

NEWSLETTER 75 : NOV. 2014 – MARCH 2015

**UNISON RETIRED MEMBERS
ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE
MEMBERS 2014/2015**

Chair: Janet Norton
Vice Chair: Carole Rhodes
Secretary: Barbara Bowery
8805-2667
Treasurer: Olive Parsons
8366-5840
Outings Orgs: Anne Best, Janet Norton
Speaker Org: Doreen Denton
Newsletter: Allan Thow
Members: Malcolm Carter, Pat
Gibb, Marion Rowsell
Met. Dist. Reps: Mary Stone, Kay Price
Auditor: Chris McClean

UNISON OFFICE: 020 8379 4084

Message from the Chairman.

**Spring Buffet 2015
Friday 17th April @ 7.00pm**

Come and join us in the Restaurant at the Civic Centre, Silver Street for our Spring Buffet 2015.

Take the chance to meet friends, old and new, at this lovely social evening; with food and drink for everyone, live music, a visit from the Mayor and our renowned Large Raffle.

Tickets priced at £3.00p each so you can afford to bring a friend.

Please complete the booking form at the end of this newsletter and send to our Treasurer, Olive Parsons..

Look forward to seeing you.

Janet

**DIARY DATES 2015
Members Monthly Meetings
Tuesday 2.30 - 4.30 pm**

13th January – Bill Bossom – The first 80 years
10th February – Annual General

Meeting – The Council Chamber followed by Bernard Ecker.

10th March – Sylvia Coombs – Travellers' Tales.

17th April – Spring Buffet –

12th May – Stephen Gilbert – Discovering Historic Enfield.

9th June – Colin Barrett – The Story of Shredded Wheat.

14th July – D. Wass – Humourous Police.

11th August – Sheila Parker – From Tiller Girl to Vernon Girl.

8th September – Julia Peacock – Antartica

13th October – Margaret Carr – On the Treadle.

10th November – Geoff. Bowden – Funny Girls.

**Committee Meetings.
2015**

12th January

9th March

11th May

13th July

7th September

9th November

SPEAKERS WE HAVE ENJOYED

Tuesday 11th November.

Brad Ashton – Backstage Stories from TV.

Brad worked in TV for nearly 50 years. During that time he wrote for most of the well known comedians. He did try to be one himself but it didn't work out. Before he started his talk he told us three jokes and he bet us that before he finished we would all have forgotten them. He was right, when he finished none of us could remember the three jokes.

Brad is 82 years old and he still does talks on the cruise ships. His tally to date is 62 cruises and still counting.

Brad found it easier to write for comedians who had a "persona". Tony Hancock was always depressed, Tommy Cooper was an idiot, Jack Benny was never more than 39 years of age and so stingy. This persona was borrowed by Ernie Wise.

Brad also wrote for Les Dawson who spoke 8 languages including Chinese. Comedy writing changed due to the actions of Derek Jamieson, the well-known Editor of the News of the World who set up a Comedy Writing School.

There used to be a "Green" book which contained a list of all the things that could not be said on Television programmes then along came Spitting Image that set a new standard by saying all the things that had been forbidden.

Brad also wrote for Bob Hope, Eric Sykes and Ted Ray. Ted Ray lived in Broad Walk and when Brad had to meet him at his house he was kept standing on the doorstep. If they met any where else it was a transport café and Brad was always left to pay for the teas.

Benny Hill never did a live show and only liked to work with cameramen and crew whom he already knew. Nobody ever knew for certain whether he was gay or not. Like Les Dawson, Benny Hill was fluent in many languages.

Eric Sykes was a brilliant writer and Hattie Jacques was a darling to work with. Bob Hope had seven writers and would phone them up at 3 o'clock in the morning.

Brad gave us a very enjoyable and fun afternoon.

Tuesday 13th January 2015.
Bill Bossom – The First 80 Years.

Bill was born a Hackney boy. In 1940 the war had started, a plane came over and dropped a bomb on Alexandra Palace, then it dropped another one on Woodside House and then it dropped a third on Bill's house. Luckily they were all in the Anderson shelter at the time so escaped unscathed. His mother was evacuated to Wisbech and Bill went to live with his grandparents. A few days later a fire bomb was dropped onto his grandparent's house. Bill was in the Anderson shelter which got red hot but he again managed to escape.

Bill and his sister were evacuated to Halstead. They set off in two big buses and when they arrived they were all lined up then marched through the town to see who would volunteer to take them. As Bill was with his sister and nobody wanted to take two of them they found this very upsetting. Finally, when all the others had been re-homed and they were the only two left someone stepped forward. They stayed there for two years and then they were moved to Bury St. Edmunds where they lived on a farm. The farmer had an old horse called Dobbin.

Eventually they moved back to London to their grandparents who now lived in Hornsey. Bill didn't like the local buses as they swayed a lot so he took to walking everywhere.

