

ONE
UNISON
weekend

Educate..Agitate..Organise..Celebrate!

19 & 20

May 2018

**At the Crowne Plaza
Resort, Colchester**

**EVENT
PROGRAMME**



Dear Friends,

In the year of our 25th anniversary it is only fitting that we mark that event with a special celebration. Our ONE UNISON Weekend is the premier point in our annual calendar combining the best of UNISON learning, workshops to stimulate ideas and debate, our Regional Council AGM and a new edition for 2018, our Gala Dinner and Award Ceremony.

Celebrating our combined achievements is what the ONE UNISON Weekend is all about – it could be a new branch officer attending their first training course, a steward coming along to one of the new exciting workshops, or a branch being presented with an award for an outstanding contribution.

We hope that you will take the time to come along and enjoy the weekend. You can stay for the whole weekend and participate in everything that we have on offer, or you can choose to blend individual activities, it's entirely up to you.

We have lots to be proud of in UNISON so join us at the ONE UNISON Weekend and let's celebrate together.

Kind Regards

Becky Tye
Regional Convenor

Chris Jenkinson
Regional Secretary

at a glance...

The 'ONE UNISON' event outline programme

SATURDAY 19 MAY	What's happening?
08:45 – 09:55	Delegate and crèche registration Take the opportunity to browse around our UNISON Service Provider information stalls
10:00 – 12:45	Courses/workshops running Please check with the registration desk as to where the courses/workshops are being held
12:45 – 13:30	Lunch Take the opportunity to browse around our UNISON Service Provider information stalls Crèche closes at 12:50 and re-opens at 13:20
13:30 – 14:30	Regional Council AGM - all welcome to attend
14:30 – 17:00	Courses/workshops running Crèche closes at 17:30
19:30 - late	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hot buffet gala dinner• Guest speakers• Branch Awards Ceremony• Grand UNISON Raffle• Entertainment
SUNDAY 20 MAY	What's happening?
09:00 – 13:00	Courses/workshops running Crèche open from 08:30
13:00 onwards END OF EVENT	Sunday lunch available or a packed lunch for those that want to set off straight away Crèche closes at 13:15

BRANCH OFFICER COURSES

The following Branch Officer Courses, unless indicated otherwise, are available to newly or recently elected Branch Officers at this event.

Please apply by no later than Friday 27 April 2018 using the event application form – please note you can only opt to do a Branch Officer course OR the workshop sessions, not both.

Aims of the courses

These courses are designed to help UNISON Branch Officers, especially those new or recently elected to the position, to carry out their roles effectively. By the end of the course it is intended that participants will know and understand the following:

Branch Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understand the role and responsibilities of the Branch Chair• Finding the balance between chairing formal and informal meetings• As a Branch Chair developing a quality of skill, sensitivity and commitment to encouraging membership/activist involvement and development
Branch Communications Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To develop knowledge about the range of possible Branch communications• Increase confidence of Branch Communication Officers• To debate the pros and cons of different communication methods for different purposes• Develop a Branch communications plan to use after the course

<p>Branch Equality Co-ordinators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define the role of the Branch Equality Coordinator • Establish how to access resources, make useful links and develop strategies for supporting members and self organisation • Understand the vital role that self organisation plays in UNISON. • Campaign and get equality issues on the recruitment and bargaining agenda
<p>Branch Health and Safety Officer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a practical understanding of the role • Look at how Health & Safety can be used to organise within the Branch and how it fits into the Branch organising plan • Provide information needed to carry out the role, and knowledge of where to get further information
<p>Branch Secretary</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the role of the Branch Secretary in ensuring that the functions and tasks of the Branch are carried out effectively and in a timely manner • The relationship of the Branch Secretary to the Branch committee, Branch members, Region and Service Groups • Their own development needs, with a personal action plan to meet these
<p>Branch Treasurer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand Branch finances • Work with the Branch to establish transparency in financial transactions • Develop protocols for budget setting and procurement • Understand the role of budgeting and organising within a framework of UNISON's objectives • To enable Branch Treasurers to promote an organising union through Branch budgeting



