

# ONE UNISON VOICE



Newsletter of Salisbury Health Branch

Summer 2022

## We Demand Better TUC March and Rally in London 18th June 2022

The Trades Union Congress is holding a major national march and rally in just over two weeks time to protest about the growing cost of living crisis. With inflation spiralling, workers are suffering and wages are failing to keep pace with rising bills for food, petrol and energy.

Why are we marching on Saturday 18th June? We are marching to demand We demand—

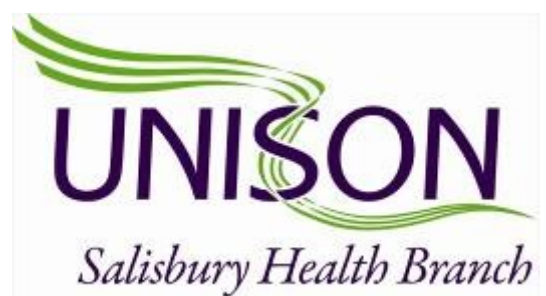
- A real pay rise for every worker – and a real living wage for all,
- Respect and security for all workers - ban zero hours contracts, ban fire and rehire, decent sick pay now
- End racism at work
- Tax energy profits to pay our bills
- Raise universal credit
- Boost union bargaining rights now



And more than that: we demand that the government listens and acts to support working people.

If you want to attend the march and rally and would like help from the branch in getting to and from London on the day please

contact the Branch Secretary (see page 4).



# Health conference

Health branches of the union met in Liverpool from 25th to 27th April, the first big national conference for almost three years, thanks to the intervening pandemic. It was wonderful to be meeting and mixing with old comrades and friends again face to face after such a long break. But most importantly it was great to be meeting to be discussing matters of importance to our health group members, deciding policy and getting that sense of strength, collectivity and togetherness that only a good union conference can bring.

Our branch Chair, Zara Salisbury, was our branch delegate to this conference and our Branch Secretary, Mark Wareham, attended as an observer from the National Executive Council.

The conference started with a minute's silence in memory of health members and colleagues and Roz Norman, chair of the executive welcomed delegates and spoke of the lasting effect of COVID over the intervening three years, warning that the full impact on society may not be understood for years more. Praising the hard work of branches and regions, she said: "Ours is a union that is equally adept at campaigning on the more localised, more targeted issues of the day," before drawing attention to the ongoing campaigns fighting car-parking charges, demanding employers treat the

Platinum Jubilee as an extra bank holiday and pursuing re-banding campaigns across the UK.

And on the Put NHS Pay Right campaign she highlighted our action saying: "This is just the start, please do try to get involved – it's important that we all do our bit. "No one is under any illusion that this will be easy. But ours is a union that continues to deliver success – across all four nations of the UK."

Conference then got down to business and dealt with motions on a range of matters from equalities to health and safety and pay to staffing levels.

Eddie Woolley for the service group executive told delegates that, in the 10 years leading up to the pandemic, "we have been shouting from the rooftops about the lack of investment ... the government have done nothing."

Sue Highton reported that, in 46 years working in the NHS, she had "never seen the morale of staff so low". The union needed to "fight and lobby, to recruit and retain", she said.

Our very own Zara Salisbury

got up to speak up for workers in the private sector, an all too forgotten part of the health workforce who suffer poorer conditions, worst working practices, lower pay and less security than NHS colleagues (see picture below). Zara also spoke at another motion on development and progression for healthcare assistants and highlighted the particular problem that workers in the private sector face in this regard.

There was a particularly contentious motion on the operation of the NHS Pay Review Body that went to a card vote that re-affirmed our current strategy of submitting evidence to the PRB, whilst seeking change to review how NHS pay is set with our preference for the reintroduction of negotiation.

It was an excellent and productive time on sunny Merseyside that left most delegates with a feeling of renewed vigour for the struggles ahead. Union conferences are really very important because organisations such as ours, that are built on people power, need this sort of communal time that online meeting never quite matches.





## Branch General Meeting

The next open member meeting of the branch, to which you are cordially invited to attend, will take place on -

*Tuesday 7th June 2022*

*At 6.15pm*

*In room 1, Salisbury Methodist Church,  
St Edmund's Church Street, Salisbury*

Why not come along and hear about how your union has been working for you in recent months, or please come along to raise any issues of collective interest or if you have any proposals for the union to change our policy or how we operate. It's your union!

This will be a 'hybrid' meeting and so you are also welcome to join via online, please contact the Branch Secretary in advance (see page 4) for the weblink and paperwork.