Later he joined the RAC and taught people how to drive motorbikes. They set up a mock road in White Hart Lane Stadium where the learners had to practice until they were safe to go out onto the real roads.

Bill became a drummer with a band and joined the Musician's Union. He was a member for 50 years and was given a long service medal. Music led him to take up ballroom dancing. He had a flair for this and won many competition medals. Later he took up bowls and became an Umpire and a National Coach.

Bill got a job with Capel Manor as a gardener where he created a rose

garden. His name is on the plaque which commemorates the opening of this garden. Bill's speciality was rose growing and he propagated many new varieties. He was involved with looking after many of the gardens throughout Enfield Borough and won many certificates for excellence in the annual Enfield in Bloom festival for his work on those gardens.

Bill has had a very varied and interesting life and seemed to be able to turn his hand to most things very successfully.

We have many good speakers and anyone wishing to join us on these afternoons would be most welcome. They are the second Tuesday in the month at 2.30 pm at the Civic Centre.

OUTINGS AND OTHER REPORTS

Thursday 13th November 2014
White Christmas.

We left the Civic Centre sharp at twelve o'clock with a full coach and set off for the Dominion Theatre, Tottenham Court Road. We made good time until we got close to our destination and then the traffic was very heavy and slow. However, we still arrived in time to have a comfort visit and get a drink before we took our seats which were excellent and in the dress circle. The show was just right to get everyone in the mood for Christmas. The singing and dancing were excellent and the costumes were too. The story was the original one and simple, so no sex, violence or swearing. What a pleasant change.

Aled Jones was very good in his debut show, this being the first time he had taken to the stage in a musical.

It was such a lovely afternoon and everyone seemed to enjoy it.

Monday 1st December 2014
Unison Xmas Lunch.

Fifty five of us attended the Conservative Club in Baker Street for our Annual Christmas Lunch. It was up to its usual high standard with many choices of starters and sweets and an excellent hot lunch in between.

There was the usual bumper Raffle and we had the pleasure of Fred James serenading us with his excellent choice of music and great voice.

A good afternoon was had by all.

Thursday 11th December 2015
The Albert Hall – The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. John Rutter's Christmas Cracker.

There seemed no end to our celebrations for Christmas and this time we took off, in the evening, to the wonderful Albert Hall which has to be among the most splendid of venues. All our seats were in the round on the flat so no lifts and hardly any steps. Also very close to the orchestra which added to the pleasure of the concert.

It was a magnificent concert not just from the orchestra but also from the four choirs ranging from very young children through to teenagers and adults. They played a terrific selection of Christmas music and Carols for everyone to sing along to.

It was fun with a short musical quiz in the middle with prizes for the quickest responses. We all went home really in the Christmas Spirit now.

Another lovely outing.

Tuesday 10th February 2015
Minutes taken at AGM
A Brief Summary.

1. Apologies for absence were received from members.
2. Minutes of the AGM on 10th February 2014 were agreed and signed.

3. Matters Arising: None
4. Chair's Report: Thanked Committee and reported that outings were a success especially the theatre trips.
5. Secretary's Report: Members were requested to give details of email addresses as the cost of Paper/Printing and Postage had gone up, however if members wished to receive a hard copy this could still happen.
6. Treasurer's Report: Financial report submitted.
7. Election of Chair: Janet Norton re-elected.
8. Election of Vice Chair: Carol Rhodes re-elected.
9. Election of Honorary Secretary: Barbara Bowery re-elected.
10. Election of Treasurer: Olive Parsons re-elected.
11. Election of Committee: All Committee members re-elected.
12. Appointment of Auditor: Chris McClean re-appointed.
13. Nomination of Candidates for election to Metropolitan District Retired Members Board: Kay Price and Mary Stone re-nominated.
14. AOB: If members have any suggestions for speakers or outings please let one of the Committee know.

MEMBERS NEWS.

NEW MEMBERS

We extend a warm welcome to:-

Mrs Stephanie Lafferty	
Libraries	13 years
Mr. Stan Ward.	
Plant Maintenance	27 years
Ms. Colleen Nisbet.	
Social Services	25 years
Mrs. Muriel Hill.	
Mr. David Thompson.	

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:-

Maureen Anderson has moved to Ripon, North Yorkshire.

Reginal Hemington has moved to Faversham, Kent.

OBITUARY:-

Mr. George Massey passed away 11th September, 2014

LOST CONTACT.

No mail returned following last Newsletter.

FUTURE EVENTS

Thursday 21st May 2015 HAMPSTEAD – A LONDON VILLAGE.