BRANCH OFFICER COURSES continued

<p>Branch Women's Officer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the role and responsibilities of the Branch women's officer • Learn how to access resources, make useful links and develop strategies for supporting women in their branches • Increase knowledge of women's issues and how to progress issues in UNISON
<p>Young Members Officer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce Young Members Branch Officers to their new role • Explore how they can make a difference to UNISON and get young members voices heard • Discuss how to organise and enthuse young members in their Branch • Raise awareness of issues affecting young members • Empower Young Members Branch Officers to plan for the future with confidence
<p>Political Campaigning</p> <p><i>*This course is open to new Branch Political officers or UNISON activists that want to work with Labour locally</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of UNISONs political funds. How they work, how and when they can be used • Campaigning with Labour in the community. What are the joint industrial and political issues? • UNISON and links with Constituency Labour groups locally. The mechanics around being heard and involved politically • Joint political campaigning and working with other affiliated trade unions locally, including the purpose and role of the Trade Union & Labour Party Liaison Organisation [TULO]



WORKSHOPS

The following workshops are available to both new and experienced Activists. **Please apply by no later than Friday 27 April 2018 using the event application form** – please note you can only opt to do a Branch Officer course OR the workshop sessions, not both.

Workshops	Saturday	Sunday	Aims of the workshop
Tackling Racism and Fascism - a fight never won	10:00 – 12:45		<p>This workshop run by Hope not Hate aims to give you knowledge and skills around:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the three key techniques to shift people's prejudices • cutting edge research on public attitudes to immigration, multiculturalism, Islam and identity • learning together the power of our own personal experiences in challenging hate and inspiring others to take action for themselves
Organising Low Paid Women Workers	10:00 – 12:45		<p>With the majority of UNISON membership being made up of women and many of those working in low paid jobs this key workshop will give you the opportunity to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clarify UNISON's definition of low pay and identify where our low paid women are • explore barriers to recruitment and activism of low paid members • generate ideas and opportunities in Branches and regionally to encourage greater participation of low paid women

Workshops	Saturday	Sunday	Aims of the workshop
<p>Understanding Brexit!</p>	<p>14:30 – 17:00</p>		<p>This workshop will be run by Alex Mayer MEP and will help you to understand the current and future challenges for trade unions that arise from Britain’s decision to leave the EU. The workshop is aimed at both new and experienced activists and will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • what does Brexit mean for workers rights? • how will new trade deals impact on our public services? • is all lost, or can we still remain inside the single market and under the protection of European courts? • is there a democratic argument for a second referendum? • what are the opportunities for developing stronger trades unions post Brexit?
<p>Stand and Deliver!</p> <p>Presentation Skills introductory workshop</p>	<p>14:30 – 17:00</p>		<p>This workshop will be run by Steve Caveley and will cover the following:</p> <p>The aim of this short taster session is to give you an understanding of how to deliver powerful and effective presentations.</p> <p>You will learn how use your voice to sound confident and how your body language can influence your audience.</p> <p>This fun and interactive session will show you how you can present for maximum effect. It is an ideal lead into the full Presentation Skills training which we hope to run later in the year.</p>

Workshops	Saturday	Sunday	Aims of the workshop
Tackling racism and fascism - a fight never won		09:30 – 12:30	Repeat of Saturday's workshop
Dealing with the Media Media Skills introductory workshop		09:30 – 12:30	<p>This workshop will be run by Steve Caveley and will cover the following:</p> <p>Don't like seeing yourself on camera? Hate the sound of your own voice?</p> <p>The aim of this session is for you to understand how to create the maximum impact when dealing with television and radio interviews.</p> <p>The session includes exercises for using you voice effectively and do's and don'ts in front of the camera.</p> <p>In addition it will also give you tips and tricks for dealing with media interviews and is an ideal starter for those wishing to improve their skills. It is also an ideal introduction into the full Media Skills training which we hope to run later in the year.</p>



ONE UNISON Branch and Activist Awards



In recognition of the dedicated work that our Branches and activists carried out during 2017 we are very pleased to introduce our Branch and activists awards, covering a number of key areas such as organising, recruitment and learning. There are several awards up for grabs which will be awarded at the gala meal. Information about the different awards and how to nominate are as follows:

Learning Award

UNISON is all about members becoming active to help other members in the workplace. Our learning opportunities make this possible, and our members get the most from their membership when they have trained reps in the workplace and the opportunity to improve their own skills through lifelong learning. Our learning Branch of the year will be the one that has put the largest percentage of its reps through training in 2017 AND has participated in some form of workplace or work-based learning during the year. The top 3 Branches will be shortlisted based on RMS and Education/ Learning data, **so no nominations will be needed for this award.**

Recruitment Award

New members are our life-blood. They keep our Branches growing, keep them focussed on what's relevant in changing times and maintain the union's ability to support everyone. We want to celebrate the Branches that have recruited the largest percentage of new members in the last 12 months. We recognise that smaller Branches have different challenges a factor that will be fully considered in the judging. The top 3 Branches will be shortlisted based on RMS data, **so no nominations will be needed for this award.**

Campaigning Award

Campaigning is what we do, it helps maintain visibility and keeps us engaged with issues in the workplace and in the community. Campaigning takes a number of forms - externally in the media, with politicians and

opinion-formers, or directly with our members helping to push forward on their interests. Whatever we do it helps to give members confidence that UNISON is there for them. It keeps the employers on their toes too!

We want to showcase the fantastic work that Branches in this region have been doing in the last year and so nominations are being sought from Branches, activists and members for Campaigning Branch of 2017 (self-nomination is OK). To nominate your Branch or another Branch, please email Ruth Adlam r.adlam@unison.co.uk **by 5pm on the 6 April 2018 at the latest** stating that you want to nominate them, and including up to 250 words explaining why you think the Branch deserves to win.

Communications Award

Our most effective Branches have great two-way communication networks and keep members up to date with what's happening, but also crucially are able to represent their members better because they really know what members are thinking and feeling about issues.

Communication can be in many forms, from the 'old school' workplace meetings and flyers to email, Facebook, Twitter, websites and surveys. We want to celebrate the excellent communications work that many Branches in this region have been doing in the last year, and so nominations are being sought from Branches, activists and members for Communications Branch of 2017 (self-nomination is OK). To nominate your Branch or another Branch, please email Ruth Adlam r.adlam@unison.co.uk **by 5pm on the 6 April 2018 at the latest** stating that you want to nominate them, and including up to 250 words explaining why you think the Branch deserves to win.

Health and Safety Award

One of the areas we can make a real, tangible difference for our members is in improving their health, safety and welfare at work. Physical hazards at work and personal injuries have been, and unfortunately always will be with us but effective engagement with employers will bring these down to a minimum. Increasingly the mental risks to our members of delivering scarcer services to a more stressed public are becoming a more serious hazard. Our Health and Safety Branch of the Year will be the one that has done the best work for our members during 2017, and so are calling for nominations from Branches, activists and members (self-nomination is OK). To nominate your Branch or another Branch, please email Ruth Adlam r.adlam@unison.co.uk **by 5pm on the 6 April 2018 at the latest**

stating that you want to nominate them, and including up to 250 words explaining why you think the Branch deserves to win.

Activist of the Year Award

We are nothing without our activists, and we have some truly amazing, skilled, dedicated and relentless representatives out there. We want to highlight some of these individuals, and we're not just talking about the more visible ones who have stepped up to Branch or regional leadership roles (although we welcome nominations for these) - there are scores of workplace stewards, health and safety reps, learning reps and more out there who regularly go the extra mile for their members and deserve recognition. To nominate an activist, please email Ruth Adlam r.adlam@unison.co.uk **by 5pm on the 6 April 2018 at the latest** stating that you want to nominate them, and including up to 250 words explaining why you think they deserve to win.

Overall Branch of the Year Award

This award will be made from the shortlists of all the other Branch awards, and will be made to the Branch that is judged to have made the best overall contribution to the union's objectives during the course of 2017.

Shortlisting will be overseen by the Regional Convenor Team and judging of awards done by the Regional Finance, Development and Organisation Committee. It will be a fair fight, no brown envelopes!

