR)**
 - 9 June (CC)**
 - 14 July (CR)**
 - 11 August (CR)**
 - 15 September (CC)**
 - 13 October (CR)**
 - 10 November (CR)**
- See elsewhere in the newsletter for more details of events.**

CR=Conference Room
CC=Council Chamber

All meetings take place at 2.30pm on Tuesdays at the Enfield Civic Centre, Silver Street, unless otherwise stated.

TONY BEST - OUR ROVING REPORTER!

We are fortunate to get reports from Tony Best about guest speakers and outings. Here are his latest articles.

Outing to Tewin

Our trip to Tewin was well attended and 38 people boarded the coach which left the Civic Centre at 1.00pm. The weather was dull with strong wind and rain but despite this we had a pleasant tour through the countryside arriving at our venue just before 2.00pm.

The teashop is called Bumpkins and has been a dairy in its earlier days although now it is nicely converted to a proper teashop inside. The low-ceilinged and softly-lit room has a cosy feel with pastel-coloured walls lined with pictures and objects of interest. Tables have colourful cloths and the crockery and cutlery is traditional.

Each table for four persons was laid and ready with a large pot of fresh tea, a cake stand with a good selection of sandwiches on the first tier a second tier of delicious assorted cakes and a third tier of fresh scones with jam and double cream. Plenty for everyone and very nice indeed.

Here we sat and chatted and enjoyed our refreshments in this relaxing and comfortable environment until it was time to leave.

Weather was no better on the return run but the journey was pleasant anyway and the whole trip was a great success.

Our Day In Clacton

The trip to Clacton was most enjoyable and was blessed with good weather the whole day. Our coach left Enfield Civic Centre at 9.30am and we had a good ride all the way, arriving on the seafront just after 11o/c. We all left the coach and were then free to please ourselves for the rest of the time.

There is a very nice walk along the promenade in the Frinton direction and a return can be made on the lower promenade, close to the sea. From the pier in the other direction a walk takes you through a number of themed gardens, all very nicely laid out and carefully maintained.

There are plenty of places where a full meal or simply a snack can be enjoyed and the time seems to slip by quickly. We re-joined our coach and left for home again about 4.30pm and had an equally easy ride back to the Civic Centre. A pleasant and uncomplicated day out which was enjoyed by everyone.

Joe Studman's Talk on the Bowles family of Myddelton House and Forty Hall

Forty Hall is a grade 1 listed house set in its own estate with formal and informal gardens, lakes, lawns and meadows.

Built by former Lord Mayor of London Sir Nicholas Rainton in 1632, the hall has been changed and reworked by a number of previous owners including the Meyers, Wolstenholmes and Parker Bowles.

Henry Ferryman Bowles and his wife came to live in the house in 1896 whilst his younger brother Edward Augustus, the famous gardener, continued to live next door at Myddelton House and the two brothers remained close throughout their lives. In 1920, Henry Ferryman Bowles' only child Wilma married Eustace Parker and, with this marriage, the family name became Parker Bowles.

It was Wilma's son Derek Henry, who inherited Forty Hall in 1943. Derek Parker Bowles and his family continued to live at Forty Hall until 1951 when it was sold to Enfield Urban District Council and converted into a museum.

Myddelton House was completed in 1818 by Henry Carrington Bowles, one of five generations of print and map makers based in St Paul's Churchyard in London. It replaced an earlier Elizabethan property called Bowling Green House where Bowles had lived with his wife who died in 1812. It was named Myddelton House in honour of Sir Hugh Myddelton who created the New River, a section of which had bisected the garden from 1613 until 1968. Edward Augustus "Gussie" Bowles, born in 1865, was a self-taught horticulturist and developed the remarkable garden which can be seen today. The connection with the Bowles family is still maintained into the present and Brigadier Andrew Henry Parker Bowles is the current President of the E.A. Bowles of Myddelton House Society.

Our thanks to Joe for his informative and entertaining talk.

YOUR COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The following are the members of the the Enfield RMA Committee at 2019/20

Chair

Janet Norton

Vice Chair

Malcolm Carter

Secretary

Barbara Bowery
(Tel. 020 8805 2667)

Treasurer

Olive Parsons
(Tel. 020 8366 5840)

Outings Organisers

Anne Best, Janet Norton

Speaker Organiser

Marion Rowsell

Newsletter

Gary Williams

Regional Committee

(Vacant position)

Auditor

Chris McClean

The Committee meets around every two months at the Enfield Civic Centre.

Please contact the Secretary, Barbara Bowery, if you wish to raise a matter with the Committee.

Branch Office

Tel 020 8379 4084 or
office@enfieldunison.co.uk

UNISON - There For You Did you know UNISON offers support to members in need, over and above helping with problems at work? Whether it's financial assistance, well-being breaks, welfare advice, or a whole host of other matters, they can offer support. Find out more at unison.org.uk and search 'There For You'.



XMAS LUNCH

Come and join us for our annual Xmas lunch! It's a belly-filling three-course meal, with drinks, tea and coffee available to purchase over the bar.

It takes place Wednesday 11 December at 12.30 for 1pm at Enfield Conservative Club at 278 Baker St, Enfield EN1 3LD, where there is ample parking available.