**Coach leaves Civic Centre 9.00am.
Cost £35.00p pp including morning coffee and lunch.**

Meet Guide in centre of Hampstead for morning coffee, back on coach to see Hampstead Garden Suburb. At Whitestone Pond, the highest point in London, we leave the coach for a gentle stroll through Old Hampstead and to the pub where we have lunch. In the afternoon we have a guided tour of Kenwood House, a superb country house gifted to the nation by the Guinness family. For the past two years Kenwood House has been closed for its first major restoration since the 1920s. The Dairy has been restored and will be open to the public for the very first time. After the guided tour we can have tea in Kenwood's attractive café before returning home. Morning coffee and lunch included in the price.

Thursday 25th June 2015 BEAUTIFUL CAMBRIDGE AND RIVER CAM CRUISE.

**Coach leaves Civic Centre 9.30am
Cost £37.00p pp including fish and chip lunch.**

Come and join us for a morning spent at leisure in the beautiful City of Cambridge with many shops and

colleges with stunning architecture and steeped in history.

We will have plenty of time to have tea or coffee and browse until 1.30pm when we rejoin the coach for the short ride to where we pick up the Riverboat Georgina and spend a leisurely 2 hours cruising the River Cam whilst enjoying our delicious fish and chip lunch after which we will rejoin the coach for our drive home at about 4.30pm.

Tuesday 28th July 2015 COLCHESTER GEMS, JAMS AND BOUNCING BOMBS.

**Coach leaves Civic Centre 10.30am
Cost £40.00p pp including lunch, dessert and coffee.**

We start at midday in Colchester, near a castle built by William the Conqueror. Below the castle is an old pub where we shall have lunch. After lunch we take a gentle stroll to see the castle and view the River Colne and the old Dutch Quarter where 500 years ago Flemish refugees settled in houses already old. Inside the ruined city walls a tiny chapel was built and is still in use today as a Greek Orthodox Church.

We now go to the extraordinary shapes of FIRSTSITE a gallery of modern art. The building is rather controversial, locals call it the golden banana. We then board the coach for about an hour sightseeing before stopping at Tiptree Jam Factory for a look at the Museum and buy refreshments before heading home. Lunch, dessert and coffee included in the price.

Monday 24th August MANMADE WONDERS IN THE HEART OF ESSEX.

**Coach leaves Civic Centre 9.00am
Cost £45.00p pp including 2 course lunch and coffee.**

Meet the Guide at a 14th Century Country pub to buy morning coffee. The River Colne runs through the pub

garden where you can see the Chappel Viaduct, built in the 1840s it has 32 arches rising to 75 feet. After coffee we explore the Colne Valley. Colne was among the first to host the famous ten man Flying Fortresses and later Earls Colne was an RAF base where one pilot who flew from there was Kenneth Wolstenholme, the BBC Commentator. We stop for lunch at Finchingfield.

In the afternoon we visit two massive barns built 800 years ago and a Tudor walled garden. Buy tea and cakes before heading home.

Two course lunch and coffee included in the price.

BOOKING ARRANGEMENTS.

Coach outings can be booked in advance by completing the forms provided and sending them to the Treasurer Mrs. O. Parsons, 38 Halifax Road, Enfield EN2 0PP.

Please make cheques for all events payable to Enfield Unison RMA. You need not send all of the money immediately as long as you pay for each outing at least four weeks in advance. Please be aware no refunds will be given for unused tickets.

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope with your enquiry to enable us to confirm your booking. Members will be contacted by the Treasurer if the coach is full and they have been put on the waiting list.

If you are unable to attend after paying for tickets, please contact our Treasurer - Olive Parsons on 0208-366-5840 as soon as possible. We maintain a waiting list for over subscribed events and a member on the waiting list may then buy your ticket(s). If there is not a waiting list, you may then sell your tickets to relatives or friends.

All coaches pick up in Churchbury Lane (at the side of Civic Centre, not in front of it). Tickets for events are given to

members at the time of boarding the coach.

Help Us On The Day One!

Please keep a note of our mobile phone number, which will be used exclusively for outings, in your diary and/or phone.

On the day if you are unable to come or are stuck in traffic you can phone in. This will help us leave on time, particularly important when there is a guide to meet on the way.

The number is:

07956580823.

Please keep this number with you on the day in case of difficulties. Thank you all very much for your co-operation and support. We look forward to seeing you on the outings.

Help Us On The Day Two!

Trips with Lunch included.

Once you have made your choice from the menu provided on the booking form it cannot be altered.

When it is a long time between booking and the actual day it is easy to forget so write your choice down on the copy booking form provided and bring it with you on the day.

COACH TRAVEL REGS.

We have been asked by the coach operator to make all passengers aware that they must remain in their seats and not move about in the coach whilst it is moving, and that seat belts must be worn at all times. These are requirements by law and could carry a substantial fine for the coach operator if broken.

SEATING - If because of a medical condition you have difficulty when walking and would like a seat at the front of the coach, please ask for this at the time of booking.