Have a think about who you consider deserves these awards and get your nominations in by emailing Ruth Adlam r.adlam@unison.co.uk **by 5pm on the 6 April 2018 at the latest**. Awards will be presented at the 'ONE UNISON' Gala Dinner.

You have to be in it to win it, so get cracking!

OUR THANKS GO TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERSHIP SERVICE PROVIDERS WHO HAVE SPONSORED THIS EVENT AND THE AWARDS



THE MOST EXPERIENCED
TRADE UNION FIRM IN THE UK



ONE UNISON Gala Dinner

Our celebration Gala Dinner and awards ceremony will take place on Saturday evening.



Margaret McKee

We are pleased to be welcoming **UNISON President Margaret McKee** and the **UNISON General Secretary Dave Prentis**, as our guests and key note speakers on this celebratory evening.



Dave Prentis

Our entertainment line up for the evening includes **Ayesha Hazarika MBE**, the stand up comedian and former senior Labour Party advisor is now a regular feature on TV and radio as a political commentator providing expert opinion and insight. Returning to her stand-up roots with her show 'Tales from the Pink Bus' which was a sell-out hit at the 2016 Edinburgh Festival and 'the 'Women of the World' at the Southbank Centre, we are sure that Ayesha will give us a humorous, but brutally honest, insight into what life was really like behind the scenes at Westminster.



Ayesha Hazarika MBE

We are also pleased to welcome **DJ Karl Buzby**, who is rated as one of the top 3 DJ's in Essex. We are confident that he will get everyone up on that dance floor!

In between all the food, speeches, award presentations and entertainment we will find the time to draw out those winning tickets for our UNISON Grand Raffle with proceeds being donated to UNISON Welfare '**There for You**' charity. We have a 3 night break away at Croyde Bay, an overnight stay with spa treatment at the Crowne Plaza, plus high street shopping vouchers and a whole host of other prizes too.

Saturday night kicks off at 7.30pm in the Mersea Suite - don't be late!

A little note about our crèche providers for the weekend...

UNISON Eastern Region will once again be using the services of Nipperbout for crèche facilities at this residential event. With their proven track record of 25 years delivering childcare at events such as this your children will not only be safe in their care, allowing you the time and space to enjoy the event, but we can guarantee you that they will have an absolute ball and will not want to leave!



If you need childcare in order to enable you to attend and participate in this event then you must discuss the need for this with your Branch, in the first instance, as charges will be made to the Branch for this facility.

Please note that Nipperbout crèche facilities are only available when courses and workshops are running, not during lunch breaks or in the evening.



Delegate and other costs. If you wish to attend this event please discuss with your UNISON Branch in the first instance. The costs to Branches for delegates unless indicated otherwise, excluding any other associated costs such as delegate travel expenses and the crèche, are:

Delegate type	What's included?	Cost	How to book
Full Delegate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full board Saturday to Sunday including the ONE UNISON Gala Dinner • Admittance to Branch Officer training OR workshop sessions and inclusive of refreshments • Access to much of the venues' facilities such as the pool, saunas etc 	£195	Complete the application form specific for this event
Day Delegate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refreshments during the course/workshop sessions, Saturday lunch and Sunday lunch • Admittance to Branch Officer training OR workshop sessions 	£90	Complete the application form specific for this event
Accommodation and the ONE UNISON Gala Dinner only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full board including the Gala Dinner • Access to much of the venues' facilities such as the pool, saunas etc • Does NOT include Sunday lunch 	£110	Contact us at the email address here >
ONE UNISON Gala Dinner only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to the ONE UNISON Gala Dinner event on the Saturday night from 7:30pm 	£30	Contact us at the email address here >
<p>Partner rate</p> <p>Available where you wish to bring your partner and you are sharing a room. Delegate is responsible for this cost not UNISON</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full board Saturday to Sunday including the ONE UNISON Gala Dinner • Access to much of the venues' facilities such as the pool, saunas etc • Does NOT include Sunday lunch 	<p>Must be paid prior to the event</p> <p>£35</p>	Contact us at the email address here >

UNISON
Eastern



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