And it's just £18 per person!

Please use the form below to book your place.

Xmas lunch, Wednesday 11 December Please reserve me _____ places

Full name _____ Tel.No. _____

I enclose a cheque payable to Enfield UNISON RMA for £ _____ (£18.00 per place)

Please post to: Olive Parsons, Enfield RMA, 38 Halifax Road, Enfield, EN2 0PP

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2020

Enfield UNISON Retired Members Association AGM takes place Tuesday 11 February 2.30pm to 4.00pm in the Council Chamber at Enfield Civic Centre. Why not put the date in your diary now? Come along, meet old friends, and make new ones!

Our AGM is an important event because we decide on who will run the Committee for us during the year, and get information about what the RMA has been doing and spending your money on. You also get the chance to make suggestions about what issues and events you think the RMA should focus its energy and resources on.

The agenda for the meeting is:

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the AGM held 12 February 2019
3. Matters arising from the minutes
4. Chair's report - General matters
5. Secretary's report
6. Treasurer's financial report
7. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair
8. Election of Secretary
9. Election of Treasurer
10. Election of Committee
11. Election of Auditor (non-Committee)
12. Nomination of Candidates to Greater London
Greater London Regional Retired Members Committee
13. Suggestions for speakers, functions, outings, etc.
14. Any Other Business



Please bring this agenda with you on 11 February.

HELP US SAVE YOUR MONEY!

If we have your email address we can send you this newsletter and save on the postage!

Yes! Please use my email address for contact by the Enfield UNISON Retired Members Association.

Full name _____

E-Mail address _____ UNISON Membership No. _____

Please post to: Enfield RMA, UNISON Branch Office, Room 219, Civic Centre, Silver Street, Enfield, EN1 3ES.

Those we have lost

Shirley Ecker

Shirley passed away very suddenly in March at the age of 85. Shirley was born in Walthamstow. After grammar school she attended Trent Park Teacher Training College, where she qualified as a primary school teacher, teaching in Essex and East London for many years. She then joined the Enfield library service as a part-time assistant at the Young Persons Service, based at Palmers Green library, helping to prepare school project materials. Shirley always enjoyed attending the monthly UNISON RMA meetings and occasional outing.

Jennifer Lillian Banerjee (21.6.48 - 18.6.19)

was a member of the UNISON RMA for a very long time, and will be greatly missed. She supported almost all our meetings and outings. She will be remembered for her lovely smile. We always valued her presence and are sad that she is no longer with us.



With this edition of your newsletter you will also receive some promotional material for the Ruth Winston Centre (RWC), a charitable organisation for the over-50s, based in Palmers Green.

They run a huge range of workshops and groups, and at great value for money. Please look at the information to see if there is an activity you would enjoy. We are pleased to say that RWC contributed to our postage costs as part of this arrangement.

The Ruth Winston Centre is located at 190 Green Lanes, London, N13 5UE

Stars In Our Schools

Have you heard about UNISON's "Stars In Our Schools" campaign? For a long time the focus on school staff has been on teachers. But this ignores the importance of the team that helps make the school run effectively: teaching assistants, caretakers, administrators, lab technicians, etc. etc. Stars In Our Schools aims to celebrate the vital work of these often overlooked workers, and offers a way for schools to show their appreciation for the work they do.

So what has this got to with retired members? School may seem a long way away for many of us, but we can still play a part in supporting our local schools as grandparents or great-grandparents, school governors, or volunteers etc. And many of us already take on these roles.

If you are already involved with a local school, why not ask them about taking part in "Stars In Our Schools"? It does not have to be a school with UNISON staff - the campaign is supported by a wide-range of well-respected organisations - and any school can participate.

If you are interested and want to find out more, please see the website at www.starsinourschools.uk



Outings and events general conditions

Coach trips: 1. Early booking is advised to ensure trip is financially viable. 2. Payment must be made by cheque made out to Enfield Retired Members Association and sent to Mrs.O.Parsons, 38 Halifax Road, Enfield, EN2 0PP. 3. Refunds cannot be given in the event of unused tickets, only in the event of whole trip cancellation. 4. In the event of being over-subscribed, names will be added to the waiting list. 5. In the event there is not a waiting list, tickets may be sold on, but the treasure must be advised. 6. Please ensure you phone our trip hotline on 07718 285635 if you are delayed on the day for whatever reason. 7. Where a trip includes a booked lunch, the menu choice cannot be changed after it has been submitted. You are advised too make a note of your food choices for reference. 8. If for mobility or other reasons you need seating at the front of the coach, please mention this when booking. 9. Coaches pick up in Churchbury Lane (at the side of Enfield Civic Centre). 10. Free parking is available at the Civic Centre for evening and weekend events, daytime events require a fee of £2. Members are advised to display a note marked 'Enfield UNISON RMA' while parked in the civic centre car park. 11. For theatre events, a £10 fee per ticket holding fee must be paid at the time of booking. **Disclaimer: Enfield Unison Retired Members Association its officers and members are not liable to any member person guest or company whomsoever for any loss accident injury or damage which may occur during or arising from any activity, meeting or outing arranged by for or on behalf of them at any time.**