EVENING & WEEKEND PARKING FOR COACH OUTINGS/MEETINGS

It is now possible to park at the Civic Centre for evening and weekend coach outings or meetings free of charge. It might be an idea, if you so wish, just to put a note on the dashboard - UNISON RMA so that security are aware. For daytime outings the £2 fee is still applicable, and should be paid for at the time of booking your outing.

THEATRE TICKETS. Please note a £10.00 per ticket holding fee will now be required when you book theatre tickets, this is because we have to pay for all tickets in full at the time of our making the booking.

KEEP THIS COPY OF THE BOOKING FORMS FOR THE OUTINGS SHOWN FOR YOUR OWN RECORDS.

SPRING BUFFET

**Friday 17th April 2015.
Restaurant, Civic Centre,
Silver Street, Enfield**

Open from 7.00pm.

Price: £3.00p per person

Seats required.....

Name.....

Tel. No.....

Cheque for £.....enclosed

Made payable to **Enfield Unison RMA**

HAMPSTEAD – A LONDON VILLAGE.

Thursday 21st May 2015.

Leaves Churchbury Lane 9.00am

Price: £35.00p per person

Seats required.....

Meals Required:
Roast of the day.....

Vegetarian.....

Name.....

Tel. No.....

Cheque for £.....enclosed

Made payable to **Enfield Unison RMA**

BEAUTIFUL CAMBRIDGE AND RIVER CAM CRUISE

Thursday 25th June 2015.

Leaves Churchbury Lane 9.30am

Price: £37.00p per person

Seats required.....

Name.....

Tel. No.....

Cheque for £.....enclosed

Made payable to **Enfield Unison RMA**

COLCHESTER GEMS, JAMS & BOUNCING BOMBS

Tuesday 28th July 2015.

Leaves Churchbury Lane 10.30am

Price: £40.00p per person

Seats required.....

Meals required:
Steak pie, potatoes & veg.....

Fish and chips.....

Ham, eggs & chips.....

Vegetarian.....

Name.....

Tel. No.....

Cheque for £.....enclosed

Made payable to **Enfield Unison RMA**

MANMADE WONDERS IN THE HEART OF ESSEX

Monday 24th August 2015.

Leaves Churchbury Lane 9.00am

Price: £45.00p per person

Seats required.....

Meals required:
Carvery.....

Vegetarian.....

Name.....

Tel. No.....

Cheque for £.....enclosed

Made payable to **Enfield Unison RMA**

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.

THIS PAGE IS LEFT DELIBERATELY BLANK

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS COPY OF THE BOOKINGS FORMS BELOW FOR THE OUTINGS SHOWN AND SEND TO THE TREASURER WITH YOUR CHEQUE. THANK YOU.

SPRING BUFFET

**Friday 17th April 2015.
Restaurant, Civic Centre,
Silver Street, Enfield**

Open from 7.00pm.

Price: £3.00p per person

No. required.

Name.

Tel. No.

Cheque for £.....enclosed

Made payable to **Enfield Unison RMA**

**BEAUTIFUL CAMBRIDGE
AND RIVER CAM CRUISE**

Thursday 25th June 2015.

Leaves Churchbury Lane 9.30am

Price: £37.00p per person

Seats required.

Name.

Tel. No.

Cheque for £.....enclosed

Made payable to **Enfield Unison RMA**

**MANMADE WONDERS IN
THE HEART OF ESSEX**

Monday 24th August 2015.

Leaves Churchbury Lane 9.00am

Price: £45.00p per person

Seats required.

Name.

Tel. No.

Cheque for £.....enclosed

Made payable to **Enfield Unison RMA**

**HAMPSTEAD – A LONDON
VILLAGE.**

Thursday 21st May 2015.

Leaves Churchbury Lane 9.00am

Price: £35.00p per person

Seats required.

Name.

Tel. No.

Cheque for £.....enclosed

Made payable to **Enfield Unison RMA**

**COLCHESTER GEMS, JAMS
& BOUNCING BOMBS**

Tuesday 28th July 2015.

**Leaves Churchbury Lane
10.30am**

Price: £40.00p per person

Seats required.

Name.

Tel. No.

Cheque for £.....enclosed

Made payable to **Enfield Unison RMA**

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.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Due to ever rising postage costs this and future editions of Newsletter will be sent by email.

To ensure you receive your copy please complete the email and address form included with the bookings form below and send by email to:

The Branch Secretary - office@enfieldunison.co.uk

Or to the Newsletter Editor - arjctw@blueyonder.co.uk

If you have no access to email send this form to

The Newsletter Editor, 124 Birkbeck Road, Enfield EN2 0EB.

My email address is: _____

My name is: _____

My membership no. is (found on your address label):

My postal address is: _____

My telephone number is: _____