

*Still an
April
Fool?*

this issue

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GMB @ WORK



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Welcome to the GMB R62 Rotherham General Branch Website.

We hope this site gives you easy access to all the branch's benefits and services, so whether you are an existing member, or would like to join the GMB, you will find everything you need.

General Information

The R62 branch of the GMB covers the whole of RMBC no matter what you do.

Many members join us because they suffer bullying and harassment at work, poor safety.

Latest News

 Budget Cuts - [Click Here](#)

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Secretary's Message



....Who would believe the first quarter of the year has come and (shortly) gone? as such here we are at the 1st of April already..... **Aprils Fools Day.**

Aprils fools Day 2010! The day that in Rotherham Council at least, it will be difficult to identify who really are the fools?

It is fact that this question will be answered over the coming months, it maybe that the **'April Fools'** are proven to be ourselves, the people of Rotherham or the employers who employ us.

It is the day when in Rotherham Council the cry of **'APRIL FOOL'** will be replaced with the cry of **'BUDGET CUTS'** as yet another term and condition of employment is cut or reduced, who is the foo,l the employee who accepts it without question or The Service Managers who are told to believe it and do it? Does either really believe that in the end it will make a difference? Or is the joke on both of them.

APRIL FOOL – PART ONE

The first 'Joke' of the day will be on **car users**..... now this is a very sophisticated joke with punch lines throughout, **'APRIL FOOL'** will be the cry as you are **'offered'** a compensatory payment (**or should that be 'a compensatory pittance'**) for Essential Car User allowance, **'£500 buyout is what you will get in return'** you will be told.

Once accepted the cry of **'APRIL FOOL'** should be heard throughout the authority, (unless the jokes on you) you will then be told' that's what we got it for in 2003', never heard of inflation?**'April Fool You.'**

APRIL FOOL – PART TWO

'You no longer need a car for your work' you will be told, **'your service needs to make alternative arrangements'** you will be told, **'really'?** you will ask,**'APRIL FOOL'** will be the reply **'NO ARRANGEMENTS MADE'** what we really expect is that you will drift back to using your car' **'APRIL FOOL'**.

APRIL FOOL – PART THREE

'Now we will pay you casual rate' you will be told, **'forty Six Pence per Mile?** you will ask....**'FORTY PENCE'** 'will be the reply, 'we don't want you having to worry about tax and things like that' (*you will have enough to worry about working out how to replace your car when you need to*) **'so you really have my interests at heart?** you may ask..... **'NO'.. APRIL FOOL 'ITS JUST ANOTHER CUT'** is the real answer.

'Now lets see', whats next?, Protection, Redeployment, Overtime Rates. Pension? 'better save some for next year or we will have nothing to laugh about'.

"Once accepted the cry of 'APRIL FOOL' should be heard throughout the authority"

"You no longer need a car for your work"



Regards
Eric Batty
Branch Secretary

Still an April Fool?

April 1st just stopped being funny

Check our Website
www.gmb-rotherham.org
For info on the Budget Cuts



Welcome Back Amanda!

We welcome the return of Amanda Horsman from an extended period away from the Branch. There was a time when we thought that we wouldn't see Amanda again, however she has pulled through and is now chomping at the bit to take on members issue within Neighbourhoods and Adult Social Services.

Although a Branch Convenor, Amanda's primary role will be Convenor for NAS, Amanda's working pattern will be Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

New Face

Lee Simpson was covering for Amanda in the latter part of last year and since then the branch has been looking for him to remain a permanent fixture. This has now been agreed and Lee will be with the branch part time and his working pattern will be Wednesday PM and all day Thursday and Friday.

Both Lee and Amanda can be contacted through the usual office number and their mobile numbers are below.

Lee Simpson
Branch Convenor
Mobile:
07534 555 913



Amanda Horsman
Branch Convenor
Mobile:
07956 588 561



Branch Meetings

The dates for the branch meeting for 2010 have been set and are as follows:

Monday 12th April
Monday 5th July
Monday 4th October

The meetings take place in the large meeting room second floor Central Library.

Members are welcome and **all stewards are required to attend**. In the meeting taking place in April feedback will be given regarding the budget position and the potential reduction in our terms and conditions, so we would welcome members comments on this.

Meetings with Lee

If any one has a meeting booked with Lee over the next few weeks please could they contact the office.