## Branch supports Salisbury Pride 2022

At it's meeting in April, the Branch Committee made a donation of £500 towards this years Pride event in Salisbury. Further information about the ticketed event is available online via [www.salisburyprideuk.org/pride2022](http://www.salisburyprideuk.org/pride2022) -

A colorful poster for the Salisbury Pride Festival 2022. The background features a large rainbow arching across the top right. On the left, there are several horizontal bars in different colors containing text: a red bar with 'SATURDAY 2ND', an orange bar with 'JULY', a yellow bar with '12PM - 10PM', a green bar with 'QUEEN ELIZABETH', and a blue bar with 'GARDENS'. Below these bars is a purple bar with the website 'WWW.SALISBURYPRIDEUK.ORG'. In the bottom right corner, there are two red tickets. A small circular logo with 'PRIDE' and 'SALISBURY' is in the top right corner. The overall design is bright and celebratory.

## Tolpuddle Festival



After a break of two years, the union festival in south Dorset is back again soon. The festival takes place from 15th to 17th July, with the Sunday being the day of the main march of union banners. It's a fun day out for all the family and the Salisbury & District TUC are running a coach on the Sunday. If you would like to book seats on the coach please contact the Branch Secretary (page 4).

For more details about the Festival programme please go online to [ww.tolpuddlemartyrs.org.uk/festival](http://ww.tolpuddlemartyrs.org.uk/festival)

## WHO'S WHO IN THE BRANCH

*Chair* —  
Zara Salisbury

*Secretary & membership*—  
Mark Wareham

*Vice Chair, Treasurer, Health  
& Safety and Black  
Members*—Denis Bangura

*Labour Link*—Caroline  
Corbin

*Welfare*—Clare Christopher

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nhs.net

UNISON's website -  
<http://www.unison.org.uk/>

## Upcoming UNISON Events

Please let us know via the  
Branch Secretary if you are  
interested in attending any of  
these events -

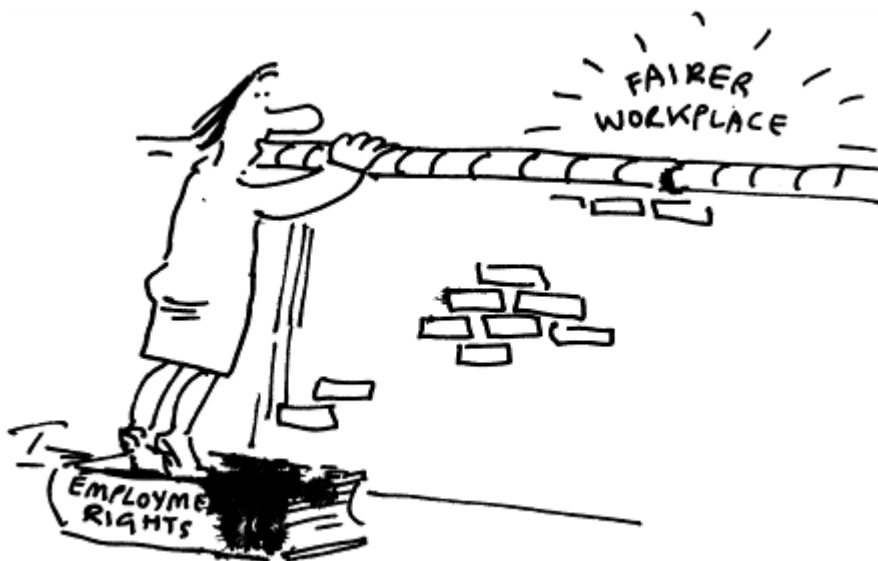
How UNISON can support you  
as an overseas nurse in the  
UK—Online webinar—9th June  
2022, 7pm till 8.30pm

National Retired Members

conference—18th to 19th  
October 2022, Telford

National Disabled Members  
conference—29th to 31st  
October 2022, Brighton

National LGBT+ Members  
conference—18th to 20th  
November 2022, Edinburgh



*Deadline date for next issue—Sept 2022*

*Edited by: Mark Wareham*

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*The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of  
UNISON, the branch or the editor*

It is in all our interests that we have a strong union. The more members we have the better job we can do. Why not encourage colleagues to join? Please do give them the slip below and advise them to drop us a line.

**Everyone needs a helping hand at work sometimes.**

**Joining UNISON — Britain's biggest union — gives you a voice that's heard. So from negotiating better pay and conditions to supporting you in cases of grievance or disciplinary action, advice on health and safety or education and training, your UNISON branch is there to help. And it offers a great range of extra membership benefits too.**

**Join UNISON — altogether a better union.**

**To join contact your UNISON rep**

See above

UNISON *direct*

**Or call the UNISON recruitment hotline 0800 0 857 857**

**UNISON**  
*Salisbury Health Branch*