Care Enablers Meetings

Amanda will be arranging a series of "patch" meetings.

Amanda will aim to ensure that she sees everybody, this will be an opportunity for enablers to raise any issues or concerns.

Please contact the office on 01709 (33) 6777 for further details.

R62 Branch Website



"The website is available to all RMBC staff members even if they do not normally have access to the internet."

The GMB R62 Branch Website was officially launch on August 19th 2009, following the success of the site the branch decided to restyle the whole site giving it a professional and sleek look.

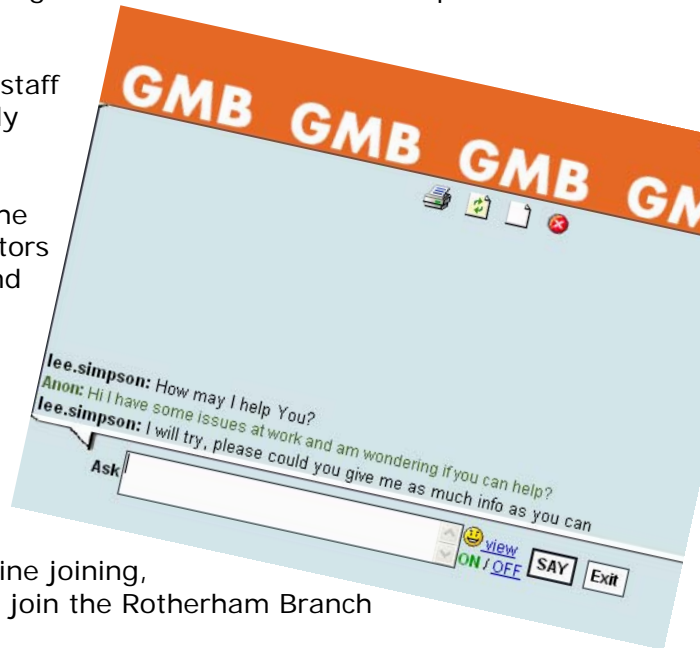
The website was developed within the branch and is used as a tool for members to find out information and for the branch to get information out to members instantly alongside the SMS texting software that has also been purchased and proving to be quite successful.

The website is available to **all** RMBC staff members even if they do not normally have access to the internet.

Another development on the site is the launch of the online help facility. Visitors to the site can chat with Stewards and Convenors online and if they choose can remain anonymous. The system allows members to talk to us in the office without using the phone.

To use the facility just click the online help icon on the home page.

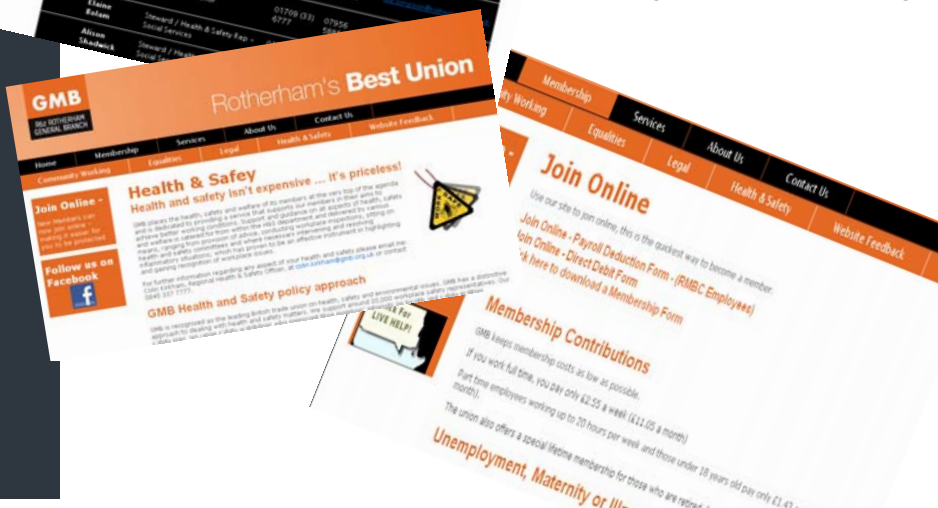
In January this year we launched online joining, making it easier for new members to join the Rotherham Branch of Britain's fastest growing union.



We will be introducing a members only area soon.

This will allow members to register on the site and gain access to an area of the site where further information can be found.

The website can be accessed at www.gmb-rotherham.org.



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